

## **"THE LANGHAM COLLECTION" AND ASSOCIATED FINDS: A LARGE ASSEMBLAGE OF CHIPPED STONE ARTEFACTS FROM LUNDY**

By

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"I'm starting to see a bigger picture,  
I'm beginning to colour it in"

(Mike Scott 1990)

### BACKGROUND

The many lithic artefacts recovered from Lundy over the years provide for an interesting case study in interpretation. In addition to the archaeological dimension, the recent history of the island has much to contribute, particularly in the context of formation processes, the factors that influence the appearance of an archaeological assemblage. One factor is that Lundy has, over many years, attracted visitors, both day trippers and residential, and many have taken items as souvenirs, whether plants, flowers, pottery fragments or flint artefacts. These are often removed within informing either the islanders or the owners of Lundy, the National Trust, and generally in complete innocence. The degree of control over this removal, however, has varied over the years, Martin Coles Harman, for example, was conscious of it as a problem (especially after the 1930s fires made collecting at North End so easy) and the Agent, Felix Gade, kept a close eye on anyone suspected of collecting or digging. Harman, through the Lundy Field Society, insisted that Felix Gade was made aware of all fieldwork in order that finds could be recorded in the Annual Reports. In contrast, much material was apparently tipped over the cliff edge during reorganisation in 1969 and this could have included the boxes of flints returned by Keith Gardner following his fieldwork and excavation on the island (Langham pers. comm.).

This could make depressing reading if it wasn't for the fact that all of the above represents a *continuation* of the various processes which contribute to the appearance of an archaeological assemblage. After all, throwing unwanted flints over the cliff edge is probably no more than was taking place 10,000 years ago, while removal from the island, whether for use or display, could equally have been a factor in the prehistoric period.

Against this background of piecemeal removal and loss of lithic artefacts from Lundy, any large collection assumes considerable importance. This paper presents and describes one such example, a large collection of chipped stone artefacts collected from Lundy between the 1930s and the present day. Much of the material is the result of surface investigations conducted in the 1950s by Tony Langham, assisted by the late John Martin; other names acknowledged in this collection included Mary Gade, John High and Wayland Smith who appears to have recovered most, if not all, of the finds in Tillage Field. Also described in this paper is a series of other finds, some of which were documented in the past (eg. Montague 1931; Dollar 1932; Anon. 1957) but never seen in the broader context, and some of which were made by the author in the area of Pondsburry. Finally flint artefacts documented in a series of illustrations by the late Ann Everton are included which are labelled simply as "Lundy flints, 1971". This may either represent the date of discovery or illustration.

Most of the 600 artefacts in the Langham collection were made at North End and are important in that they may represent much of the total lithic population discarded in this area during and after a period of Bronze Age occupation. All the North End finds were collected over a period of four years from three sites north of Gannet's Coombe. These areas were stripped of surface vegetation during the fires of 1933 and 1935 thus making them well-suited to surface inspection of the type conducted by Tony Langham. In addition to North End, sites were investigated in Tillage Field, Brick Field, St. Helen's Field and Pondsburry while numerous stray finds were also made.

This paper has two roles: First to describe the collection in order that it may be brought to the attention of a wider audience and incorporated in any broad interpretation of prehistoric settlement on the island (the "bigger picture" in the words of the opening quotation). Second, to offer interpretation and suggest how the artefacts in this collection tie in with those previously described, specifically from the recent survey work conducted south of Quarter Wall (Schofield and Webster 1990). The paper is intended as the first of several which will aim to describe and interpret lithic collections made on Lundy over the years. It is thought that numerous collections are in private hands and that, however small, these may prove critical in understanding the prehistoric occupation of Lundy between the Mesolithic and Bronze Age periods. The preparation of additional papers of this type depends naturally on the willingness of the holders to part with the collection temporarily in order that research may be conducted. In the context of this paper I am grateful to Tony Langham for making the collection available.

### THE COLLECTION

This section is arranged by location. Results are summarised in Tables 1-3 and examples of the lithic artefacts are illustrated in figs 1-2.

#### a NORTH END

In the collection provided by Tony Langham, North End finds are divided up into Boxes 1-3. It is assumed (though not confirmed) that these finds came from the three separate areas described by the collector, although each box cannot be assigned a precise location. In view of this, the North End finds are presented both as separate collections and as a total, the latter mainly for the purpose of comparison with lithic collections from other parts of the island.

As was described above, the North End finds are especially important in that the circumstances of recovery suggest they may represent much of the total lithic population in an area known to have been the focus of Bronze Age habitation (Claris and Thackray 1990; Gardner 1956). The nature of the geology would have prevented the disposal of rubbish and wasted material in pits and other buried features (as is the case on many lowland Bronze Age settlements) leaving discard over the cliff edge and casual discard wherever breakage occurred as the most likely options. In view of the rarity of flint as a resource, the latter would appear the more sensible (thus saving for later what, at the time, might be considered "waste") with the result a large proportion of the total assemblage exposed on the ground surface at the time of abandonment. Although one of the sites remains unclear, two are described by Langham as occurring at NGRs SS13204765 and SS13264780. Langham was of the opinion that, with fire having cleared the vegetation and the area having been extensively searched, little in the way of lithic artefacts still remained undiscovered in this area. Having said that, a few finds have since been made in the area including a barbed and tanged arrowhead (Anon 1970) as well as several flakes found in 1973 which are included in this collection and two pebble tools illustrated by Ann Everton. Despite that, Langham's point is accepted and the North End collection described in this report is believed to form a significant proportion of the total assemblage abandoned here during the Bronze Age.

Of the results presented in Tables 1-3, several points are of interest. One is the similarity in assemblage composition between the three North End collections in terms of the frequency of primary waste material, shatter (fragments which resulted from core reduction but which were not deliberate removals) and bashed lumps (cores discarded at an early stage). This contrasts strongly with marked differences in the frequency of tertiary waste material (most frequent in NE1 and NE3), cores (most frequent in NE2), retouched artefacts (most frequent in NE1 and NE2) and core trimming flakes (most frequent in NE2 and NE3). What this suggests is that specific activities were taking place at particular places in an area which contained a relatively high intensity of Bronze Age settlement. The fact that core frequency displays negative correlation with the occurrence of tertiary waste material suggests that tool manufacture and core discard were spatially discrete.

Flint colouration (following the same classification as that used in Schofield 1990, 41) demonstrates that, within the North End collections, variation does occur between

	TOTAL	PRIMARY		SECOND.		TERTIARY		CORES		SHATTER		RETOUCH		C-T		BASHED LUMPS	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
NE1	112	17	15	19	17	16	14	6	5	43	38	7	6	1	1	9	8
NE2	99	16	16	13	13	5	5	16	16	34	34	6	6	6	6	8	8
NE3	147	19	13	18	12	27	18	4	3	55	37	3	2	10	7	13	9
NE(T)	358	52	15	50	14	48	13	26	7	132	37	16	5	17	5	30	8
TILLAGE	124	26	21	18	15	13	11	6	5	30	24	7	6	10	8	22	18
BRICK	42	5	12	8	19	12	29	2	5	9	21	6	14	0	—	5	12
ST. HELENS	22	2	9	4	18	3	14	5	23	4	18	1	5	2	9	2	9
PONDSBURY	21	1	5	4	19	4	19	2	10	6	29	0	—	2	10	2	10

**Table 1:** Assemblage characteristics of the sample areas.

NE=North End; NE(T)=Total finds from the North End area;

C-T=core-trimming flakes

	TOTAL	BREAKAGE			PATINATION						
		complete n %	broken n %		heavy n %	light n %	none n %				
NE1	112	101	90	11	10	17	15	28	25	66	59
NE2	99	87	88	12	12	24	24	17	17	58	59
NE3	147	123	84	24	16	28	19	28	19	90	61
NE(T)	358	311	87	47	13	69	19	73	20	214	60
TILLAGE	124	100	82	24	19	44	36	23	19	58	47
BRICK	42	35	81	7	17	18	43	10	24	13	31
ST. HELENS	22	18	82	4	18	9	41	8	36	5	23
PONDSBURY	21	16	76	5	24	5	24	9	43	7	33

**TABLE 2:** Variation in breakage and patination between the sample areas.

	TOTAL	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
NE1	112	1	1	—	—	11	10	—	—	22	20	39	35	2	2	3	3	6	5	28	25
NE2	99	1	1	1	1	7	7	3	3	10	10	41	41	3	3	6	6	9	9	18	18
NE3	147	—	—	3	2	14	10	10	7	18	12	60	41	1	1	5	3	1	1	34	23
NE(T)	358	2	1	4	1	32	9	13	4	50	14	140	39	6	2	14	4	16	5	80	22
TILLAGE	124	—	—	3	2	3	2	2	2	13	11	63	51	2	2	5	4	7	6	27	22
BRICK	42	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	2	10	24	22	52	—	—	4	10	—	—	3	7
ST. HELENS	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	23	13	59	—	—	—	—	1	5	3	14
PONDSBURY	21	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	1	5	13	62	1	5	2	10	—	—	3	14

**Table 3:** Variation in flint colour between the seven sample areas.

- KEY: 1 - yellow, coarse-grained  
 2 - yellow, fine-grained  
 3 - orange/red, coarse-grained  
 4 - orange/red, fine-grained  
 5 - light grey, coarse-grained  
 6 - light grey, fine-grained  
 7 - green/brown, coarse-grained  
 8 - green/brown, fine-grained  
 9 - dark grey, coarse-grained  
 10 - dark grey, fine-grained

areas although this is insignificant when compared to the level of variation occurring between flint type at North End and the collections from further south (Table 3). The only point perhaps worth making is that the poor quality light-grey coarse-grained flint is predominant in NE1 while the better quality fine-grained flint occurs with greater frequency in NE2 and NE3. Logically we might expect this to correspond with variations in the frequency of rejected bashed lumps. That this does not occur might imply subtle patterning *within* the three North End collections; the type of analysis described here can only hope to identify broad trends in the variation occurring *between* collections.

In terms of breakage patterns, an interesting trend is apparent (Table 2). The percentage of broken flakes is greater in NE3 than elsewhere, and significantly greater than that in NE1. This correlates with the high frequency of tertiary waste material and low numbers of retouched items and confirms the interpretation suggested above that the area represents one where tool manufacture was carried out.

A final point in this section is the degree of patination occurring on artefacts at North End. Patination is generally considered to be a product of the soil conditions within which artefacts were buried. Variation of the type shown in Table 2 could therefore either result from the artefacts having survived in different types of context (eg. buried as opposed to exposed) or from variations in the properties of the soil between areas. This is thought to be the most likely explanation in this case.

From the above it is therefore possible to say that, in view of the rarity of flint as a resource, the 358 lithic artefacts recovered at North End represent a large proportion of the total number left in the area at the time of abandonment. The fact that tiny fragments of shatter in addition to the larger cores and bashed lumps and cores were collected, suggests that the collection accurately reflects the whole and there is little bias in favour of the large or more obvious artefact classes. Although the labels 1-3 cannot be attributed to specific places (only two of which are known), it is possible to identify variations between the collections and offer the suggestion that area NE3 was a tool production area. The proportion of primary waste material suggests that this first stage of tool manufacture was not occurring on the beaches where the flint was found but within the area of North End. This could be due to the fact that beaches were submerged at high tide and that "search time" on the beach left no time for "reduction time", even though reducing the size of cores and testing them for suitability would allow more good quality flint to be carried up the cliffs. The role of NE1 and NE2 is less clearly defined, due to the fact that a broader range of activities are represented including both tool production and use.

Individual finds from North End (illustrated in fig. 1) are described as follows:

- 1) From North End Box 1 (NE1): Broken fragment of a single platform core with four flakes removed. The flint is fine-grained light grey though burnt on the outside. Cortex is sandy-coloured and suggests a beach pebble as the source (fig. 1a).
- 2) NE1: Core trimming flake of fine-grained dark grey flint. Flake scars suggest some evidence of blade manufacture and this item may be proof that, within a broadly Bronze Age assemblage, some earlier material is mixed. This is visibly of a different quality of workmanship than much of the other material from this location (fig. 1b).
- 3) NE1: Flaked piece of stone (type unknown) with evidence that it was possibly used as a hammerstone prior to being flaked. Possibly used in connection with shellfish exploitation, for example as a form of limpet scoop or scraper (fig. 1c).
- 4) NE2: Blade core of fine-grained light grey flint with smooth cream-coloured cortex. Flake scars have been removed from a cylindrical-shaped pebble with working from either end. Only one half of the pebble is worked, five scars having been removed (fig. 1d).
- 5) NE2: Small thumbnail scraper, characteristic of Bronze Age technology. Manufactured from a fine-grained light grey flint with cream-coloured cortex. The worked section of the scraper is confined to an unusually narrow band bounded by the extent of the cortex (fig. 1e).

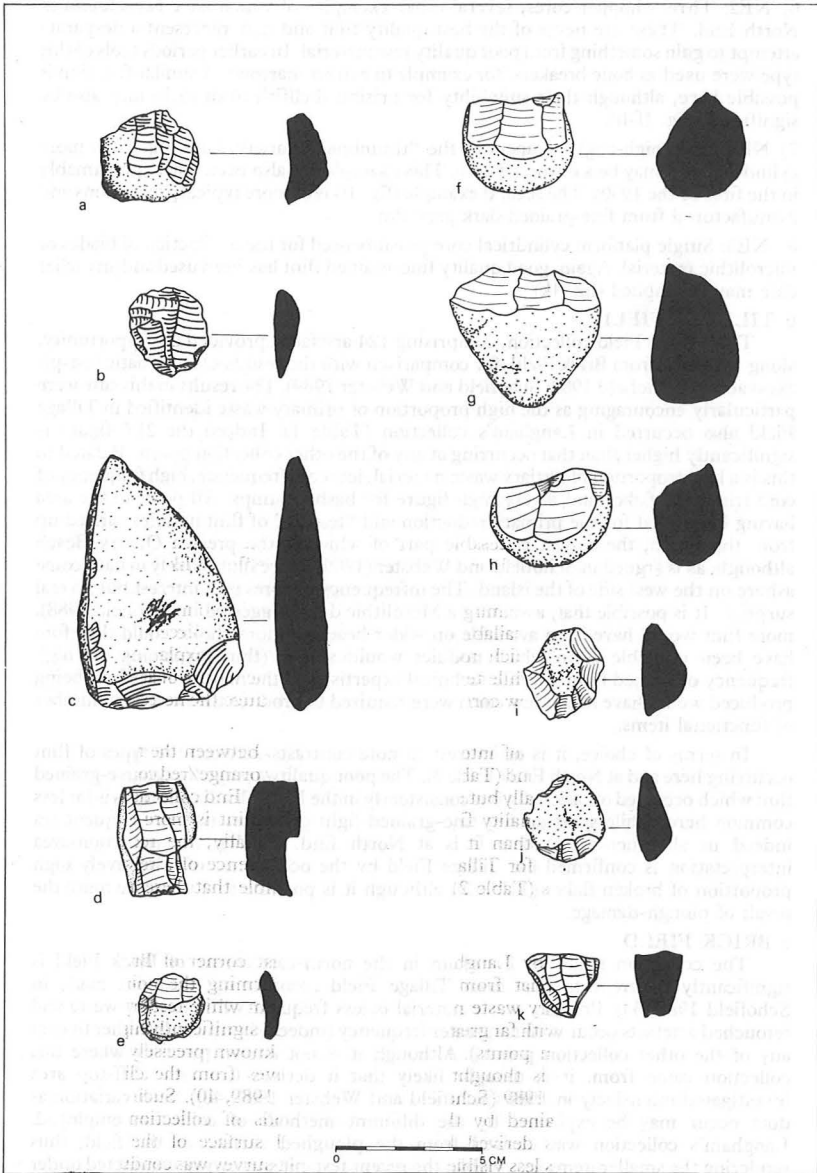


Fig. 1: Flint artefacts from North End described in text.

6) NE2: Three chopper cores, several other examples of which have been found at North End. These are never of the best quality flint and may represent a desperate attempt to gain something from poor quality raw material. In earlier periods tools of this type were used as bone breakers (for example to extract marrow). A similar function is possible here, although their suitability for prising shellfish from rocks may also be significant (fig. 1f-h).

7) NE3: Two high-angle scrapers of the "thumbnail" variety. One (fig. 1i) is more cylindrical and may be a reworked core. This example has also been burnt, presumably in the fires of the 1930s. The second example (fig. 1j) is of more typical proportions and manufactured from fine-grained dark grey flint.

8) NE3: Single platform cylindrical core possibly used for the production of blades or microlithic material. Again, good quality fine-grained flint has been used and an earlier date may be implied (fig. 1k).

#### b TILLAGE FIELD

The Tillage Field collection, comprising 124 artefacts, provided the opportunity, along with that from Brick Field, for comparison with the results of systematic test-pit excavations (Schofield 1988; Schofield and Webster 1989). The results in this case were particularly encouraging as the high proportion of primary waste identified in Tillage Field also occurred in Langham's collection (Table 1). Indeed the 21% figure is significantly higher than that occurring at any of the other collection points. Related to this is a low proportion of tertiary waste material, low core frequency, high frequency of core trimming flakes and a very high figure for bashed lumps. All point to the area having been used for the primary reduction and "testing" of flint nodules carried up from the beach, the closest accessible part of which is the present Quarry Beach although, as is argued in Schofield and Webster (1989), more flint is likely to have come ashore on the west side of the island. The infrequency of cores is of interest but no real surprise. It is possible that, assuming a Mesolithic date (suggested in Schofield 1988), more flint would have been available on wider beaches; more choice could therefore have been available as to which nodules would suffice (thus explaining the high frequency of bashed lumps) while technical expertise and the nature of artefacts being produced would have meant few cores were required to produce the necessary number of functional items.

In terms of choice, it is of interest to note contrasts between the types of flint occurring here and at North End (Table 3). The poor quality orange/red coarse-grained flint which occurred occasionally but consistently in the North End collections is far less common here, while good-quality fine-grained light grey flint is more frequent (as indeed in all other areas) than it is at North End. Finally, the reduction-area interpretation is confirmed for Tillage Field by the occurrence of a relatively high proportion of broken flakes (Table 2), although it is possible that these are more the result of plough-damage.

#### c BRICK FIELD

The collection made by Langham in the north-east corner of Brick Field is significantly different to that from Tillage Field (confirming the point made in Schofield 1988, 34). Primary waste material is less frequent while tertiary waste and retouched artefacts occur with far greater frequency (indeed significantly higher than at any of the other collection points). Although it is not known precisely where this collection came from, it is thought likely that it derives from the cliff-top area investigated intensively in 1989 (Schofield and Webster 1989, 40). Such variation as does occur may be explained by the different methods of collection employed. Langham's collection was derived from the ploughed surface of the field, thus rendering the smaller items less visible; the recent test-pit survey was conducted under excavation conditions by which such items would be more likely to be identified.

Numerous other finds from Brick Field have been made in the past and some attempt is made here to integrate them into the broader context of Lundy lithics. For example, several points of interest are recorded by Montague (1931), including the fact that early lithic finds on Lundy, "seem to be a few specimens dug out of one of the

barrows"; more significant in this context, he goes on to describe finds made by Mr Harman, "on a field above the cliffs on the east coast, not far north of the hotel" (ibid.,257). Subsequent surface finds by Montague included, "scattered flint chips, several good scrapers and worked flint cores; also fragments of the flint nodules or pebbles from which the implements were made". He goes on to describe the area as representing a "factory site" and notes that the flint used was usually of a whitish colour (the patination recorded in Table 2) and of rather inferior quality. Montague noted that the majority of the implements were, "scrapers (some of rather large size) semi-lunar, round or oblong, but a few are pointed or roughly leaf-shaped" (ibid.,258).

In an unpublished report, Dollar (1932) described c.500 well-patinated finds from the Brick Field area. He summarises the finds as follows: "Nearly all the cores and more or less manipulated flakes were found at one locality close to the south-eastern margin of the summit, in or upon a thin brownish clay soil, seldom more than 12" deep . . . About a large standing stone in this region, the abundance of cores, flakes and chips may indicate the site of a factory. Throughout a wide zone surrounding this Brick Field it is possible to find sporadic flints which seem to be related to the factory site" (Dollar 1932,2).

Dollar also comments on technological aspects of his collection: "The mode of working these stones in Lundy is interesting. Frequently it is evident that an ovate stone was chosen. In this two flat surfaces or tables were produced at right angles to the length, by striking off both ends of the pebble. Then flakes were detached alternately by blows applied close to the edges and directed nearly at right angles to these flat surfaces" (Dollar 1932,3). He also notes that in this area, "the small flint cores . . . strongly suggest the presence of pigmy implements, though nothing has yet been found except flakes of the appropriate size, with unworked margins" (ibid.,4).

Finally in this summary, finds made by Devonport High School in 1957 have previously been described by Gardner (1957). However, the full typescript of this report contains additional details which are thought worth reproducing. The original report (Anon.,1957) provides useful details regarding, for example, the conditions of the field at the time of collection and the method of surface inspection which the team adopted. The author describes the field as having been, "ploughed earlier in the year and the soil weathered to a certain extent enabling the fragments of flint to be fairly easily seen". He goes on to suggest that the furrows were walked to such an extent that no ground was missed and that a total of 1130 finds were made including thumbnail and end scrapers, bi-polar and microblade cores, a microburin, a small trapezoidal microlith and several other non-geometric microliths, all suggesting a Mesolithic date. All textures of flint were represented although with a preference for the better quality material.

Three sets of figures (excluding those described by the author in 1988 and 1989 and those presented by Montague 1931) are therefore available and some interesting points emerge. First, that 1672 lithic artefacts have come from a field 6.5ha in area and that 1130 of those finds resulted from a single collection made at a time of good surface visibility. If we assume that under cultivation 3.5% of artefacts appear on the field surface (Clark and Schofield 1990), a total assemblage of over 32,000 artefacts could have been present within Brick Field prior to any removal and that over 95% of that still remains uncollected. A second point is that of the 1130 artefacts recovered in 1957, thirty artefacts (or 2.7% of the collection) were scrapers. By using these two sets of figures (the predicted assemblage size and proportion of "tools"), comparison can be drawn between the Brick Field site on Lundy and two excavated and well-documented Mesolithic sites in southern England. At Downton, Wiltshire, for example, 36,529 artefacts were recovered from excavation, 1.5% of which were tools of various type (after Higgs 1959). Similarly, at Farnham, Surrey, excavation revealed 36,095 artefacts of which 2.9% were tools (after Clark and Rankine 1939).

In summary, therefore, the Brick Field collection affords comparison with that from other broadly contemporary sites on the mainland despite the relative isolation and rarity of flint in this case. Furthermore, repeated collection by various individuals over several years provided a useful background to the more recent survey work conducted in the area (eg. Schofield 1988; Schofield and Webster 1989). The overall result has been a



large and broadly representative collection of artefacts followed subsequently by accurate locational information and more reliable details regarding the various proportions in which artefacts occurred.

Individual finds from Langham's collection in Brick Field (illustrated in fig.2) are described as follows:

- 1) Blade core of fine-grained light grey flint. Flakes were removed from a single platform. This is characteristic of much of the material in Brick Field, the flake scars indicating material of microlithic proportions and using only the better quality flint (fig.2a).
- 2) Five blades, typical of material from Brick Field and suggestive of a Mesolithic date. Flint is all good quality fine-grained material and colour is generally light grey. Only one or the pieces is broken (fig.2b-f).
- 3) Two end scrapers of fine-quality brown flint. Both have retouch along one side and may have also served as knife blades (fig.2g-h).

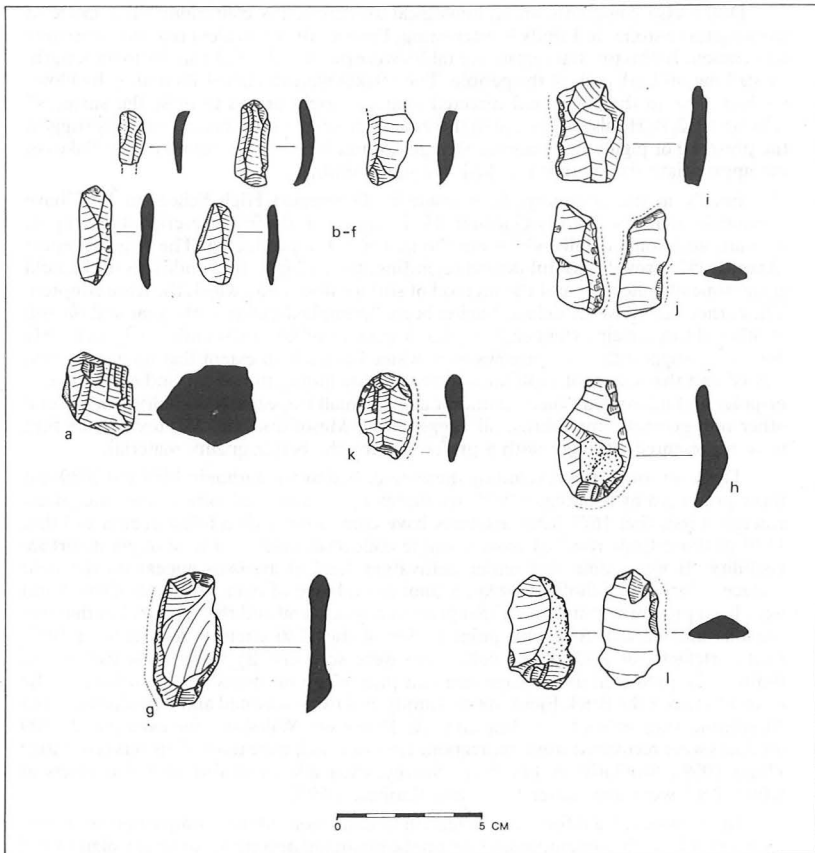


Fig. 2: Flint artefacts described in text.

4) Two knife blades of fine-grained dark grey flint. Both are retouched along one side only and would have served as denticulated cutting implements. Both are hinge-fractured, suggesting that they were originally too long and were reduced in length for ease of use (fig.2i-j).

#### d ST HELEN'S FIELD

The collection of lithics from St. Helen's Field is small (twenty-two artefacts) but is significant in one respect; it produced a significantly higher percentage of cores (22.7%) than any of the other collection points. One possibility is that this represents a point at the top of the climb from the Landing Beach where some primary reduction of lithic artefacts had occurred. Without a larger collection no further interpretation is possible. Similarly the test-pit survey in this area produced no conclusive results.

One individual item from St. Helen's Field is illustrated:

1) Retouched core-trimming flake with flake scars suggesting removal during blade manufacture (fig.2k).

#### e PONDSBURY

Langham's Pondsburry collection is also small in size (twenty-one artefacts) but is significant in that only 4.8% of the collection comprised tertiary waste. In addition to Langham's finds from the Pondsburry area, numerous finds were also made in 1990. A dry summer had produced a much reduced water level revealing a gravel beach c.20m by 5m in size. Collection of artefacts in this area was considered necessary in view of the active damage to small artefacts occurring as a result of cattle trampling. Of the fifty artefacts collected most are extremely small and many are broken (presumably as a result of trampling). In view of the level of damage and the problem of distinguishing ancient shatter from modern trample-damage, a simple division into the three waste classes was attempted. A total of 68% of the artefacts were small pieces of tertiary waste, the largest being 31.5mm in length. Much of this appears to be of blade-like proportions and microlithic in character, contrasting with the larger finds in Langham's collection. Of the remainder, 12% of the collection is made up of both primary waste fragments and secondary waste material, while a single broken stone hammerstone, a small flint pebble, and two burnt pieces of flint were also found. The collection was also of interest in that it included an unworked piece of translucent rock crystal of the type described in a previous report (Schofield 1990,44).

This is an area which may be particularly conducive to further investigations as it may represent one of few on the present extent of the island where artefacts ("tools" in the traditional sense) were used. If Pondsburry had a similar appearance in later prehistory as it does today, it would have provided a focus for hunting, trapping and (possibly) fishing. If this is the case, artefacts of a very different nature to those described in previous reports (e.g. Schofield and Webster 1990) and this paper may result. The fact that no retouched artefacts occur in both Pondsburry collections is a little surprising.

#### f OTHER SMALL COLLECTIONS AND STRAY FINDS

In addition to the larger collections described above, numerous stray finds are recorded in addition to an assemblage of small flint pebbles recovered from the Lower Garden north of Millcombe Gates in 1982. This collection is unusual in that it is unlike anything else found on Lundy of which the author is aware. Some of the pieces are bashed lumps of the crudest form and all are significantly smaller than the pebbles being struck at North End. Some of the smaller pebbles are only an average 21mm x 16mm x 10mm while of the forty-eight items, only two are the least bit convincing as pebbles struck in the course of artefact manufacture. Other possibilities are that these are not Lundy pebbles but were imported either for construction work, track metallurgy or the aeration of garden soils. The pebbles certainly look more like river pebbles than beach pebbles. This collection is not therefore thought to relate to prehistoric settlement of the island but acts as a warning that flint, other than humanly struck pieces, occurs on the island.

A second small collection which deserves mention came from a spoil tip on Tibbett's Hill, dug in 1989. Previous finds from this area were recorded by Loyd

(1925,12) who notes that, "an hour's work with a pick and crowbar on the Tibbett's Hill mound, in June 1922, revealed a roughly squared granite block . . . among the earth thrown out two small pieces of flint were found, one of them a flake, the other an obvious artefact, and within a few yards of the spot a second and more perfect artefact was picked up in July 1923". The finds made in 1989 came from spoil deriving from a hole dug immediately west of Tibbett's. In addition to Bronze Age pottery described previously (Schofield and Webster 1989,45-6), fourteen flint artefacts were found. These included two coarsely struck primary flakes, five secondary flakes of similar quality and seven tertiary flakes which are generally of a better quality flint. None of the artefacts are retouched and all display closer similarity with the North End material than with the collections from south of Quarter Wall or Pondsburry.

Stray finds which appear in the Langham collection were recorded as follows:

- 1) LOCATION: Between stones 4 & 5 north of Halfway Wall, west of track in line of GPO trench. ITEM: end scraper of light grey fine-grained flint with white cortex. The item is derived from a beach pebble and has evidence for having been adapted from or into a hollow scraper. This is indicative of the type of reuse a shortage of raw material could create (fig.21).
- 2) LOCATION: Near round tower, east side of Threequarter Wall. ITEM: a secondary waste flake struck from a beach pebble. The flint is light grey fine-grained with white cortex.
- 3) LOCATION: Rabbit hole in depression due west of gate to Benjamin's Chair (18/4/1979). ITEM: a small cylindrical core with three striking platforms. The flint is of good quality dark-grey fine-grained type with sandy-coloured cortex. The item is characteristically Mesolithic.
- 4) LOCATION: Rabbit burrow below gate north-east of Hospital. ITEM: A primary flake of poor-quality light grey flint with rough sandy cortex.
- 5) LOCATION: Near Quarter Wall (May 1978). ITEM: Core trimming flake of dark grey fine-grained flint with grey cortex, reworked to produce a serrated edge at the distal end. Found by Mary Gade.
- 6) LOCATION: Near Stone 9 on East Path near Quarter Wall. ITEM: Primary flake of fine-grained flint, heavily patinated.
- 7) LOCATION: Halfway down first quarry incline east and north of Clock Platform (April 1979). ITEM: Primary flake of fine-grained light grey flint with white cortex and light patina.
- 8) LOCATION: At north-east of Hospital, just below wall at head of slope down to the northern of the Terraces (15/4/1979). ITEM: Secondary flakes with three flake scars on outer side. Flint is fine-grained light grey with white cortex and light patina.
- 9) LOCATION: Quarry region. ITEM: Three flakes of fine-grained light grey flint, two of which are secondary, one is tertiary. None are retouched.
- 10) LOCATION: Castle region. ITEM: Primary flake probably from a bashed lump comprising a poor quality beach pebble which was subsequently discarded as useless.
- 11) LOCATION: Ackland's Moor, west of centre gate in fence (Easter 1977). ITEM: unworked (and unworkable) flint lump with heavily pitted cortex and occasional exposures of dark grey fine-grained flint.

Other stray finds from Lundy, either collected by myself or colleagues, include:

- 1) LOCATION: Pond immediately north of the eastern gate through Quarter Wall (September 1989). ITEM: Broken section of a large primary flake of good quality fine-grained dark grey flint. Some evidence for retouch of distal end.
- 2) LOCATION: c.10m west of entrance to Marisco Castle NGR SS14124377 (23/6/1990). ITEM: Secondary flake of good quality fine-grained light grey flint. Found by Dave Hooley.
- 3) LOCATION: Upcast from rabbit burrow immediately south of northern perimeter fence in Bull's Paradise, c.15m east of its north-east corner NGR SS13614432

(23/6/1990). ITEM: A tertiary flake of good quality fine-grained light grey flint. Found by Dave Hooley.

Finally, and of considerable interest in the context of this paper, is an original photograph within Langham's collection taken by A. Dollar entitled, "Comparison of raw materials, worked and unworked tools used by Prehistoric Man on Lundy Island and Baggy Point" (fig.3). In the Langham collection are a small selection of the Lundy flints, specifically those which appear in the photograph as "flint flakes of pygmy type". Unfortunately no clue as to their location is provided, although most of Dollar's finds seem to have come from Brick Field. The photograph also shows a flint pebble from the Landing Beach. This was a subject raised in an earlier paper (Schofield and Webster 1989,42) with the conclusion that flint pebbles occurred on Lundy with variable frequency according to season and tidal patterns. That they have occurred in the recent past is now in no doubt. Dollar's photograph (fig.3) clearly illustrates one example, while Montague has noted that, "flint pebbles are certainly to be found on Lundy beach, for I picked up several there in a few minutes, and these were exactly of the same character as the broken pebbles used in the manufacture of flint implements in the field above the cliff" (1931,341).

The subject of comparison between the Lundy and Baggy Point collections is of interest in terms of understanding the seasonal and economic relationship between coastline and off-shore islands and is the subject of ongoing research by the author. In the context of this paper it is significant that Dollar noticed that, first, a relationship between the two existed and, second, that it was worthy of study. Dollar (1932,3) noted, for example, that the proportion of worked quartzite to worked flint was higher on Lundy than on Baggy Point and that the treatment of cores differed between the two areas. This was a point later pursued by Gardner (1957b,167) who noted similarity between the Lundy cores and those from Elmscott on the north Cornish coast.

#### DISCUSSION

In this paper it has been possible to assess a large collection of lithic artefacts and consider it in terms of technology, chronology and the circumstances in which they were used and discarded, this despite a lack of accurate locational or contextual information in most cases. Other similar collections have been made on the island and it is my intention now to gain access to those and attempt to develop as broad a picture as possible from the evidence available.

North End has been previously identified as an important focus of Bronze Age settlement, and the lithic artefacts described in this report confirm that picture as well as providing some detail of the pressures under which Bronze Age communities existed. In other areas, specifically south of Quarter Wall, finds from the Langham collection and other early assemblages confirmed some of the points made as a result of the recent test-pit excavations in the area. Additionally, areas such as Pondsburry have been revealed as important in terms of understanding human occupation of the island while the Quarry region has produced evidence suggesting it was an area in which primary reduction of beach pebbles was occurring, albeit on a small scale.

This raises the question of chronology and the possibility that the frequency with which flint was used and the extent to which it was considered "precious" might vary through time. A simple example may be drawn to illustrate this: In the North End collection, soil is thin to non-existent on granite bedrock and, following fires in the 1930s, much of the area was subject to surface collection at a time of good surface visibility. The result was the retrieval of 358 flint artefacts, most of which display evidence of poor quality workmanship and an apparent disregard for a scarce resource. In Brick Field, however, a much smaller area of Mesolithic occupation may contain, within the depth of ploughsoil, upwards of 32,000 artefacts, similar in frequency to Mesolithic sites excavated on the mainland. The distinction is obvious: Mesolithic communities on the island (who were probably only there for short periods at any one time) used much more flint than those Bronze Age inhabitants who may have been in residence on a much longer term basis. A combination of two factors may explain this: First, that beaches in the Mesolithic were much wider than in the Bronze Age (Schofield

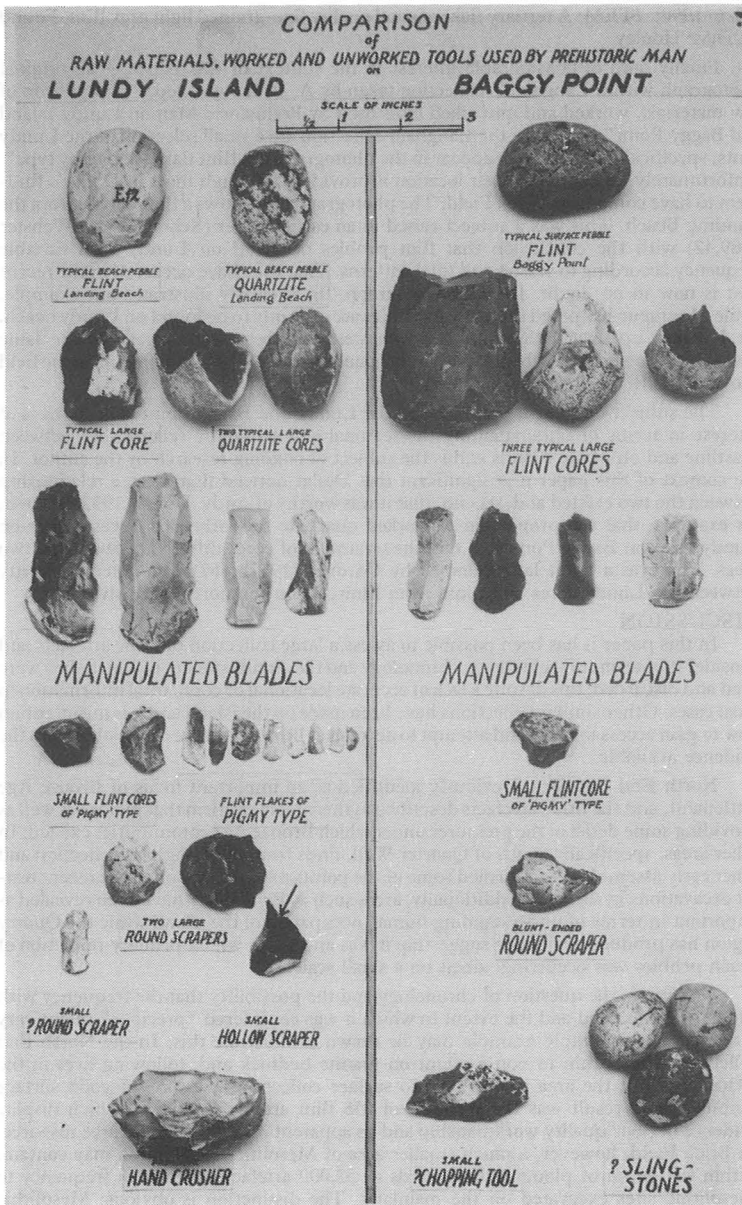


Fig. 3: Flint artefacts from Lundy and Baggy Point (from an original photograph by A.T.J. Dollar).

and Webster 1989,41) and therefore more flint would have been available for collection. Second, and perhaps more significant, is that hunters and foragers on Lundy at the right time of year would have had more spare time than Bronze Age farmers and would have been more likely to "encounter" flint while pursuing other resources. As a result more time could have been spent on tool manufacture and additional low priority tasks. The idea that hunters had a harder life than farmers is no longer accepted and ethnographic work conducted the world over has provided examples of this (eg papers in Zvelebil 1986).

In conclusion, the large number of lithic finds drawn together in this paper gives further evidence for the intensity with which Lundy was occupied during the prehistoric period. Two phases of occupation are known, dating from the Mesolithic and Bronze Age periods. Without excavation more precise dates cannot be achieved. What remains surprising is the absence or "invisibility" of any evidence for Neolithic occupation, although this is also true of marginal upland areas on the mainland, for example on Dartmoor. Only the further examination of other lithic collections from Lundy may provide evidence for this.

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