

## Site No 115

**Ian Paterson & Tam Ward**

### Introduction

TFind spot = NS 95532 10423

On steep slope near Site 114

This location was only discovered while work on Site 114 was in progress. It lies about 25 m upslope from 114 on equally steep ground.

Four square metres were excavated; two in the furrow and two adjacent on the southern side, Finds were recorded to the two grids in the furrow, and individually to the two other grids.

A possible affinity to Site 114 was noted in the same honey coloured flint with edge damage and also a chert blade with edge damage. It seems likely that the two locations may be contemporary.

Plate's 141 and 15 show chert cores, Plate 16 shows microliths and Plate 17 shows brown coloured chert.

# Excavation finds list

## by Ian Paterson

### Comment

The excavation covered 4 square metres. A total of 536 lithic fragments were recovered. Of these, 127 were small - that is, less than 10mm in length - and, as their identification was in many cases uncertain, they have not been included in the calculations that follow.

The assemblage from the site consisted predominantly of chert. Of the 293 identifiable chert fragments, about 62% consisted of the rough-fracturing dark grey type; with about 15% of the total being the smooth - fracturing greenish-grey variant. About 16% of the total was 'grey' chert and about 5% consisted of 'red' chert.

Flint was recovered from all 3 grids excavated, usually in small numbers, but comprising about 10% of the total lithic content. Overall, the ratio of chert to flint was about 8.6 to 1. All of a total of 5 microliths were of chert.

No pitchstone, red ochre (haematite) or pottery was found..

### Grid 115/10/S/1 (2011)

#### Flint

- a Flakes, 5 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].
- b Flake, 1 of, medium, pale reddish brownish [10 R 5/4].
- c Flakes, 1 medium, 3 small - off-white ?burnt.

#### Chert

- a Microliths, 3 of, medium light grey [N 6], up to 21mm long.
- b Core, large, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- c Large Chunks, 3 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture - all with pale alteration - radiolarians. One with iron pan adhering.
- d Chunk, 1 of, and 5 flakes, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] and dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], one with brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottling, smooth fracture..
- e Medium Chunks and flakes, 42 of, medium dark grey [N 4] to medium grey [N 5], rough fracture.
- f Flakes, 4 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] with brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottling,, smooth fracture.
- g Flakes and chunks, 7 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- h Small Flakes, 45 of, various types.

#### 'Grey chert'

- j Chunks, large, 1 of, 18 medium and small, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Grid 115/10 -11/N/1 (2011)****Flint**

- a ?Scrapers, 2 of, large - up to 33 long, dark yellowish brown [10 YR 4/2]
- b Chunks and flakes, 3 medium, 1 small, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].
- c Flake, 1 of, medium, medium grey [N 5].
- d Chunk, 1 of, medium, moderate red [5 R 5/4], ?burnt. Chunk, 1 of, small, off-white.

**Chert**

- a Core, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- b Microlith, medium light grey [N 6], 8mm long.
- c Large Chunks and flakes, 11 of, dark grey [N 3] and medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture - pale alteration - radiolarians.
- d Flakes, elongated, 4 of, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] and dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture - one has iron pan adhering.
- e Medium Chunks and flakes, 73 of, dark grey [N 3] and medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture, some with pale alteration.
- f Flakes and chunks, 9 of, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] and dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- g Small Flakes, 35 of, various types.

**'Grey chert'**

- h Flakes and chunks, 2 large, 6 medium, 2 small, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**'Red chert'**

- j Flakes and chunks, 2 large in dusky brown [5 YR 2/2], 7 medium in greyish brown [5 YR 3/2].

**Grid 115/11/S/1 (2011)****Flint**

- a ?Scrapers, 2 of, medium, 1 in moderate yellowish brown [10 YR 5/4] with edge wear; 1 in medium dark grey [N 4] with paler spots.
- b Chunks and flakes, 1 large, elongated, is perhaps a point, 8 medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].
- c Flakes and chunks, 4 of, medium, 1 is medium grey [N 5]. 2 are mainly pale cortex, 1 in moderate reddish brown is perhaps agate.

**Chert**

- a Microlith, medium light grey [N 6], 21mm long.
- b ?Scraper, 35mm long, showing edge wear, dark grey [N 3].
- c Large Chunks, 3 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture - pale alteration - radiolarians.
- d Chunks, 2 of, 1 is perhaps a scraper, dark grey [N 3], smooth fracture.
- e Chunks, 2 of, 1 is perhaps a scraper, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] - one has brownish grey mottling smooth fracture.
- f Medium Chunks and flakes, 50 of, dark grey [N 3] and medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture, some with pale alteration - 1 with iron pan adhering.
- g Flakes and chunks, 9 of, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] and dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture - 5 have brownish grey mottling.
- h Small Flakes, 47 of, various types.

**‘Grey chert’**

j

Chunks and flakes, 2 large, 16 medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**‘Red chert’**

k

Flakes and chunks, 6 of, medium, greyish brown [5 YR 3/2].

**Spoil (2011)**

**Chert**

a Large

Chunk, 1 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture - pale alteration - radiolarians.

b Medium

Chunks and flakes, 11 of, dark grey [N 3] and medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture.

**‘Grey chert’**

c

Chunks and flakes, 3 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1]. One has greyish brown [5 YR 4/1] mottling.

**Grid 115 (2012) Spoil**

**Flint**

a Flakes, 2 of, medium, 1 is medium grey [N 5], 1 is light brownish grey [5 YR 5/1].

**Chert**

a

Microlith, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture 10mm long x 6mm wide -?broken.

b Large

Flake, 1 of, dark grey [N 3], rough fracture.

c Medium

Flake, 1 of, medium dark grey [N 4] rough fracture.

d

Chunks and flakes, 10 of, dark greenish grey [5 YR 4/1] - smooth fracture - 1 with iron pan adhering.

**‘Grey chert’**

e

Chunks and flakes, 5 medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**‘Red chert’**

f

Chunks, 2 of, one large, 1 medium - dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] and brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottled.- smooth fracture.

Daer 2011, Site 115 [NS 95532 10423]

Sample No	Date	Flint	P'stone	Haem	Ceram	Chert-rough	Chert-smooth			Grey chert		Var	Small	Total	Ch/Fl	Tools'		Comment	
																Mic			
115/10/S/1 115/10-11/N/1 115/11/S/1	2011	10				3	42	45	7	11	18	1	18	19	45	130	13.0	3	Q = 'red chert' - 2 large, 7 medium Q = 'red chert' - 6 medium
	2011	9				11	73	84	4	9	13	2	8	10	35	152	16.9	1	
	2011	15				3	50	53	4	9	13	2	16	18	47	138	9.2	1	
		94				17	165	182	15	29	44	5	42	47	127	420	4.5	5	
115/spoil	2012	2				1	1	2		10	10	5	5	5	2	20	10.0	1	Q = 'red chert' - 1 large, 1 medium

## Site No 116

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

The site was originally recorded as:

233     **Site No 116**     Cairn     360m OD     NS 95052 09545

On the south flank of Coom Rig on sloping ground there was a cairn circa 3m in diameter by 0.3m high and composed of boulders up to 0.6m in size, three layers of stone formed a low dome between two furrows (PI 1), however, none of the stones appeared through the turf and peat cover, the feature was exposed on the east side by the plough cut, the rest of the cairn was lying below undisturbed ground. One stone near the centre lay directly on the orange coloured till indicating it was naturally disposed, while the others lay on a thin o.g.s. The stones were removed to test for any function other than probable field clearance, nothing was found except occasional tiny charcoal fragments.



## Site No 117

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

The site was originally recorded as:

250      **Site No 117**      Charcoal patch (sampled)      NS 95333 10407

Charcoal fragments were noted in the section of a furrow cut and when examined were found to comprise of a patch of about 0.4m in diameter. The charcoal layer was about 25mm deep and lay in a soil profile at the interface with the underlying natural clay. Within the deposit were root branches of silver birch which had been preserved below the peat which was about 0.35m deep. The charcoal enriched deposit was bulk sampled and pieces of the birch trees were also retained. The underlying clay was not discoloured indicating the charcoal may not have been burned in that position.

Some of the charcoal was semi burnt and some pieces of wood and bark were noted to be edge carbonised, also worm/beetle holes exist in some samples and round wood is present.

117	Bulk	12	Hand picked 1mm>
117	Bulk	13	Hand picked 1mm>
117	Bulk	2	Pieces with insect tunnel
117	Bulk	1	Round wood
117	Bulk	n/a	Wood and burnt wood
117	Bulk	n/a	1mm> + un burnt wood

### Discussion

This location must date to the end of the Bronze Age as semi burnt wood was extant in the deposit. It may represent a fire place within a birch woodland.

## Site No 118

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

The original location was recorded:

133 92 **Site No 118** Chert 12 of NS 95337 10370

The site was excavated only partially due to dense rush infestation and also constant running water in the three furrows which were examined. The area was covered in c0.3m depth of peat which lay directly on an ogs of about 100mm deep; this in turn lay on a muddy gravelly till.

Approximately 8 square metres in an irregular area were trowelled.

### Excavation finds list

by

Ian Paterson

#### Flint

- a Chunks and flakes, 4 are large, 12 medium in greyish pink [5 R 8/2]. Five have pale cortex, 2 are partly moderate red [5 R 5/4].
- b Chunks and flakes, 6 are large, 6 medium in light brownish grey - some with pale spotting,. One large chunk, 55mm long, is part of a cobble. It has iron pan adhering. One of the large flakes is possibly a blade, 2 are perhaps scrapers, one a point.
- c Scraper, 35mm long, up to 16mm wide - in light brownish grey - some pale spots. [Note: this specimen from spoil].

#### Chert

- a Microliths, 2 of, 1 is medium light grey [N 6], 1 medium dark grey, up to 11mm long.
- a2 Scraper, 1 of, greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], mottling, smooth fracture.
- b Large Chunks, 6 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture - all with pale alteration - radiolarians.
- c Chunks, 6 of, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] and dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], one with brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottling, smooth fracture.
- d Medium Chunks and flakes, 28 of, medium dark grey [N 4] to medium grey [N 5], rough fracture.
- e Flakes, 24 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- f Small Flakes, 18 of, various types.

Daer 2011, Site 118 [NS 95727 10323]

Date	Flint	P'stone	Haem	Ceram	Chert-rough	Chert- smooth	Grey chert	Var	Small	Total	Ch/FI	Tools*		Comment
2011	28				6 28 34	6 24 30			18	84	3.0	Mic	Scr	
	28				6 28 34	6 24 30			18	84	3.0	2	1	

Site 118

## Site No 119

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

The site was original recorded:

54      **Site No 119**      Cairn      NS 95026 09581

A cairn c3m in diameter, with stones up to 0.4m and arranged in a random fashion with no more than three stones deep, one stone lay on the till the rest lay on an ogs surface. No finds or features were detected.

## Site No 120

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

The site was found by random trial pitting.

255     Site No 120     Trial pit NS 95611 10474

The magnetic bearing on the base line from 0m is 2100

This location is between Site 86 & Site 89 and may be part of one or both of them.

### **NGR at 10/S1 – 10/N1 = NS 95613 10475**

It lies on a gentle slope with peat and turf cover of 0.35m deep.

A charcoal feature (PI's 1 & 2) which formed a slight hollow in grid 13/S1 produced the following charcoal:

120	Bulk	316	1mm> + some tiny roundwood + rootlets
120	Bulk	n/a	0.3mm + rootlets

### Discussion

The site appears to be an activity zone for the mesolithic period with microliths (PI's 3 & 4) and a fine flint knife (PI's 5 & 6) being used.

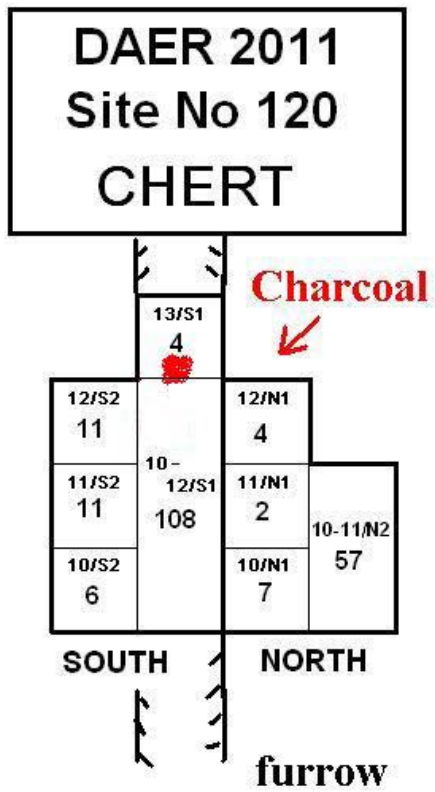


Fig 1



Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3



Plate 4



Plate 5



Plate 5a

# Excavation finds list

## by

## Ian Paterson

### Comment

The excavation covered 12 square metres. A total of 214 lithic fragments were recovered. Of these, 30 were small - that is, less than 10mm in length - and, as their identification was in many cases uncertain, they have not been included in the calculations that follow.

The assemblage from the site consisted predominantly of chert. Of the 180 identifiable chert fragments, about 62% consisted of the rough-fracturing dark grey type; with about 22% of the total being the smooth -fracturing greenish-grey variant. About 1% of the total was 'grey' chert and about 13% consisted of 'red' chert .

Flint was recovered from only 2 of the grids excavated, comprising about 2% of the total lithic content. All of a total of 3 microliths found were of chert.

A single specimen of pitchstone was found but no red ochre (haematite) or pottery was present.

### Grid 120/10/N/1 (2011)

#### Chert

- a Medium                      Flakes, 2 of, medium grey [N 5], rough fracture.
- b                                Flakes, 2 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.

#### 'Grey chert'

- c                                Flakes, 1 medium, 1 small, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

#### 'Red chert'

- d                                Flake 1 of, medium, greyish brown [5 YR 3/2].

### Grid 120/11/N/1 (2011)

#### Chert

- a Large                        Chunk, 1 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- b Medium                      Chunk, 1 of, dark grey [N 3], rough fracture.

### Grid 120/10-11/N/2 (2011)

#### Chert

- a                                Microlith, 24mm long, 4mm wide, olive grey [5 Y 4/1], smooth fracture.
- b                                Microlith, 13mm long, 7mm wide, triangular, olive grey [5 Y 4/1], smooth fracture.
- c                                Point, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Large                        Chunks and flakes, 9 of, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- e Medium                      Chunks and flakes, 37 of, medium - medium dark grey [N 4- 5], rough fracture.
- f                                Flake, 1 of, olive grey [5 Y 4/1], smooth fracture.
- g Small                        Flakes, 7 of, various types.

### Grid 120/12/N/1 (2011)

#### Chert

- a Medium                      Flakes, 3 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- b Small                        Flakes, 1 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.

**Grid 120/10, 11, 12/S/1 (2011)****Flint**

Knife or saw, length of retouched edge 59mm, in brownish black[5 YR 2/1]. thick cortex.  
Flake, 1 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Pitchstone**

Flake, medium, in medium grey [N 5] with pale flow-laminae.

**Chert**

- a Microlith, 16mm long, up to 3.5mm wide, medium grey [N 5], rough fracture
  - b Edge-damaged flakes, 5 of, elongated - up to 26mm long - dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
  - c Large Chunks and flakes, 10 of, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
  - d Chunks, 4 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
  - e Medium Chunks and flakes, 36 of, medium grey [N 5], rough fracture - many with pale alteration.
  - f Flakes, 16 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture - some with pale alteration.
  - g Flakes and chunks, 20 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] with brownish grey mottling, smooth fracture - some with pale alteration.
  - h Small Flakes, 16 of, various types.
- 'Grey chert'**
- j Flakes, 1 large, 5 medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Grid 120/10/S/2 (2011)****Chert**

- a Large Chunk, 1 of, dark grey [N 3], rough fracture.
- b Medium Flakes, 3 of, medium grey [N 5], rough fracture
- c Flakes, 2 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture. One is an elongated crested flake that may be a scraper.

**Grid 120/11/S/2 (2011)****Flint**

Flake, 1 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Chert**

- a Large Chunk, 1 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture. One edge has a semicircular notch and the piece may be a scraper
- b Medium Flakes, 2 of, medium grey [N 5], rough fracture.
- c Chunk, perhaps a core and 2 flakes, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Chunk, 1 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], with brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottling,
- e Small Flakes, 4 of, various types.

**Grid 120/12/S/2 (2011)****Chert**

- a Large Chunks, 3 of, one is a core, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture - pale alteration - abundant radiolarians.
- b Medium Chunks and flakes, 4 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture.
- c hunks, 2 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Small Flakes, 2 of, various types.

**Grid 120/13/S/1 (2011)****Chert**

- a Large Chunk, 1 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] with brownish grey mottling, , h fracture, pale alteration.
- b Medium Flakes, 3 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture.

Daer 2011, Site 120 [NS ]

Date	Flint	P'stone	Haem	Ceram	Chert-rough	Chert-smooth	Grey chert	Var	Small	Total	Civ/Fl	Tools'		Comment
												Mic	Scr	Pt
120/10N/1					2	2	2	2	1	7				Q - 'red' chert
120/11/N1					1	1				2				
120/10-11/N2					9	37	46		7	57				
120/12/N1									1	4		2		
120/10, 11, 12/S/1		1			10	36	46		16	108		1		Q - 'red' chert
120/10/S/2	2				1	3	4		4	6				Q - 'red' chert
120/11/S/2	1				1	2	3		2	11				Q - 'red' chert
120/12/S/2					3	4	7		2	11				Q - 'red' chert
120/13/S/1					3	3	3		1	4				
	3	1			24	88	112	10	30	210		3		

## Site No 121

**Ian Paterson & Tam Ward**

### Introduction

This site was found by random test pitting:

95606 10392 41 chert inc' micro (2m square) Site 121

95601 10393 Charcoal spread (sampled)

A charcoal spread produced the following:

121	Bulk	22	1mm> smaller
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121	Bulk	39	1mm larger
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## **Excavation finds list**

**by**  
**Ian Paterson**

### **Comment**

The excavation covered 4 square metres. A total of 185 lithic fragments were recovered. Of these, 44 were small - that is, less than 10mm in length - and, as their identification was in many cases uncertain, they have not been included in the calculations that follow.

The assemblage from the site consisted predominantly of chert. Of the 135 identifiable chert fragments, about 64% consisted of the rough-fracturing dark grey type; with about 19% of the total being the smooth - fracturing greenish-grey variant. About 14% of the total was 'grey' chert and there was one fragment of 'red' chert.

A total of 6 flint pieces were recovered from 3 grids, usually in small numbers, but comprising about 3% of the total lithic content. The only microlith found was of chert.

No pitchstone, red ochre (haematite) or pottery was found..

### **Grid 121/1/S (2011)**

#### **Chert**

- a Flakes, medium, 8 of, medium grey [N 5], rough fracture.
- b Flakes, small, 6 of, various types.

#### **'Grey chert'**

- c Flake, 1 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

### **Grid 121/2/S (2011)**

#### **Flint**

- Flake, 1 of, small, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

#### **Chert**

- a Chunk, large 1 of, and 12 medium flakes -medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- b Flakes, 2 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- c Flakes, small, 9 of, various types.

#### **'Grey chert'**

- d Flakes, 2 medium, 2 small, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

### **Grid 121/3/S (2011)**

#### **Flint**

- Flakes, 4 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

#### **Chert**

- a Chunk, 1 of, large, possible core, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- b Chunk,, large, 2 of, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- c Flakes, medium, 24 of, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- d Chunks and flakes, 10 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- e Flakes, small, 21 of, various types.

**‘Grey chert’**

- f Flakes, 5 medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Grid 121/4/S (2011)**

**Chert**

- a Chunks, 5 of, large, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- b Chunk, 1 of, large, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- c Flakes, 12 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture.
- d Flakes, 3 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- e Flakes, small, 4 of, various types.

**Grid 121/1, 2, 3/N (2011)**

**Flint**

- Flake, 1 of, large with edge wear, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Chert**

- a Microlith, broken, 8mm long, up to 5mm wide.
- b Chunks, 9 of, large, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- c Chunks, 4 of, large, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Chunk, 1 of, large, possible core, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] with brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottling, smooth fracture.
- e Flakes, 14 of, medium grey [N 5] and medium dark grey [N 4], some with pale alteration, rough fracture.
- f Chunks, 5 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- g Flakes, small, 4 of, various types.

**‘Grey chert’**

- h Flakes, 9 medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

Daer 2011, Site 121 [NS 95606 10392]

Sample No	Date	Flint	P'stone	Haem	Ceram	Chert-rough	Chert-smooth	Grey chert	Var	Small	Total	Tools'		S/C	Comment
												Mic C	Mic F		
121/1/S	2011	0				8	8	1	1	6	15				
121/2/S	2011	1				12	13	4	4	9	26			17.0	17.0
121/3/S	2011	4				24	26	5	5	21	65			11.0	11.0
121/4/S	2011	0				12	17	1	3	4	25				
121/1-3/N	2011	1				14	23	9	9	4	48	1		44.0	44.0
		6				17	70	19	1	44	179	1		22.5	22.5

## Site No 122

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

The site was found by random test pitting:

NS 95588 10395      36 chert      & 1 chert micro & 1 flint knife      Site 122

The site probably represents a small scale Mesolithic activity.



3/S 24	2/S 69	1/S 25	1/N 17	2/N 19	3/N 34	4/N 2
SOUTH			NORTH			

Fig 1

**Excavation finds list**  
**by**  
**Ian Paterson**

**Comment**

The somewhat sparse assemblage from this site is composed predominantly of chert. Flint, which was recovered from only 4 of the 8 grids excavated, comprises about 5% of the total. Of the identifiable chert fragments, about half consists of the rough-fracturing dark grey type – most of the rest being the smooth fracturing greenish-gray variant. About 6% of the total was ‘grey chert’.

**Grid 122/-1/S (2011)**

**Chert**

- a Chunks, 1 large, 1 medium, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture.
- b Chunks, 3 medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- c Flakes, small, 7 of, various types.

**‘Grey chert’**

- c Flake, 1 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Grid 122/1/S (2011)**

**Flint**

Flake, 1 of, large, brownish grey [5 YR 4/1], 2 medium and 3 small, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Chert**

- a Chunk, large, 1 of, and 12 medium flakes - medium dark grey [N 4], some with pale alteration, rough fracture.
- b Flakes and chunks, 12 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.

**Grid 122/2/S (2011)**

**Flint**

Flakes, 4 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

**Chert**

- a Microliths, 3 of - 19mm, 16.5mm; 14.5mm long by up to 3mm wide and ?1 broken - medium light grey [N 6].
- b Chunks, 3 of, large, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- c Chunks, large, 5 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Chunk and flakes, medium, 20 of, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- e Chunks and flakes, 11 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], one with brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottling - smooth fracture.
- f Flakes, small, 19 of, various types.

**‘Grey chert’**

- g Flakes, 8 medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

### Grid 122/3/S (2011)

#### Flint

Flake, 1 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

#### Chert

- a Microlith, 1 of - 15mm, by up to 5mm wide - medium light grey [N 6].
- b ?Scraper, 1 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- c Chunks, 2 of, large, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- d Chunks, 5 of, medium, medium dark grey [N 4], some with pale alteration, rough fracture.
- e Chunk and flakes, large, 4 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], pale alteration, smooth fracture.
- f Chunks and flakes, medium, 7 of, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] - smooth fracture.
- g Flakes, small, 3 of, various types.

#### 'Red chert'

- h Chunk, large, 1 of, brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] with mottling of dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] - smooth fracture.

### Grid 122/1/N (2011)

#### Flint

Flakes, 2 of, medium, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1].

#### Chert

- a Elongate flakes - possibly scrapers - 2 of, 1 is 35mm long, medium dark grey [N 4] with rough fracture, the other is 30mm long, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] with smooth fracture.
- b Chunk, 1 of, large, medium dark grey [N 4], pale alteration, rough fracture.
- c Chunks, 2 of, large, one is a core, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Flakes and chunks, medium, 7 of, medium grey [N 5] and medium dark grey [N 4], some with pale alteration, rough fracture.
- e Flakes, 2 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- f Flakes, small, 3 of, various types.

### Grid 122/2/N (2011)

#### Chert

- a Elongate flakes - possibly scrapers - 2 of, 1 is 25mm long, medium dark grey [N 4] with rough fracture, the other is 23.5mm long, olive grey [5 Y 4/1] with smooth fracture.
- b Flakes and chunks, 5 of, medium, dark grey to medium grey [N 3-5], some with pale alteration, rough fracture.
- c Flakes, 5 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Chunks, 2 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1] with brownish grey [5 YR 4/1] mottling, smooth fracture.
- e Flakes, small, 5 of, various types.

**Grid 122/3/N (2011)**

**Chert**

- a Flakes and chunks, large, 4 of, dark grey to medium grey [N 3-5], some with pale alteration, rough fracture.
- b Flakes and chunks, medium, 17 of, dark grey to medium grey[N 3-5], some with pale alteration, rough fracture.
- c Flakes, 10 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- d Flakes, small, 3 of, various types.

**Grid 122/4/N (2011)**

**Chert**

- a Flake, medium, 1 of, medium dark grey [N 4], rough fracture.
- b Chunk, 1 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.

**Grid 122/ (2012) Spoil**

**Flint**

- a Microlith, 1 of, light brownish grey [5 YR 6/1 – 15.5 mm long by up to 4mm wide.
- b Flakes, 2 of medium, brownish grey [5 YR 4/1].

**Chert**

- a Chunk, large, 1 of, dark grey [N 3], rough fracture.
- b Chunks, 2 of, and 1 elongated flake – perhaps a scraper, - large, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- c Flakes and chunks, medium, 8 of, dark grey to medium grey[N 3-5], rough fracture.
- d Flakes and chunks, 8 of, medium, dark greenish grey [5 GY 4/1], smooth fracture.
- e Flakes, small, 5 of, various types.

Daer 2011, Site 122 [NS 95588 10395]

Sample No	Date	Flint	P'stone	Haem	Ceram	Chert-rough	Chert-smooth	Grey chert	Var	Small	Total	Tools'	S/C	Comment
122/-1/S	2011	1				1 1 2	3 3	1 1		7	13	Mic		
122/1/S	2011	4				1 12 13	12 12			0	25		25.0	
122/2/S	2011					3 20 23	5 11 16	8 8		19	69	3	12.5	
122/3/S	2011	1				2 5 7	4 7 11		1	3	24	1	21.0	Q = 'red chert'
122/1/N	2011	2				2 7 9	3 2 5			3	17		7.0	
122/2/N	2011					1 5 6	1 7 8			5	19			
122/3/N	2011					4 17 21	10 10			3	34			
122/4/N	2011					1 1 1	1 1			0	2			
		8				14 68 82	13 53 66	9 9 9	1	40	203	4	20.4	
122 Spoil	2012	3				1 8 9	3 8 11			5	25	1F	6.7	

## Site No 123

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

This location was found by test pitting. It lies on the lower east flank of Coom Rig and is about 10m south of the scarp of the Smithwood Burn; it lies at 310m OD.

Two NGR's are given here for its location, the first being a test pit:

NS 95561 10505            quantities of chert, flint and haematite and charcoal

NS 95572 10523            ditto, this NGR at the 'knapper's seat' (see below)

Two random test pits which were cut into adjoining furrows led to the discovery of Site 123. The excavated area of 72 square metres in total (Fig's 1 - 3) is separated from Site 99 by only 5.5m and is upslope from No 99 and encompasses the same furrows (Fig 4). The ground is on a gentle slope and the peat and turf cover is around 0.6m deep, which meant that the plough did not reach and open up the ogs to reveal the site in the furrows. The value of test pitting is demonstrated in this case.

Almost immediately upon the excavation beginning and in the same furrow as F2 a large stone, a greywacke rock with rounded edges, was found to be lying on top of the podsol, which included charcoal, and with peat immediately on, above and beside the stone. The stone measured 705mm by 440mm by 190mm thick and was aligned with the furrow (PI's 1 -3). The stone was surrounded by a dense lithic scatter but significantly with numerous chert cores and fragments being found immediately to the north of the stone and few large pieces being recovered on the southern side.

Furthermore these large chert pieces were very close to the stone and almost certainly indicate a 'drop zone' for them. It is probable that a knapper was using the stone as a seat, facing north and dropping the discarded chert cores in front of him or her, rather than rejecting them by facing south and throwing them over the shoulder. The stone was lying over the podsol at its narrower and lighter end, but the heavier end appeared to be depressed into it and down to the till below. There were no lithics immediately below the stone suggesting it was placed there before knapping began, since there was a large quantity of lithic immediately around the rock.

An interesting fact was that although there was a large quantity of cores and core fragments in the presumed 'drop zone', there was not the quantity of micro debitage one might expect from knapping taking place there. It may be that this material, and perhaps all the blades and microliths which were being made, were caught in a skin placed between the knapper's legs, and after the selection of desired objects, the rubbish was discarded elsewhere.

## **Features      Fig 3**

Because of winter weather conditions decent photographic records of most of the features were unobtainable.

The charcoal retrieved from each feature is given below.

Throughout the upper part of the site there were numerous patches of charcoal enriched ground and to varying extents and sizes, there were also charcoal fragments throughout the podsol over the entire site. In some locations the charcoal did not manifest itself until about half the depth of the podsol was removed, this may suggest movement of soil over the site during or after use.

### **F1      Grid 14/S/5**

The feature was seen as a charcoal patch in one of the two original test pits which proved the site. Charcoal was noted in the base of the peat in the furrow and it penetrated through the ogs and into the till below, a shallow oval bowl shaped pit measuring 0.4m by 0.3m and only about 75mm survived below the upper level of the orange coloured till. The fill consisted of charcoal and small pebbles and grit, some of the latter could be seen to have been discoloured by the effect of heat and when the sample residue was inspected it could be seen that nearly the entire grit content of the feature had been burnt (PI 7). Interestingly, although the area around contained numerous lithics, none were found in the pit fill. Floor sweepings from around the pit would surely have incorporated lithics in the fill if that was how the contents were deposited; therefore it seems more likely that this feature was deliberately filled with material which excluded any surrounding lithic.

### **F2      Grid 13/S/1    Plates 4 & 5**

The feature was similar to F1 in that it was a charcoal filled pit, also containing burnt stone in a pit which had been cut into the till. F2 was also found in another test pit and in the adjoining furrow, to prove the site. The bowl shaped feature as found was about 0.3m in diameter and up to 100mm deep below the upper surface of the till. Unlike F1, this pit contained numerous lithics, mostly chert micro debitage but also one tiny piece of burnt flint and two small pieces of haematite. Another distinguishing factor of the pit was that the base was severely mineralised with a crust of iron pan which incorporated and cemented charcoal, rootlets and grit together, along with occasional chert flakes.

The burnt stone may have given the impression that burning in the pit or deposition of hot material had taken place, however, since only one piece of flint and none of the copious amount of chert was burnt, the fill must have been cold when it got there and the material affected by heat must have been scorched elsewhere. However, given the more mixed nature of the fill, it may be that this was the product of floor sweepings from around the pit and causing it to be filled.

### **F3      Grid 14/S3**

F3 was a possible pit with a charcoal enriched fill, the patch measured 0.4m in diameter by 100mm deep, however the sides were not defined and the material was not cut into the till, but rested on it. A quantity of charcoal was retrieved from the bulk sample and the deposit also contained numerous lithics including one chert microlith and several pieces of burnt flint. The entire residue from the bulk sample was shown to be burnt gravel.

### **F4      Grid 14/S2**

F4 was similar to F3 in that no definite pit was observed, the deposit of charcoal enriched soil measured 0.3m in diameter by 75mm deep and was not cut into the till, the charcoal was not as abundant as F3 and there were no lithics within the deposit.

### **F5      Grid 17/S1**

F5 was a charcoal enriched patch measuring circa 0.3m in diameter by 100mm deep. Less than 1 gramme of charcoal was obtained from the bulk sample and a small amount of lithic was also retrieved.

### **F6      Grid 17/S1 – 17/N1 Plate 6**

F6 was a charcoal enriched patch measuring c0.4m in diameter by 100mm deep. The soil was sampled in two arbitrary levels; upper and base, the upper sample produced a relatively large quantity of lithic including three microliths and the basal sample also produced some lithic including two microliths. This feature may have been a pit in which a fire had taken place as much of the residue gravel was heat reddened. The lithic in the fill may simply have been the product of floor sweepings.

### **F7      Grid 16/S4**

F7 was a charcoal enriched patch of around 0.3m in diameter and by c 150mm deep, a 100mm deep bowl shaped cut into the till suggests this was a pit. The fill contained a small amount of lithic including two microliths and also much burnt gravel, noted in the sample residue on sieving. A pit containing burning material is suggested for this feature although the lithic may be the product of floor sweepings.

### **F8      Grids 17/N1 – 18/N1**

F8 was a patch of charcoal enriched ground measuring c0.75m in diameter by up to 75mm deep. It appeared to be a spread of material and of intermittent density although the charcoal at the centre and base of the patch was more concentrated.

### Charcoal from features

'Hand picked' charcoal were larger pieces retrieved from the flots.

123	Bulk F1	88	Hand picked 1mm>
123	Bulk F1	148	1mm > + grit and root
123	Bulk F1	28	1mm graded
123	Bulk F1	n/a	0.3mm + grit and root
123	East half F2	36	Hand picked 1mm>
123	East half F2	37	1mm> + grit and root
123	East half F2	n/a	0.3mm + grit and root
123	West half F2	64	Hand picked 1mm>
123	West half F2	135	1mm > + grit and root
123	West half F2	n/a	Nut shell and round wood
123	West half F2	n/a	Concretion & charcoal
123	West half F2	n/a	0.3mm + grit and root
123	Bulk F3	27	1mm> handpicked larger
123	Bulk F3	27	1mm> + grit
123	Bulk F3	n/a	0.3mm + grit and root
123	Bulk F4	6	1mm >
123	Bulk F5	<1	1mm>
123	Bulk F6 upper	13	1mm>
123	Bulk F6 upper	n/a	0.3mm + grit and root
123	Bulk F7	30	1mm> larger handpicked
123	Bulk F7	21	1mm> handpicked
123	Bulk F7	38	1mm> from residue
123	Bulk F7	91	1mm> + grit & root
123	Bulk F7	n/a	0.3mm + grit & root
123	Bulk F8	18	1mm> larger handpicked
123	Bulk F8	4	1mm> larger handpicked
123	Bulk F8	20	1mm> +grit & root
123	Bulk F8	n/a	0.3mm + grot & root

Site 123 was one of the most prolific for features and finds and because of its proximity to Sites No's 99 and 102, there may be some association, analyses of the lithics and dating may show that.

Only a single piece of pitchstone was found and no pottery, therefore there was little evidence of the Early Neolithic represented by diagnostic finds. The location appears to be entirely Mesolithic in character especially in consequence of the high numbers of microliths which were recovered; 75 being of chert and an unusually higher proportion of 84 being manufactured from flint. The range of shapes and sizes is also quite striking and will be of particular interest to specialists.

Larger flint and chert blades and scrapers were also found; the blades in quite high numbers and it could be seen that these had been used as knives by edge wear and damage on them.

Cores and core fragments especially of chert but also in flint were abundant and the analyses of these finds in the vicinity of the large stone will be particularly informative.

Flint pebbles had been brought to the site for knapping and the flint covered a wide range of types and colours.

The high proportion of haematites pieces (40 of) is extremely good evidence that the material was being used in the Mesolithic period in association with the rest of the finds, and at this site in particular it is perhaps the best instance of that on the project, lending support to the theory that haematite is a Mesolithic component on other sites where early Neolithic material is also present.

The large stone found on this site is unique in its context on a Mesolithic site in this project. All the other areas which were excavated had no such stones or indeed stones of any size lying around, suggesting that large stones may have been removed from the locations where activities took place – with this exception. Furthermore, the stone was lying on top of the podsol having impregnated only slightly into it, presumably by the force of gravity, this suggests that the stone may originally have been placed on top of a deeper soil surface when it was apparently used as a seat. Such remarks as to any function of the stone are of course provisional in anticipation of the analyses of the surrounding lithics.

Because of the quality of the tool assemblage at this site additional illustrations are given to demonstrate the range. Furthermore a series of photographs illustrates both the weather conditions endured by the excavators over two winters, and also shows the methodology of excavating the peat overburden and the podsol down to the till, the pictures reflect much of what was seen at most sites.

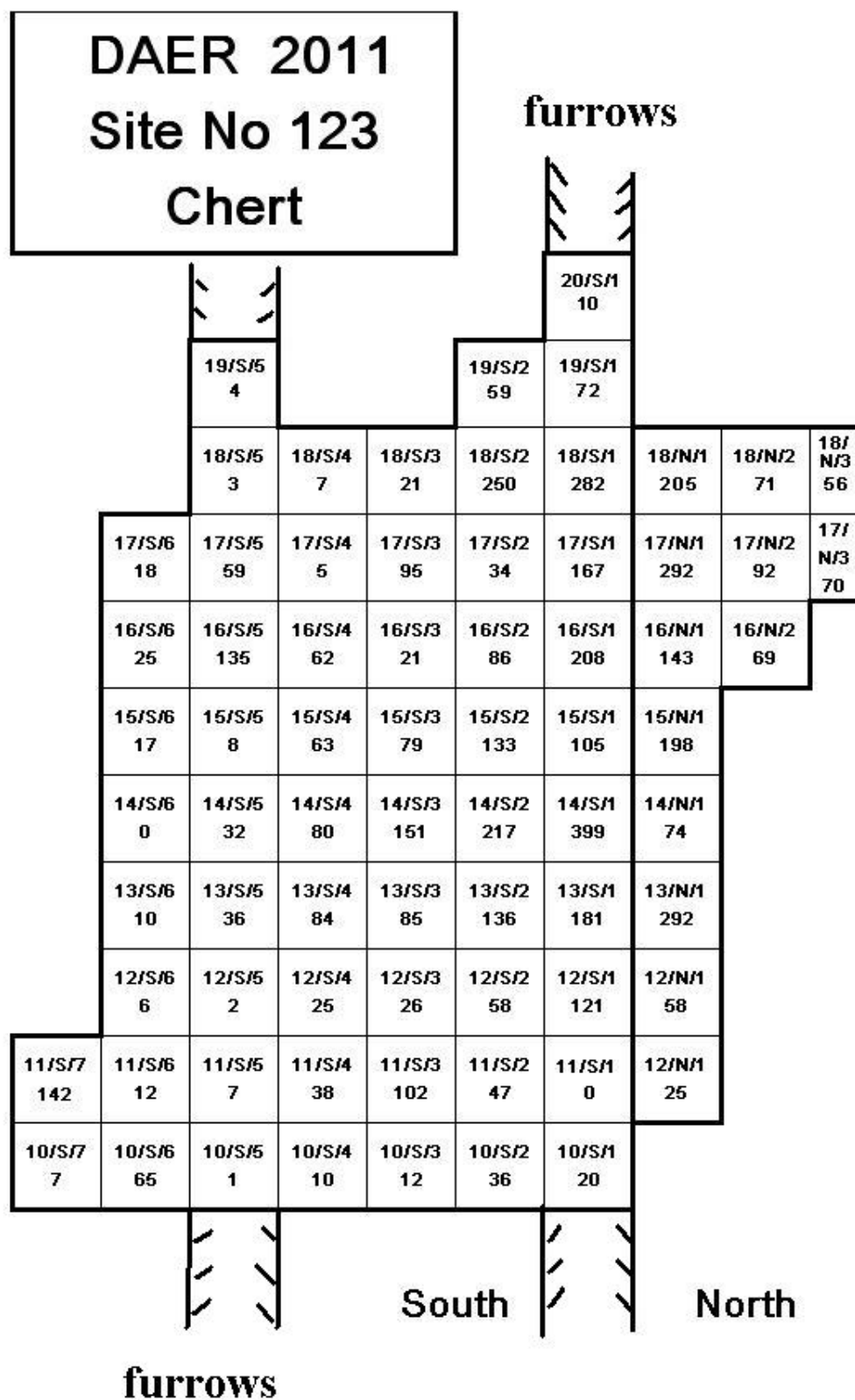


Fig 1

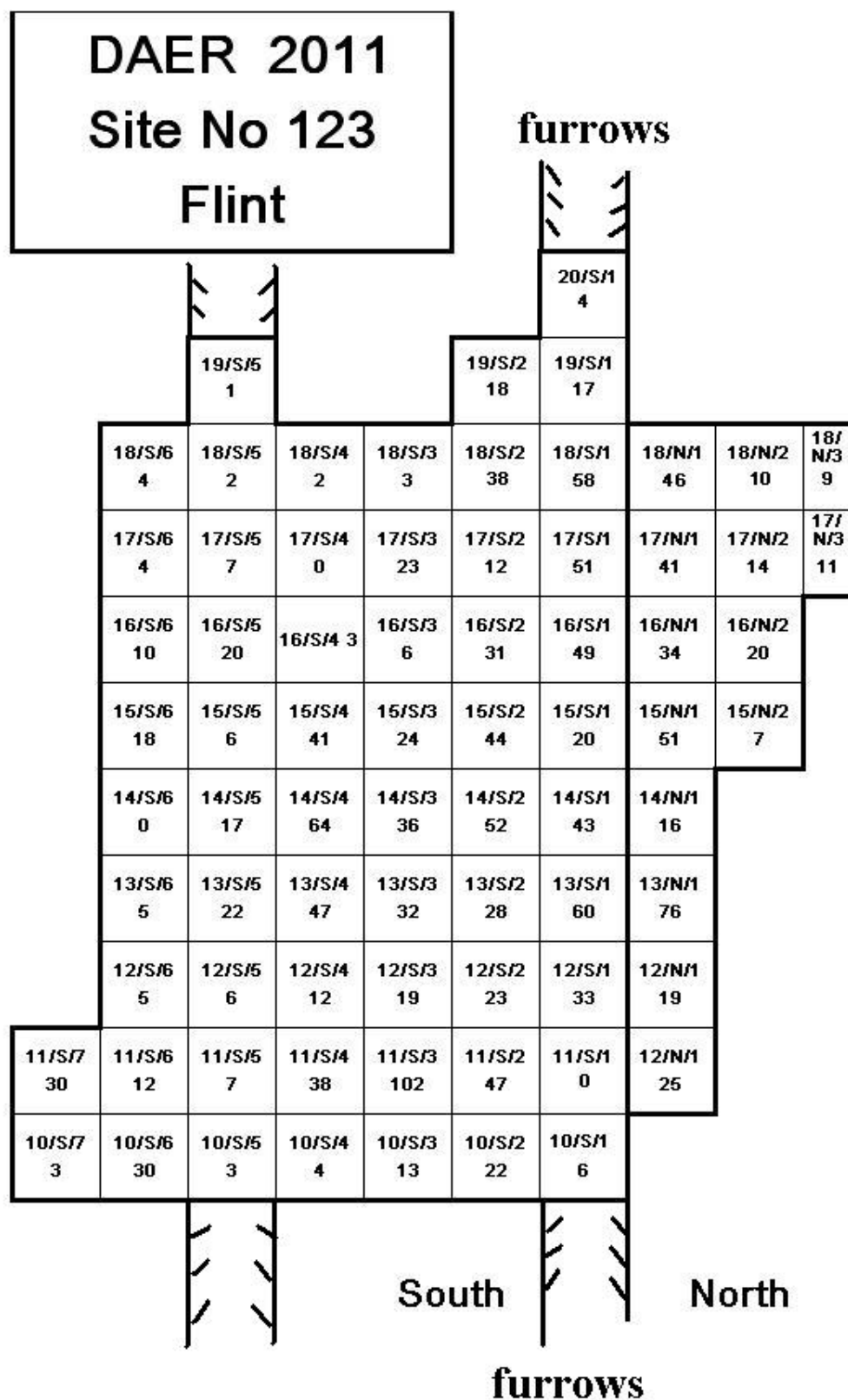


Fig 2

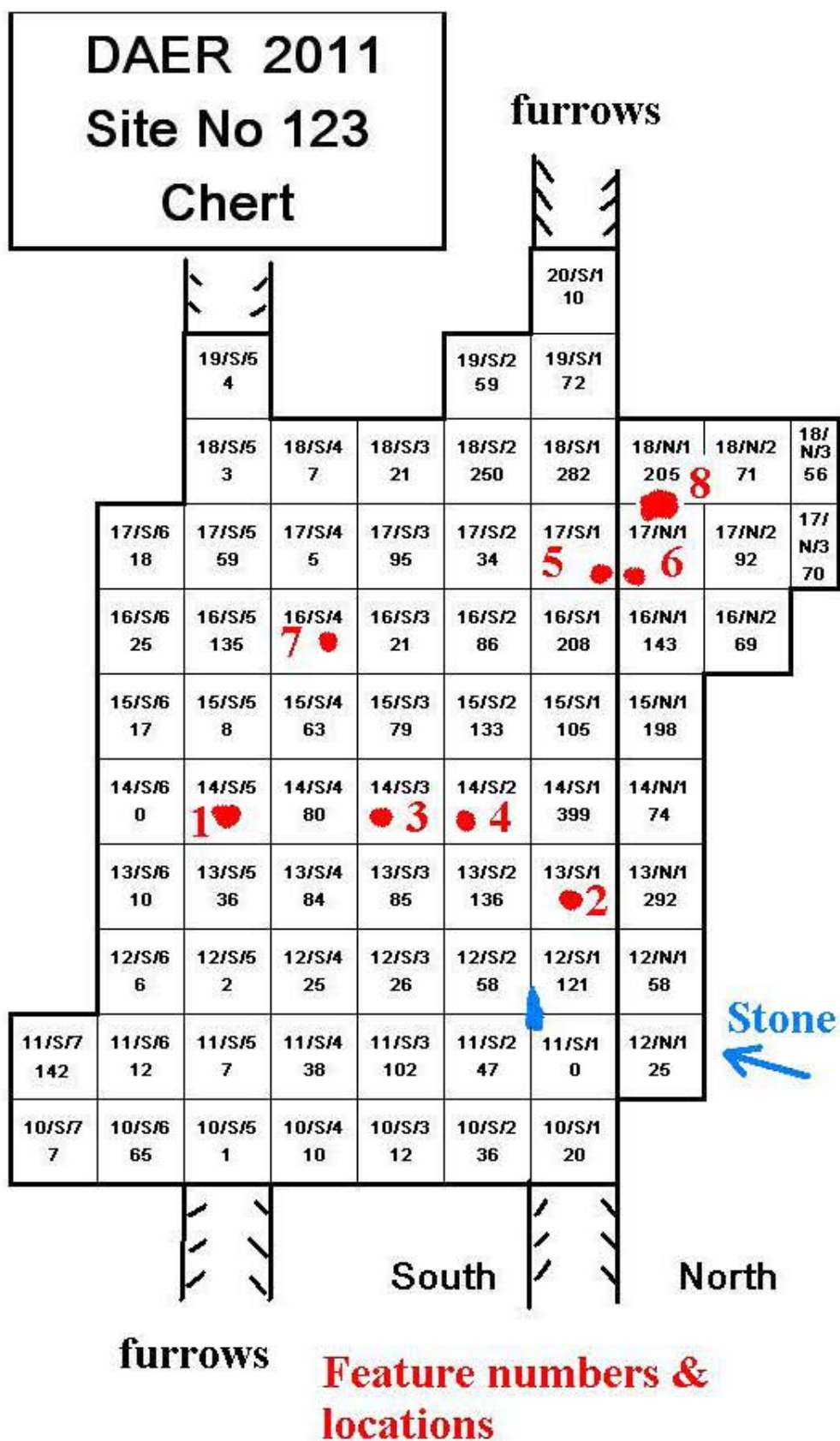


Fig 3

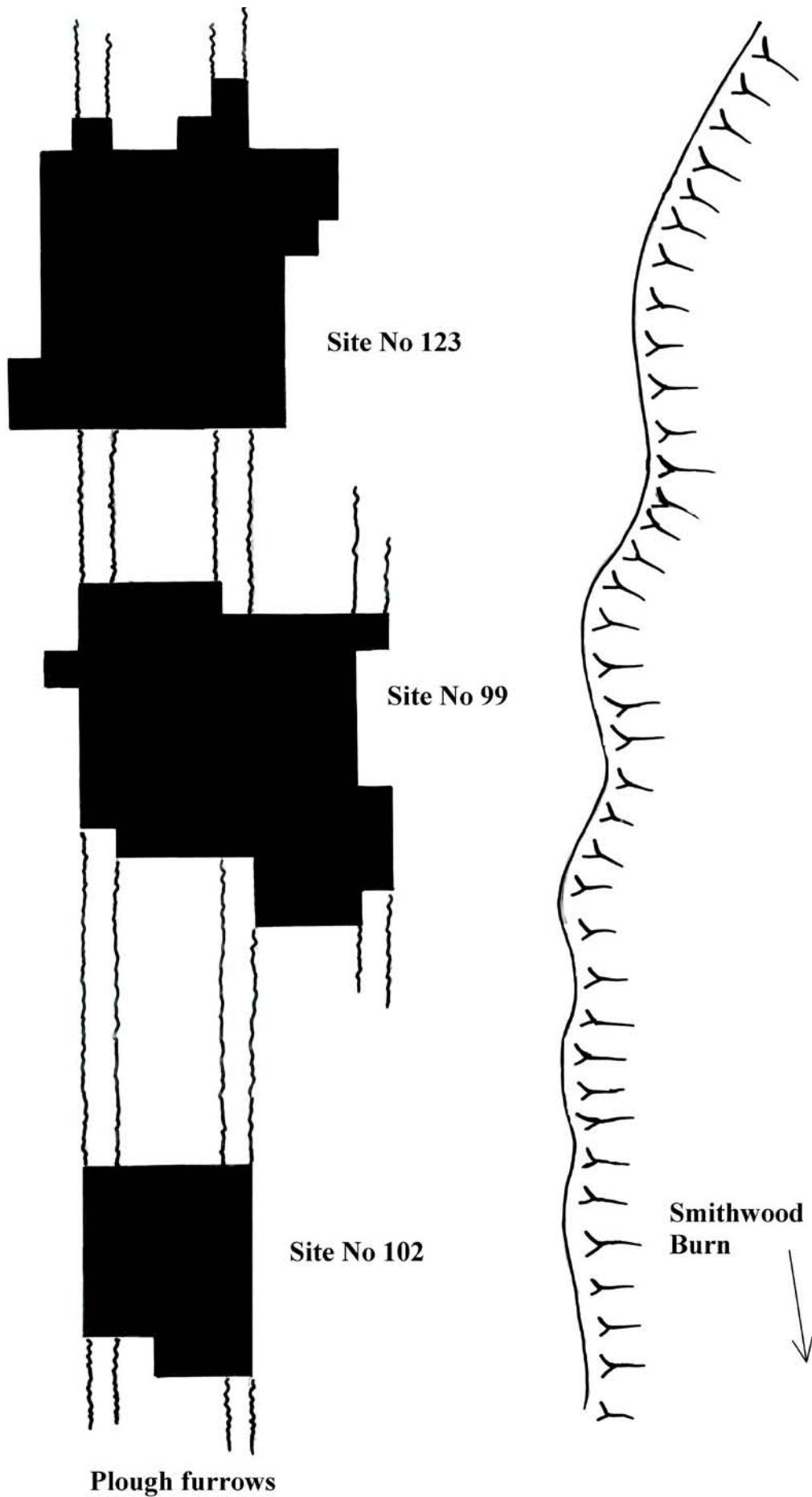


Fig 4



Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3



Plate 4



Plate 5



Plate 6



Plate 7



Plate 8



Plate 9



Plate 10



Plate 11

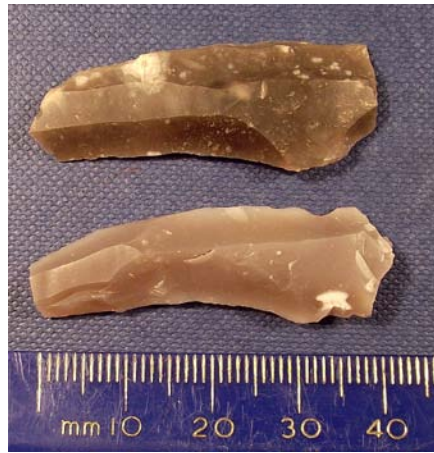


Plate 12



Plate 14



Plate 15



Plate 13



Plate 17



Plate 16



Plate 18



Plate 19



Plate 21



Plate 20



Plate 22



Plate 23



Plate 24



Plate 25



Plate 26



Plate 28



Plate 29



Plate 30



Plate 31



Plate 32



Plate 33

Daer 2011, Site 123 [NS 95572 10523]

Sample No	Date	Flint	P'stone	Haem	Ceram	Chert-rough	Chert- smooth	Grey chert	Var	Small	Total	Ch/FI	Tools		S-R	S-R/C	Comment
													Mic-C	Mic-F			
123/10/S/1	2011	6				2 5 7	1 10 11	2 2		0	20	3.3		1	20	3.3	
123/10/S/2	2011	22				1 12 13	8 8	4 4		11	36	1.6			25	1.1	
123/10/S/3	2011	13				2 2	1 3 4	2 2		4	12	0.9			8	0.6	
123/10/S/4	2011	4				7 7	3 3			0	10	2.5			10	2.5	
123/10/S/5	2011	3				1 1				0	1	0.3			1	0.3	
123/10/S/6	2011	30				26 26	3 16 19	9 9		11	65	2.2		1F	54	1.8	
123/10/S/7	2011	3					2 2			5	7	2.3			2	0.7	
123/11/S/1	2011	No	finds	In this	grid												
123/11/S/2	2011	13				2 11 13	3 13 16	5 5		13	47	3.6		2	34	2.6	
123/11/S/3	2011	22				9 34 43	10 21 31	6 6	1	9	102	4.6	2	2	93	4.2	Q = 'red chert'
123/11/S/4	2011	17				1 3 4	2 11 13			21	38	2.2			17	1.0	
123/11/S/5	2011	2				1 1	6 6				7	3.5			7	3.5	
123/11/S/6	2011	3				10 10	2 2			0	12	4.0		1	12	4.0	
123/11/S/7	2011	30				22 42 44	37 37	21 21		40	142	4.7		2	102	3.4	
123/11/N/1	2012	9				9 9	1 5 6	1 4 5		5	25	2.8		4	20	2.2	
123/12/S/1	2011	33				15 30 45	10 40 50	6 6		15	121	3.7	5	1	106	3.2	
123/12/S/2	2011	23				3 15 18	17 17	8 8		14	58	2.5	1	2	44	1.9	
123/12/S/3	2011	19			1	5 5	8 8	1 2 3		10	26	1.4		2	16	0.8	
123/12/S/4	2011	12				1 8 9	1 6 7	1 1		8	25	2.1		1	17	1.4	
123/12/S/5	2011	6				1 1 2				0	2	0.3			2	0.3	
123/12/S/6	2012	5				4 4	2 2			0	6	1.2		1	6	1.2	
123/12/N/1	2011	19		2		11 11	3 13 16	5 5		25	58	3.1	1	1	33	1.7	
123/13/S/1	2011	60		6		9 49 58	3 31 34	3 21 24		64	181	3.0	1	2	117	2.0	
123/13/S/2	2011	28		2		22 22	11 29 40	13 13		58	136	4.9	3		78	2.8	
123/13/S/3	2011	32		1		28 28	5 18 23	4 4		29	85	2.7	1		86	1.8	
123/13/S/4	2011	47				11 11	4 29 33	7 7		27	84	1.8	6	4	57	1.2	
123/13/S/5	2011	22				6 6 12	6 6	2 2		15	36	1.6	1	2	21	1.0	
123/13/S/6	2012	5				4 4	2 2			2	10	2.0		1	8	1.6	
123/13/N/1	2012	76		2		1 133 134	4 39 43	17 17		98	292	3.8	3	6	194	2.6	
123/14/S/1	2012	43		14		6 150 156	4 44 48	1 18 19		175	399	9.3	1	2	224	5.2	
123/14/S/2	2012	52		2		5 92 97	7 32 39	5 13 18		54	217	4.2	5	2	163	3.1	Q = 'Red' chert
123/14/S/3	2012	36				4 53 57	4 29 33	19 19	3	37	151	4.2	2	2	114	3.2	Q = 'Red' chert
123/14/S/4	2012	64				9 31 40	18 18	3 3		19	80	1.3	3	61	1.0		
123/14/S/5	2012	17				1 15 16	1 8 9			6	32	1.9	1		26	1.5	
123/14/S/6	2012	No	finds	In this	grid												
123/14/N/1	2011	16		2		8 26 34	4 22 26	1 6 7		7	74	4.6			67	4.2	
123/15/S/1	2011	20		1		29 29	2 17 19	10 10		47	105	5.3			58	2.9	
123/15/S/2	2011	44		5		3 47 50	5 36 41	8 8	6	28	133	3.0	4	105	2.4	Q = 'Black' chert	
123/15/S/3	2012	24				2 23 25	3 22 25	1 9 10	5	14	79	3.3	4	65	2.7	Q = '1 Black' chert, 4 'Red' chert	
123/15/S/4	2012	41				2 21 22	1 10 11	8 8	6	16	63	1.5	2	47	1.1	Q = 'Black' chert	
123/15/S/5	2012	6				1 3 4	1 1	1 1		2	8	1.3	1	6	1.0		
123/15/S/6	2012	18					4 4	1 1	1	11	17	0.9	1	6	0.3		
123/15/N/1	2012	51				30 30	3 29 32	1 34 35	7	94	198	3.9	4	1	104	2.0	Q = 'Red' chert
123/15/N/2	2012	7				11 11	1 11 12	2 2		12	37	5.3	1		25	3.6	
123/16/S/1	2012	49		1		1 45 46	4 65 69	30 30		63	208	4.2	4	4	145	3.0	
123/16/S/2	2012	31				16 16	15 15	10 10	11	34	86	2.8	3	52	1.7	Q = 'Red' chert - 1 large, 10 medium	
123/16/S/3	2012	6				6 6	6 6	1 1		8	21	3.5	3	13	2.2		
123/16/S/4	2012	3				5 18 23	1 22 23	3 3		13	62	20.7			49	0.0	
123/16/S/5	2012	20				3 38 41	3 27 30	1 2 3	10	50	135	6.8	1		85	4.3	Q = greenish grey w. brown mottling
123/16/S/6	2012	10				1 12 13	1 9 10	1 1			25	2.5	1	25	2.5		
123/16/N/1	2012	34				2 51 53	5 32 37	20 20	3	29	143	4.2	1	1	114	3.4	Q = 'Red' chert
123/16/N/2	2012	20				2 8 10	5 22 23	5 5		31	69	3.5	2	38	1.9		
123/17/S/1	2012	51				2 24 26	8 31 39	2 34 36		66	167	3.3	1	2	101	2.0	
123/17/S/2	2012	12				2 4 6	2 9 22		2	4	34	2.8			30	2.5	
123/17/S/3	2012	11				2 2 3	11 14	1 3 4		11	31	2.8			20	1.8	
123/17/S/3B	2012	12				1 3 4	11 11	3 3		13	32	2.7	1	1	19	1.6	
123/17/S/3, 3B	2012	23				1 5 6	3 22 25	1 6 7		24	63	2.7			39	1.7	
123/17/S/4	2012	0					1 3 4	1 1		0	5				5		
123/17/S/5	2012	7				1 19 20	10 19 29	2 2		8	59	8.4			51	7.3	
123/17/S/6	2012	4				5 5	7 7	1 1 2		2	18	4.5	2		16	4.0	
123/17/N/1	2012	41				1 58 59	10 82 92	3 37 40		98	292	7.1	3	4	194	4.7	
123/17/N/2	2012	14				21 21	10 37 47	1 5 6		16	92	6.6	5	2	76	5.4	
123/17/N/3	2012	11				6 14 20	2 20 22	6 6	5	13	70	6.4	4		57	5.2	
123/18/S/1	2012	58				10 57 67	12 64 76	2 27 29	20	88	282	4.9	2	1	194	3.3	Q = 'Red' chert 19; agate 1,
123/18/S/2	2012	38				2 58 60	17 73 90	4 7 11	14	73	250	6.6	2	1	177	4.7	Q = 'Red' chert, 8 large, 6 medium
123/18/S/3	2012	3				3 4 7	2 10 12			2	0	21			21	7.0	Q = 'Red' chert, 2 large
123/18/S/4	2012	2					2 4 6			1	0	7			7	3.5	Q = 'Red' chert, 1 medium
123/18/S/5	2012	3					3 3			0	3	1.0			3	1.0	
123/18/S/6	2012	2				1 1	4 4			0	5	2.5	1		5	2.5	
123/18/N/1	2012	46				3 40 43	1 32 33	10 10	8	110	205	4.5	1		95	2.1	Q = 'Red' chert, 1 large, 7 medium
123/18/N/2	2012	10				3 19 22	4 17 21	19 19	2	5	71	7.1	2	1	66	6.6	Q = 'Red' chert, 2 medium
123/18/N/3	2012	9				3 10 13	3 17 20	7 7		11	56	6.2	5		45	5.0	
123/19/S/1	2012	17				3 17 20	6 25 31	4 4	2	15	72	4.2			57	3.4	Q = 'Red' chert, 2 medium
123/19/S/2	2012	18				1 11 12	3 29 32	6 6		17	59	3.3	2	1	42	2.3	
123/19/S/5	2012	1				2 2	1 1	1 1		0	4	4.0			4	4.0	
123/20/S/1	2012	4				6 6	2 2	2 2		0	10	2.5			10	2.5	
Totals		1573	1	40		171 1594 1744	218 1390 1615	31 523 554	113	1808	5894	3.7	75	84	4086	2.6	
123/F2(W)	2012	22				1 26 27	4 11 15	4 19 23		265	331	15.0	1	6	66	3.0	
123/F2(E)	2012	5		3		4 14 18	7 7	1 20 21		68	114	22.8			46	9.2	
123/F3	2012	10				6 6	1 1	3 3		30	40	4.0			10	1.0	
123/F5	2012	5				3 3	2 2	1 1		8	14	2.8			6	1.	

## Site No 124

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

Site 124 was discovered by test pitting.

259     **Site 124**     Cairn     NS 95397 10387

The site lies only 5m on the east side of the forest track on the east flank of Coom Rig and at 340m OD. Stones were detected by random test pitting below a 0.6m depth of peat in an unploughed area, being the fire break at the side of the road.

A cairn of 2.5m in diameter by 0.5m high was revealed, it was formed for the most part with larger stones forming a basal layer over which smaller stones were placed in a neat pile.

The entire pile was removed and it was shown that there were no structural elements to the pile and nothing underlay it apart from the natural till.

The conclusion is that the cairn is the product of field clearance and most likely to date to the Bronze Age.



Plate 1



Plate 2

## Site No 125

Ian Paterson & Tam Ward

### Introduction

The site was originally recorded as:

258      **Site 125**      Flat stones setting      NS 95063 08887

The site (PI 1) lies on a gentle slope on the lower north flank of Hem Hill at around 360m OD. Upon discovery it was seen as displaced stones in the plough furrow, however a modern forest drain had also cut the site and it became evident that a further but older hill drain had also be cut through the area, therefore there were three intrusions; the forest activity features being at right angles and the hill drain cutting through at a 45° angle to them.

A trench of about 4m by 3m was opened (PI 2) to reveal the stone setting which comprised of flat and angular boulders laid as a single layer and it became evident that the ground below had been cleared of turf and soil, the stones being directly on the lower sub soil, very clayey and within which were numerous burnt stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. However, due to the three disturbances it was not possible to determine any original shape to the feature.

There was no evidence of a fire site on the stones and those burnt stones below clearly pre dated the feature as they were found all over the area in a spread of about 50m in diameter from this site, and where several actual fire places were noted, some in very close proximity to this site.

The stone setting lay equidistant between two investigated 17th century settlements (Site No 32 & 31b)(Ward 2002) and a similar distance from a burnt mound which dated to c 3000 years ago (Site 31a)( Ward ibid) (PI's 3 & 4).

Since the stone setting lay below a soil layer with a thin lens of peat and turf on top, the presumption in favour is that the feature is pre historic in date, rather than post medieval. The character of the stones as laid has been seen on several sites of both periods in the Daer valley by the excavators.

Several of the flat stones were lifted to test the underlying ground and below one of them (PI 5) was a piece of struck chert with a pink tinted cortex; this may have been burnt although the core of the chert does not seem to have been affected by heat. The chert does not help to date the feature to the pre historic as lithic was found as a general scatter in the area.

The purpose of the feature remains unknown but possibly dates to the Bronze Age.

### Reference

Ward T 2002, History of the Daer Valley, Draft, Biggar Museum Trust 2002.



Plate 1



Plate 2



Plate 3



Plate 4



Plate 5