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Rhum

Mesolithic and Later Sites at Kinloch, Excavations 1984–86

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9 OTHER SMALL FINDS: COARSE STONE TOOLS POTTERY PUMICE AND BONE

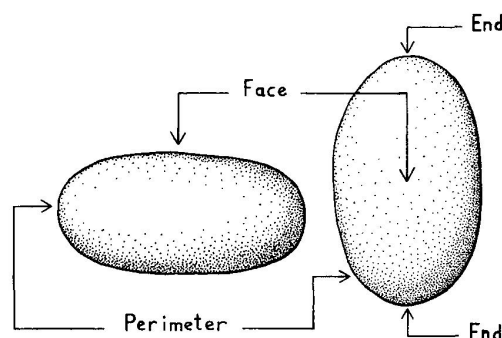
9.1 COARSE STONE TOOLS A CLARKE

Sixty-one artifacts were recovered, and most are based on rounded cobbles. In addition, there are twenty-nine rounded, but unused, cobbles; all contrast markedly with the angular cobbles of the natural gravel matrix of the site, and it is likely that they were deliberately selected for use. All the pieces were classified according to the type and location of wear and of modification if present (Ill 77). The types are defined in Table 15.

RAW MATERIALS (Tab 16)

With one exception, all of the pieces were made on water-worn pebbles or cobbles; the exception was made on a flake (Ill 78.4). The materials are predominantly of sedimentary origin including feldspathic grit, arkose (derived from the disintegration of granite), sandstone and siltstone. There are also some igneous and pyroclastic rocks, represented by microgabbros and tuffs. One artifact is made on a large quartz pebble (Clarke mf, 1:E1-E5). All of the materials occur on Rhum, and the unused cobbles were probably taken from the island beaches. The beach at Guirdil Bay has many similar cobbles today, and it is possible that coarse stone cobbles were collected at the same time as the nodules of bloodstone. There is evidence for the on-site storage of cobble tools (see below this section), and this suggests that cobbles were collected at some distance from the site.

The raw material was identified using a hand lens. Although accurate geological definition requires the use of thin sectioning, in this case it was the general properties of the raw material that were of interest and the sedimentary rocks were visually divided according to grain size.



ILL 77: Coarse stone tools: terminology.

MODIFICATION BEFORE USE

Modification before use occurs on five pieces. One (a tabular inner flake of microgabbro), has been ground at the distal end, on both the faces, as well as the sides, to produce an acute curved end with a fine edge angle (Ill 78.4). There is no visible macroscopic edge wear on this tool.

The other four modified artifacts are all oval sandstone cobbles. They vary in grain size from a coarse grit to a fine grain; all are of similar size and shape, and all have a flat cross-section. The two long sides of each cobble have been pecked flat, and possibly finished with grinding (Ill 78.

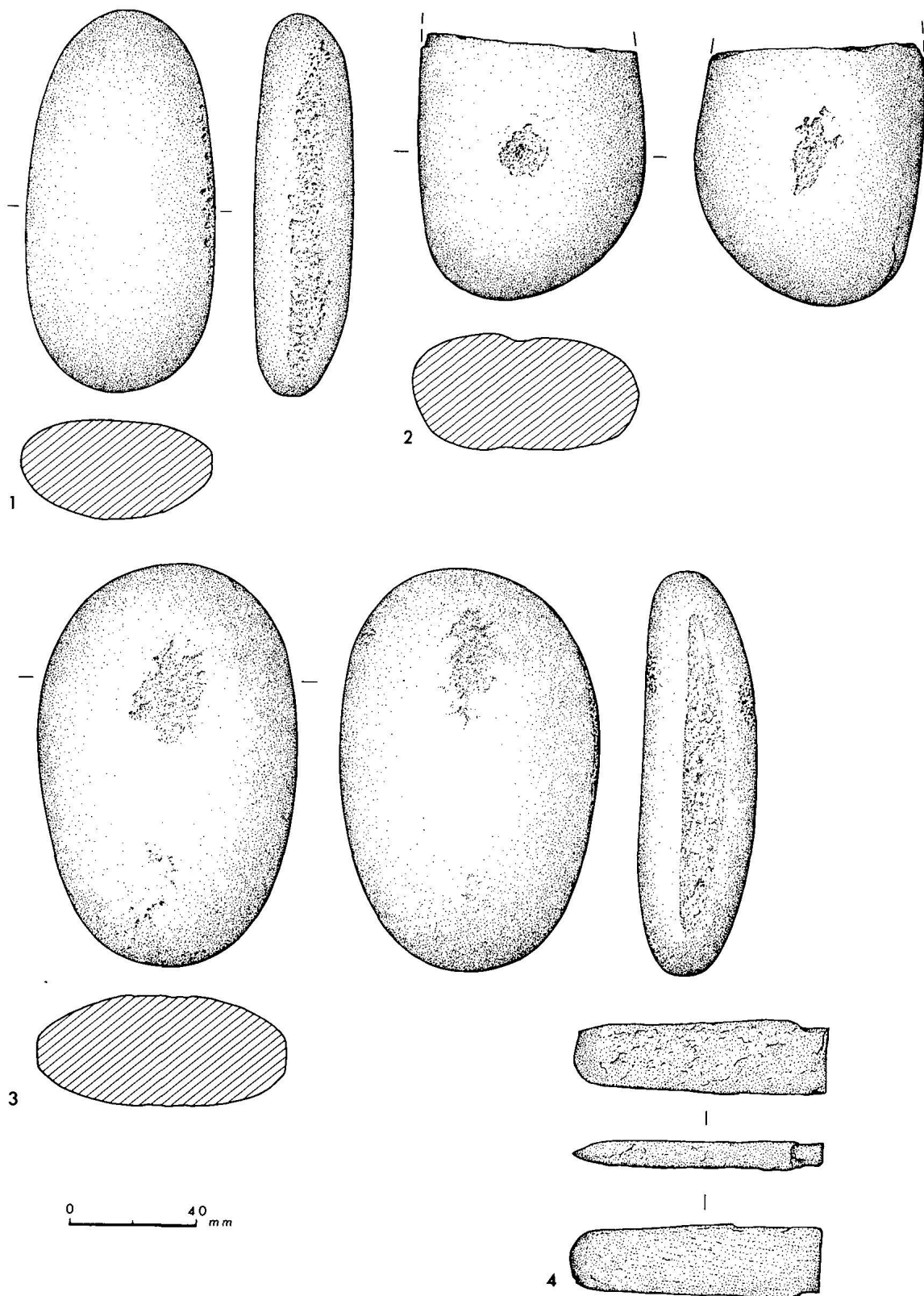
1-3). Although the modification was clearly intended to alter the shape of these cobbles, the squaring-off of the sides did not necessarily straighten them, and the natural shallow curve of the cobble edge has been retained on most. After modification the flattened edges remained undamaged. Two of the artifacts were also used as anvils, but they are the only two to bear any use-wear (Ill 78. 2-3). Thus, the function of the flattened edges must remain obscure; the flattening may have facilitated hafting but, if so, the haft has left no trace.

<u>Tool Type</u>	<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Blank</u>	<u>Modification</u>	<u>Wear</u>
Plain Hammerstones	16	Rounded Cobble	None	Random pecking and/or flaking over parts of the surface.
Faceted Hammerstones	9	Rounded Cobble	None	Localised pecking forming facets. Generally only one or two facets per artifact, two are faceted around perimeter. The facets may be rough or smooth.
Rounded Hammerstones	7	Round Cobble	None	Heavy pecking on one or both faces and around perimeter. Wear on faces may also include linear indentations.
Bevelled Pebbles	18	Narrow, Elongated Cobble	None	Bevelling on one or both ends the result of pecking and grinding. There may also be some flakes from the worked surface.
Anvils	7	Flat Oval Cobble	Two have been modified on the sides (see below)	Pecking, this may include both round and linear indentations on one or both faces.
Flat Sided Cobbles	4	Flat Oval Cobble	Both sides flattened through pecking and/or grinding	Two have been used as anvils.
Ground Edge Flake	1	Tabular Flake	Bifacially ground distal end forming fine edge angle	None
Polisher ?	1	Flat Rectangular Pebble	None	Highly polished edges. Natural ?
Manuports	29	Rounded Cobble	None	None

Table 15: Coarse stone tools: the definition of types.

	Sedimentary Rock						
	Coarse	Medium	Fine	Tuff	Microgabbro	Quartz	UID.
Plain Hammerstones	11	4	1				
Faceted Hammerstones	3	4	1				1
Rounded Hammerstones	4	2				1	
Bevelled Pebbles	1	10	4		2		
Anvils	2	2	1		1		
Flat Sided Cobbles	1	1					
Ground Edge Flake					1		
Polisher ?			1				
	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Table 16: Coarse stone tool types: materials.



ILL 78: Coarse stone tools: modified artifacts. 1-3 flat sided cobbles (2 & 3 used as anvils): 4 ground-edge flake. (Image by Marion O'Neil)

USE-WEAR

Fifty-eight of the artifacts bear possible use-wear traces (Tab 15). The wear patterns are often well developed, and they fall into five specific categories.

PLAIN HAMMERSTONES (Ill 80. 4)

There are 16 plain hammerstones; they have minimal wear, often just a random light pecking. They are the most diverse in size and shape of the coarse stone tools, and they include the largest artifacts in the coarse stone assemblage (Ill 82). The plain hammerstones may represent undeveloped forms of any of the other categories.

FACETED HAMMERSTONES (Ill 80. 5-7)

There are 9 faceted hammerstones; all have small facets formed by highly localised pecked areas. The pecking is usually heavy, but on some artifacts it is light. Many have other areas of pecking which have not developed into facets. Faceted hammerstones are diverse in size and shape (Ill 82).

ROUNDED HAMMERSTONES (Ill 80. 1-3)

There are 7 rounded hammerstones; they have heavily pecked scars on the opposed faces and they are blunted by pecking around the perimeter. Long score-marks run across the faces of some of the artifacts. The rounded hammerstones are all of similar shape and size (Ill 82) and all would fit comfortably into the palm of a hand.

BEVELLED PEBBLES (Ill 81. 1-9)

There are 18 bevelled pebbles; these have the most specific wear traces of any of the coarse stone tools. These traces occur at one or both ends of the tool, and they comprise the bevelling of the end, apparently by grinding, sometimes with pecking. Most of the bevelled pebbles are 2-3 times longer than they are wide: Ill 82 illustrates the size range of these tools. The differences in the wear patterns between tools are generally due to the state of development of the wear; on some pieces the bevel has only just started to form, and only five of the bevelled pebbles have bevels at both ends. On most tools the bevelled end presents a relatively sharp angle, but on two it is very



ILL 79: Hammerstone: close up of use wear; scale 1: I. (Photograph - I Larner)

obtuse (Ill 81. 7-8); the thicker angle may result from overworking, or from the original choice of a thicker pebble, or from a different angle of use.

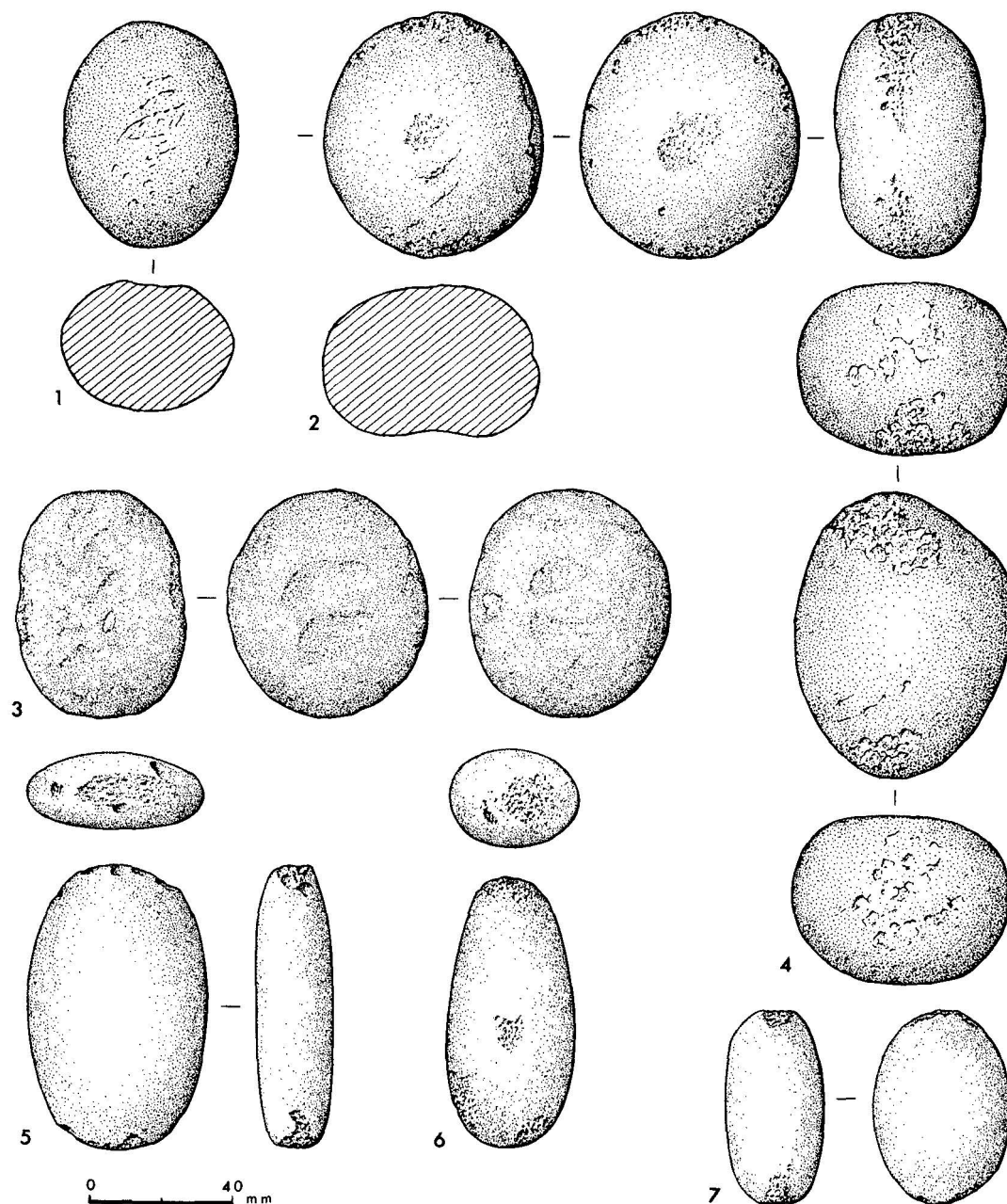
ANVILS (Ill 78. 2-3)

There are 7 anvils; all have distinctive wear in the form of localised indentations on one or both surfaces. Some indentations are circular, while others are linear in plan. Linear indentations have been shown experimentally to be associated with bipolar working (Broadbent 1974, 111-2). Three of the anvils are laterally broken but, even so, all are large (Ill 82).

INTERPRETATION

Cobble Selection

The different shapes of cobble and the grades of raw material correlate with the various use-wear categories. Thus, if the different wear patterns reflect the different tool functions, it is clear that specific material types and cobble shapes were selected for specific uses. Hammerstones are predominantly of coarse- to medium-grained sedimentary rocks. Bevelled pebbles, in contrast, are mainly of medium- to fine-grained rocks. The selection of shape may be seen in the choice of flat oval cobbles for both the anvils and the flat sided pieces; long narrow pebbles, which provided a short working edge and a comfortable grip, were chosen for the bevelled pebbles. Rounded cobbles of similar weight, which give an easily manipulated grip, were chosen for the rounded

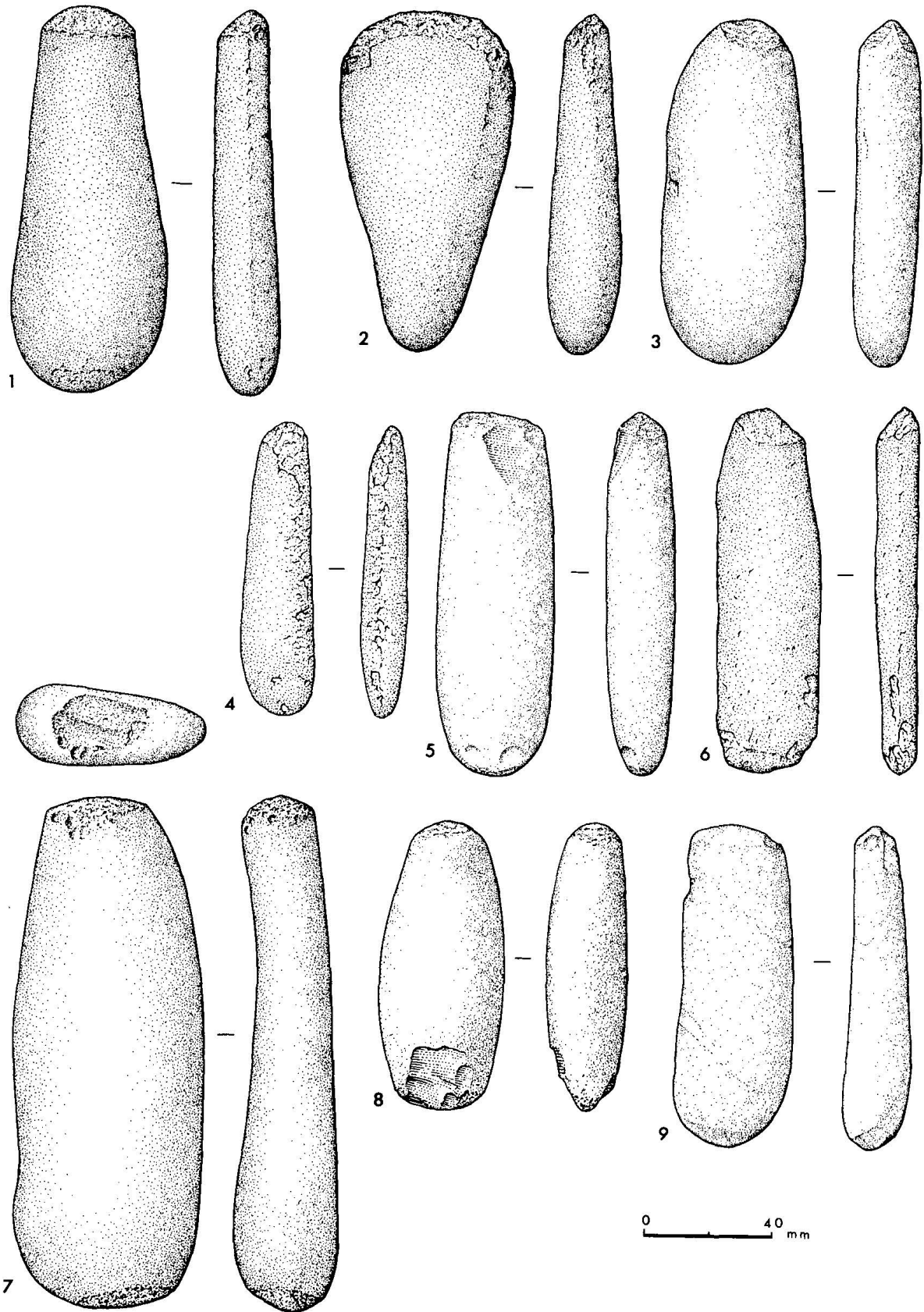


ILL 80: Coarse stone tools: hammerstones. 1-3 rounded hammerstones: 4 plain hammerstone: 5-7 faceted hammerstones. (Image by Marion O'Neil)

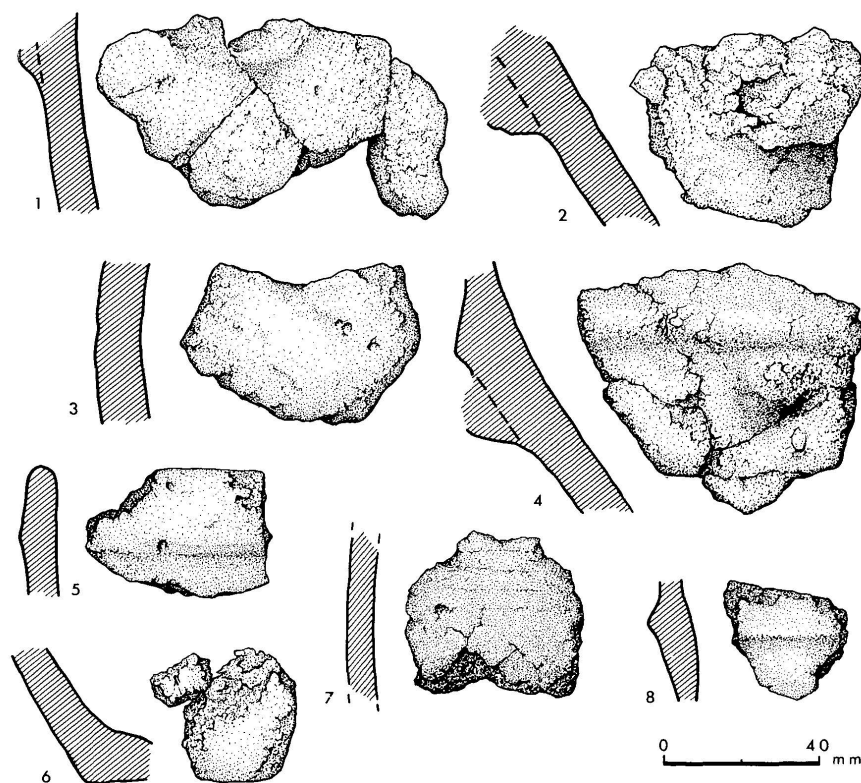
hammerstones. The blanks for the faceted hammerstones were generally smaller than those used for the other tools, but they were also more diverse in shape. Plain hammerstones were based on cobble blanks of diverse size and shape and, as noted above, many may simply be little used artifacts from the other categories (one in particular may be an undeveloped rounded hammerstone, Ill 80. 4).

Function

There are many uses for hammerstones, such as these, but few have been tested experimentally. Recent experimental work elsewhere has, however, shown that some of the artifact types from



ILL 81: Coarse stone tools: bevelled pebbles. (Image by Marion O'Neil)



ILL 82: Coarse stone tools: dimensions (mm).

Kinloch may be associated with knapping (Callahan 1987), in particular with bipolar working (as both hammers and anvils). The wear on 'bipolar' hammers is heavy, and deep linear indentations may form during the core reduction process. Linear indentations are also produced on the surfaces of anvils used for bipolar reduction where they indicate the position of the core. Other forms of percussion for stone tool manufacture also involved stone hammers, and indeed two of the faceted hammerstones from Kinloch are similar to those used for freehand percussion in some experimental knapping (eg Ill 80. 5; Callahan 1987). In support of this interpretation, it may be noted that the technological analysis of the flaked lithic artifact assemblage concluded that medium-hard stone percussors of a material such as sandstone may have been used in the manufacture of the tools (Chapter 6). The single quartz rounded hammerstone contrasts with the sandstone hammers in that it would provide a hard percussor, but it is not out of place in the assemblage as there were some indications of hard percussion amongst the flaked assemblage from Kinloch.

The function of the bevelled pebbles is more problematical. They too may have been used for knapping but they are rather elongated for this. Previous research has postulated that they were used for processing shellfish (as 'limpet hammers'; Lacaille 1954; Roberts 1987, 135). They are often found in association with shell middens, but this interpretation is dubious. Beveling may be produced by grinding, rubbing, and smoothing, as well as by pecking, and as they are of fine grained stone, these tools could have been used on soft materials to give similar wear. Whatever their function, it clearly required a short working edge. Likely tasks will remain obscure until further experimental work can be undertaken.

The other coarse tools, such as the plain hammerstones, have minimal wear, and they may provide evidence of expedient cobble use. Alternatively, many may be in the early stages of tool use. The presence of a variety of unused manuports at Kinloch suggests that rounded cobbles were selected and brought to the site, and it seems that they were then sorted for size before being used accordingly.



ILL 83: Pit AD 5: cache of coarse stone tools and unused cobbles, from the W.

DISTRIBUTION

Coarse stone tools mainly occurred in Trenches AD, AG, and BA, around the perimeter of the artifact scatter. There was one concentration of note: at the top of Pit AD 5 lay a cache of fourteen pieces comprising six bevelled pebbles, four plain hammerstones, and four unworn manuports (Ills 83, 84). This group supports the interpretation of the manuports as unused tools, and it points to the storage of both tools and cobbles. Elsewhere across the site the pieces are randomly spread, with the exception of the faceted hammerstones and the anvils in the ploughsoil of Trench BA where they appear to have more discrete concentrations (Ill 85).

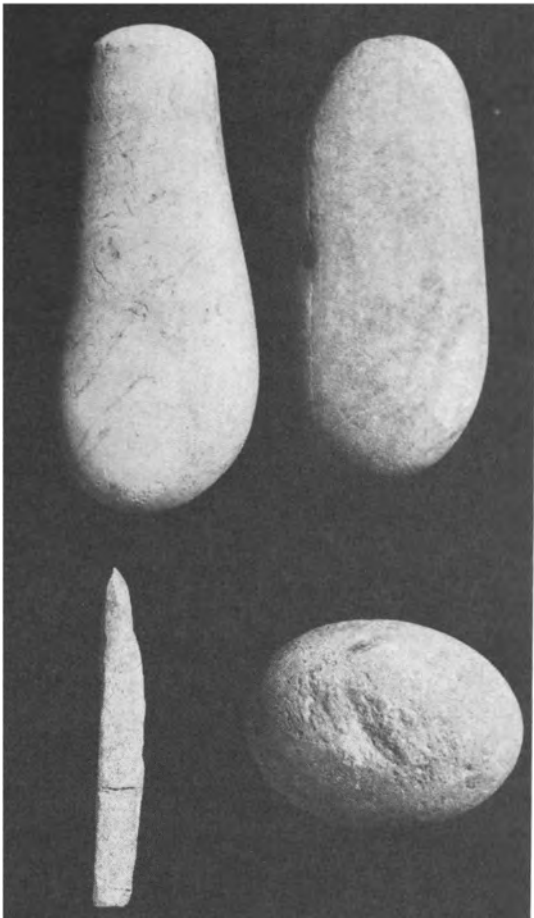
There are no clear associations between the different types of coarse stone tools. Despite their possible mutual use in the process of bipolar reduction, anvils and rounded hammerstones do not occur together. The single associated group (in the top of Pit AD 5) comprises predominantly one tool type (bevelled pebbles). Two of the plain hammerstones in this cache may be undeveloped bevelled pebbles, whilst the unused pieces are mostly of suitable size and shape to be bevelled pebbles.

CHRONOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL AFFINITIES

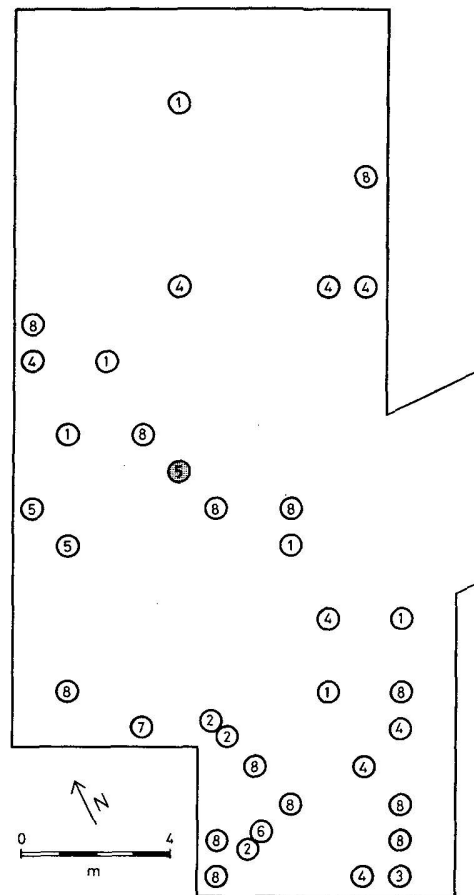
Hammerstones are difficult to date as their functions, and the wear produced, are not usually period specific. At Kinloch hammerstones occur in both mesolithic and later contexts.

Bevelled pebbles have frequently been associated with the mesolithic, and they do occur on many mesolithic sites around Britain, including the Oronsay middens, Oban rock shelters, and on the Isle of Man (Morrison 1980; Woodman 1987). At Kinloch bevelled pebbles are only found in mesolithic pits or in the ploughsoil; they do not occur in any of the 'later' deposits.

The ground-edge flake is also associated at Kinloch with a mesolithic context, and this is of interest as it is rare to see this type of working during the mesolithic in Scotland. The grinding of stone occurred during the mesolithic elsewhere along the western seaboard of Europe, eg Newferry, Ireland (Woodman 1978), but elsewhere the grinding is often over the whole artifact



ILL 84: Coarse stone tools including flat sided cobble, rounded hammerstone, ground edge flake and bevelled pebble; scale 1:2.
(Photograph - I Larner)



- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| ① Plain Hammerstone | ⑤ Anvil |
| ② Faceted Hammerstone | ⑥ Flat Sided Cobble |
| ③ Round Hammerstone | ⑦ Polisher |
| ④ Bevelled Pebble | ⑧ Manuport |

ILL 85: Trench BA: the distribution of coarse stone tools in the ploughsoil.

rather than just on one edge. The flat-sided pieces are previously unknown in Scotland, and they are rare in Europe (a similar piece, made on a cylindrical cobble, occurs on a mesolithic site in Belgium; Lauwers and Vermeersch 1982). At Kinloch, one of these pieces (also used as an anvil), occurs in a mesolithic pit (BA 3). Together with the ground-edge flake, these tools may provide evidence for the more controlled and varied working of coarse stone in the mesolithic than has been previously acknowledged.

CONCLUSIONS

Coarse stone tools were an important part of the tool kit for any site. Those from Kinloch show the careful selection of blanks, and the specific wear patterns that occur suggest that particular types of tool served specific functions. One of these functions is likely to have been knapping, but there were many other possible uses, and it is of interest that the only cache of tools did not contain types likely to have been used for knapping.

It is difficult to compare the coarse stone tools from Kinloch with those from other sites as so few other assemblages are recorded in detail. If a fuller picture of the role of these tools in prehistory is to be produced, then it will be necessary to identify and collect coarse stone tools wherever they occur. Furthermore, a programme of experimental work is needed to clarify the functional problems.

9.2 POTTERY M KEMP

The pottery assemblage comprises 299 sherds, weighing a total of 2 kg. Table 17 illustrates the distribution of the assemblage which was concentrated within the main artificial dump of the infilled watercourse (22%), and in the associated ploughsoil and drains (75%); in one case a sherd from the watercourse could be fitted to one from the ploughsoil directly above. The eight remaining sherds were recovered from the ploughsoil across the site.

	1A	1B	1C	1D	2	3	4A	4B	4C	5A	5B
Watercourse and Associated Deposits	4*	14	4	25	2	1	13		1	1	.
Overlying Disturbed Deposits	26*	52	31	29	24		15	7	3	21	18
Other			2	1						3	2

Table 17: The location of the pottery by fabric type.

* indicates the location of the two sherds that joined between contexts.

FORM AND FABRIC

The sherds are all small in size and over half of them are so abraded that any attempt at physical description and typological identification is limited. For the catalogue the assemblage has been grouped according to fabric. Five broad groups of fabric, with some subdivisions, have been identified; the groups range from coarse thick pottery with a crumbly sand-tempered core to fine burnished pottery with a black core (Kemp mf, 1:D8-D13).

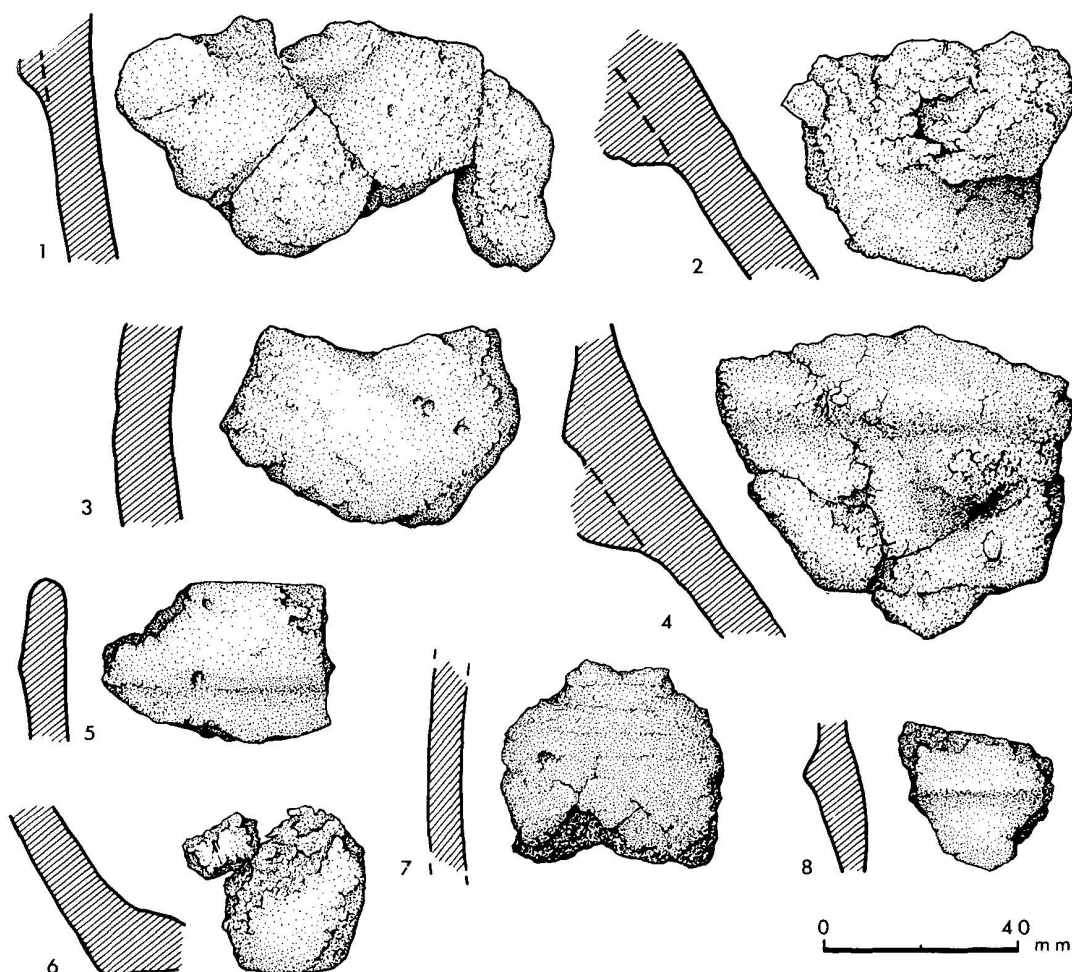
The assemblage is predominantly derived from round-based vessels, but there is one sherd from a flat-based vessel (Ill 86. 6) and another may be a flat-base sherd. All the sherds come from prehistoric coil-built pots, and this method of manufacture may be clearly seen in some pieces

(Ill 87. 13). The majority of the sherds are featureless. Plain carinated pots with shoulders are present, but one sherd bears a fine plain cordon (Ill 86. 5), and three sherds have lugs. Two of the lugs have been pulled from the body of the pot while the clay was still plastic (Ill 86. 2 & 4), and the third lug appears to have been made by applying a shaped piece to a prepared surface when the clay was leather hard (Ill 86. 1). One of the lugs is situated just below a carination (Ill 86. 4). Most of the rims are simple, undeveloped forms (Ill 87. 1, 3-4), but two sherds have expanded and externally bevelled rims (Ill 87. 2 & 5). There is no correlation between pot forms and fabric types (Tab 18).

POTTERY RESIDUES B MOFFAT

During the course of the excavation dark fibrous accretions were noticed adhering to the surface of a few of the pottery sherds. In order to try to identify these accretions, the sherds were examined by a palaeobotanist prior to the routine artifact analysis. In addition, samples were taken

of the surrounding soil matrix for background environmental information. Finally, all other sherds were visually inspected for similar accretions as an initial part of the post-excavation analysis (Moffat mf, 2:F1-G12).



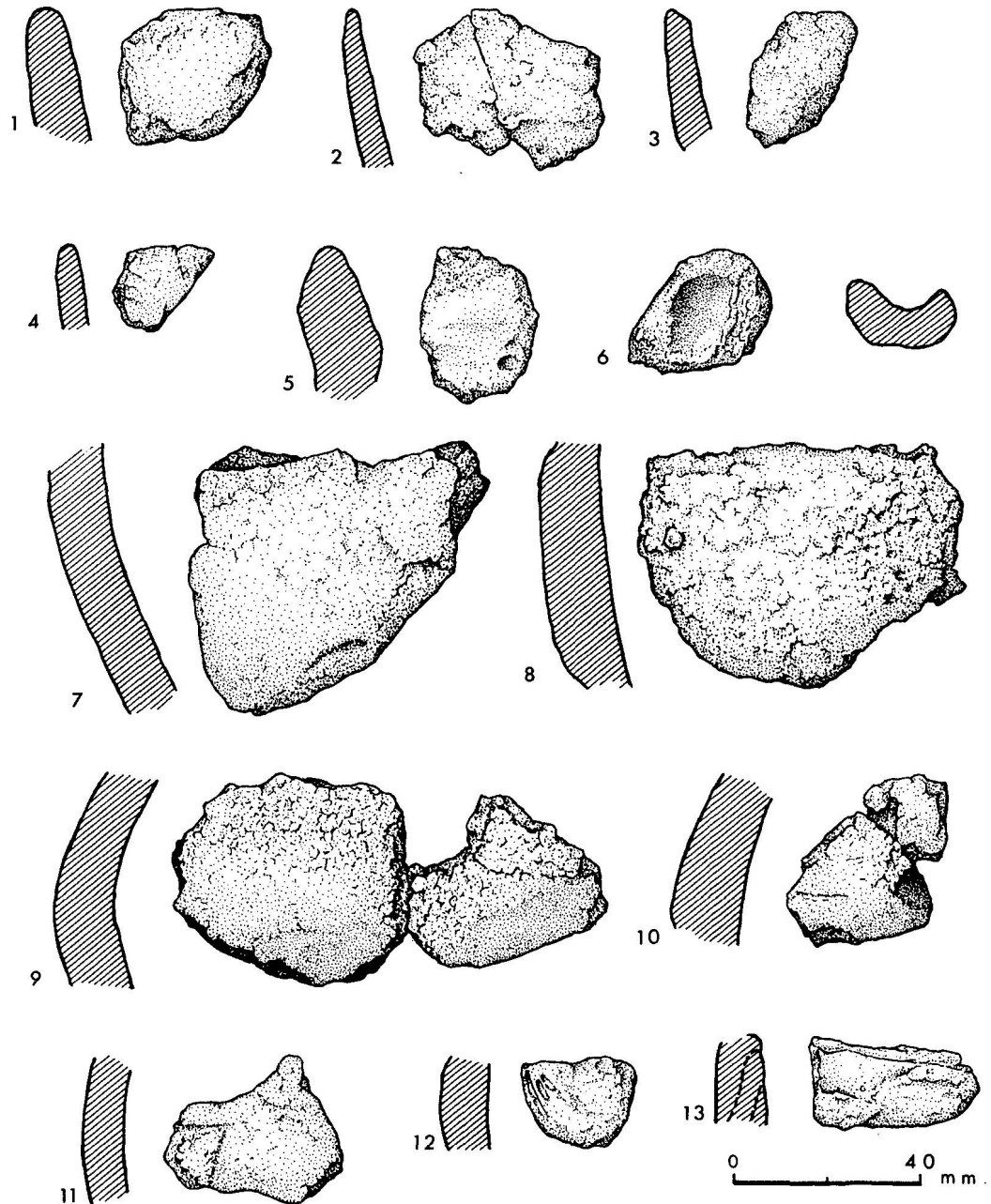
ILL 86: Pottery: 1 prepared edge for lug; 2 broken base of lug; 3 shoulder; 4 carinated shoulder above a broken lug; 5 rim with cordon; 6 base sherd; 7 burnished sherd; 8 sherd with carination. (Image by Marion O'Neil)

THE ACCRETIONS

The accretions were removed from the pot surface with a sterile swab and they were microscopically examined for preserved pollen and macrobotanical remains. In the event, close identification of the fibrous material was not possible. It appeared to be organic, and was probably mashed cereal straw. Three of the sherds held a pollen assemblage that was distinctive and quite different from that of the background samples. This assemblage included low counts of cereal-type pollen (not found elsewhere on the site), and exceptionally high values of ling and other heathers, together with meadowsweet and royal fern (Tab 19; Moffat mf, 2: F1-G12). These species do not occur in similar proportions elsewhere in the environmental record, and it is highly unlikely that they would have been combined in this way in a purely natural assemblage. It is feasible that they have been deliberately combined and that they may relate to the original contents of the pot.

INTERPRETATION

Documentary search of the historical uses of such plants suggest a number of ways in which they might have been used: as a dyestuff; for medicinal purposes; or as a fermented drink (Macdonnel 1910; Fraser 1983). It is clearly impossible at this remove to favour with certainty one recipe over another, but similar assemblages found elsewhere in association with prehistoric pottery have generally been interpreted to be the result of prehistoric fermentation (Bohncke 1983; Dickson 1978), in the author's opinion this is the most likely interpretation here. For the interpretation of the Kinloch residues the possibility of a brew was taken further by the modern production of a drink based on the fermentation of heather honey. The brew was made under modern conditions in the Girvan laboratory of William Grant and Sons, the Glenfiddich distillers: it used only the ingredients identified from the pollen analysis. The results were non-toxic and quite palatable, at 8% proof.



ILL 87: Pottery: 1-5 rim sherds; 6 possible fragment of lug; 7-10 shoulders; 13 coil break. (Image by Marion O'Neil)

CONTEXT C WICKHAM-JONES

It is important to consider the processes by which the pottery arrived in the watercourse and the surrounding ploughsoil. Several elements combine to suggest that the assemblage is redeposited. Most obvious of these must be the context itself, for it is highly unlikely that the watercourse (or associated drains and ploughsoil), represents the primary location of the pots. It is impossible to tell whether the pots were deposited in the watercourse as a

result of human action or by a natural agency. In favour of human action the specific association of the pottery with other artifactual material and dumped stones may be cited. Nevertheless, the high percentage of abraded sherds might indicate a natural agency; if this were the case, a more general spread of pottery throughout the entire length of the watercourse might have been expected.

Abrasion also suggests that the assemblage is rede-

Fabric Type	Featural Shards	Flat Base	Shoulder	Carion	Carination	Carination With Lug	Lug	Rim	Incised
1A	23	1	3	1		1			
1B	60		2				2*		2
1C	33	1	1					2	
1D	52				1			1	1
2	22							4	
3	1								
4A	27						1		
4B	6							1	
4C	4								
5A	23			1					1
5B	30								1

* One possible lug fragment and one sherd with prepared edge for lug

Table 18: The Pottery: sherd form by fabric type.

Plant Type	Pollen Count
Cereal Type undifferentiated	19
Heathers	270
Meadowsweet	37 + 2 *
Royal Fern	25 + 2 *
Other Herbs	97
Trees and Shrubs	106
Grasses and Sedges	185

* Clumps of immature pollen

Table 19: The pollen count from pot residues.

posited, and it may have several causes. Abrasion could be due to the movement of water within the boggy surroundings of the pottery, or it could be due to the exposure and erosion of the sherds prior to their final deposition. It might also result from the recovery of some of the sherds by wet sieving, but this does not account for all cases of abrasion, as some manually recovered sherds were also abraded. Abraded sherds did not only occur in the watercourse; there were similar proportions of abraded material in the ploughsoil and, as the location of the pottery within the ploughsoil directly reflects the position of the watercourse below, the ploughsoil material is presumably derived from the destruction of the upper levels of the watercourse. In support of this theory, one of the ploughsoil sherds was found to join to one of those from the watercourse. Also, the analysis of the distributions of the

lithic artifacts within the ploughsoil suggested that the ploughsoil had not been subject to great disturbance so that the artifactual material was still closely associated with the locations of disturbed prehistoric features. It is therefore likely that the abraded sherds within the ploughsoil were originally abraded when in an earlier watercourse location. Finally, the radiocarbon determination associated with the pottery (3890±65 BP, GU-2042) also suggests redeposition. This determination is surprisingly late for pottery of this type and it is possible that the pottery may have lain elsewhere for some time before it was incorporated into the watercourse deposits.

To conclude, it seems likely that the pottery was deposited into the watercourse dumps by a human agency, but it was probably not in a fresh condition at the time.

CULTURAL AFFINITIES

Exact parallels for the assemblage are difficult to cite. The few individual traits and forms which can be identified fit most comfortably into a middle neolithic context. The fabrics are like those of other Hebridean wares (Henshall 1972, 152–4), in the case of the ‘corky ware’ (fabric 4b), parallels are to be found in Orkney (Henshall 1963, 107 & pl 14b). The combination of a lug just below a carination is unusual, but when taken individually the features are all common in Scottish neolithic pottery (Kinnes 1985, 21–3). Little is known about the development of the prehistoric pottery of the Western Isles, but the date associated with the main deposit of pottery (3890 ± 65 BP, GU-2042) is surprisingly late for this type of pottery (but see also the discussion of the pumice below). However, given both the context of the assemblage (within one of the dumps of material in the watercourse), and the abraded state of many of the sherds, it seems likely that the pottery, as stated above, had been redeposited by some agency either natural or, more possibly, human.

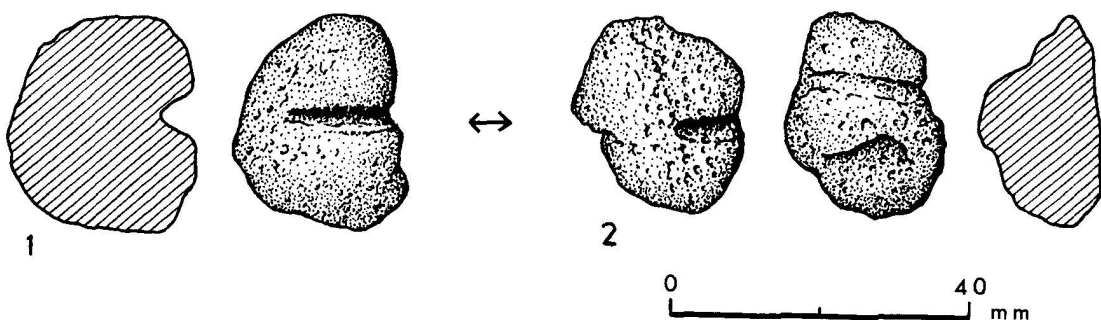
9.3 PUMICE A CLARKE & A DUGMORE

Eleven finds were identified as pumice on the basis of their highly vesicular morphology. Most are dark brown-grey in colour with millimetre scale vesicles; the remainder are light grey and appear superficially weathered. Recent work on pumice has drawn attention to the possibility of using geochemical analysis to relate finds to the source areas (Binns 1972a; 1972b; 1972c), and the occurrence of pumice in coastal areas may be used to define isochronous marker horizons that may be of use in dating archaeological sites (Dugmore *et al* in prep). Consequently, the pumice was visually examined and three samples were selected for geochemical analysis (one, typical of the homogeneous collection of brown-grey pumice, from the main watercourse deposits; and two light coloured pieces from mesolithic pits, AD 2 and BA 10; Dugmore, mf, 3:G7–G10).

GEOCHEMICAL ANALYSES

Geochemical analyses indicate that the two mesolithic samples are most unlikely to be volcanic in origin. These pumaceous pieces may have been formed by the intense heating of the local Torridonian sandstones, perhaps by natural processes. There is, however, abundant burnt material amongst the flaked lithic assemblage and there were, no doubt, numerous domestic hearths on site

throughout the period/s of occupation. Anthropogenic processes may, unintentionally, have led to the creation of these pieces. The geochemistry of the later sample (from the watercourse; Chapter 3) indicates a volcanic origin, probably in Iceland. Geochemically the sample is similar to other pieces of pumice found on the Outer Hebrides and Shetland. The major and trace element abundances of the



ILL 88: Grooved pumice, showing refit. (Image by Marion O'Neil)

Rhum sample lie within the very narrow ranges produced by simultaneous analyses of other Scottish material; it is therefore likely to represent a single eruption, perhaps a particular event c. 2700 radiocarbon years BP. It is of interest that the same context provided a radiocarbon

determination of 3890 ± 65 BP (GU-2042; Chapter 10), and yet the analysis of the associated pottery suggested that the radiocarbon determination was surprisingly late (see above, this section).

USE

Five pieces have evidence of use. On two pieces this comprises smoothed surface areas; on the other pieces it consists of indentations. One indentation has a wide, shallow asymmetrical cross-section, and two are fine

narrow grooves. The two grooved pieces join across the groove (III 88), both were re-used after breakage and on one a second groove was formed.

LOCATION

	Worked	Unworked
Mesolithic Pits		
AD 2		1
AD 5		1
BA 4/5		1
BA 8		1
BA 10		1
Watercourse	1	1
Ploughsoil AD	3	
Ploughsoil AG	1	

Table 20 illustrates the location of the pumice. Five pieces were from mesolithic locations, all were unworked. One of the worked pieces came from the deposits within the watercourse, and the other four were recovered from the ploughsoil; the two joining pieces came from the same metre square in the ploughsoil of Trench AD.

Table 20: The location of the pieces of pumice.

9.4 BONE A CLARKE

There was almost no preservation of organic material on the site, only 8.16g of calcined bone and two small fragments of shell were recovered, mainly from mesolithic contexts (Tab 21). The bone consisted of crumbs and fragments, and close identification was impossible, but it could have come from a sheep-sized animal (*Armour-Chelu pers comm*). There is one probable piece of coprolite and one fish bone, probably the pharyngeal toothplate of a wrasse (*labridae*) (*Wheeler pers comm*).

	Bone	Coprolite ?	Fishtooth	Shell
Mesolithic Pits				
Fill AG00121	0.59 g			
AJ 2	0.20 g			
BA 4-9	2.91 g	3.05 g	x	
Buried Soil	0.42 g			
Watercourse	0.99 g			x

Table 21: The location of preserved bone.