

Mesolithic Finds In The Oxford Area

By HUMPHREY CASE

E. T. LEEDS's comment of 1939¹ that no massed evidence of Mesolithic industries had been collected in Oxfordshire holds true to-day. However, finds in a rather wider area of the Oxford region are more numerous than might be imagined, and the purpose of this paper is to list them (see Appendix) and put them on the map (FIG. 1). They are microliths² (FIG. 2, nos. 1-18), microlithic cores (FIG. 3, nos. 1-3), heavy tools of flint, i.e. picks, Thames picks, core axes or adzes (FIG. 5), and hour-glass perforated quartzite pebbles³ (FIG. 4). Also mentioned below are long flakes (FIG. 6, nos. 3-5), with approximately parallel facets and length twice their breadth or more, and apparent examples which have been snapped; and core-trimming flakes (FIG. 3, no. 4), struck to change the striking platforms of microlithic and other cores.⁴

Before discussing this material, it is well to stress its obscurities. It lacks marked character; it possibly spreads over several thousands of years, and there is no local stratigraphy. Not all of it is certainly Mesolithic. For instance, isolated microliths or microlithic cores might on the Abingdon evidence be later (see below, p. 13). There is evidence for a Mesolithic date for the hour-glass perforated quartzite pebbles⁵ to which the later types of perforated stone tool show little resemblance,⁶ but such a simple tool might have been long lasting. There is also positive evidence for a Mesolithic date for the heavy flint tools, but some should be later⁷—for instance, pseudomorphs occur in the flint mines.⁸

In view of these difficulties, the finds are best classified on a geological basis. They fall into three groups. The Southern (from Wallingford downstream to Henley), where they occur on or on the fringes of the Chalk and flint-rich Clay-with-Flints and Outwash Gravel; the Central (South of Oxford to Wallingford), where they are on the lighter soils—Corallian Beds, Lower Greensand, and River Gravels; and the Northern (North of Oxford), where with the exception of two hour-glass pebbles they are confined to the

¹ *V.C.H. Oxon.*, 1, 238.

² The majority were reported by J. G. D. Clark, *Mesolithic Age in Britain* (1932), 41-2, 67-8.

³ The majority were reported by W. F. Rankine, *Arch. News Letter*, iv, no. 4, 53-5.

⁴ A number are illustrated by Clark, *Proc. Preh. Soc.*, v, 86, fig. 17.

⁵ Rankine, *P.P.S.*, xv, 70-6.

⁶ E.g. *P.P.S.*, iv, 63, fig. 3, no. 7.

⁷ As Clark has suggested: *Mesolithic settlement of Northern Europe* (1936), 160, 161.

⁸ E.g. Easton Down, Wilts., J. F. S. Stone, *Wilts. Arch. Mag.*, XLV, 350-65, fig. 15. But it would be a mistake to over-emphasize the flint-mine evidence, for such comparisons with isolated types have been notoriously misleading.

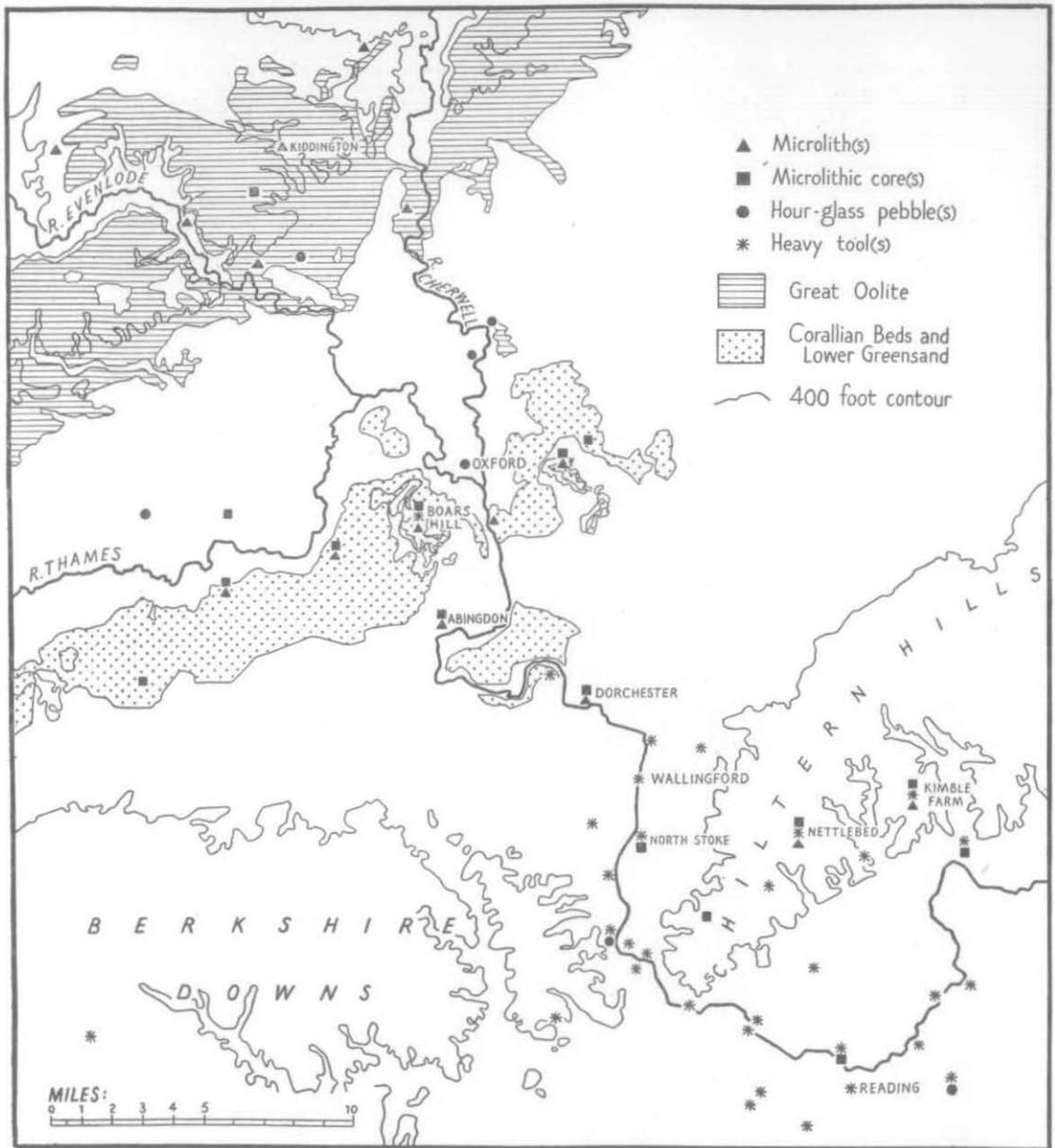


FIG. 1
 MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF FLINT AND OTHER TOOLS OF MESOLITHIC TYPE IN
 THE OXFORD AREA, pp. 1-10

Based on the Ordnance Survey maps with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

MESOLITHIC FINDS IN THE OXFORD AREA

Great Oolite, and the Inferior Oolite and Lias on its fringes, between the Cherwell and the Evenlode.

The Southern group includes 124 heavy tools. They range in length

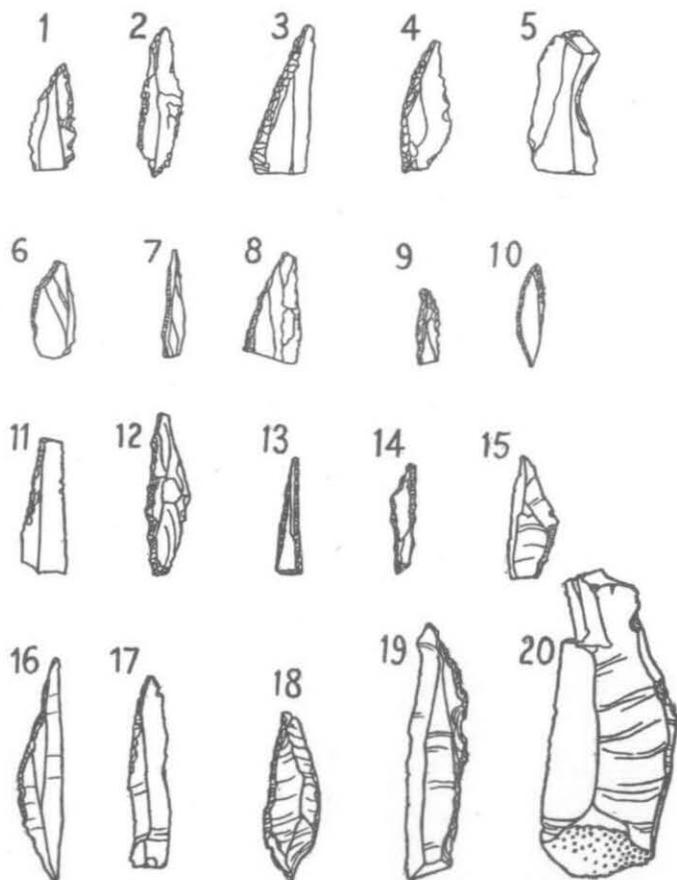


FIG. 2

MICROLITHIC TOOLS FROM THE OXFORD AREA, pp. 1, 8.

Nos. 1-5, Ifley; 6-10, Boars Hill; 11-14, Longworth; 15, Shotover; 16-20, Nettlebed (no. 19, backed blade, no. 20, graver)

Scale: $\frac{2}{3}$

from 6.7 to 21.6 cm. Eighty-one have transversely struck edges, the majority made by intersecting transverse flake scars on either face (FIG. 5, nos. 1 and 2). Some have edges at both ends; others have flat butts which occasionally show

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battering (e.g. FIG. 5, nos. 3 and 6). Only two (from Tilehurst) could conventionally be termed flake tools,⁹ but several were obviously flaked from fractured pieces¹⁰; others were made from attenuated nodules. Cross-sections are generally parallelogrammic or rhombic, less often triangular.

Typologically they are intractable. The nominal distinction between picks and core-axes is important, since the pick attended by core- and flake-axes appeared at the Atlantic Period site at Lower Halstow, Kent,¹¹ whereas core-axes alone were found at the earlier Boreal Period site at Broxbourne, Herts.¹²; but the division of the collection in question when seen in the mass into two such groups would be quite arbitrary. On another classification, good examples occur of symmetrical¹³ and asymmetrical¹⁴ types, and of the type with specially treated edge from one side,¹⁵ but there are an unsatisfactory number of intermediate examples between the first two types.

For these reasons, the non-committal name of heavy tools is used. The rougher examples may well have been block-outs or rejects, although, from the point of view of function, all suggest carpentry—axes (FIG. 5, nos. 1 and 2), adzes, chisels, scraper-gouges (no. 4), wedges and prises (no. 6), appropriate to the Forest Folk.¹⁶ Their variety of finish and proportion may be explainable by the method of hafting, or the way the tool was driven, or how often it may have been resharpened.

At Kimble Farm and Nettlebed heavy tools were associated with microliths and microlithic cores. Both sites lacked the microburin, which was a feature at Broxbourne but absent at Lower Halstow; so both may have been late.¹⁷ There may have been other similar sites on the Chilterns overlooking the Thames,¹⁸ but specimens have not been collected. The rarity of cores south of North Stoke is striking; Bourne End, Bucks., is the first locality downstream with heavy tools (Reading Museum), a microlith, and microlithic cores (AM.1941.975-6). There may have been a non-microlithic Forest Folk in the Reading area as well as one using microliths, or the distribution may represent replenishment visits to the flint-rich areas by distant

⁹ Or *spalter*. Clark, *N. Europe*, 104.

¹⁰ E.g. FIG. 5, no. 4, from a frost fracture.

¹¹ Clark, *Britain*, 63-5 and references. Axe, adze, and pick forms also occurred together at Farnham, Surrey: Clark, *P.P.S.*, v, 82, fig. 14.

¹² Clark in *Journ. R. Anthr. Inst.*, LXIV, 101-28. For cultures belonging to climatic periods, see *id.*, *N. Europe*, *passim*.

¹³ T. Mathiassen, *Danske Oldsager* (1948), figs. 54 and 55.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, fig. 56.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, fig. 58. cf. Thatcham, Berks.: Clark, *Britain*, fig. 34, no. 3.

¹⁶ V. G. Childe, *Prehistoric Communities* (1949), 26-9.

¹⁷ But no micro-burins apparently occurred at Thatcham, Berks. (Clark, *Britain*, 65-7 and reference) which Clark equated with Broxbourne (*J.R.A.I.*, LXIV, 122).

¹⁸ Joseph Stevens, *What are skin scrapers?* (1881), 9.

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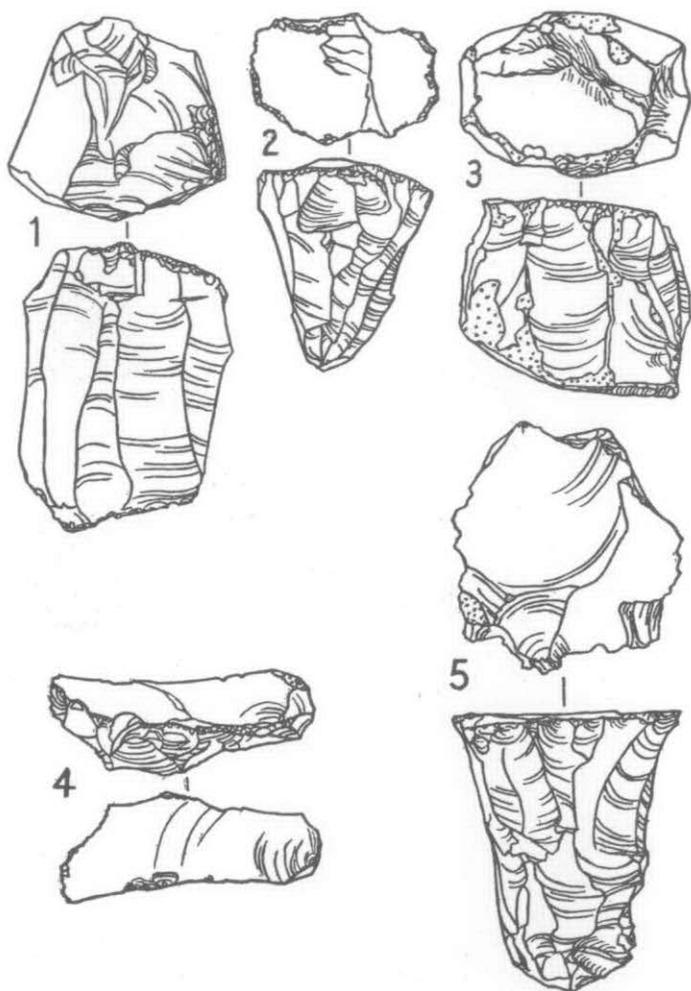


FIG. 3
MICROLITHIC CORES (1-3, 5) AND CORE-TRIMMING FLAKE
(4) FROM THE OXFORD AREA, pp. 1, 8-10.

1, 3, North Stoke ; 2, Shotover ; 4, Nettlebed ; 5, Abingdon

Scale : $\frac{2}{3}$

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communities. Another striking fact is the apparent preponderance of finds in the Chilterns compared with the Berkshire Downs.¹⁹

North of the Chiltern escarpment the heavy tools dwindle to nothing; the few occurrences²⁰ indicate no great interest in the area by the Forest Folk. The boundary between Clark's Provinces A and B is well marked.²¹

The only pieces worth notice in the Northern group are the geometric forms from Kiddington. The polished piece from the same locality noted by Clark appears to be a core-trimming flake produced in flaking down a polished

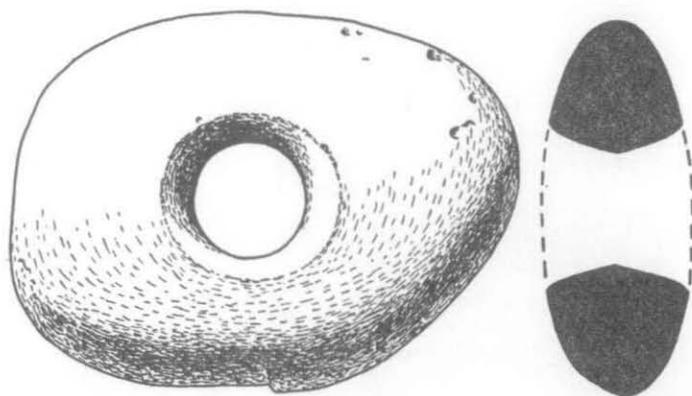


FIG. 4
HOUR-GLASS PERFORATED QUARTZITE PEBBLE FROM WATEREATON,
OXON., p. 1.
Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$

tool. This may have been a Mesolithic practice locally;²² it was certainly Neolithic.²³ If this piece and the tanged points belonged with the microliths, the assemblage is a very late version of what can only vaguely be termed the Tardenoisian. The microliths find their best parallels in those from Mendip and Bristol,²⁴ and the intervening area of the Jurassic Zone may have had a culturally similar population.²⁵

¹⁹ Harold Peake, *Archaeology of Berkshire* (1931), 27, reported 'a number of other rude implements, picks or hoes . . . especially in the chalk regions of South Berkshire', but none appear to have been collected.

²⁰ Benson, Long Wittenham, and Boar's Hill. *V.C.H. Oxon.*, 1, pl. ii, a (AM.1932.658), seems capable of interpretation as a block-out for a later type of celt.

²¹ *Britain*, passim.

²² Clark mentions continental occurrences: *N. Europe*, 208, 217.

²³ E.g. Abingdon (AM.1928.411d).

²⁴ Clark, *Britain*, fig. 19.

²⁵ Clark, *Proc. Preh. Soc. E. Anglia*, vii, 421; Gracie, *Trans. Bristol & Glos. Arch. Soc.*, LXIII, 174-5.

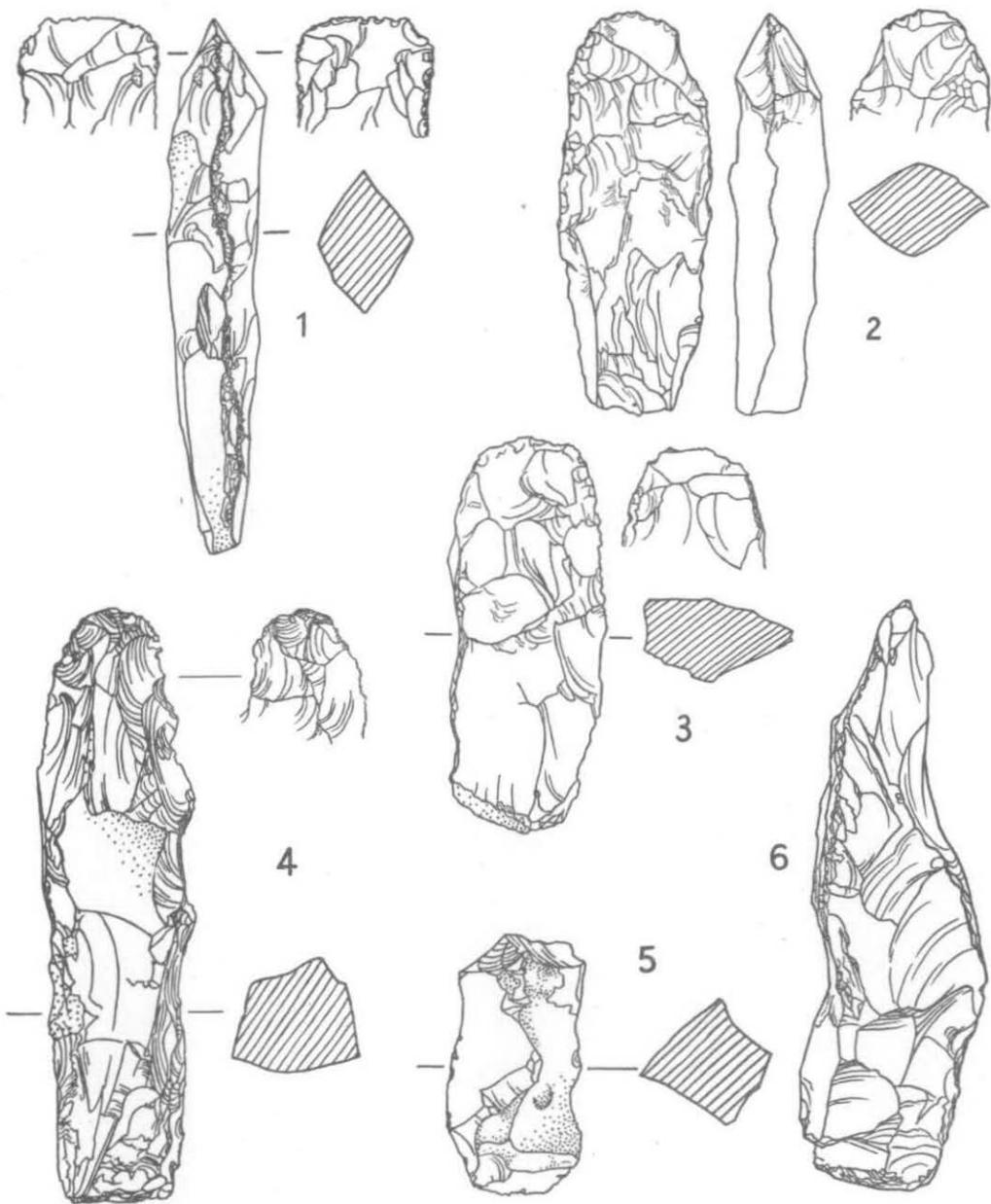


FIG. 5.

HEAVY TOOLS OF FLINT OF MESOLITHIC TYPE FROM THE
 OXFORD AREA, pp. 1-6.

Nos. 1, Shiplake ; 2, Boars Hill ; 3, North Stoke ; 4, 5, Nettlebed ; 6, Hambleden

Scale : $\frac{1}{4}$

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The Central group shows little character, but it has elements common to both the others; the Boars Hill crescent (FIG. 2, no. 10), and the crude triangle from Longworth (no. 14) belong to the Northern, and the heavy tools

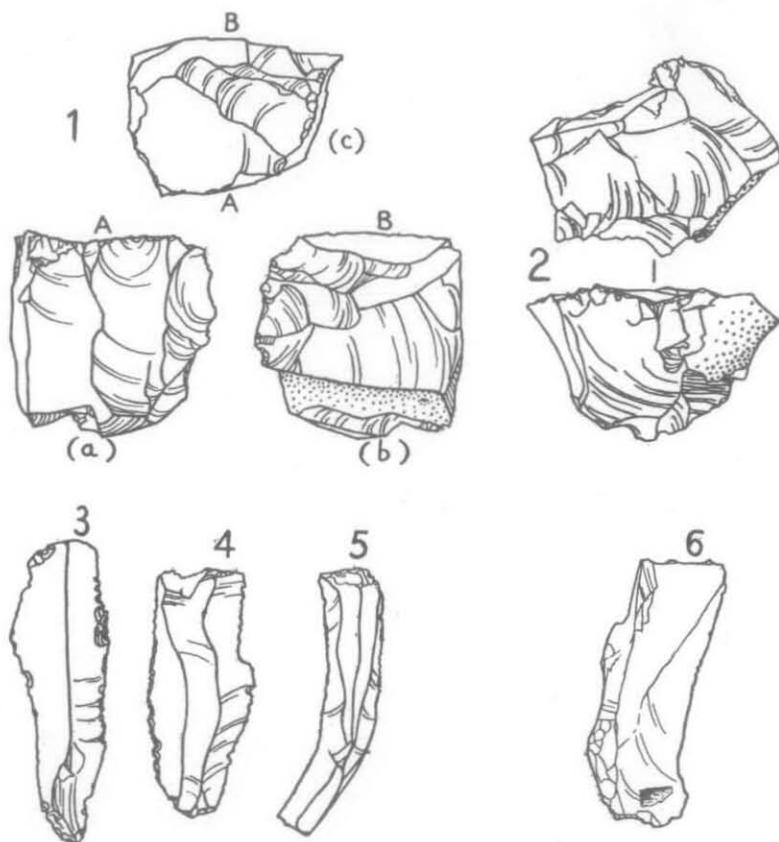


FIG. 6
NEOLITHIC CORES (1, 2) AND LONG FLAKES (3-6) FROM THE OXFORD AREA, pp. 10, 11.
Nos. 1-5, Abingdon; 6, Sutton Courtenay
Scale: $\frac{1}{2}$

to the Southern group. The cores, however, are smaller than those of the Southern group. All in the Shotover pit were under 5.5 cm. high, but at Nettlebed 37 per cent. were over. All the strays measured in the Northern and Central groups (Steeple Barton, Dorchester, and Abingdon not measured)

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were under 5.5 cm., but 8 out of 18 in the Southern (Hambleton not measured) were over. The Shotover flint knapping was on a smaller scale and less decisive and had a smaller proportion of long flakes than that of Nettlebed.

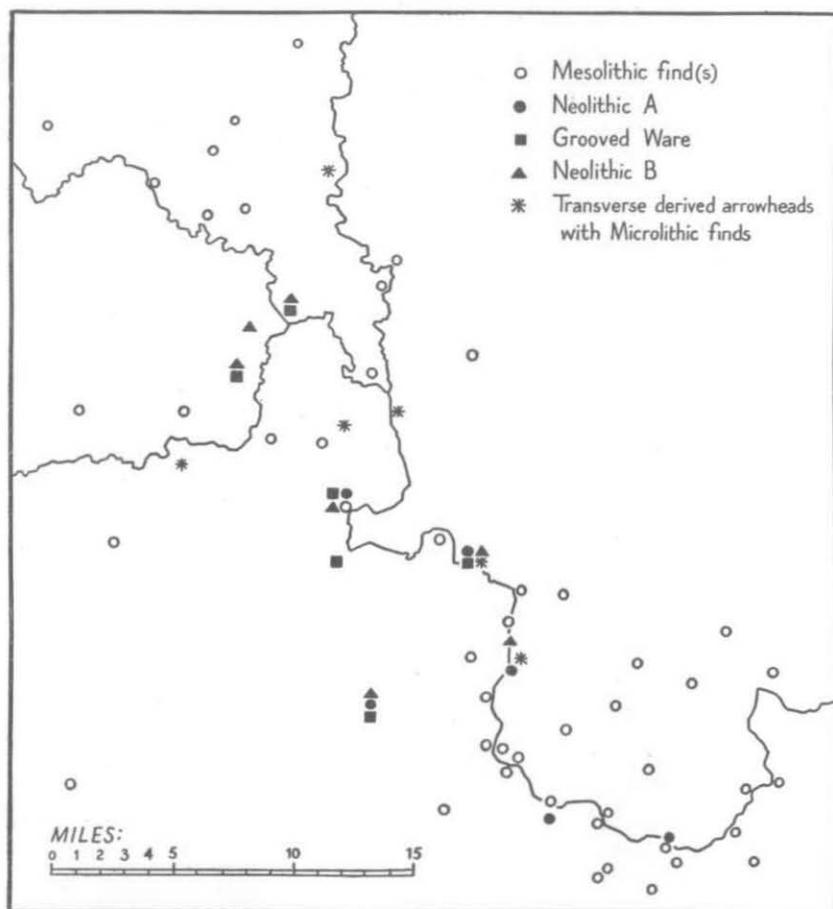


FIG. 7

MAP SHOWING COMPARATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF MESOLITHIC FINDS AND NEOLITHIC POTTERY IN THE OXFORD AREA, pp. 10, 11.

Vague as the picture may be, it shows a true cultural frontier at the edge of the Oxford Plain. To the south were the Forest Folk with an aggressive reaction to their habitat shown by abundance of heavy tools; and to the

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north were the adherents of an older and passive tradition. The real relationship between them and their position in the immediate post-glacial and later sequence still lie hidden—perhaps in the peat and alluvium of Otmoor or in the old channel of the Cherwell south of Thrup.

A strange fact about the distributions is the virtual absence of finds from the Terrace Gravels around Oxford, where workings have been repeatedly visited for more than fifty years, for most of which they have been dug by hand. The Summertown-Radley Terrace was well settled from Neolithic times onwards; but except at Abingdon and Dorchester no flints have been collected which one could describe as transitional.

The only Neolithic culture which shows the slightest continuation from the Mesolithic is that of Abingdon (Neolithic A), with a single microlith and three cores of microlithic type (e.g. FIG. 3, no. 5).²⁶ As did many Mesolithic peoples, the Abingdon people needed a supply of small long flakes, not, however, for microliths, but for the dentate-edged blades which were frequent on the site (FIG. 6, nos. 3-5). The method of obtaining these was similar to Mesolithic practice in that, in typical instances, a series of small parallel flakes were struck from one platform (e.g. FIG. 6, no. 1a), but differed in that the plane of the platform was changed (e.g. nos. 1b and c) as the work progressed, and with such freedom that the final result (e.g. no. 2) was almost invariably quite unlike a Mesolithic core. The industry was emphatically not Mesolithic,²⁷ but one could say that for making one type of tool it used a free adaptation of Mesolithic technique. At any rate, the long flakes (e.g. FIG. 6, nos. 3-5), viewed in the mass, would be in place in a Mesolithic assemblage.²⁸

Different is the impression given by the industry from pits with Grooved Ware pottery;²⁹ although the proportion of long flakes does not differ significantly, examination in the mass shows that they are unlike those of a Mesolithic assemblage—being diffuse and irregular in striking (e.g. FIG. 6, no. 6, Sutton Courtenay)—and that only isolated examples show resemblance to

²⁶ Evidence from recent finds at Dorchester, although not clear-cut, points the same way: see Appendix, p. 13, s.v. D. CLOSED FINDS.

²⁷ For instance, compare the proportion of long flakes in the total number of flakes (less core-trimming flakes): Nettlebed 73 per cent; Shotover 47 per cent.; Abingdon 11 per cent.

²⁸ There can be no doubt that these were an integral part of the industry and not strays from previous flint-knapping. They had similar patination (or lack of it) as other pieces from the same find-spots, e.g. Fishponds 1, Hut Hole 5, N.2, N.3.

²⁹ E.g. *Cassington, Oxon.* (Pit I): 275 pieces; 6 non-microlithic cores, 29 long flakes (including dentate edges), 214 other flakes, 26 scrapers (AM.1952.588d). *Oxoniensia*, forthcoming.

Cassington, Oxon. (Pit F): 73 pieces; 1 non-microlithic core, 8 long flakes (including dentate edges), 58 other flakes, 6 scrapers (AM.1952.587b). *Oxoniensia*, forthcoming.

Sutton Courtenay, Berks. (Pit P): 639 pieces; 17 non-microlithic cores, 1 core-trimming flake, 52 long flakes (incl. dentate edges), 555 other flakes, 7 scrapers, 1 miniature retouched flake (non-microlithic), 6 transverse derived arrowheads or similar types (AM.1929.785). E. T. Leeds, *Ant. J.*, XIV, 264-5.

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Mesolithic flakes. In technique³⁰ the industry was further removed from the Mesolithic than that of Abingdon—towards clumsiness and disorder. Only in one product, the transverse derived arrowhead (which it seems to share with Neolithic B),³¹ does it have a distant connexion; these arrowheads fit rather better with microlithic finds (FIG. 7) than the leaf-shaped or barbed and tanged types, but occurrences so far noted are not many.

The place of Neolithic B relative to the Mesolithic is less easy to assess; within the area only a few indeterminate flakes have been found associated with pottery of this type. No Mesolithic finds have come from the Cassington, Eynsham, and Stanton Harcourt areas, which are relatively prolific in Neolithic B pottery. In fact, of the pottery distributions,³² Neolithic A fits the best (FIG. 7).

On the available evidence in the Oxford area, while none of the Neolithic cultures shows a strong Mesolithic strain, Neolithic A has the most Mesolithic features. To look for a full explanation one would have to go far beyond the area, for a decisive neatness of flint-working was in the germ of the Western Neolithic culture; it was not acquired in the upper Thames valley by one of its remoter shoots.

APPENDIX

Collections visited are those of the Ashmolean Museum (AM), British Museum (BM) partially, Hambleton Museum (HM), Newbury Museum (NM), Pitt-Rivers Museum (PR), and Reading Museum (RM). All Ashmolean specimens unless given numbers or qualification are in the Manning collection.

Abbreviations used, referring to the position of the blunting on microliths, are, e.g. 'lt. obl.' 'left-hand side obliquely'; 'rt. comp.' 'right-hand side completely'; 'lt. part.' 'left-hand side partially'. The side refers to a view of the face of the flake with the bulb at the foot; where the bulb is regarded as at the head, 'bulbar end' is used.

Wherever reasonably certain, the find-spot is given relative to drift geology.

A. ISOLATED FINDS

MICROLITHS

Charlbury, Oxon.: 1 (PR) Clark, *Britain*, fig. 21, 8. *Duns Tew, Oxon.*: 1 (PR) Clark, *Britain*, fig. 21, 6. *Iffley, Oxford*: 1 lt. obl., 1 lt. part., 2 lt. comp., 2 rt. notched (FIG. 2, nos. 1-5), 1 lt. notched, and 1 fragment (PR). Summertown-Radley Terrace. Collected early 1900s by Bell from topsoil of gravel pit behind Fairacre House, with numerous cores and flakes, also polished celt fragments, transverse derived and barbed and tanged arrowheads, and scrapers (PR). *Kiddington, Oxon.*: Obliquely blunted points, triangles, trapezoids, crescent, hollow based point, and tanged point (BM). Great Oolite. Clark, *Britain*, 41, and fig. 20, where listed as from *Enstone* following a note in BM Register. *Sarsden, Oxon.*: 1 rt. obl. with snapped tip (PR). Great Oolite. *Stonesfield, Oxon.*: 1 (PR). Great Oolite. Clark, fig. 21, 7. *Tackley, Oxon.*: 7 lt. obl., 2 lt. comp., 2 rt. obl., 3 rt. comp., 1 lt. obl. bulbar end, 1 lt. comp. with rt. obl. (PR). Great Oolite. Clark, fig. 21, 1-5. From area

³⁰ As seen in cores, flakes, and products.

³¹ Clark, *Arch. J.*, xci, 32-58.

³² *Neo. A*: Caversham, Pangbourne, Churn, North Stoke, Dorchester, Abingdon.

Grooved Ware: Churn, Abingdon, Sutton Courtenay, Cassington, Stanton Harcourt.

Neo. B: Churn, Mongewell, Dorchester, Abingdon, Stanton Harcourt, Eynsham, Cassington.

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of Wood Farm with polished celt fragments, 1 polished edge flake, and leaf shaped, transverse derived, and barbed and tanged arrowheads (PR).

MICROLITHIC CORES

In the case of unassociated finds, these are confined to cores of conical (FIG. 3, no. 2), cylindrical (FIG. 3, no. 3), or shield shape (FIG. 3, no. 1) up to 7 cm. tall with parallel facets from a single or one pair of opposed platforms. *Brighthampton, Oxon.*: 1 (AM). Northmoor Terrace. *Hatford, Berks.*: 1 (A.M.1943.68). Corallian. *Shotover, Oxon.* (incl. Forest Farm): 3 (AM). FIG. 3, no. 2. Probably all Lower Greensand. *Spelsbury, Oxon.* (Ditchley Park): 1 (PR). Great Oolite. *Woodcote, Oxon.*: 1 (AM). *Wootton, Berks.* (Pickett's Heath): 1 (AM). Lower Greensand.

There are also examples from *Steeple Barton, Oxon.*, in the collection of Mr. W. H. M. Hodges, Institute of Archaeology.

HOUR-GLASS PERFORATED QUARTZITE PEBBLES

Bampton Castle, Oxon.: 1 (RM). Summertown-Radley Terrace. *Rankine, Blenheim, Oxon.*: (Home Farm?): 1 (PR). Great Oolite. *Islip, Oxon.*: 1 (AM.1877.274). *Rankine and V.C.H. Oxon.*, 1, pl. ii, p. *Oxford* (parish unknown): 1 (AM.1927.3528). *Water Eaton, Oxon.*: 1 (AM.1878.269). FIG. 4 and Rankine. The following are not plotted on FIG. 1: *Wallingford, Berks?*: 1 (RM). *Rankine, Wallingford, Berks.* (Chalmers Lock): 1 (RM), with hour-glass perforation, but not of quartzite and with apparent binding grooves.

HEAVY TOOLS OF FLINT

Ashampstead, Berks.: 1 (RM). *Basildon, Berks.*: 2 (RM). *Benson, Oxon.*: 1 (AM.1917.11). *Bix, Oxon.*: 1 (RM). *Calcot Row, Berks.*: 2 (RM). *Cholsey, Berks.*: 1 (RM). Summertown Terrace. *Ewelme, Oxon.*: 1 (AM.1917.19). Chalk. *Goring, Oxon.*: 7 and 1 fragment (RM); (Gatchampton): 3 (RM). *Kidmore End, Oxon.*: 1 fragment (AM. Peake colln.). *Lambourne, Berks.* (Coppingdon Down): 1 (NM). Chalk. *Long Wittenham, Berks.* (Northfield Farm): 1 (RM). Summertown Terrace. *Mapledurham, Oxon.*: 6 and 2 fragments (RM). *Moulsford, Berks.* (Cranford): 1 (RM). *Purley, Berks.*: 10 (RM). *Reading, Berks.* (various localities): 10 and 1 fragment (R and NM); (Southcote): 3 (RM). *Shiplake, Oxon.*: 2 (R and AM.Pr. 48). FIG. 5, no. 1. *Sonning, Berks.*: 8 (R and NM). *Stoke Row, Oxon.*: 1 (RM). *Tilehurst, Berks.*: 21 and 1 fragment (RM). *Wallingford, Berks.*: 4 and 1 fragment (R and NM). *Wargrave, Berks.*: 1 (RM). *Whitchurch, Oxon.*: 3 (RM).

B. FINDS OF DIFFERENT TYPES IN ONE LOCALITY

Appleton, Berks. (probably): 1 lt. obl. and 2 cores (A.M.1953.45). *Caversham, Oxon.*: 1 core and 9 heavy tools (RM). *Hambleden, Bucks.*: 15 cores and 11 heavy tools (H and AM. A. E. Peake colln.). *Langworth, Berks.*: 1 lt. obl. (snapped), 1 lt. comp., 2 double blunted (snapped), 1 sub-triangular (FIG. 2, nos. 11-14) and 10 cores. Corallian. Concentrated mostly at Nat. Grid. 41/391994 in two fields N. of the loop road, other finds including polished celt, and leaf-shaped, transverse derived, and barbed and tanged arrowheads; a few only, incl. b. and t. arrowheads, S. of the road. Some, however, including microliths, etc., may have come from *Buckland, Berks.*, three miles west, also on Corallian ridge. Information from the collector, Mr. C. J. Farmer. (AM. 1942.283-4, 1945.133, 1951.378.) *North Stoke*, and parts of *Mongewell, Neunham Murren, Checkendon*, and *Ipsden*, as far S. as Little Stoke Farm, esp. area bounded by Grim's Ditch—Icknield Way—road Ipsden to North Stoke—road B4009: 14 cores (AM and PR FIG. 3, nos. 1 and 3) and prob. 2 more (AM) and 2 heavy tools and 4 fragments (AM). Chalk and Outwash Gravel. Many other finds incl. polished celts and fragments, leaf-shaped, transverse derived, and barbed and tanged arrowheads, fabricators, and long flakes. (AM. Manning colln. and 1911.535-551). *Streatley, Berks.*: Hour-glass perf. quartz. pebble (RM. Rankine) and 3 heavy tools (RM). *Woodley, Berks.*: Hour-glass perf. quartz. pebble (RM. Rankine) and 4 heavy tools (R and NM).

C. FINDS OF DIFFERENT TYPES IN A RESTRICTED AREA

Cumnor and Wootton, Berks. (Boars Hill): 1 core from Pickett's Heath (AM), and remainder (PR) from field immediately adjoining, N. and esp. S. of path Chilswell House—Chilswell Farm, comprising: 1 lt. obl., 2 lt. comp., 2 lt. comp. with rt. obl. (FIG. 2, nos. 6-10), 1 fragment, and 1 heavy tool (FIG. 5, no. 2). Lower Greensand. Other finds incl. scrapers and long flakes (AM, PR, and colln.).

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Mr. D. F. W. Baden Powell) and 2 transverse derived arrowheads (PR and AM.1953.46). Information from the collector, the Rev. Prof. L. W. Grensted. *Fawley and Turville, Bucks.* (Kimble Farm) : A working floor on Clay-with-flints. Microliths, cores, and heavy tools (5 heavy tools, 1 core, and long flakes in A.M. A. E. Peake colln. ; there are other finds in HM). The site is not to be confused with Great or Little Kimble, Bucks., nr. Aylesbury. A. E. Peake, *P.P.S.E.A.*, II, 437-58 ; Clark *Britain*, 67-8. *Nettlebed, Oxon.* : A working floor on Eocene Sand. 259 pieces : 66 cores (1 non-microlithic), 7 core-trimming flakes, 129 long flakes,³³ 48 other flakes,³³ 3 microliths (2 lt. obl., 1 lt. part. FIG. 2, nos. 16-18), 1 backed blade, 1 graver (nos. 19-20), 1 heavy tool³⁴ and 1 fragment,³⁵ (FIG. 5, nos. 4-5), 2 scrapers. (AM. A. E. Peake colln.) A. E. Peake, *P.P.S.E.A.*, II, 71-80 ; Clark, *Britain*, 42.

D. CLOSED FINDS

Abingdon, Berks. : Ditch of causewayed camp with Neolithic A2 finds (only 2 sherds Neolithic B, and 1 Grooved Ware) on Summertown-Radley Terrace. 1 microlith (sub-triangular) and 3 cores (e.g. FIG. 3, no. 5) which would be in place in Shotover assemblage among 3271 pieces, comprising besides 91 cores, 5 core-trimming flakes, 329 long flakes, 2,734 other flakes, 80 scrapers, 12 leaf-shaped arrowheads and 14 fragments, 1 sickle fragments, 1 dagger fragment. (AM.1928.325-415, 418-24.) Leeds, *Ant. J.*, VII, 438-64 ; VIII, 461-77. *Dorchester, Oxon.* (Site I) : 1 microlithic core (in same Hole as transverse derived arrowhead), 1 long flake with part. microlithic trimming, 1 core-trimming flake³⁶ with other pieces from a series of Holes yielding Neolithic A sherds (contemporary with Grooved Ware). 1 microlith from Oval Ditch—Neolithic A or B phase (AM.1947.383). Summertown Terrace. R. J. C. Atkinson, C. M. Piggott, N. K. Sandars, *Excavations at Dorchester*, I, 108-13. *Shotover, Oxon.* : Rubbish pit on Lower Greensand. 122 pieces : 14 cores (2 non-microlithic), 9 core-trimming flakes, 42 long flakes, 48 other flakes, 1 microlith (lt. obl. bulbar end), 1 graver, 7 end scrapers (AM). Labelled as found in 1894 in a hole 2 ft. deep. Manning MSS. (AM) mention finds from two holes.

³³ A few flakes with retouched edges other than those mentioned are included.

³⁴ Not described or figured by Peake, although labelled by him as from the floor. Found after publication ?

³⁵ Peake, *P.P.S.E.A.*, II, pl. xxii, 1.

³⁶ I would prefer so to interpret no. 62 (*Dorchester*, I, 111).