ADZE

Unique ID: SUSS-644AA4

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Flint adze or pick, probably of Mesolithic date. The adze is knapped from flint with some cortex remaining at the butt end, covering c.20% of one side. It is sub-triangular in plan with straight tapering sides and a rounded blade and butt. In cross section it is also sub-triangular flattening to a pointed oval at the blade. One face is flat at the butt end where it is covered in cortex it has a convex curve through the remainder. The other has a pronounced central ridge which is particularly acute at the butt end then flattens at the blade. It has been shaped with large, shallow flakes struck from the edges. The sides are S shaped in profile. Both edges have areas of hackling and blunting damage with a particularly flattened area on one side about a third of the way along the edge from the butt end, possibly relating to hafting. The blade has been shaped into an almost hooked shape, convex on one face and concave on the other suggesing the tool was used as an adze or pick with the blade parallel to the surface to be cut rather than axe. It has been sharpened with flakes taken from the butt end, on one side this may include a large tranchet flake but there is modern damage (clearly identifiable due to it's unstained appearence) at the blade obscuring this. The adze is made from mottled pale-dark grey local flint. The surfaces are a mid-orange brown from iron staining with some weathering having smoothed the arises on one face. It is 151.3mm long; 60.3mm wide at the widest point, 52.6mm at blade, 27.2mm near blade; it is 31.4mm thick at centre and weighs 315 grams.

Notes:

There is some uncertainty over the findspot of this item as it was found some time ago but it is believed to be as given in the findspot information.

Chronology

Broad period: MESOLITHIC Period from: MESOLITHIC Date from: Circa 8300 BC Date to: Circa 6000 BC

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 151.3 mm Width: 60.3 mm Thickness: 31.4 mm

Weight: 315 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Sunday 1st October 2006

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Flint

Manufacture method: Knapped/flaked

Completeness: Incomplete

Spatial metadata

Region: South East (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: West Sussex (County)

District: Horsham (District)

Parish or ward: **Henfield** (Civil Parish)

Spatial coordinates

4 Figure: TQ2115

Four figure Latitude: 50.921781 Four figure longitude: -0.279868

1:25K map: TQ2115 1:10K map: TQ21NW

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Gardening

General landuse: Other Specific landuse: Garden