

FLAT AXEHEAD

Unique ID: LANCUM-2B1A5D

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

Copper or copper-alloy axehead probably dating from the Chalcolithic/Copper Age or the very Early Bronze Age, that is c. 2400-2300BC. The axe survives in good condition with a rusty-coloured surface and rough patina. It has straight diverging sides, a straight butt and a gently curved cutting edge/blade. Its profile is flat lenticular and it is undecorated. According to Needham's Classification of Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age Copper and Bronze Axe-Heads, this is most likely a Class 2B or 2C axe, dating from the 24th or 23rd C BC. Needham's classification is mainly based on axeheads from Southern Britain, but he makes allowances for specimens from Northern Britain (Needham 2017, 14-15) and this axe with its flat profile, straight sides and wide butt seems to fit best in his class 2B/2C.

1 Schmidt, P.K. & Burgess, C. 1981; *The Axes of Scotland and Northern Ireland*, Praähistorische Bronzefunde Abteilung IX, 7. Band 7

2 Needham, S. 1996; *Chronology and Periodisation in the British Bronze Age*, Acta Archaeologica 67, p. 121-140

3 Davis, Mary, 2016; National Museum Wales - *SEM EDS analysis of a sample of the EBA flat axe: PAS 2015-29-002 & 005*

4 Needham, S. 2017; *The Classification of Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age Copper and Bronze Axe-Heads from Southern Britain*. Archaeopress: Access Archaeology.

Class: Needham 2017, Class 2B or C

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: BRONZE AGE

Subperiod from: Early

Period from: BRONZE AGE

Subperiod to: Early

Period to: BRONZE AGE

Date from: Circa 2400 BC

Date to: Circa 2200 BC

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 117 mm

Width: 68 mm

Thickness: 6 mm

Weight: 368 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Monday 12th February 2018

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy

Manufacture method: Cast

Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: [North West](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Lancashire](#) (County)

District: [Lancaster](#) (District)

To be known as: Carnforth

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

General landuse: Cultivated land

Specific landuse: Character undetermined