



LINCOLN CITY AND COUNTY MUSEUM  
PUBLICATIONS, No. 18.

---

IMPLEMENTS  
OF THE  
STONE AGE,  
IN THE  
CITY AND COUNTY MUSEUM, LINCOLN.  
(PART 1).

---

BY ARTHUR SMITH, F.L.S., F.E.S.,  
Curator.

---

PRICE ONE PENNY.

Sold at the Museum.

---

JANUARY, 1915.

---

HORNCASTLE :  
W. K. Morton & Sons, Ltd., Printers, High Street.



MPLEMENTS OF THE STONE AGE, IN  
THE CITY AND COUNTY MUSEUM,  
LINCOLN.—(*Part 1*).—

So much interest has been centred on the subject of implements and utensils of pre-historic times that a great deal of literature is available regarding the probable use of examples that have been found in all parts of this country. The discovery of the haunts of the early inhabitants of these islands has led many writers to weave into the works much that must be conjectural regarding the age of their existence in Britain and the habits and customs associated with them.

The finding of scattered evidences of their work has led to many theories being propounded, many of which may be readily accepted, whilst some leave much to be explained before any degree of support can be given.

Two main groups of stone implements have claimed much attention from students, Palaeolithic and Neolithic. To these must be added those of another group to which the name of Eolithic has been given. These "Eolithic" flints have for some time engaged the attention of enthusiasts, and are such as are so little worked as to look almost like naturally shaped stones. They are believed to be very early implements, natural flints taken by human hands for purposes to which they were adapted for use in the remote past. In most cases hardly discernable as being artificially worked, if worked at all, in others there are certain indications that lead their discoverers to accept them as early stone implements used in previous times to those that have developed the unmistakably worked flints. It is fair to presume that such may be the case from the reasoning that a natural stone might well have been the forerunner of the artificially prepared implement.

Of Palaeolithic implements there are large numbers of specimens that have been found in this country as well as abroad. Massive flints have been selected, flaked and chipped until the finished weapon has been produced.

Only one implement of this period is recorded for Lincolnshire. It is in the British Museum. Whilst it is undoubtedly an implement of the Palaeolithic period this isolated occurrence causes one to wonder if in some way it had been introduced at a later date,

The County Museum has a very good collection of the implements of this period all of them collected on classic grounds of investigation of this period of the existence of early man.

A large number of them have been presented by the Rev. Canon A. Rowe, augmented by a series recently presented by the Authorities of the British Museum. Most of them have been discovered in this country, a few are from the Continent.

It will now be gathered that practically all of the stone implements found in Lincolnshire are of the later or Neolithic period.

It is only intended in this article to refer to specimens found in this county which have been contributed to the collections in the County Museum, which has been written for the purpose of illustrating and recording them, and also with a view to augmenting the collection. Stone implements are frequently being found in the county and it is very desirable that they may be brought together for comparison, and exhibition, and for permanent preservation in the county of their discovery.

The co-operation of those who can assist in directing such specimens is cordially invited to help in any way they can, needless to say that such assistance will be most highly appreciated.

PLATE 1 illustrates a series of flint implements known as Celts. Each was in all probability attached to a shaft of wood, bound by a thong, and used as an axe.

Two of the specimens shewn are implements that have in no way been ground down and polished, they are rough hewn to their present shape.

The longer of the two examples (*Fig. 1*) was found at Tealby and presented with other flints by Mr. H. Johnson. The other specimen (*Fig. 2*) was found at Ruckland and is the gift of the Rev. G. Hall.

On the same plate there are three Celts that have the major portion left rough hewn, but are ground at the cutting edge. One is a very fine example (*Fig. 3*), a black flint weapon with an exceedingly well ground edge. It was found at Lynwode by the writer.

Another example (*Fig. 4*) is from Burwell, presented by the Rev. Canon A. Rowe. The third (*Fig. 5*) was found at Cold Hanworth and was handed to the Museum by the Committee of the Lincoln Municipal Technical School,

The other implements have been ground and polished all over. The smallest one (*Fig. 6*) is the gift of Mr. G. F. Ludgate and was found near Lincoln.

Another specimen (*Fig. 7*) was found near Gainsborough, and presented by the late Mr. F. M. Burton.

The large one is an exceedingly fine example, being highly polished and most symmetrically shaped, both ends are reduced to sharp cutting edges. It was found at Cold Hanworth and deposited in the Museum by Dr. W. J. Cant (*Fig. 8*).

It will be seen that there are three grades of flint weapons in this group, the rough hewn, those with cutting edges ground, and those that are entirely ground and polished.

Whether this convenient classification can be looked on as indicating the progress of perfecting these implements as the ages advanced may be open to discussion.

The finish of the weapon may have been entirely the taste of the individual who made it. The task of grinding and polishing the highly-finished type may be readily imagined as a very laborious one, hence there may be a reason for not expending energy by a maker who was content to only partially grind down the implements he made, or was even content to use them without grinding at all.

Implements of the period were also made in other rock material than flint, being made from pieces of igneous rocks, and the more compact hard forms of sedimentary formations.

These stone implements are all more or less ground to shape, the material not lending itself to flaking and being of soft material as compared with flint, the process of reducing the stone to the required form would be by friction.

PLATE 2, a somewhat large form, very rounded in section (*Fig. 9*) was found at Scunthorpe, and is the gift of Dr. T. B. F. Eminson. Two others (*Figs. 10 & 11*) are of the flattened type. They were unearthed on a farm near Lincoln, and presented by Mr. Nathan Heywood.

A small specimen (*Fig. 12*) was picked up on the shore at Mablethorpe. Another example (*Fig. 13*) is almost conical in form, found at Legbourne and with a specimen found at Burwell (*Fig. 14*) was presented by Dr. Cassal.

PLATE 3 illustrates further examples of stone implements found in the county. Three of these are from Haxey (*Figs. 2, 3, 6*) presented by Mr. H. Staples.

Another one (*Fig. 5*) is from the same locality and is the gift of the Rev. C. B. Collinson. A curious shaped implement (*Fig. 7*), almost round in section, was found at Alkborough, and presented by Mr. E. E. Brown.

Two others (*Figs. 1 & 4*) are such as to cause interest in their crude form. These are very blunt edged specimens, doubtlessly fashioned into this shape, but lacking the distinctive finished form so characteristic of the stone weapon generally.

There is distinct artificial working on parts of these specimens, and they are hardly likely to be implements used at a less remote date. They were found at Wroot by Mr. H. Staples, who continues to energetically search for these implements on behalf of the County Museum.

Stone Hammers are from time to time found in the county. Four examples are in the Museum collections, all of them of hard basaltic rock. Each one is provided with a hole for a shaft, bored from each side until the perforation of the close grained stone is accomplished.

PLATE 4, these weapons are considered to be of later date than those previously mentioned and may be associated with the Bronze Period. One of the massive hammers (*Fig. 8*) was found at Waddingham, and presented to the Museum by Mr. C. U. Rands.

Another example (*Fig. 9*) was unearthed at North Kelsey, and is the gift of the Rev. J. L. N. Pheasant.

A third hammer (*Fig. 10*) was found many years ago near Saxilby. The smallest specimen (*Fig. 11*) was dug up in Lincoln, and presented by Mr. W. Emerson.

The scale figure introduced in each photograph represents three inches in length.

The thanks of all who are interested in the work of the Museum and of Archæologists generally are due to the donors of these interesting weapons used in the remote past and left as evidences of the prehistoric dweller in Lincolnshire. Any further gift of similar specimens will be most highly appreciated, as additions to the collections in the County Museum, and also secure them being placed on permanent record.

1

2

3



4 5

8

6

7

*Photo by]*

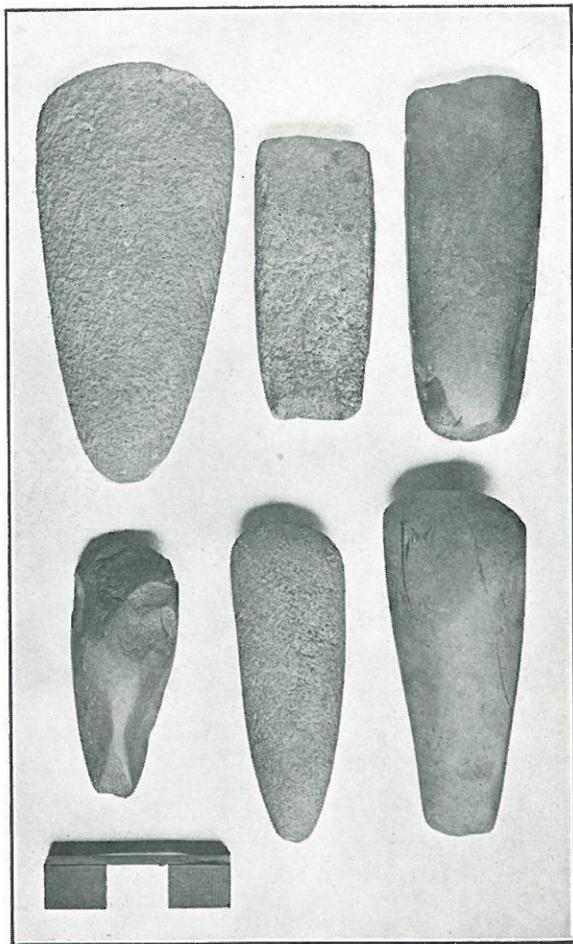
FLINT IMPLEMENTS.

*[A. Smith.*

9

10

11



12

13

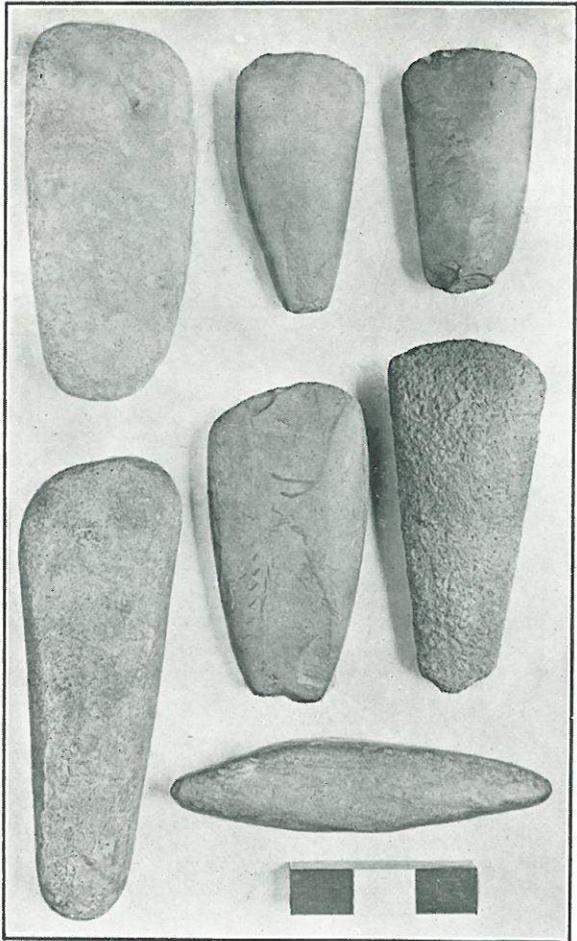
14

*Photo by*] **STONE IMPLEMENTS.** [*A. Smith.*

1

2

3



4

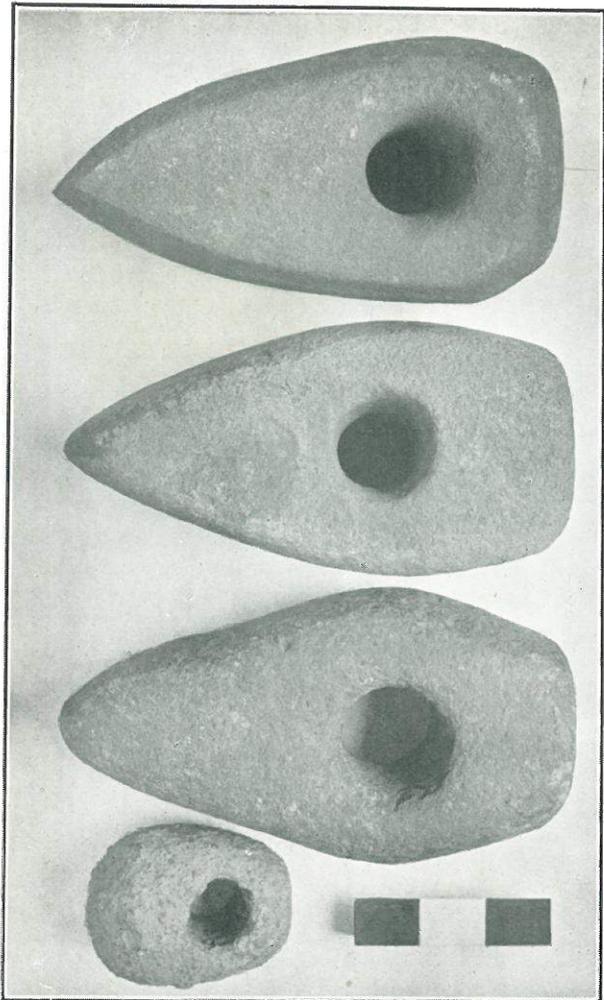
5 6

7

*Photo by]*

STONE IMPLEMENTS.

*[A. Smith.*



8

9

10

11

*Photo by]*

STONE HAMMERS.

*[A. Smith.*

LINCOLN CITY AND COUNTY MUSEUM  
PUBLICATIONS.

---

- No. 1—Lincolnshire Keuper Escarpment,**  
and its Bearing on, and Relation to the County (With two Plates).  
*By F. M. Burton, F.L.S., F.G.S.*
- No. 2—The Pigmy Flint Age in Lincolnshire** (With Plate).  
*By Rev. Alfred Hunt, M.A.*
- No. 3—Roman Antiquities (Part 1) (Second Edition)**  
(With two Plates). *By Arthur Smith, F.L.S. Curator.*
- No. 4—Report and General Guide** (With two Plates).  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S. Curator*
- No. 5—Roman Antiquities (Part 2).** (With two Plates).  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S. Curator.*
- No. 6—The Owls & Hawks of Lincolnshire.** (With Plate).  
*By the Rev. F. L. Blathwayt, M. A., M.B.O.U,*
- No. 7—Roman Antiquities (Part 3).** (With two Plates).  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S., Curator.*
- No. 8—Pre-Historic Man in Lincolnshire.** (With two Plates).  
*By the Rev. Alfred Hunt, M.A.*
- No. 9—Report and General Guide.** (With two Plates).  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S., Curator.*
- No. 10, 11, 12, 13—Coins of the Roman Period found in  
Lincolnshire (4 Parts).**  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S., Curator.*
- No. 14—Roman Antiquities (Part 4).** (With two Plates).  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S. Curator.*
- No. 15—General Guide** (With two Plates).  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S. Curator.*
- No. 16—Roman Antiquities (Part 5).** With Plates and  
Illustrations). *By Arthur Smith, F.L.S., Curator.*
- No. 17—The "Kirk" Collection of Pottery.**  
*By Rev. H. W. Hall.*
- No. 18—Implements of the Stone Age (Part 1).** (With 4 Plates.)  
*By Arthur Smith, F.L.S., Curator.*
- 

To be obtained at the Museum,  
PRICE ONE PENNY.