

inshore waters by its complete trunk segmentation with well separated lateral processes, dorsal posterior ridges on the three anterior trunk somites (characteristic of the genus), and the great reduction of the chelifores: even in the younger Southampton Water specimen, whose ovigers are mere buds, the chelifores are reduced to rounded

processes with a distal spine and no apparent articulation. Live specimens have a characteristic brown pigmentation associated with the gut, distinct on the trunk and giving a banded appearance to the legs. It remains to be seen whether this species establishes itself in British waters, as it seems to have done in Venice.

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A BOUT COUPÉ HANDAXE FROM HAMPSHIRE

The implement described below was found by Mr G Jones in 1984. It was recovered from the surface of a recently harrowed field on the south side of Gutteridge's Wood (SU 56755820) and was an isolated find. The implement appears to belong to the 'bout coupé' class of handaxes which has been described in detail by Roe (1981, 250–67). As such handaxes are relatively rare in Britain, the recovery of this new example seemed worthy of a brief note. The writer is grateful to Mr Jones for permission to publish this note, and to David Allen of the Hampshire Museum Service for all the help he has given.

The handaxe is of classic *bout coupé* shape with a rounded tip and the characteristic

angles formed by the meeting of the sides and butt (in the plan view). It measures 119 × 84 × 26mm as drawn, and weighs 225g. In profile (Fig 2b) it is flat and slightly plano-convex. It was probably made from a large flake struck from a flint nodule, though no trace of the original flake surface remains, since it has been carefully worked on both faces with elegant flat flake removals. There is a small patch of cortex on the less flat face (Fig 2c). The implement has an orange stain on both faces, and a mottled white patina developing on one face (Fig 2a). There has been some slight modern damage to the edge of the piece.

Bout coupé handaxes are known to occur in Britain in association with Mousterian arti-

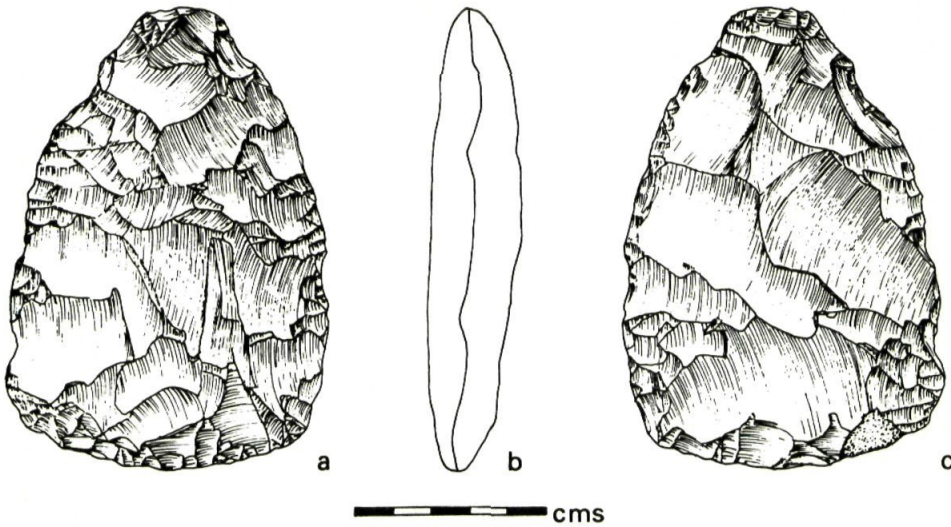


Fig 2. A *bout coupé* handaxe from Hampshire.

facts (eg Kents Cavern, Devon) but are more usually found as stray surface finds, sometimes close to known Mousterian sites. Those examples which can be dated belong to the last (Devensian) glaciation. Typologically, the handaxes are unlike British Lower Palaeolithic (Acheulian) handaxes but closely resemble some of the earlier French Middle Palaeolithic (Mousterian of Acheulian Tradition) implements, such as those from the site of Le Tillet, *café au lait* series. In its classic form the *bout coupé* may reasonably be regarded as a typical Mousterian artifact, and consequently

identified as such even when occurring as a single undated find, as here.

Hampshire has produced at least seven *bout coupé* handaxes, mainly from the Southampton area, whilst Dorset has a further 17, including two classic examples from the Bournemouth area (Southbourne and Castle Lane) which were first recorded and published by Calkin and Green (1949, 33). The other counties adjacent to Hampshire have all produced at least one classic *bout coupé* implement.

The handaxe is now in Andover Museum.

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