



laxe

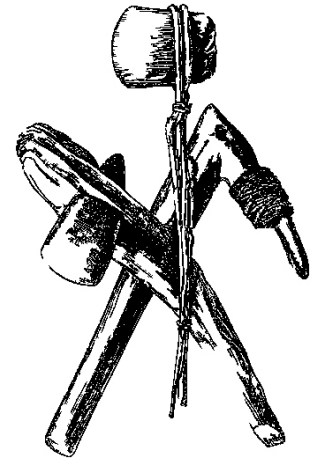
The Irish Stone Axe Project Web Portal

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1. Introduction

Set up in 1990, the Irish Stone Axe Project (ISAP) has collected contextual, morphological, petrological and bibliographic data on over 21,000 stone axes from Ireland. The axe data is stored in a 4D relational database with and is complemented by axe drawings and photographs. The database is the basis for further research on the production, distribution and deposition of Irish stone axes.

Since 2006 work has been ongoing to clean the dataset and prepare a web portal to make the database accessible to researchers over the world wide web. This poster introduces the web portal and the continuing development of the database.



Museum Reference – NMI 1942:0599

Physical Characteristics

Object Type : Axe

Minature : Complete

Object Status : Complete

If Incomplete :

Incomplete Details :

If Roughout :

Roughout Details :

Length/Width : 13.5 6.8cm

Thickness/Weight : 3.5cm 519g

Prime Treatment : PT02 Pecked

Secondary Treatment :

Hafting : No evidence.

Description : Object Complete
Both sides are slightly irregular, left is straighter and slightly shorter than right. Right is marginally more splayed than left. Thick and curved. Junction with edge and butt clear in all. Edge is gently curved, asymmetrical, worn with a large flake detached from face 2. Thin? Blade is asymmetrical, face 1 is noticeably shorter than face 2. Junction with face 1 is clear. Less so with face 2. Thickness? Both faces are

Face Shape : FS02 Asymmetrical

Cross Section : CS01 Full oval

Edge Shape : ES03 Gently curved:asymmetrical

Edge Form :

Profile : P 05 Asymmetrical: medium

Blade Profile : BS06 Markedly asymmetrical: junction f

Butt Shape : BU04 Flat:flat

Use & Wear :

Re-Use :

Deliberate Breaking : Facet 1 Left Facet 1 Right Facet 2 Left Facet 2 Right

Example of Axe Record From ISAP Database

2. ISAP Database

The ISAP Database operates an integrated four window view, allowing the addition of differing data types. Where possible, data is entered from pre-defined lists to maximise data standardisation.

University College Dublin
An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath

UCD School of Archaeology
Irish Stone Axe Project
Axe Ref. 4554

Archival & Contextual Data | The following images are available for this Axe. | Return to List

Physical Characteristics | Photo | Previous Record

Petrology | Photo

Bibliography | Drawings | Next Record

Archival & Contextual Data

Museum Reference: NMI 1942:0599

Discovery Circumstances: Unknown

Collection Title: Rotherham (Kevlin)

Howard:

Context: Unknown

Dates: 1930 to 1942

Townland: BALLYHIST

Barony: Upper Kells

Parish: Kilskeer

Area:

County: Meath

Details of Archaeological Excavation

Site Type & Details

Secure Context

Feature & Context Details

Associated Artefacts

Associated Features

Dating Information

Map Reference

Temporary Map Reference: 10/16

NGR X Axis

NGR Y Axis: 0

Ordnance Datum: 1

Physical Characteristics

Object Type: Axe

Minature: Complete

Object Status: Complete

If Incomplete:

If Roughout:

Length/Width: 13.5 cm / 6.8 cm

Thickness/Weight: 3.5 cm / 519 g

Hafting:

Primary Treatment: Pecked

Secondary Treatment: Ground Polished

Blades No: No

Sides No: No

Faces No: No

Butt No: No

Facet 1 Left: No

Facet 1 Right: No

Facet 2 Left: No

Facet 2 Right: No

Description
Both sides are slightly irregular, left is straighter and slightly shorter than right. Right is marginally more splayed than left. Thick and curved. Junction with edge and butt clear in all. Edge is gently curved, asymmetrical, worn with a large flake detached from face 2. Thin? Blade is asymmetrical, face 1 is noticeably shorter than face 2. Junction with face 1 is clear. Less so with face 2. Thickness? Both faces are curved in cross-section, face 1 more so. In profile both have a flat central area and slope to blade and butt. Butt is broad and flat in plan and profile, slightly irregular due to some damage. Cross-section is full oval but face 2 is slightly flatter. Profile is asymmetrical, greater slope at both blade and butt on face 2. Pecked ground and partially polished, principally on the lower third of the axe, but polish is more restricted on face 2. Flakes have been detached from below the butt on both faces, and from the cutting edge on face 2. An irregularity occurs on the upper left side of face 1, and another on the lower right may be original. Core taken from face 1.

Face Shape: Asymmetrical

Cross Section: Full oval

Edge Shape: Gently curved asymmetrical

Edge Form:

Profile: Asymmetrical: medium

Blade Profile: Markedly asymmetrical: junction face 1/2

Butt Shape: Flat:flat

Use & Wear:

Re-Use:

Deliberate Breaking:

Example of Axe Record From laxe

3. laxe: Web Portal

The laxe web portal is designed with a high level of researcher usability in mind. The database is fully searchable by any data field. The user can also set a five-tier ordering of search results. Where possible, related axe images are linked by a photo/drawing icon.

Other features of laxe allow researchers to download the full results of an laxe search in a tabbed text document. This document can then be imported into other database software, such as MS Access, for the creation of small, project specific, axe datasets. ISAP researchers can also remotely upload, via the laxe web portal, the results of an on-site axe assessment which is, after an evaluation by ISAP, added to the live database.

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Funding: Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences



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