

NOTES

LATE BRONZE AGE HOG'S BACK KNIFE FROM NORTH PETHERTON

In 1991, while making alterations to his rear garden, Mr R. Pendry of 8 Dyers Close, North Petherton (ST 29123265), discovered a bronze hog's back knife (Fig. 1). Triangular in shape, its sides measure 63 mm, 61 mm and 58 mm, with a maximum height of 57.3 mm. In the centre is a triangular hole with a maximum height of 14 mm.

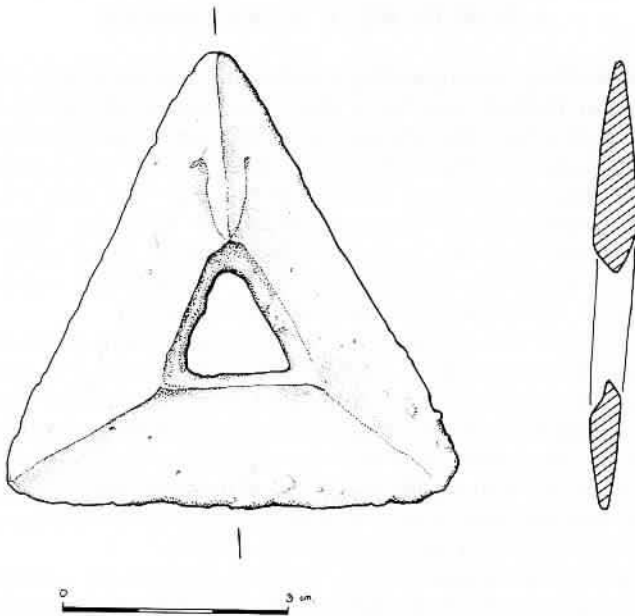


Fig. 1 Hog's Back Knife from North Petherton.

Triangular-shaped hog's back knives form an identifiable sub-group within the tool type and have a south-western concentration. Others have been found at Hayle, Cornwall, and Charlcombe and Lansdown in Avon (Pearce 1983, 423, 507 and 520 respectively). These, along with others from the Atlantic seaboard area of north-west France – e.g. six in a hoard discovered at Vénat (Coffyn, Gomez and Mohen 1981, plate 23) – all have a circular central hole. In this respect, the North

Petherton example differs from the norm. In other respects it is closely similar. Hog's back knives belong to the Ewart Park/Carps Tongue phase of the Late Bronze Age.

The knife was acquired by Somerset County Museums Service (Accession No. TTNCM 30/1992).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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REFERENCES

- Coffyn, A., Gomez, J., and Mohen, J.P., 1981. *L'Apogé du Bronze Atlantique: Le Dépôt de Vénat*.
Pearce, S., 1983. *The Bronze Age Metalwork of South Western Britain*.

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