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**A Palaeolithic Implement from Poole Keynes**

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# Notes

## A PALAEOOLITHIC IMPLEMENT FROM POOLE KEYNES

In spring 1964, the fine palaeolithic hand-axe here illustrated (FIG. 1) was found in the course of gravel-working by employees of the contractors, Roger Constant & Co. Ltd., Poole Keynes, south-west of Cirencester. The find-spot is 400/500 yards south-west of the River Thames (or Isis) at Nat. Grid. Ref. SU 012946, on the Gloucestershire side of the county boundary with Wiltshire, and in the parish of Poole Keynes, between Oaksey Moor Farm and Somerford Keynes. The

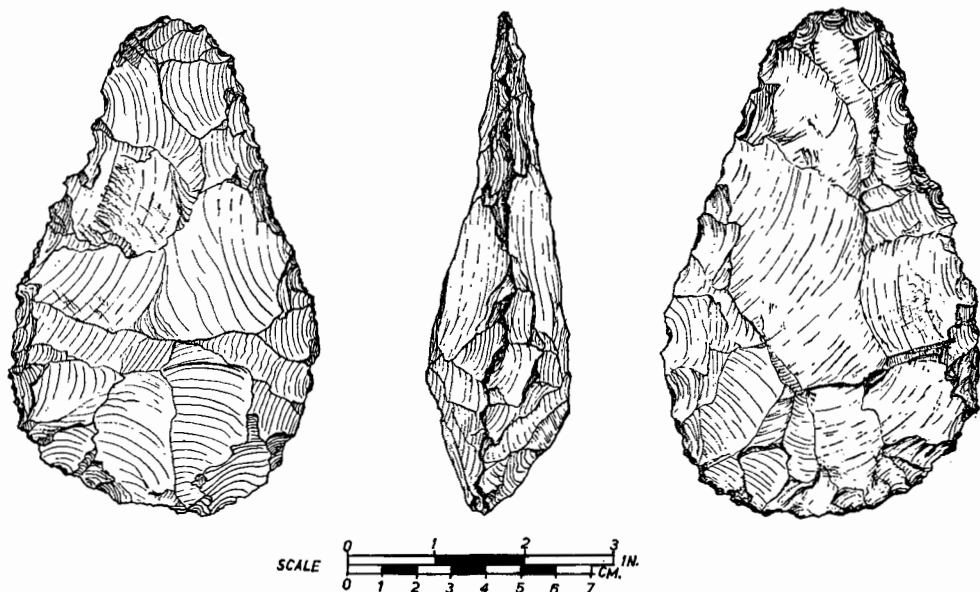


Fig. 1

implement is a fine example of Acheulian type, unrolled, and with ochreous patina. It was given to Bristol City Museum by the finders, Messrs Hatton and Gingell, and is registered as F 3920.

This appears to be the first published find of a palaeolithic implement from near the source of the Thames, but pleistocene faunal

remains have come from gravel pits in the parishes of Ashton Keynes, Poole Keynes, and Somerford Keynes, and are in Gloucester City Museum. Other palaeoliths have been found slightly further down the Thames near Meysey Hampton (in Gloucester City Museum) and Lechlade (in British Museum).

The writer is grateful to the Committee of Bristol City Museum for allowing publication of this find, and to Mr Abdel Aziz ben Yahya for the illustration. Mr Derek Roe has kindly provided details of other palaeolithic finds from the vicinity, and Mr John Rhodes of Gloucester City Museum kindly provided details of local pleistocene faunal remains in that Museum.

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