construction of earthworks, fences and monuments not just for defence but also to suit the requirements of group identity and coherence. Control of lithic resources could help to explain the development of 'wealth' and social stratification at an inter-personal and an inter-community level. The 'affluence' of southern England in later prehistory may stem ultimately from the combination of good farmland and superior flint resources.

MISCELLANEA

PRODUCING A HORSESHOE-SHAPED SCRAPER

In conjunction with field-course on archaeology, it has been my practice to introduce students to flint implements, and to include a demonstration of (my own) flaking techniques. With most unpromising material - cobbles of flint and Greensand chert from local beaches - I have found that, using a hammerstone, the real problem is to obtain the initial platform from which, by percussion, useful flakes may be struck. Having succeeded, and obtained some suitable flakes, I find that to convert them into conventional scrapers, it is not necessary to use a hand-held hammer. Holding the platform end of the flake, with the bulbar-face downwards, and tapping the opposite end sharply on the hard surface of the hammerstone, it is comparatively easy to produce a well-flaked scraper end. Apart from wear and patination my products are almost indistinguishable from the genuine article, but I am, of course, suggesting that this demonstrates that the method was used by prehistoric man. However, it does work, and in south Devon where many artefacts are made from beach pebble material, it may have some relevance.

Ted Masson Phillips

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

1. OXFORD. Recent Work On The Mesolithic. 11-13 March 1983, Details from Archaeology Secretary, Department for External Studies, Rewley House, 37 Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JA

2. CARDIFF. The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age in Southern England - Recent Applications of Theory and Methodology. 21-23 March 1983, Details from Conference Organisers, Dept of Archaeology, University College, PO Box 79, Cardiff, CF1 1XL.

3. BRIGHTON. Fourth International Flint Symposium. 10-15 April. Details from Dr R N Mortimore, Brighton Polytechnic, Dept of Civil Engineering, Geotechnical Section, Cockcroft Building, Moulsecoomb, Brighton, BN2 4GJ.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS RELEVANT TO LITHIC STUDIES

The favourable response to the inclusion of this section in the last issue has prompted a much more ambitious list this time around. I am grateful for help in compilation to: Stephen Green, Frances Healy, Martin Hemingway, Mike Pitts, Caroline Wickham-Jones and Gillian Wilson. The listing, despite its length, cannot be regarded as anywhere near comprehensive, and contributions will be welcome from any RSS member, especially covering Irish and European mainland publications. The objective is to make the cumulative listing as comprehensive as possible for publications dated from 1980 onwards.

BRITAIN AND IRELAND: REGIONAL STUDIES

1. SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST ENGLAND


