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## 7 THE STONE ARTEFACTS *by Beverley Ballin-Smith*

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Two stones, SF 10 and SF 11, were found close together with the burial, beside the mandible. The identification of the stones, their measurements (maximum dimensions) and their weight are recorded in [Table 2](#) below.

SF 10 is a smooth, rounded pebble whose lower surface is convex, with a central area of dark polish measuring approximately 30 × 35mm. The stone is otherwise unaltered but it has calcareous adhesions on its upper surface. It is likely to have functioned as a polisher or burnisher, the polish being a result of the stone being used in a circular motion. Pebble

polishers are typically found on Iron Age sites, but this does not preclude their use during other periods in prehistory ([Ballin-Smith 1994](#), 196–201).

SF 11 is an irregularly shaped pebble of dark grey, vesicular pumice. One surface is smoothed and slightly concave, indicating that it has been used as an implement. The stone is otherwise unaltered. Pumice is commonly found on prehistoric coastal sites where it has been washed up on beaches. Pumice pebbles were often utilised as polishing tools ([ibid](#), 212–13).

**Table 2 The characteristics of the stone assemblage**

SF No.	Context	Material	Measurements	Weight	Comments
10	001	Quartzite	66 × 55 × 31mm	194.7g	Has an area of polish
11	001	Pumice	61 × 34 × 28mm	19.5g	Possibly worked