

Iron slag found on Naphill Common

Iron slag

This was found within the boundary of the 'D' shaped earthwork on Naphill Common. It is probably a by-product of iron smelting. This was practised fairly widely on the Chiltern Hills probably because of a ready supply of wood for burning. The iron ore would have been carried in from elsewhere. It could date from any time from the 18th Century back to the iron age beginning circa 750 BC but, being on the surface, it is likely to be later rather than earlier. The slag may or may not have any connection with the earthworks. Similar material is found in several woods around Naphill.

