5. Archaeological Background of Sites

The Southern Neolithic province includes the states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu including Southern Maharashtra and Kerala but the core of the Neolithic culture of this region is the central part of South India. The sites selected for this study belong to this region and are distributed across the zones of regional variants of Southern Neolithic as suggested by Paddayya (1993). Pottery from the sites Sannarachamma and Hiregudda, which constitute the Sanganakkallu-Kupgal Site complex, Kurugodu, Velpumadugu, Vidapanakal and Palavoy from among the sites of Ashmound Tradition are studied. Neolithic pottery from the sites of Rupanagudi, Balijapalle and Hallur from the Non-ashmound Tradition is also included in this study. In the following chapter a brief description of the archaeological background is given.

5.1 Sanganakkallu-Kupgal Neolithic-Megalithics Complex (15° 08' N; 79° 55' E)

The Neolithic settlement at Sanganakkallu was first discovered on the Kupgal hills by William Frazer, District Engineer of Bellary before 1872 (Ansari and Nagaraja Rao, 1969). He introduced Robert Bruce Foote to this site in 1887. The importance of this site in the understanding of the Neolithic culture was recognized by scholars like Foote (1887) Subbarao (1947), the Allchins (1963, 1982), Sankalia (1969), Ansari and Nagaraja Rao (1969), Mujumdar and Rajaguru (1966) and more recently by Korisettar et al. (2001). The Sanganakkallu-Kupgal hills are located to the north of the modern village of Sanganakkallu, 7 km north-east of Bellary town. The Sannarachamma Hill, Choudammagudda and the Hiregudda together form roughly a horse-shoe shape. The Sannarachamma Hill, which is well-studied archaeologically so far among the hills in this cluster, forms the southwestern arm of the horseshoe
shaped valley. Murkal-gudda a small hill with no apparent archaeology lies east of Sannarachamma. To the east of this small granite hill is Choudammagudda which has a few rock bruisedings and paintings, painted potsherds on the surface which indicates habitation to some extent and also an ashmound was noticed on this hill previously which is now destroyed. Towards the north of these hills and forming the northern arm of the valley is Hiregudda known as Kupgal Hill or Peacock Hill in earlier literature. This hill has many dolerite dykes running through it and these dykes provided the raw material for the flaked and ground stone axe industry of the region (Foote 1887; Brumm et al., 2005). Rock bruisedings, rock gongs and terrace-like features are found on various locations of Hiregudda (Boivin et al., 2005). Close to the base of the hill on the eastern side is the Kugpal ashmound (Mujumdar and Rajaguru, 1966). The plains around Sanganakallu-Kupgal hills also yield archaeological evidence. Birappa rock shelter is a little over a kilometer north of Hiregudda and is associated with microliths and rock paintings. Megalithic stone circles are located between Choudammagudda and Hiregudda and other megaliths are scattered on the pediment plains. The name Kupgal is continued to be used even now due to its usage in the earlier literature to avoid confusion despite the village neighbouring the hills is in fact known by the name Kapgal.

5.1.1 Sannarachamma Hill

This Sanganakallu-Kupgal cluster of hills has been repeatedly studied by scholars for over 100 years now. It was mentioned by Foote as the made grounds at Sanganakallu (Foote, 1887). Subbarao first excavate this site (1946, 1948). The surface finds of axes and other Neolithic implements made from dolerite and the presence of megalithic and pre-megalithic pottery called for a detailed study of the
site and he excavated two trenches in 1948 on the top of the hill, one in the centre of the plain and one close to one of the rock-shelters on top of the hill. Ten layers were encountered in Trench I and Trench II exposed thirteen layers. Natural surface was reached in Trench II. The lowest layers in Trench II yielded large quantities of patinated flakes. Three phases were recognized by Subbarao based on the stratigraphy of the trenches.

**Phase I**

This phase represents the earliest occupation at the site and is characterized by the presence of a large number of heavily patinated flakes of Trap and a crude microlithic industry of quartz and chert.

**Phase II**

This phase represents the Neolithic culture at this site. Based on quantitative distribution of two main pottery fabrics and the presence of microliths, Subbarao divided this phase into two sub-periods. In the sub-period 1 the stone axe and flake industry is associated with a microlithic industry of chert, mainly consisting of parallel-sided blades, backed blades and lunates. The pottery is predominantly of Pale-Grey Ware with a few Coarse Brown and Black ware potteries. The sub-period 2 was characterized by Coarse Brown and Black Ware with a fewer Pale-Grey Ware pottery. The microlithic industry also lost importance in this period.

**Phase III**

The layers representing Phase III occupation at Sannarachamma consisted of highly polished Black-and-Red Ware and Polished Black Ware with some quantity of coarse brown and black ware. This corresponds to the megalithic pottery found in the megalithic burials at Brahmagiri. Thus, according to Subbarao (1948), habitation at Sannarachamma extended from the 'pre-Neolithic to the Megalithic times'.

\[ t - 774 + 3 \checkmark \ P8 \]
In 1964-65, Z.A. Ansari and M.S. Nagaraja Rao undertook excavations at Sannarachamma to ascertain the aceramic, pre-neolithic Phase I of Subbarao's cultural sequence. In addition to this, Ansari and Nagaraja Rao also included a pre-mesolithic prepared core, flake and large blade culture that were noticed by Sankalia (1966). However, this has not been supported by later scholars (Korisettar et al. 2001). Apart from the reopening of Subbarao's Trench II, seven other trenches were excavated by Ansari and Nagaraja Rao in 1964-65. Three structural phases were noticed by the excavators within the Neolithic levels. The earliest structural phase included leveled floor plastered with lime and post-holes and is associated with a circular floor, hearth, flat-topped stones and edge-ground axes. No structural remains of the second phase of structural activity were found except for patches of lime floor and post-holes. This structural phase was separated from the first structural phase by a thick deposit of buff ash which the excavators suggested could be ashmound deposits (Ansari and Nagaraja Rao, 1969). The third structural phase was characterized by a circular enclosure of boulders to a height of one metre and querns on the top of Layer 2.

Excavations by Subbarao (1948) and Ansari and Nagaraja Rao (1969) at Sannarachamma have provided the cultural stratigraphy of the site and also technological description of the tool types and the pottery forms of the Neolithic and later periods. The aims and objectives of these missions were in tune with the research trends of the times. While Subbarao's excavations aimed at establishing the cultural sequence of the site and relate it to the Brahmagiri sequence, the later excavation by Ansari and Nagaraja Rao was undertaken to ascertain this cultural sequence and also to throw more light on the Neolithic life ways. Further archaeological investigations were undertaken by Korisettar et al. in late 1990s and following years in the region.
These recent investigations aimed at understanding the Neolithic culture at Sanganakallu-Kupgal area in relation to the geological, ecological and physical setting of the region.

Renewed work at Sannarachamma involved excavation of small test pits, section cleaning and opening up of earlier trenches of Subbarao and Ansari and Nagaraja Rao. The aim of investigations in 2004 was to undertake more detailed stratigraphic recording and correlate stratigraphic findings. The pottery from Sanganakallu-Kupgal studied in this research comes from the fieldwork of 2004. The archaeological investigations by Korisettar et al. (2004) have led to the discovery of an ashmound buried under the occupation layers at Sannarachamma. Ansari and Nagaraja Rao had reported an ashy layers at Sannarachamma but the extent and nature of this ashy deposit was not fully investigated by them (Ansari and Nagaraja Rao, 1969). However, the possibility of an ashmound was suggested by them. The 2004 field work by Korisettar et al. revealed that the ashmound deposits are the thickest in the centre of the occupation on the plateau and becoming thinner gradually at the periphery. The nature of the deposit is similar to the other unvitrified ashmound deposits. Although the original extent of the ashmound is not known, it is clear that the early Neolithic activity at the site involved the formation of ashmound at the site. Post ashmound occupation at Sannarachamma involved an intense pitting activity some with an organic lining at the bottom. The pits were dug into the ashmound and the occupation continued into the Megalithic period. The radiocarbon dates derived from charcoal and flotation samples indicate the lowest ashmound dates of 1950-1870 B.C. and has dated the main ashmound to 1850-1800 B.C. The upper levels of ashmound have been dated to 1780-1680 B.C. (Korisettar et al. 2004).
5.1.2 Preliminary investigations at Hiregudda

Hiregudda has been visited by many early scholars like Knox and Longhurst who have noticed the rock art at Hiregudda. The hill is known as Peacock Hill in earlier literature. The Kupgal ashmound as well as Hiregudda were described by Foote and the latter has been described as an important Neolithic site (Foote 1916). The source of the raw material of the flakes and axes found at Sannarachamma has been traced to Hiregudda by Subbarao, but further investigation of the latter being a Neolithic habitational site was not undertaken by him (Subbarao, 1947). The habitational site at Sannarachamma and Kupgal ashmound has remained the better studied sites. Foote described the Peacock Hill as the “largest Neolithic manufacturing industry as yet met within any part of India” and the surface finds and the exposed sections due to modern day developmental activities indicate Hiregudda’s role as a dolerite axe production site (Foote, 1916). The survey by Korisettar et al. has revealed an extensive axe working site on the southern side of Hiregudda. Called Area A, this site has rich archaeological remains of axe working in various stages both on the surface as well as the habitational layers. Modern quarrying activities of the ashy soil have resulted in a large pit. The exposed sections reveal two stages of occupation. While the lower levels include pottery, bone and lithic remains indicating a habitation site, the upper levels have an abundance of dolerite artefacts which hint an axe manufacturing centre. The primary occupation of the site is dated to 1700-1500 B.C. by radio-carbon dating and it appears not to be in use for over a century before it was reoccupied as a predominantly dolerite axe manufacturing site from 1400-1250 B.C. (Boivin et al., 2005).

Remnants of an ashmound layer at the base of the section were noticed by Korisettar et al. (2001). Since the modern quarrying activities are aimed at the
ashmound deposits at the site, most of it is destroyed. According to Korisettar et al., based on previous observations and the exposed sections which were cleared in 2004, a similar chronology occurs in Hiregudda to that of Sannarachamma (Korisettar et al., 2001; Boivin et al., 2005). The ashmound deposits which are the earliest part of the occupation in Area A of Hiregudda dates to 1700 B.C. or earlier and can be compared to the ashmound layers in Sannarachamma and synchronous development of the two sites.

A stone circle visible on the surface was excavated in quadrants in 2004 in order to gather as much information as possible before its destruction. This feature about 7 m in diameter is made up boulders 0.2 to 1 m in size. The structure known as Feature 1 has a very dense scatter of debitage from dolerite working. The early levels of occupation of this structure dated to 1750-1500 B.C. saw axe production and also other types of lithic artefacts. The occupation of the feature was resumed after a gap of about a century and the later levels of occupation characterized by predominantly dolerite axe working with almost no other stone tool types has been dated between 1400 and 1250 B.C. The presence of post-holes in the north-east quadrant suggests that at least a part of the structure was roofed.

Evidence of axe production comes from other areas of Hiregudda. Fine-grained dolerite was quarried from the non-extrusive dykes in Areas B and J by the Neolithic axe-makers. Studies reveal that primary reduction of axes took place at the quarry sites and the resulting axe blanks were further worked upon by different methods as suggested by Brumm et al. (2005) at localities like Area A. Modern granite quarrying activities revealed ancient pits which were dug into the dolerite dyke. Hammer stones and axe blanks are found in the pit-fills and these indicate ancient dolerite quarrying and the preliminary working of dolerite blanks.
5.1.3 Other Investigations at Sanganakallu-Kupgal Complex

Extensive survey and investigations of other features like grinding grooves, rock art and rock gongs reveal interesting information. Long and narrow grinding grooves which were used to grind and polish dolerite axes are found scattered in the Sanganakallu-Kupgal plains. They are also present in Area A of Hiregudda and can be associated with the axe-manufacturing that took place on the plateau. The rock art at Hiregudda has been mentioned by Knox and Longhurst in the 19th century and some new rock art sites were noticed in 2004 along with the ringing stones or rock gongs several of which were found in Hiregudda. These rock gongs at Hiregudda are on dolerite boulders (Boivin et al., 2004).

Terrace-like features were observed at Area D and these seem to have been occupied in the late Neolithic and/or Megalithic period. This area has thin habitational deposits and the possibility of these terrace-like features being used for agriculture cannot be ruled out.

Small test-pits at Birappa rock shelter were excavated and this has shown a production of microlithic blades from the locally available quartz pebbles. The technology employed in the production of microliths in this site is similar to that employed in the non-ceramic period and some radio-carbon dates also give dates as far back as 9000 B.C. The occupation deposits are dated between 4300 and 3500 B.C. and this can be related to the lowermost granite gruss layer at Sannarachamma and the Mesolithic occupation in the area and also to the Pre-ceramic Mesolithic occupation of the area as suggested by Sankalia (Sankalia, 1969).

The study of animal bones from the area reveal a greater number of goat and sheep bones in the domestic areas as compared to the cattle bones and also a greater
percentage of these bear cut marks than the cattle bones, which indicate that these bones were a part of the Neolithic diet. The monumental nature of the ashmounds and the presence of cattle motifs on the bruisings and paintings in the Southern Neolithic suggest a symbolic and social significance of the cattle.

A large number of cattle bones are recovered from Sannarachamma especially from the ashmound deposits and most of these bear marks from burning. These marks resemble those resulting from cooking and not from the high-temperature firing of the ashmounds. This could also be due to the fact that the ashmound in the deposits at Sannarachamma are a result of low temperature firing as suggested from unvitrified ashmound material that is found in the deposits.

The lithic studies from the site in 2004 reveal two major and distinct components of lithic production – the struck lithics and the flaked and ground dolerite industry. There is a spatial predominance of these two methods. While in the deposits at Sannarachamma there is the evidence of the struck lithics production, in the deposits at Hiregudda the flaked and ground method of producing dolerite axes is predominant. The struck lithic industry is similar to the microlithic technology involving the production of bladelets and the modification of those into geometric tools like lunates and backed blades. The continuance and differences of the Mesolithic tradition in the Neolithic context is evident by the use of such a technique as the struck lithic production. The raw material used in the earlier layers is predominantly quartz and the industry is flake based although few bladelets and some modified to lunates are noticed. Chert seems to have replaced as the predominant raw material in the upper layers and this transition appears to occur with the transition of depositional layers in the stratigraphy from the ashmound layers to occupational deposits. The presence of a few cores in the deposits suggests that the flakes and
bladelets were manufactured in the site. Chalcedony with an orange cortex, milky quartz and rock crystal are the other crypto-crystalline silica that are noticed along with chert of red and brown colours. The presence of cores and nodules suggest that the raw material was roughed out at the source and the later production of microliths was carried out at the site. Previously, the source of these chert artefacts was suggested to be areas north as far as the Raichur and Shorapur Doab. But recent explorations by Korisettar have suggested the presence of local chert deposits in the Sandur greenstone belt much closer to the site studied (Korisettar et al. 2001). The use of antlers and horns of domesticated animals are suggested to have been used for striking the raw material in the process of production of these microliths (Boivin et al. 2005).

Pottery from the different phases at Sanganakallu-Kupgal site complex is studied and an attempt is made understand the potting traditions at the site. Pottery from the Initial Ashmound, Main Ashmound, Late Ashmound, Post Ashmound Pitting, Late Occupation and Terminal Occupation Phases at Sannarachamma is included in the present work and the pottery from the Post Ashmound Village Phase is from Hiregudda.

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<td>Terminal Occupation Phase</td>
<td>1052, 1146, 1156, 1158</td>
<td>Sannarachamma</td>
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Table 5.1 Contexts from which pottery was studied
5.2 Palavoy (PVY)

At the western foot of the granitic hill of Palavoy, four ashmounds are located (Rami Reddy, 1978). Excavations have been conducted at this site by Rami Reddy (1978). Although the ashmounds at this site have been wrongly attributed to iron working activity by Rami Reddy (1978), there is considerable evidence of Neolithic activity between the ashmounds and the hill. Apart from the characteristic Neolithic features like the ashmounds, the site also has Megaliths. The pottery from this site comes from the surface of the middle ashmound.

5.3 Velpumadugu (VMG); Vidapanakallu (VKL)

This site was first noticed by Foote (1916) to the south of the modern village on a granite ridge (Foote, 1916). A habitation area was discovered by Rami Reddy (1978) on the eastern peak. Another site Vidapanakallu (VKL) is also in close vicinity to the west at a distance of about 3 km. The pottery from Velpumadugu which is included in the present work comes from the archaeobotanical sampling that was done at the terrace. At Velpumadugu, rock art depicting bruisings of bulls and also paintings of probably buffalo which can be attributed to the Neolithic period have been noticed.

The surface collections from the terraces at Vidupanakallu are studied in this work.

5.4 Rupanagudi (RPG) (15°06' N; 78°23' E)

This site is in the Kunderu river valley and lies on the banks of Erravagu, a tributary of the Kunderu river. It is in the Kurnool taluka of Kurnool district. The archaeological site is situated to the east of the village of Uyyalavada. This region has
a dry, deciduous, *Anogeossus latifolia-Hardwickia bipinata* Roxb. type of vegetation. Venkatasubbaiah (1992) in his study of Neolithic settlement pattern in the Kurnool-Cuddapah districts has mentioned this site as a Neolithic settlement. This site was revisited by Fuller et al. and was sampled for archaeobotanical remains in 1997. Rupanagudi has been classified by Fuller (1999) as a Type 2 site in his taphonomical classification of sites. Most of the sites in the Kurnool-Cuddapah region belong to either Type 1 or 2. They are sites in the regur (Black Cotton) soil region and so have been subject to major argilloturbation. Due to the nature of black regur soil to expand and contract and in the process move the soil from the layers below to surface, the cultural stratigraphy in many sites of this region is highly disturbed. Type 1 sites are the most disturbed with the cultural remains all brought to the surface with no discernable layers in the sub-surface levels. Type 2 sites have some stratigraphy intact but are still mainly surficial sites. Sites like Hanumantharaopeta, Singanapalle and Rupanagudi belong to this type (Fuller, 1999).

Rupanagudi is an unlayered valley habitation site where four stratigraphic units were sampled. Fuller et al. (1999) sampled in two loci and four flotation samples were taken. Pottery belonging to the Neolithic and Early Historic periods was collected. The archaeobotanical samples from Rupangudi had remains of green gram/mung (*Vigna radiata*), millet (*Bracharia/Setaria* millet), bristley foxtail (*Setaria verticillata*) and *Abelmoschus* sp. (Fuller et al. 2001, 2004).

This site was revisited in 2003 by Fuller and two trial pits were excavated. The stratigraphy was systematically recorded. The sediments were sieved and cultural remains in the form of pottery and lithics were collected from the archaeological strata. Red slipped and burnished ware and Patapadu ware were found in this site.
This single culture site was noticed by Venkatasubbaiah during his study of the Neolithic settlements in the Kurnool-Cuddapah region (1992). The Neolithic site lies on the north-eastern side of the village of Balijapalle in Pulivendla taluka of Cuddapah District. The site lies on the bank of the Mogamareru stream which is a tributary of the Pennar river. While part of the site is under cultivation, the grey ashy soil is being quarried away by the villagers and hence the site is sadly fast losing its cultural deposits.

Venkatasubbaiah (1992) has suggested a settlement pattern of the Neolithic in the Pennar valley. According to him, the Neolithic sites in this region were sedentary village settlements based on agro-pastoral subsistence activities and the difference in the area of the site is due to the size of the population. He has classified the sites into Primary Regional Centre with over 500 individuals and above 3 hectares, Secondary Regional Centre with over 300 individuals and between 1 and 3 hectares, Big Village with a population between 100 and 200 individuals and between .5 and 1 hectare, Small Village with a population between 50 and 100 individuals and between .25 and .5 hectare and Hamlet with less than 50 individuals and less than .25 hectare in area. This classification reflects the differences between the size, function, features of the sites belonging to the same period (sensu Flannery 1976). Venkatasubbaiah has modified Flannery's classification to relate to the Neolithic of the Kurnool-Cuddapah region. The site Balijapalle measures about 180 m. east-west and 120 m. north-south with a thickness of more than a meter and rises to a height of 0.5 m on the northern side of the locality and is classified as a Secondary Regional Centre.

In order to determine the extent of the site eight test pits were undertaken by Venkatasubbaiah (1992) and this established the area of the site. He further excavated
two trenches: Trench 1 in the centre of the habitation and Trench 2 to the north-east of Trench 1 and the artefacts from these trenches were analysed (Venkatasubbaiah, 1992). This site was again visited by Venkatasubbaiah, Fuller and myself in 2004 and the exposed sections were studied. The ceramic assemblage from this site studied by Venkatasubbaiah includes Black-on-Red Ware, Coarse Red Ware, Brown Ware, Burnished Grey Ware, Unburnished Red Ware and Unburnished Black Ware. Shallow, convex-sided bowls, vase with flared rim and globular vase with constricted neck are found in the Black-on-Red Ware pottery. The Black-on-Red ware pottery that Venkatasubbaiah mentions in his work is the same as the Patapadu ware identified by Allchin. Shallow and deep bowls with convex sides and flattened or thickened rims, globular vases with constricted neck and everted or flared rims are found in the other wares. Perforated pottery can be noticed only in unburnished red ware.

Partially or completely ground dolerite axes, blades of quartzite, chert and limestone, sandstone quern and granite rubbing stone were recovered from this site by Venkatasubbaiah (1992)

5.6 Kurugodu (KRG)

Kurugodu is situated 16 km north-west of Bellary and the Neolithic site is around a complex of hills to the north and west of the village. The environmental setting is similar to the Sanganakallu area, with a semi-arid savanna landscape with Acacia cover. Reddish to light-medium black soils of granitic origin are found in this region. The region represents the shallow pond environments of the past. This site was reported in Indian Archaeology - A Review 1977-78. Neolithic and Iron Age-Early Historic pottery types are found on the surface of a natural, sheltered terrace
(hanging valley) on the east-facing side of the hill. In the valley below, however, recent granite quarrying and associated digging has disturbed or destroyed much of the archaeological deposits, leaving the area strewn with ceramic and lithic artefacts from the Neolithic, Iron Age and the Early Historic periods. Habitation deposits and also remnants of an ashmound were documented by Korisettar et al. (2003) at the foot of the hill towards the east.

A fairly long (six levels) intact sequence was cleaned and sampled on the south side of the valley (KRG.98B) and from the intact deposits on the bottom of the valley, below the level of destructive digging (KRG.98C) by Korisettar et al. (2003) and the trial pits revealed a sequence representing Phases II and III of the Neolithic. Pottery from this site, included in this study comes from these trial pits excavated to sample archaeobotanical remains.

5.7 Hallur (HLR)

This site is situated on the left bank of the Tungabhadra, anciently known as Hallavuru, Vijayasamudra or Vijayapura, mentioned in late historical inscriptions as the capital of the Sindas. Hallur was excavated by M.S. Nagaraja Rao in 1965 under the joint auspices of the Kannada Research Institute, Dharwad and the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune. Two trenches were excavated revealing a 6.40 m thick occupation deposit. Three cultural periods were distinguished:

a. the Lower Neolithic, free from metals and microliths (blade industry)

b. the Upper Neolithic showing the intrusion of the Chalcolithic element and
c. the overlapped phase of the Neolithic and the Megalithic culture

The Lower Neolithic was characterized by a coarse brown-and-black, pale grey and burnished black wares, occasionally painted with red ochre, a small quantity of reddish-brown ware with purple painting and black burnished ware. The lithic industry comprised ground and pecked implements with the absence of blades. In this Phase, no remains of structure were encountered. Bones of cattle, sheep and goat, antelope and swine are recovered from this phase.

The Upper Neolithic or the Neolithic-Chalcolithic phase distinguished itself mainly by the occurrence of blades and lunates of chert and copper implements, like axes and fish-hooks. The ground stone axe continued to be found. The coarse brown-and-black ware continued to be the main ceramic industry while the burnished grey and the pale-grey diminished in quantity. Black burnished ware, brown-and-black ware, coarse dull red ware, all three with ochre paintings are found. A noteworthy feature of this phase was the occurrence of a few sherds of the black-painted red ware akin to the Jorwe Ware. A large number of steatite and shell beads were also found. Circular house plans are indicated by post-holes which are circular and these have bamboo fibers within. The floors are made of chipped schist stone and levelled by fine river sand. Circular hearths are also found from within the circular house and also a double urn child burial in an oval pit with three pots as funerary appendage. Charred grains and neck-rest are also found in deposits from this period. The neck-rest is comparable to the one from T-Narsipur. A number of shell, bone, quartz and steatite beads were found in this phase. The faunal remains from this phase include bones of horse, sheep or goat, antelope, canine and predominantly cattle.
The over-lap phase is marked by the occurrence of the Black-and-Red Ware including that with the white-painted decoration and iron implements such as arrowheads, spear-heads, etc. The Neolithic stone tools and pottery continued in this Phase. Carmelian, terracotta, gold, greenstone, bone and antler beads are found in this period. The faunal remains from this phase consist of pig, canine, sheep or goat, horse, fowl and predominantly cattle bones.

Megalithic cairns and dolmenoid cist circles are found on the west of the site and to the north of the hill slopes.

The excavations by M.S. Nagaraja Rao yielded finger millet (*Eleusine coracana*), and rice (*Oryza sativa* Linn.).

Archaeobotanical sampling was done at this site by Korisettar et al. (2003) by section cleaning of the exposed sections. The pottery from Hallur included in this study was collected during this archaeobotanical sampling and from the collections at the Kannada Research Institute Museum, Dharwad.