

I have examined your specimen for Nickel Cobalt & Manganese, and found a trace of the last metal only. The specimen is therefore merely a variety of cast iron, differing however from ordinary foundry iron in containing less carbon, and being in consequence harder, whiter, more brittle & less fusible. It seems to be very like what is called white iron used I believe for making ~~cast iron~~ malleable iron but too infusible for castings. It is not like any variety of meteoric iron, and could scarcely have been melted by a fire in the woods.

I did not examine the lead very carefully but it seems to be ordinary commercial lead. If the account given of the

Specimen to you be correct, it has most likely been accidentally brought to the place where it was found either from the foundry at the Mines or from Britain. It has most likely been made from hematite - or some other of the richer iron ores, rather than from ordinary clay ironstone.

Yours  
H. De la Beche