

South Wales Gas Pipeline Project Site 13.03 Land East of Brynmarlais Llandybie Carmarthenshire

Archaeological Excavation

for

Rhead Group on behalf of

National Grid

CA Project: 9150 CA Report: 13266 Event: DAT108800

April 2014

South Wales Gas Pipeline Project SITE 13.03

Archaeological Excavation

CA Project: 9150 CA Report: 13266 Event: DAT102846

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GLOSSARY

- CA Cotswold Archaeology
- CAP Cambrian Archaeological Projects
- CPAT Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust
- DAT Dyfed Archaeological Trust
- GGAT Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
- FTP Felindre to Brecon gas pipeline
- HER Historic Environment Record
- MHA Milford Haven to Aberdulais gas pipeline
- NAL Network Archaeology Ltd
- NLMJV Nacap Land & Marine Joint Venture
- UPD Updated Project Design

SUMMARY

Project Name:	South Wales Gas Pipeline Project								
Location:	Site 13.03, Land East of Brynmarlais, Llandybie, Carmarthenshire								
NGR:	SN 6251 1400								
Туре:	Excavation								
Date:	13–30 May 2007								
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with RCAHMW (original paper archive) and								
	Carmarthenshire Museum (material archive and digital copy of								
	paper archive; accession number CAASG 2008.0282)								
Site Code:	FTP06								

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects during groundworks associated with construction of gas pipelines (part of the South Wales high pressure gas pipeline scheme) between Milford Haven and Aberdulais, and Felindre and Brecon, which were conducted between 2005 and 2007.

A series of ditches, probably medieval or post-medieval field boundaries, was identified. Two of the ditches were overlain by a cobbled surface which was probably associated with two drystone walls, a trackway and a midden. The latter feature contained post-medieval finds and these features probably relate to the post-medieval agricultural landscape. Residual Neolithic flints were also recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

- NACAP Land and Marine Joint Venture (NLMJV), on behalf of National Grid, 1.1 commissioned RSK Environment (part of the RSK Group) to manage the archaeological works (non-invasive surveys, desk based assessment, evaluation, watching brief, and open area excavation) on a 216km-long section of pipeline from Milford Haven (Pembrokeshire) to Brecon (in Powys). The high pressure gas pipeline (part of the 316km-long pipeline route from Milford Haven to Tirley in Gloucestershire) was required to reinforce the gas transmission network. The archaeological work performed in advance of this pipeline was undertaken in a number of sections by a number of archaeological companies. The westernmost section of 122km, from Milford Haven to Aberdulais, was investigated by CA (then Cotswold Archaeological Trust) during 2005–2007 with some additional excavation work carried out by CAP. The section of 89km, from Felindre to Brecon was investigated by CA during 2006–2007 and CAP during 2007. Assessment reports on the works were completed in January 2012 (NLM 2012a, 2012b) and the current reporting stage was commissioned in February 2013.
- 1.2 In May 2007 CAP carried out an archaeological excavation at Site 13.03, Land East of Brynmarlais, Llandybie, Carmarthenshire (centred on NGR: SN 6251 1400; Fig. 1). The objective of the excavation was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the pipeline construction.
- 1.3 The excavation was carried out in accordance with professional codes, standards and guidance documents (EH 1991; IfA 1999a, 1999b, 2001a, 2001b and IfA Wales 2008). The methodologies were laid out in an Archaeological Framework Document (RSK 2007) and associated Written Statements of Investigation (WSIs) and Method Statements.

The site

- 1.4 The site is situated near the confluence of the Rivers Loughor and Marlas, on the northern edge of the town of Ammanford (Fig. 1). It lies at approximately 50m AOD on a west-facing slope that falls away towards away the rivers.
- 1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as the South Wales Lower Coal Measures Formation (Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone) of the Carboniferous Period overlain by superficial Quaternary Till deposits (BGS 2013).

Archaeological background

1.6 No archaeological remains were identified within the site during the preliminary Archaeology and Heritage Survey (CA 2006). The remains recorded by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (DAT HER) within the wider vicinity principally relate to the prehistoric landscape and include barrows 330m south-east of the site (PRNs 830 and 814) and burnt mounds, including two within 300m north-east of the site (PRNs 838 and 839) and one 100m south of the site (PRN 9740). Pipeline Site 13.01 was recorded during the pipeline construction works and included the remains of two further burnt mounds along with a medieval enclosure (CA 2013).

Archaeological objectives

- 1.7 The objectives of the archaeological works were:-
 - to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks; and
 - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the *WSI* (NLM 2006). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising stripping of the pipeline easement to the natural substrate (Fig. 1).
- 1.9 The post-excavation analysis and reporting was undertaken following the production of the UPD (GA 2012) and included re-examination of the original site records. Finds and environmental evidence was taken from the assessment reports (NLM 2012b) except where the UPD recommended further work, in which case the updated reports were used. The archaeological background to the site was assessed using the following resources:-
 - the Archaeology and Heritage Survey which was undertaken in advance of the pipeline construction and which examined a 1km-wide corridor centred on the pipeline centre line, including the then existing HER record (CA 2006);
 - Dyfed Archaeological Trust HER data (received July 2014); and

 other online resources, such as Google Earth and Ordnance Survey maps available at <u>http://www.old-maps.co.uk/index.html</u>.

All monuments thus identified that were relevant to the site were taken into account when considering the results of the fieldwork.

- 1.10 Plans of some of the features could not be located and these have been noted in the *Results* section as 'not illustrated'.
- 1.11 The archive and artefacts from the watching brief are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Carmarthenshire Museum under accession number CAASG 2008.0282, along with a digital copy of the paper archive. The original paper archive will be deposited with the RCAHMW.

2. RESULTS (FIGS 2–3)

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the watching brief results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are to be found in Appendices A, B and C. In addition to the features described below, a few flints were recovered as residual items within later deposits. Some of these were closely dateable as Neolithic, whilst the remainder were undiagnostic in terms of dating.
- 2.2 The natural geological substrate (133072), comprising pale silty sand alluvium, was cut by six ditches, three postholes, a midden pit and the construction cuts for two walls. It was overlain by a cobbled surface and a trackway.
- 2.3 Two north/south aligned ditches were found (ditches 133011 and 133039; not illustrated). These were up to 1.3m wide and 0.2m deep with steep-sided, flat-based profiles. Both ditches contained clay fills with no dating evidence. Ditches 133028, 133061 and 133069 (not illustrated) were aligned north-east/south-west.
- 2.4 Postholes 133030 and 133032 (not illustrated) were cut into the fill of ditch 133028. They were circular in plan, 0.2m wide and 0.05m deep, with steep sides and flat

bases. A third posthole, 133008, was also present. None of the postholes contained dateable material.

- 2.5 Cobbled surface 133004 covered an area up to 15m by 15m in extent and comprised a 0.2m-thick layer of large stones within a silty clay matrix. It directly overlay the natural geological substrate in most areas, although in some places silty clay 133041 had been used as a bedding surface for the stones. The surface also covered fragments of an earlier stone surface (133012). To the north and south, surface 133004 was enclosed by dry-stone walls 133010 (Fig. 2) and 133057 (not illustrated) whilst its western side was defined by north/south aligned stone trackway 133005.
- 2.6 Midden pit 133003 was located to the north-east of surface 133004. It was subrectangular in plan, 4.5m wide and 0.3m deep and contained large amounts of pottery and glass, mostly dating to the late 17th and 18th centuries, as well as two residual flints. Ditch 133062/133026 (not illustrated) recorded as underlying the midden deposit may in fact have been part of the pit cut as the exposed length of this ditch followed the inner edge of the pit and at least one of the ditch fills (133021) contained material comparable to that from the midden, although a fill of ditch 133026 contained a medieval horse-shoe nail (NB the site records for fill 133021 originally described this as a midden layer but were subsequently altered to have it as a fill of ditch 133062; the records for the ditch include 133021 as a fill of the ditch without any alteration to the records).

Discussion

2.7 Little can be said about the residual flints other than to observe that they are indicative of early prehistoric activity. The ditches were probably the remnants of medieval or post-medieval field boundaries. The surface, walls, trackway and midden were all probably related to one another and post-dated at least two of the ditches. The pottery from the midden was dominated by North Devon wares, and while these could go back to the 16th century, there is no pottery present that need be earlier than the late 17th century. The midden could minimally represent a short period of dumping around the beginning of the 18th century. No structures are shown on the site on any Ordnance Survey maps and these features might relate to post-medieval agricultural activities, with the cobbled surface likely to have been a yard, or the base for a structure such as a barn.

3. **PROJECT TEAM**

Fieldwork was undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects. This report was written by Daniel Sausins with comments by Jonathan Hart and illustrations prepared by Daniel Bashford and Anne Leaver. The archive has been compiled by Jonathan Hart and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The fieldwork was managed for CAP by Kevin Blockley and the post-excavation work was managed for CA by Karen Walker.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Fill of	Context	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth	Spot
No. 133001		interpretation Topsoil	Grey-brown clay silt	(m)	(m)	(m) 0.1	date
133001		Subsoil	Grey-brown clay silt			0.1	
		Midden			4 5	-	
133003			Sub-rectangular, moderate sides, irregular base		4.5	0.3	
133004		Cobbled surface	Cobble stones ranging 50-300mm in diameter	20.0	15.0	0.2	PMED
133005		Trackway	Upper layer: compact dark brown silt clay with grit/gravel and stone	25.0	1.85	0.2	
133006			Numbers assigned to sondages				
-133007							
133008		Posthole	Sub-circular in plan, moderate sides, flat base		0.25	0.5	
133009	133009	Posthole fill	Dark grey silt		0.25	0.5	
133010		Stone footings	Large angular stones approx. 400- 600mm in diameter. Dry stone construction		1.0		
133011		Ditch	N/S aligned, moderate sides, flat base		1.3	0.2	
133012		Cobbled surface	Cobbles stones ranging in sizes 20- 150mm	3.0	2.0	0.05	C19
133013		Surface	Same as 133012				
133014			Same as 133046				
133015		Subsoil	Same as 133002				
133016			Same as 133053				
133017			Same as 133052				
133018		Layer	Charcoal			0.1	
133019		Trackway	Same as 133005			0.3	
133020	133003	Midden fill	Dark brown-black silty clay with stone	2.4	4.5	0.15	PMED
133020	133062	Ditch fill	Dark brown silty clay with stone	3.15	ч.5	0.13	PMED
133022	133002	Midden fill	Mid grey silty clay with stone	1.25		0.3	
	133003		Same as 133045	1.20	1.3	0.1	
133023	133011						
133024			Same as 133004		1.0	0.1	
133025		D 1	Context not used				
133026		Ditch	E/W aligned, gentle sides, concave base.		0.8	0.3	
133027	133026	Ditch fill	Mid-light grey silty clay grit		0.8	0.3	
133028		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, moderate sides, irregular base		0.7	0.1	
133029	133028	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown clay silt		0.7	0.1	
133030		Posthole	Circular in plan, moderate sides, irregular base		0.2	0.05	
133031	133030	Posthole fill	Mid brown silty clay		0.2	0.05	
133032		Posthole	Circular in plan, vertical sides, pointed base		0.2	0.05	
133033	133032	Posthole fill	White-grey clay with charcoal		0.2	0.05	
133034	133039	Ditch fill	Light brown-grey clay with stone		0.35	0.2	
133035	1	surface	Same as 133012			0.2	
133036	1	surface	Same as 133004			0.25	
133037	133055	Construction cut fill	Mid brown clay with stone			0.2	
133038	133058	Ditch fill	Same as 133027		0.9	0.15	
133039		Ditch	N/S aligned, steep sides, flat base			0.2	
133040		Trackway	Same as 133005		1.85	0.15	

133041			Light grey silty clay	0.4	0.1	PMED
133042			Sondage			
133043			Mid-light brown sandy clay		035	
133044			White-grey silt sand		0.2	
133045	133011	Ditch fill	Lower fill: mid brown silty clay		0.2	
133046			Same as 133012		0.2	
133047			Same as 133012		0.15	
133048			Same as 133012		0.15	
133049		surface	Same as 133004		0.2	
133050	133011	Ditch fill	Upper fill: dark brown sandy clay		0.2	
133051	133011	Ditch fill	Same as 133050		0.1	
133052			Light brown silty clay with stones and charcoal		0.1	
133053		surface	Same as 133004		0.1	
133054		Trackway	Same as 133005	2.6	0.15	
133055		Construction cut	E/W aligned, steep sides, flat base	0.65	0.45	
133056	133055		Bonding material		0.2	
133057	133055	Wall	Large sub-angular stones	0.4	0.3	
133058		Ditch	Part of 133026	0.65	0.15	
133059		Ditch	Part of 133026	0.95	0.2	
133060	133059	Ditch fill	Same as 133027	0.95	0.2	MED
133061		Ditch	NE/SW aligned, moderate sides, concaved base	0.75	0.35	
133062		Ditch	Part of 133026	0.6	0.25	
133063			Context not used			
133064		Subsoil	Same as 133002		0.15	
133065			Context not used			
133066		Subsoil	Same as 133002		0.1	
133067			Context not used			
133068		Scorched clay	Mid orange-brown sandy clay with charcoal		0.3	
133069		Ditch	NE/SW aligned moderate sides, flat base	0.4	0.2	
133070	133069	Ditch fill	Dark grey silty sand with stones	0.4	0.2	
133071		Subsoil	Same as 133002			
133072		Natural				

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Medieval and Later Pottery (Courtney 2009)

The assemblage is dominated by North Devon wares (63% by sherd count). Plain and slipped red earthenwares (LGRE and SDRE) comprise a further 14%. The majority of vessels are cooking and storage vessels in various earthenware and stoneware fabrics. Display wares such as tin-glaze and sgraffito are present, but only in small quantities. English white salt glaze wares, which are present, were first produced in the late 1690s, first in Fulham and then in Staffordshire. However, given the rural and relatively remote location of this site they are unlikely to date from before 1700 and most likely post-date 1720. The brown glazed stoneware tankards are probably early 18th century Bristol products. While the North Devon wares could go back to the 16th century, there is no pottery present that need be earlier than the late 17th century. The midden could minimally represent a short period of dumping around the beginning of the 18th century. The virtual lack of tin-glazed wares and sgraffito dishes may indicate low status, although it may simply reflect preference for harder fabrics or lack of local availability of finer wares. There is a notably wide range of individual drinking vessels in both earthenware and stoneware.

Fabric	Sherds	Weight (kg)	EVEs	Notes
NDGT	2941	50.2	24.04	For details of form types see Courtney 2009
NDGF	58	0.72	0.45	Jars
NDSC	5	0.029	0.03	Sgraffito dish(es); slip coated jug(s)
LGRE	458	4.3	1.77	Dishes/bowls; jars; a pipkin handle and a colander
SDRE	109	1.202	1.36	Slip decoration and a few sgrafitto dishes/bowls
BSYS	154	0.784	0.6	DVs
MOTW	64	0.442	0.36	DVs
RSBW	94	0.432	0.76	DVs and a small bowl
CIBW	56	0.399	0.98	DVs
CPMD	23	0.171	0.03	Dishes- slip decoration
EBST	20	0.257	0.14	Mugs/tankards
WSWD	13	0.151	0.3	Mugs/tankards
ETGE	1	0.012	-	Small handle of ?mug- speckled mauve
FBSW	1	0.003	0.13	Bottle
EWSG	30	0.142	0.11	Mugs/tankards
LESW	1	0.014	-	Bottle- stamp near base
IDYW	1	0.013	-	Bowl
ROCK	1	0.015	0.15	Teapot
DEWW	15	0.085	0.27	Cups; bowl; saucer; dishes- plain or blue transfer floral/ Chinese Garden/ geometric

Fabrics: BSYS= Bristol/Staffordshire-type Yellow Slip Wares; CIBW= Cistercian/Blackwares; CPMD= Coal Measure Press-moulded Dishes; DEWW= Developed White Wares; ETGE= English Tin Glazed Earthenware; EWSG= English White Stoneglazed Saltwares; FBSW= Fulham-type Brown Stoneware; IDYW= Industrial Yellow Ware; LESW- Late English Stonewares; LGRE= Lead glazed Red Earthenware; MOTW= Mottled Finewares; NDGF= North Devon Gravel Free; NDGT= North Devon Gravel Tempered; NDSC= North Devon Slip Coated; ROCK=Rockingham Ware; RSBW= Red-Slipped Blackwares; SDRE= Slip Decorated Red Earthenware; WSWD= Westerwald

Context	Fill of	Fabric	Sherds	Weight	Form	Decoration	Date
				(g)			
U/S		NDGT	2	39	IG bowls		PMED
133020	133003	NDGT	1	13	Tiny frags		PMED
133021	133062	WSWD	1	5	HW	Cobalt blue;	PMED-
						Stamp- WILHELMUS REX	Post 1689

Other contexts:

Form: HW= Hollow ware; IG= Internal glaze

Lithics (Pannett 2009)

Six pieces were diagnostically Neolithic: a flake and two retouched flakes, a flake from a discoidal core, a core fragment and a side scraper. One flake that appeared to be a very crude gunflint was also recovered. Aside from the gunflint, the material is all considered to be residual.

Context	Fill of	Material	Classification	Date
133020	133003	Fresh flint	2x flake	UND
133041		Fresh flint	10x flake	UND
		Fresh flint	3x chunk	UND
		Fresh flint	Flake/core trimming with retouch	UND
		Fresh flint	Flake shatter with retouch at distal end	UND
		Fresh flint	Flake	NEO
		Fresh flint	Flake with retouched shallow notch	NEO
		Fresh flint	Rough flake core fragment	NEO
		Fresh flint	Side scraper	NEO
		Fresh flint	Flake with retouch along both sides forming shallow notch on right	NEO
			side	
		Fresh flint	Levallois flake	NEO
		Fresh flint	Flake with rough retouch- possible simple gunflint	?PMED

Context	Fill of	Description	Date							
13004		Lead clip? Strip of sheet lead	UND							
		Piece of sheet lead, one edge expanded to form bead edging	UND							
		Half an iron horse-shoe. All details hidden by corrosion	PMED							
		Part of an iron horse-shoe. All details hidden by corrosion. One end tapering								
		ron socketed gouge, solidly made with a collar around the mouth of the socket.								
		There appear to be ribs down the length of the socket, in line with the top of the								
		hollowed, u-sectioned blade								
		Iron tanged chisel or gouge, solidly made with a well-defined shoulder at the	MOD							
		junction of the tang and the blade								
		Reinforcing ring from wooden handle of a tool? Iron ball, split in two with a hole	UND							
	through its centre									
	Iron ring or pipe section									
		Scimitar-type table knife. Iron blade, turned up at one end with rounded point	C18							
		Iron nail	UND							
		10x iron nail (2 bent)	UND							
		2x iron bar	UND							
133012		One half of a cast brass hinge from a horse harness. Edges are denticulate.	C19							
		Face bears inscription: EDW[ard?]/. MA[ker]/ PONTAR [?]								
		Piece of sheet lead folded to make a lump	UND							
133013		Piece of iron, all details hidden by corrosion	UND							
		3x iron nail	UND							
133023		Metalworking offcut. Strip of bent copper alloy	UND							
133060	133059	Bent wire staple, completely covered in corrosion	UND							
		Iron horse-shoe nail	MED							

Metal Objects (Leahy 2009)

A further 120 metal objects ranging in date from the late medieval through to the modern period were recovered from unstratified contexts. Full details of these pieces can be found in Leahy 2009.

Glass (Richmond 2009)

854 shards of glass were recovered from a sondage through cobbled surfaces 133004 and 133012 and trackway deposits 133005 and 133040. The finds were not separated by context. The glass from this sondage included a large number of fragments of free-blown black-glass wine bottles, usually of onion or mallet form, although there were a small number of earlier shaft and globe vessel shards. There were also a number of fragments of free-blown aqua phials and vessels and some machine-made bottles. One shard from a later machine-made bottle was embossed with '...RELI'. A single shard of clear-glass from a drinking vessel, a fragment of clear-glass from a piece of tableware with an inverted rim and seven fragments of aqua window glass were also recovered from the sondage. The assemblage is consistent with a late 17th-century–early 20th-century date range. For a more detailed catalogue of the assemblage see Richmond 2009.

Three shards were recovered from midden deposit 133020 and ditch fill 133021. These were all fragments of free-thrown black-glass wine bottles dating to the early 18th century. One fragment had a complete maker's seal impressed with the legend 'TRER DDEW'.

Faunal remains (by James Rackham)

Nine bone and tooth fragments were recovered by hand excavation from sondage 133006, although the precise provenance of this material is not known. The collection includes a cattle right maxillary molar 1 or 2 (12g) with little wear indicating a juvenile animal, a second fragmented cattle molar (7g, in 13 pieces) in wear, a well preserved complete adult sheep left calcaneum (11g, GL-60.7mm), a well preserved adult cat left femur (3g; the proximal two thirds), an eroded fragment of large animal (6g; possibly lumbar vertebra), an indeterminate eroded long bone shaft fragment (1g), an indeterminate eroded fragment (1g), another indeterminate eroded fragment (1g) and a small split fragment of burnt bone from a long bone shaft (1g). The differing condition of the fragments suggests possibly a mixed origin, although local conditions in a midden could cause differences in preservation.

Additional bone fragments were recovered from the environmental soil samples: midden fill 133020 contained 28 very small fragments of burnt bone (<1g) and tooth enamel (<1g) and a single small fragment of unburnt bone. None of the fragments can be identified although the tooth enamel fragments are comparable with sheep or goat. A few small fragments of probable burnt shell are present but cannot be identified. Fill133021 (sample 1333041) of ditch 133062 contained 18 very small fragments of tooth enamel (<1g) and a single small fragment of burnt bone (<0.1g). None of the fragments are of sufficient size to permit identification to species.

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE BY JAMES RACKHAM

Two bulk environmental soil samples were collected from deposits in a midden pit, an upper sample and a basal sample, while a third samples was taken from fill 133021 of ditch 133062 (see *Results* section for discussion of this deposit). The samples were processed in the manner described in the assessment report (Carruthers 2008), with the additional refloating of the dried sample residues whose flot volume (second flot) is indicated in Table 1. The second flots were then sorted for charred macrofossils and the residue for other finds. The data on what was originally recovered from the sample residues have been lost so the 'finds' columns in Table 1 includes only the material recovered during the second sorting of the residue, except for the animal bone, which includes the material from both sorts.

 Table 1 Data for the environmental samples (no record was found of what was picked out of the sample residue when first sorted by CAP except for bone)

site	Sample no	Context no	feature	voll	Residue wt g.	1st flot vol ml	2nd flot vol ml	Pottery*	Burnt earth#	Burnt stone	Coal#	Magnetic#	Burnt Bone#*
13.3	1333040		Upper midden 133003	20	nd	4000	22		2		2686	1	1
13.3	1333041		Fill of ditch 133062	20	nd	3000	16		2		2183	2	0.6
13.3	1333042		Basal layer midden 133003	5	nd	190	13		0.2		157	0.2	0.1

*quantities - 1=0-10; 2=11-50; 3=51-100; 4=101-200; 5=200+ items; nd=no data

weight in grammes

The vast majority of the material in the flots of these three samples is coal with some burnt coal and cinder, but very little charcoal indeed, some of it roundwood. Two small pieces of 'slag' were picked up by the magnet from the residue of samples 1333040 and 1333042. All the samples produced a little fired earth (Table 1). The sample from context 133021 produced two fragments of hazel nut shell, some tooth enamel fragments, and a few roundwood charcoal fragments, in addition to the burnt bone picked from the residue when first processed (see above), while the sample from 133022 produced three tiny bits of burnt bone and a little charcoal. The magnetic component extracted from the residues after the second flotation contained fired earth and small stones, a little slag and a single piece of hammerscale in context 133020.

None of the remains observed in the flots or recovered from the retained residue indicate industrial activity, although the single flake of hammerscale implies some iron smithing somewhere nearby. The bulk of the material appears to derive from a coal fired hearth and unburnt coal, with the limited charcoal perhaps reflecting wood used for kindling. Very little food debris has been recognised with just a little bone and two small fragments of hazelnut shell. These remains could derive from a domestic stove or hearth primarily using coal as a fuel. The range of other material in the deposits is certainly suggestive of a domestic origin for the midden deposits and ditch fill.







