

Palaeoecology Research Services

**Assessment of biological remains from excavations at 66
Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire
(site code: SCAE)**

by

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Summary

Sixty-eight sediment samples recovered from deposits encountered during excavations at 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, were submitted to PRS for an assessment of their bioarchaeological potential. Most of the deposits were of 'Roman/Romano-British' date and thirty-two of the samples were selected for investigation.

In most cases, a good part of the rather small washovers was made up of modern woody and herbaceous root fragments. All the samples examined yielded at least a little charcoal and often small amounts of other charred plant material, including rather poorly preserved cereal remains. The cereal remains are typical for the period and were not confined to contexts associated with corn-drying ovens. Notable from many samples were small amounts of what is thought to be charred root/basal twig of heather. This material seems most likely to represent fuel perhaps in the form of cut heather, heathland turves, or even within ancient peat. Two spot samples, examined to check for the presence of silicified cereal remains, did not yield any of this kind of material.

Ten of the assessed samples yielded at least some snail remains and, of these, three gave assemblages of some interpretative value. Each of these assemblages was from the basal or next lowest fill of a cut and indicated the presence of standing water within the features. Land snails from these deposits suggested fairly light vegetative cover in the immediate vicinity of both the ditch and the slot from which they were recovered.

The deposits at 66 Burringham Road offered a modest opportunity to explore plant use by the inhabitants in the Roman period and added to the growing body of evidence for the use of heathland resources at this period for fuel (and perhaps for construction). The concentrations of remains and the quality of preservation are probably not sufficient, however, for a more detailed analysis to be undertaken of the material in hand. Further investigation of the snails from cut features with a sequence of fills may provide some additional localised habitat information. The value of undertaking any further study of the biological remains is ultimately dependent on the establishment of a tighter chronology for the deposits. If the provisional dating cannot be refined then any information gleaned from further work would be of only limited interpretative value.

KEYWORDS: 66 BURREINGHAM ROAD; SCUNTHORPE; NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE; ASSESSMENT; IRON AGE; ROMAN; ROMANO-BRITISH; CHARRED PLANT REMAINS; CHARRED GRAIN; INVERTEBRATE REMAINS; SNAILS

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Evaluation of biological remains from excavations at 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire (site code: SCAE)

Introduction

An archaeological excavation was carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (Northern Office), at 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire (NGR SE 8878 0852), between early August and mid November 2002.

Xxsite info

Sixty-eight sediment samples ('GBA'/'BS' *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992), of 113 collected, were submitted to PRS for an assessment of their bioarchaeological potential. Most of the samples were taken from a range of cut features (e.g. ditch, posthole, pit, and gully fills), with some from deposits associated with hearths and corn-drying ovens. Provisional dating gave a 'Roman/Romano-British' date for the vast majority of the deposits, but some Iron Age features were also noted.

Methods

The submitted sediment samples were inspected in the laboratory. Thirty, representing a range of feature types, were selected for assessment and their lithologies were recorded using a standard *pro forma*. Subsamples were taken for processing, following the procedures of Kenward *et al.* (1980; 1986), for the recovery of plant and invertebrate macrofossils. A further two samples were examined as 'SPOT' (Dobney *et al. op. cit.*) samples.

The washovers resulting from processing were examined for plant and invertebrate macrofossils. The residues were examined for larger plant macrofossils and other biological and artefactual remains.

Results

Context by context records of the deposits and the recovered remains are presented as Tables 1 to 6.

Plant remains

Plant remains were examined by means of washovers from the selected samples (and in two cases via small 'spot' samples to check for the presence of silicified cereal remains). All the washovers were of the order of 10-100 cm³ in volume, usually with a good part of this being made up by modern woody and herbaceous root fragments.

All the samples examined yielded at least a little charcoal, though sometimes extremely small amounts, and there were often small amounts of other charred plant material of various kinds. The small numbers of uncharred fruits or seeds recorded are likely to be recent in origin. Two samples (11 and 39) contained some fragments of a conifer, perhaps a member of the Cupressaceae, which presumably originated in a garden ornamental. The very rotted uncharred wood from Sample 14 was also coniferous and, in the absence of other uncharred material in the sample, must be considered as a possible contaminant. It gave the appearance of being in active decay and thus, *if ancient*, would indicate a level of dewatering that would be a cause for concern to archaeological deposits with waterlogged organic preservation.

Many samples contained small numbers of (usually) rather poorly preserved cereal remains, both grains and chaff. Some of the chaff was identifiable to species (in which case all the firm identifications were for spelt wheat, *Triticum spelta* L., with a small number of ?emmer (*T. cf. dicoccon* Schrank) grains and chaff fragments). Notable from many samples were small amounts of what is thought to be charred root/basal twig of heather, *Calluna vulgaris* (L.) Hull. Traces of other parts of heather were found in one sample, suggesting the identification is sound. This material seems most likely to represent fuel which might have been brought in the form of cut heather, heathland turves, or even within ancient peat. The presence of heather associated with features interpreted as corn-drying ovens parallels material from a Roman site at Billingley Drive, Thurnscoe, between Barnsley and Doncaster, South Yorkshire (Rackham *et al.* 2001).

One sample (112, from Context 723) yielded what appeared to be small fragments of uncharred peat, identified by their appearance and the presence of abundant *Sphagnum* spores. Hints that material from turves might have been present in several contexts come from the records for charred root/rhizome (probably, in fact, monocotyledonous rhizome) from six contexts and some of the other charred remains (such as herbaceous detritus, moss stems and a few of the identifiable fruits and seeds, although most of the latter category were clearly weeds of cultivation or waste places and presumably arrived with the cereal crop). The cereal remains are typical for the period and call for no further comment other than to observe that chaff and grain was not confined to contexts associated with corn-drying ovens and that the ash from these therefore appears to have become re-distributed into other features. No sample gave a concentration of material suggestive of a primary ash deposit, however. The two spot samples examined to check for the presence of silicified cereal remains (cf. Robinson and Straker 1990) did not yield any of this kind of material.

Invertebrate remains

No insect remains were recovered from the samples. Snails were recovered from ten of the assessed samples, often as only fragmentary remains of a few individuals, but occasionally in large numbers (Samples 52, 70 and 71). In these latter cases, the assemblages were of a 'mixed' character. All were dominated by the remains of freshwater taxa (particularly planorbids) but also gave some land snails. Terrestrial forms indicative of both damp, fairly shaded conditions (e.g. *Carychium* sp.) and of more open, dry, lightly vegetated environments (e.g. *Vallonia* sp.) were present. The largest assemblage (Sample 71, Context 624) also contained a large number of Succineidae, which live on and among waterside plants.

Sample 52 was taken from the basal fill (Context 561) of a large Roman defensive ditch (558) at a depth of approximately 1.5 metres. The snails recovered from this sample indicated that this feature probably contained freshwater. The land snails present were presumably living in the vicinity and arrived in the deposit because the ditch acted as a large pit fall trap. There were no strong indications of substantial cover and it seems likely that the area surrounding the ditch was clear of vegetation beyond (at least in places) damp grassland.

Samples 70 and 71 were from the basal (Context 623) and next lowest (Context 624) fills of a Roman palisade slot. The snail assemblages were both dominated by freshwater taxa, clearly indicating that the slot held water. Though very fragmented, most of the planorbids

present in each sample appeared to be of *Planorbis albus*, which would indicate weeded water. The land snails present probably arrived in the deposits because the slot acted as a pit fall trap (as with the ditch fill assemblage, above). Again, there were no strong indications of substantial vegetative cover and it seems most likely that the area immediately surrounding the palisade slot was of fairly open grassland. The later fill (Context 624) contained a larger range of open ground taxa (e.g. *Vallonia* sp., *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vertigo pygmaea*), perhaps suggesting a reduction in the surrounding vegetation (although the shade-loving *Carychium* sp. were still well-represented).

Sample residues

The sample residues were generally composed mostly of sand, stones, and fragments of Devils' toenails (fossilised remains of Jurassic bivalves – *Gryphaea* sp.) amounting to approximately 10-20% of the original subsample (by weight). Details of the residues with notes on any biological and artefactual remains present are given in Table 1.

Discussion and statement of potential

The deposits at 66 Burringham Road offered a modest opportunity to explore plant use by the inhabitants in the Roman period and added to the growing body of evidence for the use of heathland resources at this period for fuel (and perhaps for construction). The concentrations of remains and the quality of preservation are probably not sufficient, however, for a more detailed analysis to be undertaken of the material in hand.

Ten of the assessed samples yielded at least some snail remains and, of these, three gave assemblages of some interpretative value. Each assemblage was from the basal or next lowest fill of a cut feature, namely a defensive ditch and a palisade slot, and indicated the presence of standing water within these features. Some land snails were also recovered from these deposits and these suggested fairly light vegetative cover in the immediate vicinity of both the ditch and the slot. Hints at minor change in the local vegetation around the palisade slot were suggested by slight changes in the character of the land snail

assemblages recovered from Contexts 623 (basal fill) and 624 (immediately above 623).

Though rather fragmentary, the snail shells had suffered little erosion and many, particularly the smaller more robust shells, could probably be identified more closely given time. Where a sequence of fills through a feature exists (e.g. Ditch 558: Contexts 561, 560, 547, 559, 538, 536) investigating changes in the immediate environment through time (via the snail assemblages) is certainly a possibility.

Recommendations

Should further deposits with higher concentrations of and/or better preserved plant material be encountered then every effort should be made to sample and investigate them, not least because the area immediately around Scunthorpe is almost a blank slate with regard to archaeobotanical evidence for the early 1st millennium CE.

Processing of subsamples from the higher fills within Ditch 558 and Slot 582 may yield snail assemblages of value in the interpretation of the immediate environment of these features. Similarly, investigation of any other cut features with a sequence of fills not examined thus far may also provide some localised habitat information.

The value of undertaking any further study of the biological remains is ultimately dependent on the establishment of a tighter chronology for the deposits. If the provisional dating cannot be refined—almost all currently being grouped as ‘Roman’—then any information gleaned from further work would be of only limited interpretative value.

Retention and disposal

The samples from any primary contexts with greater concentrations of charred plant

remains than those seen in this assessment, and sequential fills of cut features (e.g. of Ditch 558; Slot 582) which may yield snail assemblages, should be retained for the present. The remaining sediment from other deposits may be discarded, unless it is to be processed for the recovery of bone or non-biological remains.

Archive

All material is currently stored by Palaeoecology Research Services (Unit 8, Dabble Duck Industrial Estate, Shildon, County Durham), along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

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Table 1. 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe: Context information, sediment descriptions, and residue details for processed 'GBA'/'BS' subsamples. All the material was dated as Roman, with the exception of the two contexts labelled *, which were 'Romano-British'. Key: Wt = weight; Rem = approximate volume of remaining sediment (litres) - a '+' after the figure indicates that there are additional tubs of unseen sediment from this sample; Dry wt = dry weight of the residue.

CN	Context type	Sample	wt (kg)	Rem	Sediment	Dry wt (g)	Residue	Other components of residue
211	ditch fill	14	3	5+	Just moist, light to mid grey-brown to mid grey, crumbly (working soft), slightly sandy clay silt. Charcoal (and/or other fine charred material), very rotted wood (some of which was removed for examination as a 'SPOT' sample), fragments of brick/tile, stones (2 to 6 mm) and modern rootlets were present.	403	Mostly small stones (to 20 mm) and sand.	Bone (3 g); Brick/tile (29 g); traces of shell and charred remains
213	ditch fill	10	3	4	Moist, light to mid brown to light to mid grey-brown, crumbly (working more or less plastic), ?slightly silty clay. Charcoal and stones (20 to 60 mm) were present.	434	Mostly stones (to 40 mm), sand and fragments of Devils' toenails (<i>Gryphaea</i> sp.).	
238	ditch fill	11	3	5+	Just moist, mid grey-brown to dark grey-brown, crumbly (working more or less plastic), with occasional small lumps (to 8 mm) of mid orange-brown clay), slightly sandy slightly silty clay. Pot and charcoal (and/or other fine charred material) were present.	476	Mostly sand with a few small stones (to 8 mm).	Brick/tile/pot (155 g); Traces of charred remains
290	pit fill	60	10	0+	Just moist, mid brown to mid/dark grey-brown, crumbly to unconsolidated (working more or less soft), slightly sandy slightly clay silt. ?Charcoal (and/or other charred material), ?mammal bone and modern rootlets were present.	1684	Mostly stones (to 120 mm), sand and fragments of Devils' toenails.	Brick/tile/pot (58 g); Bone (14 g); Traces of unidentified shell
301	ditch fill	64	3	5+	Moist, dark grey-brown, unconsolidated to crumbly (working more or less soft), slightly sandy slightly clay silt. Stones (6 to 60 mm), brick/tile (very rotted), ?charcoal, bone and modern roots were all present.	750	Mostly sand, stones (to 50 mm) and fragments of Devils' toenails.	Brick/tile/pot (58 g); bone (10 g); Charcoal (2 g); Trace of shell
375	pit fill	26	3	5+	Just moist, varicoloured jumble of light brown, light to mid brown, mid grey, mid red (clay or very rotted brick?), mid brown to mid to dark grey-brown to dark grey, crumbly (working more or less plastic), slightly silty clay. ?Brick/tile was present, charcoal was common and modern roots, rootlets and seedlings were also present.	315	Almost all sand with a few small stones (to 5 mm).	Brick/tile (20 g)
381	pit fill	41	3	2	Moist, light brown to mid grey to mid grey-brown, brittle (working plastic) clay. Charcoal and ?other charred material was abundant.	330	Almost all sand with a few small stones and fragments of brick/tile (to 8 mm).	Brick/tile (85 g); Trace of charred remains
382	pit fill	42	3	5	Moist, mid dark grey to black (from abundant charred material?), indurated light yellow brown, slightly sticky to crumbly (working plastic) clay. Brick/tile was present, and charcoal and other fine ?charred material were abundant.	353	Almost all sand with a few small stones (to 10 mm).	Brick/tile (71 g); Trace of charred remains
399	stokehole fill	43	1	2	Just moist, mid to dark grey to red, crumbly to unconsolidated (working plastic), slightly sandy slightly silty clay. Brick/tile (rotted or ?indurated burnt red ?clay), ?pot and charcoal were present, as were modern roots and rootlets.	297	Mostly small stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 20 mm) and sand.	Brick/tile (87 g); Trace of charred remains

CN	Context type	Sample	wt (kg)	Re m	Sediment	Dry wt (g)	Residue	Other components of residue
418	pit fill	44	3	5+	Moist, light brown to mid to dark grey brown (in shades of grey-brown), crumbly, slightly sticky (working more or less plastic), ?slightly (?ashy) silty clay. Charcoal (and/or other fine charred material) was common, modern rootlets were present.	220	Almost all sand with a few small stones (to 7 mm).	Brick/tile/?pot (8 g); Trace of charred remains
424	flue fill	45	3	5+	Moist, light yellow-brown (sometimes jumbles appearance) to mid to dark grey-brown (in shades of grey-brown), stiff to crumbly (working plastic), slightly sandy slightly silty clay. Stones (6 to 60 mm) and seedlings were present.	412	Mostly stones (to 50 mm), with some fragments.	Brick/tile/pot (24 g); Bone (6 g); A little charred material (4 g)
425	fill of corndrier flue	39	3	3+	Moist, mid grey-brown to mid brown, crumbly to unconsolidated (working more or less plastic, or slightly sticky in places), slightly silty clay. Charcoal and modern rootlets were present.	306	Mostly sand and small stones (to 15 mm).	Brick/tile (2 g); Bone (2 g); traces of charred remains
551	ditch fill	77	3	5+	Just moist, light to mid yellow-brown to light to mid grey (to mid grey-brown), crumbly (working plastic), ?slightly sandy slightly silty clay (with patches of red-brown ?clay). charcoal (or other fine charred material and modern rootlets were present.	393	Mostly sand with some small stones and brick/tile (to 15 mm).	Brick/tile (9 g); Bone (1 g); Traces of charred remains
555	ditch fill	78	3	5+	Just moist, light to mid yellow-grey-brown, brittle to crumbly and slightly sticky (working soft and some what plastic), slightly silty silt clay (to silty clay). ?Charcoal (or other fine charred material) and modern rootlets were present.	650	Mostly small stones (to 10 mm) and sand, with one much larger stone (to 140 mm).	?Brick/tile/?pot (4 g); Traces of charred remains
561	ditch fill	52	3	4+	Moist, light to mid grey-brown to light to mid brown, stiff to soft and slightly sticky (working soft), slightly sandy clay silt. Stones (20 to 60 mm), charcoal (flecks), land snails (fragments) and modern roots were present.	550	Mostly stones (to 40 mm), sand and fragments of Devils' toenails.	?Brick/tile (6 g); Unidentified land snail fragments (1 g)
572	pit fill	53	3	10	Just moist, light to mid orange-brown to mid to dark grey-brown (with some black (charred) patches), crumbly (working more or less plastic (plastic when wetted)), slightly silty clay. Charcoal (or other fine charred material was present to common, modern roots, rootlets and seedlings were also present.	438	Mostly sand and a few small stones (to 6 mm).	?Brick/tile (112 g); Traces of charred remains
579	ditch fill	54	3	4+	Moist, varicoloured light grey to light to mid grey-brown to orange to red to mid dark grey, brittle to crumbly (working plastic), ?slightly sandy slightly silty clay. ?Brick/tile (= red ?very rotted brick) was present to common, charcoal (or other fine charred material) and modern rootlets were present.	359	Mostly rotted brick/tile (to 45 mm) and sand.	?Brick/tile (8 g); Traces of charred remains
581	corndrier fill	57	3	5+	Just moist, light slightly orangish brown to mid grey-brown, stiff to crumbly (working plastic when wetted), slightly sandy slightly silty clay. Stones (20 to over 60 mm), charcoal (or other fine charred material) and seedlings were present.	284	Mostly sand and small stones (to 15 mm).	?Brick/tile (7 g); Bone (<1 g); Traces of charred remains
583	corndrier fill	58	3	4+	Just moist, light to mid yellow-brown to mid grey-brown, stiff to crumbly (working plastic), clay. Stone (20 to 60 mm), ?brick/tile and charcoal (or other fine material) were present.	292	Mostly sand and some small stones (to 6 mm); a few larger stones (to 40 mm).	?Brick/tile (65 g); Traces of charred remains

CN	Context type	Sample	wt (kg)	Re m	Sediment	Dry wt (g)	Residue	Other components of residue
623	ditch fill	70	3	4+	Just moist, light to mid yellow-grey-brown to light grey-brown, brittle to crumbly and slightly sticky (working plastic), slightly sandy slightly silty clay. Stones (2 to 6 mm), ?marine molluscs (?mussel) and modern rootlets were present.	435	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 55 mm), with some sand.	Mostly unidentified snail fragments but including <i>Bithynia</i> sp., <i>Cochlicopa ?lubrica</i> , <i>Succinea</i> sp. and ?planorbid fragments
624	ditch fill	71	3	6+	Moist, light to mid brown, crumbly (working plastic), slightly silty clay. Stones (2 to 6 mm), ?charcoal, land snails, modern roots and rootlets were present.	550	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 90 mm), with some sand.	Pot (19 g); Bone (2 g); Mostly unidentified snail fragments (2 g) but including <i>Bithynia</i> sp. and <i>Succinea</i> sp?p.
635	corndrier fill	75	3	40	Just moist, mid grey-brown too black (charcoal staining), crumbly (working plastic), ?slightly silty clay (with light yellow-grey-brown clay clasts). Brick/tile was present, and charcoal and other fine charred material was abundant.	299	Mostly sand, with some small stones and brick/tile (to 30 mm).	?Brick/tile (22 g); A little charred material (2 g)
640	fill	82	3	5+	Just moist, mid brown to mid grey-brown, crumbly (working soft), sandy clay silt. Stones (6 to 60 mm), brick/tile, charcoal, marine molluscs (very rotted oyster which will not remain intact through processing) modern roots and rootlets were present.	564	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 70 mm), with some sand.	Brick/tile/pot (35 g); Bone (2 g); Oyster shell (9 g)
688	well fill	115	3	5+	Just moist, light to mid grey-brown, crumbly and slightly sticky (working more or less plastic), slightly sandy silty clay. Stones (2 to 6 mm and 20 to 600 mm), modern rootlets were present.	592	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 60 mm), with some sand.	?Brick/tile/?pot (19 g); Bone (2 g)
709 *X X	well fill	109	3	5+	Moist, mid grey-brown, crumbly and slightly sticky (working plastic), slightly silty clay (more silty in patches). White flecks were present.	580	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 45 mm), with some sand.	?Brick/tile/?pot (24 g); Bone (3 g); Traces of charred material
723	well fill	112	10	0+	Moist, light to mid grey-brown, lighter and darker in places (slightly reddish cast in places - more sandy), slightly sandy silty clay. Stones (2 to 6 mm and greater than 60 mm), devils toenails, ?charcoal (or other fine charred material), large mammal bone, land snails, modern roots and rootlets were present.	2412	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 120 mm), with some sand.	Pot (10 g); Bone (43 g); A few unidentified land snail fragments
810 *	ditch fill	97	3	5+	Moist, light to mid grey-brown, crumbly and slightly sticky (working more or less plastic), slightly silty clay. Stones (2 to 6 mm and 20 to 60 mm), land snails and modern rootlets were present.	578	Mostly small stones (to 15 mm) and sand, with a few larger stones (to 65 mm).	Bone (<1 g); A few unidentified snail shell fragments
		98	3	4+	Moist, light grey-brown to light to mid grey-brown, crumbly and slightly sticky (working soft and slightly plastic), slightly sandy clay silt to silty clay. ?Charcoal (or other fine charred material) and modern rootlets were present.	559	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 80 mm), with some sand.	?Brick/tile (8 g); Bone (2 g)
817	fill	102	10	0+	Moist, light to mid yellow-grey-brown, crumbly to slightly sticky (working plastic), slightly silty clay.	1514	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 90 mm), with some sand.	Pot (1 g); Bone - some burnt (20 g); A few unidentified snail shell fragments

CN	Context type	Sample	wt (kg)	Rem	Sediment	Dry wt (g)	Residue	Other components of residue
851	well fill	113	10	0+	Moist, light to mid grey-brown to mid brown, crumbly (working plastic), very slightly silty clay. Stones (greater than 60 mm), pot (a large piece), large mammal bone (including a horse radius), modern roots and rootlets, were all present.	2314	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 110 mm), with some sand.	Brick/tile/pot (356 g); Bone (141 g); A little charred material (6 g)
870	fill	120	3	10	Moist, light to mid yellow-grey-brown, soft to crumbly (working more or less plastic), silty clay. Charcoal (and other charred plant?) was abundant.	255	Mostly stones and fragments of Devils' toenails (to 30 mm), with some sand.	?Brick/tile (9 g); Traces of charred material

Table 2. 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe: Sediment descriptions for samples treated as 'spot' subsamples.

Context	Sample	Description
377	29	Moist, varicoloured (but mainly dark olive with patches of purple, black, and orange), crumbly to plastic silty clay
496	36	Moist, mid-dark grey-brown (locally somewhat orange-brown), crumbly to plastic silty clay or clay.

Table 3. 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe: Remains of charred grain and heather and charcoal from the samples. All the material was dated as Roman, with the exception of the threeXXcheckXX contexts labelled *, which were 'Romano-British'. Abundance is given on a semi-quantitative scale from + (a trace) to ++++ (abundant), though here there are very few cases where more than trace amounts (typically <1% by volume of the original sample for material like charcoal, or <6 remains per kg for identifiable seeds and chaff) were recorded. In the columns for charcoal and ?heather, the figure gives the maximum dimension (in mm) recorded for any fragment. Codes for grain and chaff columns: A = Avena (chaff = awn fragments only); C = Cerealia indet.; H = Hordeum; T = Triticum; Ta, T?a = T. (cf.) aestivo-compactum; Ts, T?s = T. (cf.) spelta; Td, T?d = T. (cf.) dicoccon.

Context	Context type	Sample	Wt (kg)	charcoal	?heather root/twig	grain	chaff
211	ditch fill	14	3	+10	+10	T, T?d, H	
213	ditch fill	10	3	+20	+20		
238	ditch fill	11	3		+2	T?a, T?d, H	T, Ts
290	pit fill	60	10			T?a, T?s, H, ?A	Ts, A
301	ditch fill	64	3	+10 (includes <i>Quercus</i>)	+10		A
375	pit fill	26	3	+20	+10	H	Ts, T?d
377*	posthole fill	29	0.20	+2	+2	C	
381	pit fill	41	3	+10	+15	T	T?s
382	pit fill	42	3	+5	+10	H	Ts
399	stokehole fill	43	1	+10	+15		
418	pit fill	44	3	+20	+15	T, ?H	Ts
424	flue fill	45	3	+10		T, H	T, H, A
425	fill of corndrier flue	39	3	+20		T?a, T?s	Ts
497	hearth	36	0.20			H T	
551	ditch fill	77	3	+5	+5	H T?a, T?d, T	A T, T?d, Ts
555	ditch fill	78	3	+5		T	Ts
561	ditch fill	52	3	+5			
572	pit fill	53	3	+5	+10	T, H	
579	ditch fill	54	3	+5		T	
581	corndrier fill	57	3	+10	+2	T	Ts
583	corndrier fill	58	3	+5	+5	T, T?d, T?s	Ts
623	ditch fill	70	3				
624	ditch fill	71	3	+5	+5		
635	corndrier fill	75	3	++15 (incl. cf. <i>Salix/Populus</i>)	+15	T	
640	fill	82	3	+10			
688	well fill	115	3	+2		H	

Context	Context type	Sample	Wt (kg)	charcoal	?heather root/twig	grain	chaff
709*	well fill	109	3	+10	+2	T, H	Ts
723	well fill	112	10	+10	+5		T?s
810*	ditch fill	97	3	+5	+3		
		98	3	+10	+5		
817	fill	102	10	+10			
851	well fill	113	10	sample not examined			
870	fill	120	3	+15		T/H	

Table 4. 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe: Other charred remains from the samples.

Context	Sample	Taxa
213	10	root/rhizome fragments seeds: <i>Atriplex</i> , <i>Chenopodium album</i> L., small (<2mm) Leguminosae, <i>Luzula</i> , <i>Polygonum persicaria/lapathifolium</i>
238	11	root/rhizome fragments seeds: <i>Luzula</i>
290	60	root/rhizome fragments nutshell: <i>Corylus avellana</i> ; seeds: <i>Bromus</i> , <i>Galium aparine</i> L., Gramineae, <i>Polygonum persicaria/lapathifolium</i> , <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L. (pod segments), <i>Rumex</i> sp.
301	64	root/rhizome fragments seeds: cf. <i>Rhinanthus</i>
375	26	herbaceous detritus (including 'pinched stems'); moss stems seeds: <i>Chenopodium album</i>
381	41	moss stems seeds: <i>Carex</i> , <i>Chenopodium album</i> , <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> (pod segments)
382	42	root/rhizome fragments <i>Calluna</i> buds and flowers, moss stems seeds: Leguminosae (<2 mm)
399	43	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq. (pyrene)
418	44	seeds: <i>Atriplex</i> , <i>Rumex</i>
424	45	seeds: <i>Atriplex</i>
425	39	herbaceous detritus seeds: <i>Bromus</i> , <i>Carduus/Cirsium</i> , <i>Rumex</i>
497	36	seeds: Leguminosae cotyledon (<2 mm)
551	77	seeds: Leguminosae (<2 mm), <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> (pod segments)
555	78	seeds: <i>Chenopodium album</i>
572	53	seeds: <i>Atriplex</i>
581	57	seeds: <i>Polygonum persicaria/lapathifolium</i>
583	58	seeds: <i>Atriplex</i> , <i>Chenopodium album</i> , Leguminosae (<2 mm), <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> (pod segments)
635	75	root/rhizome fragments seeds: Leguminosae (<2 mm), <i>Plantago media</i>
640	82	herbaceous detritus
723	112	seeds: Gramineae
810	97	seeds: <i>Chenopodium album</i> , Gramineae
	98	seeds: <i>Chenopodium album</i>
817	102	seeds: <i>Chenopodium album</i> , <i>Polygonum persicaria/lapathifolium</i>
870	120	seeds: Gramineae

Table 5. 66 Burringham Road, Scunthorpe: Land snails recovered from the sediment samples. **Key:** Wt. = weight of processed sediment; wv = approximate volume of washover; f = few (up to 3 individuals); s = some (4 to 20); m = many (21 to 50); vm = very many (more than 50). Figures represent minimum numbers of individuals for snail taxa and numbers of valves for bivalves.

Context	211	561	581	623	624	640	723	810	817	870
Sample	14	52	57	70	71	82	112	97	102	120
Wt.										
wv										
Taxon										
? <i>Valvata cristata</i> Müller		?f		?f	?s					
<i>Bithynia ?leachi</i> (Sheppard)								2		
Hydrobiidae sp. indet.		1								
<i>Lymnaea truncatula</i> (Müller)					5					
Lymnaeidae sp. indet.		1			s					
? <i>Planorbis albus</i> Müller				?m	?m					
Planorbidae sp. indet.		15		vm	vm					
<i>Carychium ?minimum</i> Müller					?f					
<i>Carychium ?tridentatum</i> (Risso)		7		26	38			1		
<i>Succinea putris</i> (L.)					s					
<i>Succinea oblonga</i> (Draparnaud)					m					
Succineidae sp. indet.		1			m					
<i>Cochlicopa ?lubrica</i> (Müller)							1			
<i>Vertigo ?pygmaea</i> (Draparnaud)					1					
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (L.)					2					
<i>Vallonia ?costata</i> (Müller)		1		3	4		2	5		
<i>Vallonia ?excentrica</i> Sterki		2			12			2	1	1
<i>Ena obscura</i> (Müller)		1								
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i> (Draparnaud)						1				
? <i>Oxychilus</i> sp.			1							
<i>Cecilioides acicula</i> (Müller)									1	
<i>Trichia ?hispidata</i> (L.)		1			3		4	2		
unidentified land snail fragments	1	f		f	vm	f	m	m	m	
<i>Pisidium</i> sp. indet.		4			5					