GeoArch

Report 2009/12

Evaluation of Archaeometallurgical residues from the M7/M8 Contract 1: Tintore 2 (E2199)

Dr Tim Young
25th March 2009

Evaluation of Archaeometallurgical residues from the M7/M8 Contract 1: Tintore 2 (E2199)

Dr T.P. Young

Abstract

This site yielded a single small piece of slag from a post-medieval cultivation furrow. The scrap of slag appears residual. It represents a small slag flow across a fuel substrate. Such slags are typical of iron smelting, but are occasionally seen in smithing hearths if a particularly fluid slag has been generated. It is not indicative of a detailed age (although must be Iron Age or younger).

Contents

Abstract 1

Methods 1

Results 1

Interpretation 1

Evaluation of potential..... 1

Catalogue 2

Methods

All investigated materials were examined visually, using a low-powered binocular microscope where necessary. All significant materials were summarily described and recorded to a database (Table 1). As an evaluation, the materials were not subjected to any high-magnification optical inspection, nor to any other form of instrumental analysis. The identifications of materials in this report are therefore necessarily limited and must be regarded as provisional.

Results

The single piece of slag from the site was a small slag flow (15g), probably, but not certainly , from iron smelting.

Interpretation

This piece of slag cannot be closely identified, and cannot be closely dated (except to say that it must be Iron Age or younger).

Evaluation of potential

There is no useful potential in further investigation of this piece, nor any particularly reason for its retention.

context	*sample*	*weight*	*number*	*notes*
124	101	15	1	dense flowed slag in tabular form with upper surface lobate, lower face dimpled, , looks residual, probably a flow slag but just possibly a hearth slag

Table 1: Summary catalogue

GeoArch

geoarchaeological, archaeometallurgical & geophysical investigations

54 Heol y Cadno,
Thornhill,
Cardiff,
CF14 9DY.

Mobile: 07802 413704
Fax: 08700 547366
E-Mail: Tim.Young@GeoArch.co.uk
Web: www.GeoArch.co.uk