

Caer Alyn Archaeological and Heritage Project
Post Excavation Work
Trench 14

Post Excavation Finds Recording

On Saturday 21st February, we completed the interim analysis on artifacts recovered to date from trench 14. We have recorded all the finds on a spreadsheet and have photographed all of the significant finds. This brief update gives some statistics on what we have found and shows photographs of some of the finds. Trench 14 has been a most fruitful trench. Among the finds that have been excavated are a rather nice “brush”, spindle whorls, some wonderful pottery, one piece still with remnants of the last contents in the base and bronze age rock art!

Trench Views

The photographs below show some views of trench 14. The finds that have been recorded and photographed are from this area.



The building/workshop & context 68



The trench from the embankment



The Chamber partly excavated



The “yard area” retaining wall

The Post Excavation (finds recording) Team



Penny Identification



Margret Recording



Beverly Photography



David "managing!!!"

The team has spent five Long Saturdays working on the finds, sorting the real ones, throwing out the pretty stones we seem to like collecting, taking photographs where appropriate and recording them all on the trench 14 spreadsheet. The team have worked hard and have completed the work ahead of the expected finish date.

Some Statistics

Number of finds recorded	174	
Number of these classified as “small finds” (ie special)	75	
Most numerous type of find	CE (ceramic)	79 pieces or assemblages
2 nd most numerous find type (NOT single pieces)	CBM (Daub)	39 separate finds

The five most productive contexts were.....

1 st	Context 68	29 finds
2 nd	Context 52	10 finds
3 rd	Context 42	9 finds
4 th	Context 57	8 finds
5 th	Context 8 & 47 both	with 7 finds

Context 68 possible domestic dwelling or small workshop. This single area has about 1/6th of all the finds.

Of the 72 contexts that make up the excavation, 46 have had NO finds, which is why we sometimes think we never find anything.

Most prolific excavator Derek Roberts (by a mile!)

All of the finds except the horses jawbone, the leather cord and the rock art are now safely stored in three archive boxes. Some photographs of the finds room are shown below.



Finds Room

Some Photographs of the Rather Nice Finds



Lead Spindle Whorl



Late/Post Med Pottery



Clay Pipe Stem



Looks like pottery but feels like stone??



A fossil...but so nice!



Post Med Pottery Base

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Late/Post Med Pottery



Another Lead Spindle Whorl



The Brush



With detail of cord

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The leather cord!



The base with residue of contents



The horses jawbone



The Pewter Spoon Handle

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The Rock Art



Elizabeth 1 coin -minted 1571

Trench 14 finds recording is now completely up to date. The process will continue with the remaining outstanding finds from the other excavation areas. At the same time trench 14 plans, drawings and photographs will be brought up to date for reporting purposes.

My thanks to the team, Margret, Beverly and Penny for their very hard work and to the Project Leader Phil for letting us play in the finds room!

Dave Forster
CAAHP