

Appendix F.4

Metalwork

Description of the finds from each area – units and contexts

Using the information that has been given relating to the contexts and unit areas, there seems to be no clearly identifiable locations for or periods of activity. The impression is that artefacts left in the cottages have been thoroughly mixed up through the layers. It is not possible therefore, to give a very clear reconstruction of the two cottages and the life of the occupants, except in general terms.

Area A – Unit 1

context	bag	description
structural		
1004	15	thin metal strip bent to protect the corner of a wall ? 87mm long bent at 110mm and 45mm
1012	92	two 15mm square spikes 260mm long with clenched ends; piece of wrought ? iron 30x15x160mm with round ends; quantity square hand-forged nails
1012	96	lead strip for casing or window
1013	106	Scotch pattern 'T' hinge, pre 1860 ?; lead strip for window or casing
domestic		
a) cutlery and flatware		
1001	8	part of a table knife - blade, bolster and tang, 80mm
1004	15	small mustard spoon nickel silver
1004	247	table fork, nickel silver, fiddle pattern; kitchen knife blade, stainless steel, stamped out whittle tang, serrated edge
1004	252	table spoon, nickel silver, Old English pattern
1004	311	dessert fork, nickel silver, fiddle pattern, marked 'BUSS, Manchester'
b) kitchenware		
1001	8	curved hollow handle, possibly for a saucepan lid
1004	15	two sheets of thin mild steel, evidence of white enamel possibly the front of a water heater, 400mmx600mm
1004	266	aluminium frying pan, diameter 220mm, no handle; black saucepan/frying pan handle, 240mm
1004	364	tinned steel plate holder to attach to a wall, green painted, 300mm long, possibly as a milk bottle holder
c) other		
1004	254	brass clock key
1004	276	green enamel chamber stick, 140mm diameter dish. c.1900-1920
1004	304	white enamel dish or plate, blue edge, 130mm diameter
personal		
1001	8	top part of a toothpaste tube stamped 'GIBBS'
1001	90	mouth organ
1004	312	buckle, with small piece of leather belt
1005	-	two short sections of a wire corset bone
miscellaneous		
1001	6	pointing trowel, 110mm long, with ferrule but no handle
1004	348	hand saw blade, 645mm, maximum width 150mm, with three brass saw handle screws and nuts, curved end, c. early 19th century [X-rayed]
unidentifiable		
1001	74	rectangular piece of metal wrought iron? 560mm x 310mm x 4mm
1004	253	funnel of sheet steel, with small ring, diameter 75mm
1004	224	ferrous strip 1225mm x 100mm x 4mm, possibly wrought iron with wood screws and some pieces of wood along one long edge

Table 1 Identified finds from Area A, Unit One, grouped in categories as described above.

Unit One encompassed the front room and part of the kitchen of the Perrin household, plus the entrance hall and part of the cellar steps belonging to the Barber household. The topsoil yielded only two identifiable metal items. One was rectangle of wrought iron purpose unknown and the other is a mouth organ, which might have been dropped by a child playing in the area, after the cottages were demolished. A number of domestic items were found. There was an aluminium frying pan, diameter 220mm, and a hollow handle, which may or may not belong to it. Two enamelled items were found – a white enamelled metal plate and a small green chamber stick. One other item of equipment was tentatively identified as a metal milk bottle holder, which would have hung either on an outside wall or perhaps on the wall of the cellar steps. There were a few items of cutlery and flatware (spoons and forks). There were two nickel silver forks, a fiddle pattern table fork and a fiddle pattern dessert fork, which is marked 'BUSS Manchester'. This presumably refers to the merchant. A small mustard spoon of nickel silver and a tablespoon of the same metal were recovered. Only one knife was found – a serrated kitchen knife blade. The blade was stamped out of a stainless steel strip and represents a knife from the lower end of the market. The 'scales', probably of wood, which made the handle, are missing.

Two sheets of thin metal, one with white enamel might suggest an 'Ascot' type water heater. One was a curved sheet of metal (mild steel ?) just over a metre in length, which possibly was to protect the corner of a wall and may be internal, as on the cellar steps, or externally. Two large square spikes, 260mm in length, had been driven into the floor and were identified in the excavation as possibly being related to the cooking range. The oldest identifiable find – the early 19th century saw blade – was found here. The X-ray however, did not reveal any maker's mark. It has been dated on stylistic grounds and on the amount of wear on the edge.

Area A – Unit 2

context	bag	description
structural		
1001	22	wrought iron bar, painted green - square section 12mm, bent into a semi-circular shape 220mm diameter
1004	297	T hinge, 300mm, possible wrought iron, traces of green paint
1004	307	gutter stay - one part to drive into wall, semi-circular gutter support, with extra stay to wall
1004	309	shelf bracket, steel
1004	310	broken piece of a cast iron gutter
1012	111	wrought iron nails, 100mm to 30mm; a screw
1013	116	square rose head spike 120mm, miscellaneous nails
1035	133	iron stay with green paint; gate hook; quantity of round wire nails and forged iron nails; three rose head wrought iron nails
domestic		
a) cutlery and flatware		
1004	-	silver endcap from a stag handle (carving set?), marked Birmingham 1891.
1035	133	teaspoon nickel silver fiddle pattern
b) kitchenware		
1001	113	brown enamel teapot lid, diameter 100mm., possibly from a 4 pint teapot
1004	251	tin with wired edges, folding handle boss, possibly a snap (food) tin
1004	359	support for a kettle or pan on the hearth, moveable on a round rod 360mm long, c. late 19th
1004	360	black enamel teapot lid, 100mm diameter
c) other		
1012	111	small rectangular tin (pastilles?) 100mmx8mm

1013	343	metal paint tin, 3/4 full, metal handle, 2 pint capacity
1035	133	carbon out of a battery ? vigo point tailor's shears, 260mm [X-rayed]
furniture		
1001	25	brass ring with decorative disc, for a drawer?
1012	111	part of the internal mechanism of a brass lock
1035	133	metal rod 290mmx20mm - part of bed?; three sections of mattress wires; thin rectangular section strip 210mm
personal		
1035	133	tops off two toothpaste tubes; bike pedal; inner race for a ball race for a bike ?; fine engraved silver sheet on wooden umbrella handle
1004	331	pair of wire frame spectacles, one lens
1004	290	tobacco/cigarette tin, 120mm long
unidentifiable		
1013	116	small piece of wire bent at right angles; non-ferrous washer; ring, possibly from a scythe handle
1035	133	cone shaped piece of lead - a weight ?; quantity of round wire, possibly a bed?

Table 2 Identified finds from Area A, Unit Two, grouped in categories as described above.

Unit Two covered the rear part of the Perrin's kitchen, part of Barber's cellar steps and outside the cottages to the rear. All the finds of the Phase III Post-demolition came from Unit Two in the contexts of 1012 and 1035. This phase apparently corresponds to the period after the roofs were removed from the cottages. Unit Two produced several pieces of structural ironwork – a gutter stay, part of the gutter, a shelf bracket and a 'T' hinge from a door. Many of the finds were nails and spikes plus a green painted iron stay and some lead strip. Domestic items include a teaspoon and the tops off two tubes of toothpaste. Of interest is an ingenious kettle or pan trivet which was attached to the fire bars, enabled the cooking pot to be closer or further away from the fire. This unit revealed some items which may relate to furniture. Two brass items – a ring and decorated plate, probably a drawer handle and the internal mechanism of a small lock. There were also some wire items – springs -which were once part of a bed. Parts of this bed appear in Unit 4, indicating the way material was spread around the site when the building was demolished.

Personal items included a pair of wire frame spectacles and a tobacco/cigarette tin. Part of an umbrella wooden handle was found, which was covered with a finely engraved sheet of silver. One of the very few datable items was found here – an endcap of Birmingham silver likely to have come from the stag handle of a carving set. There is no maker's mark but the date letter 'r' is for 1891.

One item was X-rayed. This was a pair of Vigo pointed scissors. They are large scissors and are consistent with general domestic use, but were intended for dressmaking or tailoring. The X-ray revealed no maker's mark.

Area A – Unit 3

context	bag	description
structural		
1004	15	galvanised steel pipe 15mm diameter 220mm long
1004	224	ferrous strip, possibly wrought iron, 1225x100x4mm, wood screws along with edge
1004	302	one 3 inch countersunk wood screw with parallel thread
domestic		
a) cutlery and flatware		
1001	41	teaspoon, nickel silver, fiddle pattern
1004	179	teaspoon, nickel silver, bowl only
1004	209	table spoon, nickle silver, Old English pattern

1004	215	teaspoon, nickel silver; safety razor for single edged blade, c.1930s
1004	216	teaspoon, nickel silver,
b) kitchenware		
1004	155	tea strainer, nickel silver
1004	178	cast iron saucepan with lip, white enamel inside, 2 pint capacity, tubular sheet steel handle
1004	190	green enamel saucepan, 1 pint capacity, 140mm diameter, repaired with two repair washers
1004	198	round lid, central handle, edge at a 60 degree angle, 210mm diameter
c) other		
1001	8	clock key, for alarm clock?
1001	10	small plated switch, for low voltage, 34mm diameter
1004	15	possibly a magazine or letter rack, thin non-ferrous, decorated with fleur-de-lys
1004	193	tinplate box, red painted, 120x80x40mm, possibly a sweet tin
1004	197	cast iron gear wheel, 290mm diameter, 30mm wide, possibly mangle
1004	204	padlock
1004	208	warded key
1004	223	elastoplast tin, red painted, 105mm long
1004	313	galvanised steel wire cage rat trap, wire laced together, c.1900, see Proctor of Leeds catalogue
furniture		
1004	190	brass disc, decorated, 475mm, possibly from bedroom furniture
personal		
1001	91	buckle, from a pair of braces?
1004	15	mounted cut glass jewel, small
1004	210	safety razor for two-edged blade
1004	218	safety razor for two-edged blade
1004	222	umbrella, with shreds of very fine black fabric
1004	302	umbrella, black fabric with woven pattern, plus very fine plain black fabric, metal ribs, wooden handle; a buckle
miscellaneous		
1004	184	iron shovel, forged with straps for attaching to handle (missing), 240mm wide, 230mm long
1004	211	Lancashire pattern three-square saw file, 160mm, with part of wooden handle
unidentifiable		
1004	192	mild steel plate, 220x240x40mm, three holes equally pace on two opposite sides - function unknown

Table 3. Identified finds from Area A, Unit Three, grouped in categories as described above.

Unit Three produced an array of personal and domestic items. This unit covered the Barber's front room, part of the kitchen and an additional room. The artefacts give an impression of some refinement, though with the need for economy. There were several spoons of nickel silver, a tea strainer and two saucepans, one being green enamel and had been ingeniously repaired with two washers. Personal items included two safety razors dating from the 1920s or 1930s and two umbrellas, one having been covered with very fine black silk. The number of safety razors may be consistent with Mr Barber being a chemist's assistant – being able to acquire these items cheaply. The excavation also revealed some tools – a shovel (no handle) and a saw file for sharpening saw teeth. Since this was in the Barber's side of the house, one might speculate that the saw found in Unit 1 belonged to Mr Barber also. There was also a galvanised steel wire cage rat trap.

Area A – Unit 4

context	bag	description
structural		
1003	14	strip of lead for window glass
1004	15	lead strip from window ? ;
1004	15	five square section spikes 130mm; spike 230mm; rose head spike 130mm; three holdfast spikes 130mm and 160mm to hold door frame ? ; spike 200mm; spike with return 480mm;
1004	15	U shaped staple; staple 120mm; staple; three metal staples of various sizes; staple
1004	15	three bars 230mm with turned up end as shelf supports?; flat bar as a bracket or stay 35mm bent at right angle 120mm x 120mm
1004	15	sixteen round wire nails from 70mm to 130mm; eight assorted nails; round wire nails 20mm to 130mm; forged square nails 30mm to 120mm; round wire nails; forged nails; six oval wire nails
1004	15	swing hook for door or gate 28mm; eye for a metal hook; square hook; three square hooks
1004	15	part of a gutter/pipe; fire grate part
1004	28 1	wrought iron casement window frame with two hooks for hinges 800m x 39mm, some lead for holding in the glass
1004	29 8	part of a wrought iron casement window frame
domestic		
a) cutlery and flatware		
1003	14	dessert spoon bowl
1004	15	carbon steel carving fork (no handle) nickel silver ferrule and oval hollow bolster; dessert spoon stainless nickel marked 'Debesco'; teaspoon marked 'Turners Encore'
b) kitchenware		
1004	15	two corkscrews one patent and one folding; a trivet; blue enamel kettle lid; tin opener made from a flat metal strip
c) other		
1004	15	piece of 12 gauge crimped wire (wavy) 100mm; round wire; spring for a rat trap
1004	15	an alarm clock back and case
1004	15	white enamel lid from a mashing can; cup hook
1004	15	tin can pieces; part of a sardine tin with key; ring pull; round ointment tin; round tin with 'Pine Scented... ' on lid
1004	15	four battery terminals; small electric light from a torch ?
1004	18 7	white enamel soap dish, perforated, 175mm long
furniture		
1004	15	five curtain rings
1004	15	three bed springs 20mm diameter; five expansion bed springs; spiral wire from bed ?
1004	15	wardrobe hook; Bale's catch for a cupboard door; small brass hinge; brass butt hinge
personal		
1004	15	nickel silver match box with striker
1004	15	white painted metal button for shirt? blue/black glass button; blazer button; two metal buttons; dress stud black;
1004	15	two boot heel plates;
1004	15	piece of wood, possibly the end of an umbrella handle
1004	15	two buckle
1004	15	brass frame of handbag with bits of fabric; two metal frames for handbags

1003	14	part of a penknife - brass liner with plastic outer scale attached; two-bladed pocket knife with white xylo scales
1004	15	table tennis net clamp; valve from a bike pump?
1004	15	handle for a safety razor
1004	15	three pieces of metal jewelry; a broach?; steel corset bone, part; thimble
miscellaneous		
1004	15	mineral water bottle top; hot water bottle stopper
1004	15	a twist gimlet blade
1004	56	solid forged brick trowel, London pattern through tang, originally 300mm, [X-rayed]
unidentifiable		
1004	15	steel plate 150mm x 18mm and possibly small broken pieces
1004	15	tin; wood and metal closing fastener?

Table 4 Identified finds from Area A, Unit Four, grouped in categories as described above.

Unit Four produced the largest number of finds from the whole site, mostly bagged as A/4:15. It covers the rear of the Barber's kitchen and the area outside the house. The finds seem more coherent, seeming to be parts of larger objects such as the metal parts from furniture. There were a number of structural items, mainly rose headed wrought iron spikes and nails, iron staples and lead strip, presumably from the windows. The domestic items was a diverse collection including empty sardine tins, two spoons, a carving fork and two tins – one containing ointment and the other furniture polish or cleaner. Other domestic items included two corkscrews, a white enamel soap dish and a tin opener, consistent with being used in a kitchen. There were more items in this unit, which might relate to furniture. Parts from a bed included bedsprings, curtain rings, a Bale's catch from a cupboard door and a brass hinge. The personal items included parts of handbags, an umbrella, small pieces of jewellery, a match case, buttons and a clamp which was possibly from a table tennis net. The London pattern brick trowel (with a broken point) was X-rayed and revealed a vague outline of a maker's mark. It looks like a crown. This seems probable, as it is the mark put on tools by Wm. Hunt and Son, toolmakers in the Birmingham area.

Conclusions:

Unit One corresponds mainly with the front room of the northern half of the Stanley cottages, which was occupied by the Perrin couple. This room had a flag floor. However, it also includes part of the Perrin's red-tiled kitchen and the dividing wall which separated the halves of the building. It covered the front entrance and hallway of the Barber house, plus the short flight of steps to a small 'cold-store' at the end of the hallway. With this variety of rooms, the finds do not really indicate any specific area of activity. The majority of the identified finds related to cooking and eating. Of interest, a handsaw from c. early to mid-19th century was recovered in this area. It was 645mm long and would have had a maximum width of 150mm, but had become narrower as it was used and resharpened. There were three handle screws and nuts, but the wooden handle had disappeared. One can imagine this hanging by its handle on a nail on the wall – again, possibly above the cellar steps.

The area covered by Unit One yielded items which were consistent with a kitchen used for cooking and eating. This was part of the kitchen, which had belonged to a childless couple, Mr and Mrs Perrin - the elderly Mrs Perrin lived alone at the end of the cottage's life. The equipment was of standard quality and of designs which would have been found in countless working class homes. Perhaps one item of refinement was the nickel silver mustard spoon.

Unit One also included the front door, hallway and cellar steps belonging to Mr and Mrs Barber. Mr Barber had been employed as an assistant in a chemist's shop. One might

speculate that the saw, milk bottle holder and chamber stick were in the area of the cellar steps.

Unit Two covered the back part of the Perrin's kitchen and more of the cellar steps belonging to the Barbers, as well as part of the eastern garden area to the rear of the houses. Many of the identifiable finds were related to the structure of the building and items one would expect to find in the kitchen area of a house. The finds found in this unit relating to parts of a bed, demonstrate the probable mixing of the objects around the site.

Unit Three covered the front room of the Barber household. The Barber family moved from the house in 1930, when Ernest Barber, living alone and looked after by his sister, Mrs Perrin, next door, then occupied it. However, apart from the three safety razors, the finds do not appear to indicate a man living alone and probably having his meals prepared next door.

Area Four was only excavated through the topsoil. It covered part of the Barber kitchen and the outside rear of the house. It has provided a wide array of personal, domestic and structural objects. Parts of a bed were found here, which oral history had placed as belonging to Mrs Perrin. There is an interesting array of both male and female personal items – parts of clothing, adornment and useful items such as a pocket-knife and parts of a handbag and an umbrella and a thimble.

Overall, the finds from Area A are consistent with the remnants of structural metal work from an abandoned and demolished building, with any salvageable items being removed. The personal and domestic items suggest family life during the first half of the 20th century, living at the lower levels of society in terms of income. There are insufficient finds relating to furniture and other aspects of domestic life to create a picture of the interior of the cottages. Because the metal finds appear to come from such a short time period, no conclusions can be drawn as to the changes in the circumstances of the occupants – any increase or decrease in income levels, increase of luxury items, in quality or in the numbers of objects used in the house. There appears to be nothing relating to any of the occupants of the houses during the previous hundred or more years.

Area B

The building excavated as Area B is thought to be older than that in Area A. The two households in the building at the end of their occupation were the Misses Ellams and a Mr Knight, who replaced the Barrow family. The building apparently had been more comprehensively demolished and fewer finds were identified.

There were no metal finds from Unit One.

Area B -Unit Two

context	bag	description
structural		
2008	299	cast iron drain grate, 170mm diameter
2010	86	lead sheath for electric cable ?
2018	33	lead from window or as casing
2020	75	possibly a rose head nail
2023	74	hand made nail; one oval nail
2023	85	oval nail 60mm
2100	137	nail ? 40mm
domestic		
a) cutlery and flatware		
2001	24	small spoon, salt/mustard, nickel silver, Old English pattern, c.1920s
2001	33	kitchen knife, with 3 inch blade, whittle tang, struck mark 'Firth Stainless' c. 1920s
2006	267	fork, scale tang with wooden scales, c1900
furniture		
2001	12	decorative brass disc, pierced floral design, 23mm diameter
2006	65	curtain ring
2100	137	washer with 10mm bore
personal		
2104	131	half a press stud

Table 5 Identified finds from Area B, Unit Two, grouped in categories as described above.

This Unit covers the front of the house belonging to the Barrow household – the entrance, part of the front room, the kitchen and stairs. It can be seen from the table that most of the finds were unidentifiable, principally because they were encased in a sandy deposit, or they were small rod-like pieces and were probably nails or spikes. The domestic items are dateable on stylistic details and on the materials used. The stainless steel knife cannot be before the late 1920s and scale tang fork is early 20th century, possibly slightly earlier.

Area B - Unit 3

context	bag	description
structural		
2024	34	piece of iron 6mm square 370m long with return (bend) on one end
2044	48	12 small nails; round wire nail 60mm copper roofing nail
2115	161	nail 60mm
domestic		
a) cutlery and flatware		
2001	111	teaspoon, nickel silver, bowl only
b) kitchenware		
2001	75	blue enamel saucepan handle
furniture		
2001	11	rectangular strip of thin section brass, 110mm x 27mm, embossed with stamped pattern of flowers and leaves
2001	110	large 'chest-type' handle, length 320mm

personal		
2001	11	part of a corset bone, spiral metal
2024	34	paperclip
miscellaneous		
2001	11	metal strip 150mm in length, folded, centrally placed connecting rod, possibly from a car windscreen wiper; base of a cartridge case
2001	78	bronze casting, clamp? electrical?
2044	48	rod 10mm x 400mm, possibly part of bedstead; small washer
unidentifiable		
2001	11	unidentifiable metal, decorative, possible cast iron
2001	15	unidentifiable metal, decorative, possible cast iron
2044	48	iron bar 220mm

Table 6 Identified finds from Area B, Unit Three, grouped in categories as described above

This Unit covers the rear of the Ellam house, with a substantial part of the Unit being outside the building. There are few items which would have been found inside the kitchen area, slightly more items relating to furniture, but very few items relating to personal use.

Area B Unit 4

context	bag	description
structural		
2001	29	door stay, 260mm round section rod, 12mm diameter
2003	20	part of a drain pipe ?
2029	123	hand made nail 80mm
2044	49	four nails; copper roofing nail;
2073	89	nail 90mm; nail 50mm; nail 40mm
2084	101	possibly a nail
2086	103	nail, 60mm; wood screw 25mm
2116	-	small sections of insulated wire 80mm; eye part of a wrought iron hinge 200mm x 6mm x 170mm
2124	149	piece of insulated cable
2129	127	cut nail 60mm
2173	-	three nails
domestic		
c) other		
2001	52	clock plate, non-ferrous, for an alarm clock ?
2040	75	smoothing iron
furniture		
2044	49	possibly a drawer handle bent tubular section
2173	-	back plate and rectangular swing handle 130mm
personal		
2024	35	blazer ? button; part of a collar stud 9 ct gold; small metal button
2027	282	metal trouser button
2044	49	small shoe heel, leather
2116	-	shoe heel
2124	149	possibly a heel plate
2173	-	shoe heel plate and shoe heel (leather);
miscellaneous		
2044	49	top from a bike bell ?
2193	370	brass, screw thread with porcelain insert in the top, 25mm diameter, torch bulb ?

Table 7 Identified finds from Area B, Unit Four, grouped in categories as described above.

Unit Four covers the rear extensions (?) of the Barrow household and the pathway beyond the back wall. The identifiable finds, as in the other units, are generally trifles. There are

small parts of larger objects; things which might have fallen or broken off. There is nothing of note which can provide any useful information about the occupants.

Area B Unit 5

context	bag	description
structural		
2051	26	nail 65mm
2057	23	rose head square spike 150mm; one rose head square spike 90mm; two round wire steel nails 10mm; three wood screws 60mm, 50mm, 20mm
2076	-	three large nails; screws; copper wire fragments
2078	89	lead wire ?
domestic		
c) other		
2001	98	food tin
furniture		
2001	114	brass finial, for furniture?
personal		
2001	97	pocket knife, xylonite chequered scales, sheepfoot blade, c.1920s/1930s
2001	128	livery-type button
2051	26	heel or toe plate for shoe
miscellaneous		
2001	121	cartridge case, 2.2cm diameter
2001	129	lamp clamp for motor vehicle
2076	-	part of a bronze rocker switch mechanism
unidentifiable		
2051	26	two pressed metal discs - fishing reel ?
2114	115	small pieces of lead sheet

Table 8 Identified finds from Area B, Unit Five, grouped in categories as described above.

This Unit covers a path and a privy at the rear of the Barrow house. One datable find was recovered – the pocket knife, which on stylistic grounds, is dated to the 1920s/30s. Once again, the finds are small parts from much larger items.

Conclusions

Area B has produced an interesting mix of metal objects. There were some structural items, such as nails, which from the context and bag numbers, appear to be well dispersed. There are few domestic objects, suggesting perhaps a more orderly removal of household effects. Some of the cutlery however, does provide dating evidence. Personal objects are rarely in their entirety, being largely parts of other items such as buttons from clothing and heel plates from shoes. Some of the miscellaneous finds possibly indicate the presence at some time, of a motor vehicle. However, the finds in Area B suggest rubbish left by the occupants, dropped by people visiting the site before or after demolition. The number of shoe heel plates suggests a dump of shoes.

Area C

Only Unit One yielded a few items. The identified items included a spike, a nail, a curtain ring and a swing hook for a child's swing. No conclusions can be drawn from any of these finds.

context	bag	description
structural		
3002	83	large wrought iron nail; 120mm spike
furniture		
3002	83	curtain ring
miscellaneous		

3002	83	swing hook for child's swing
unidentifiable		
3001	47	small plate with two brass studs
3002	73	concretion on wrought iron

Table 9 Identified finds from Area C, grouped in categories as described above.

Area D

Unit One		
context	bag	description
domestic		
c) other		
4003	90	part of sardine tin;
4004	55	lids of two sardine tins; sardine tin key; part of a tin;
miscellaneous		
4002	80	possibly a heating element part
4003	90	broken spur;
4003	90	triangular section rod, possibly a broken file 80mm
4003	90	decorated brass back plate on a nut and bolt
4004	55	pillar with ball end 80mm
unidentifiable		
4004	55	bent flat steel bar 220mm x 5mm; broken zinc die casting
Unit Two		
context	bag	description
structural		
4003		ferrous rod 6mmx220mm; nail 80mm
domestic		
c) kitchenware		
4003		hollow saucepan handle; part of a trivet in the shape of an Isle of Man symbol
personal		
4003		top ring/ferrule for attaching ribs to an umbrella
miscellaneous		
4003		tin can
Unit Three		
context	bag	description
personal		
4003	90	head of lead horse
unidentifiable		
4003	90	small piece of brass

The area produced a few pieces of broken personal and domestic objects. They include part of a trivet with the 'Legs of Man', a tin can, a saucepan handle and part of an empty sardine tin. The only personal items are the top ferrule from an umbrella and the head from a lead horse. There is no significance in the different Units as they were excavated. The area was a rubbish dump and therefore cannot provide any reference material for the cottages, since the finds have no provenance.

General Conclusions

The excavations of these two sets of dwellings dating from at least the mid-18th century has provided a large number of metal finds, but almost all dating from the first half of the 20th century. The condition of the finds varied from very good to unidentifiable, caused by corrosion or by being encased in sandy deposits. The majority of the finds are ferrous and relate to domestic and personal objects, though hardly any exist in their entirety. It must be emphasised that metal has scrap value. Because these cottages were abandoned for a period prior to deliberate demolition, it is more than likely that the metal has been

scavenged and has not disintegrated, especially for larger structural items such as drains, stoves, grates and window frames.

The overall quality of the finds is middling to poor. Very few items of precious metals were retrieved. The small pieces of silver were decorative parts to larger objects and would not have been a major item of expense. Cutlery and flatware might have offered an opportunity for more extravagant use of silver, though of course, such valuable possessions would have been removed when the families left. The objects, especially those related to personal possessions and to cooking and eating, confirm the images seen in newspapers, magazines and catalogues of the time.