

Appendix 3: Iron slag and related high-temperature debris

by Lynne Keys

Over 81kg of iron slag and related high-temperature debris was recovered during the excavation of post-Roman period deposits on the Thameslink sites. Material from samples boosted the final weight but was not always slag or high-temperature material. The assemblages were examined individually by eye and categorised on the basis of morphology. Quantification is presented below. Discussion of specific groups of significant material is presented in the site narrative (Chapters 3–5).

Table 1: Quantification of slag (weight) by site

Site	Assessment area	Site code	Wt (g)
Borough High Street	TAA2	BVK	1855
Green Dragon Court	TAA3	BVX; BVW	1796
Borough Market (Bedale Street)	TAA4	BVG	7711
Borough Market	TAA5	BVU	189
Stoney Street	TAA6	BVT; BVE	38,526
Park Street	TAA7	BVQ	11,948
London Bridge Station Western Approach	TAA9	BVC	4149
London Bridge Station	TAA10	BVM	15,000
Total weight			81,174

Table 2: Quantification of slag types

Slag type	Wt (g)	Process represented
Cinder	627	not diagnostic
Ferruginous concretion	2150	not diagnostic
Fuel ash slag	520	not diagnostic
Vitrified hearth lining	1206	not diagnostic
Hammerscale	2510+	smithing
Iron-rich cinder	51	smithing
Smithing hearth bottoms	8183	smithing
Iron-rich undiagnostic	800	smithing (or smelting)
Undiagnostic	10919+	smithing (or smelting)

Table 3: Statistical data for smithing hearth bottoms (19 examples; total weight = 8.2kg)

	Range (g/mm)	Mean	Standard deviation
Weight	138–1112	431	251
Length	75–140	105	21
Breadth	50–110	81	17
Depth	30–80	49	13