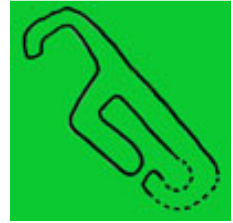


Marchers Archaeology

Newsletter 2 - 28 August 2010



Popping Stone Excavation

Thursday was a beautiful late-summer's day, with the sun streaming down the gorge, but only two excavators (WH &IK) made it to the site. Further progress was made on trench 1, exposing the scatter of stones fallen from the wall and then removing them to reveal a flagged threshold. The flagstones don't seem to continue into the house, where the trench continues down into firm silt.

Quite a lot of coal was found in the upper contexts overlying and amongst the stone scatter, along with some Victorian pottery. Further down, below the level of the flagstones, coal is replaced by charcoal and two rather different sherds of pottery were found. One is a piece of red earthenware, white and glazed on one side, probably a utilitarian kitchen or dairy type of vessel, the other is a more enigmatic piece of white earthenware with a bright green dribble of glaze. It has been sent off for examination by one of our friendly pottery experts.

Website

I have at last got a website up and running for Marchers Archaeology, <http://www.laverocks.co.uk/archaeology/index.htm>

There's very little on it at present, but you are welcome to contribute your own observations on archaeology in the Haltwhistle-Brampton-Bewcastle area, or help with compiling the reports, photos, drawings etc coming from our excavations.

Spread the word - that there's an active archaeology group in this area welcoming all comers. Excavations on Thursdays, 9am, currently meeting at the Spa Hotel "upper" car park, but you can come down any time.



Trench 1 at the end of day 2 showing the flagged threshold. The inside of the building is on the left. Scales: 1m & 25cm.

Pottery from day 2

