

DUNADD ARCHIVE

SECTION 2: FINDS INFORMATION

2.7 *Molluscan remains*

by Ewan Campbell

The molluscan remains were entirely marine and all except one shell were *Ostrea edulis*, the Edible Oyster. Only a handful of individuals are represented so the shellfish could not have been a significant part of the diet. However the acidic conditions of preservation on the Site are such that it is surprising that any shells do survive. The quantities of bone on Site 1 may have contributed to helping preservation. It is noticeable that the remains are confined to Site 1. This may be due to better preservation, or could reflect the domestic function of this Site. Most of the finds belong to Phase III or later, with only one example from Phase IIB. There is one example of *Nucella lapillus* the Dog Whelk, also from Phase II. This may have been eaten but is probably a casual find brought to the Site as a shell. Both species are found at present in nearby coastal waters.

Ostrea edulis Edible Oyster

Find no.

17	upper valve	Site 1 (3)
32	upper valve	Site 1 (2)
42	lower valve	Site 1 (3)
92	many fragments	Site 1 (10)
162	lower valve	Site 1 (8)
180	fragment	Site 1 (2)
242	tiny fragments	Site 1 (16)
347	tiny fragments	Site 1 (10)
1054	lower valve	Site 1 (20)
1089	fragments	Site 1 (31)
1250	upper valve	Site 1 (24)
2100	?upper valve	Site 1 (45)

Nucella lapillus Dog Whelk

1918	Frag of 1 shell	Site 1 (41)
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