

The data in this table can be obtained from the project archive on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) website, after agreeing to their terms and conditions:

ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/resources.html?sfs_ba_2007 > Downloads > Data > Artefact and ecofact catalogues. From here you can download the file 'Soil_transect_descriptions.pdf'.

Soil descriptions follow standard procedures (Hodgson 1978) and the following abbreviations have been used to aid soil description. The ends of the transects were plotted by EDM to record their relative positions.

DV = Dominant vegetation
MD = Maximum depth
Mun = Munsel colour code
Txt = Texture
Con = Consistency
Rts = Root content
St = Stone content

Sand, transect A–B soil sample descriptions

Sample No. 1/50m DV/*Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.16m, Mun/10YR 3/1 v.d. grey, Txt/Gritty, Con/Plastic. Rts/Frequent. St/Rare.

Sample No. 2/48m DV/ *Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.24m, Mun/10YR 3/1 v.d.grey, Txt/Gritty, Con/ Plastic, St/Rare Surface wet with *Sphagnum rubricum*.

Sample No. 3/46m DV/*Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.30m Mun/10YR 3/1 v.d. grey Txt/Gritty, Con/Plastic, St/Rare, Rts Frequent. Surface spongy.

Sample No. 4/44m DV/*Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.60m, Mun/10YR 3/1 v.d.grey (top) 7.5YR 4/2 brown (basal), Txt/Gritty, Con/Plastic, Dt/Rare. Peat giving way to peaty loam.

Sample No. 5/42m DV/*Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.44m, Mun/10YR 3/1 v.d. grey, (top) 7.5YR 4/2 brown (basal), Txt/gritty, Con/Plastic, St/Rare. Sand content increases with depth becoming granular towards the base.

Sample No. 6/40m DV/ *Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.35m, Mun 10YR 3/1 black (top) 7.5YR 4/2 brown (basal) Txt/Gritty, Con/Plastic becoming firm with depth.

Sample No. 7/38m DV/ *Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 3/1 black 7.5 YR 4/2 brown (basal) Txt/Gritty, Const/Plastic becoming firm with depth, St/Rare. Rt/Frequent.

Sample No. 8/36m DV/ *Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.26m, Mun/10YR 4/3 Brown, Txt/Gritty, Const/Friable, Rt/Frequent. Very sandy in contrast to previous-shallow profile close to

weathered base.

Sample No. 9/34m DV/ *Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 3/1 v. d. grey (top) 10YR 6/8 Yellowish brown (basal) Text/Gritty, Const/Loose, Rt/ Frequent. Weathered sandstone at base.

Sample No 10/32m DV/ *Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.15m, Mun/10YR 3/1 Black, Txt/Gritty/Const/Firm, Rt/Rare. Weathered sandstone at the base.

Sample No 11/30m DV/ *Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.18m, Mun/10YR 3/1 Black, Text/Sandy, Const/Friable, Rt/Abundant fine, St/Rare. Brown weathered sandstone at base.

Sample No 12/28m DV/*Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.20m, Mun/10YR 3/1 Black, Text/Sandy, Const/Friable, St/Rare, Rt/Abundant fine.

Sample No 13/26m DV/*Calluna vulgaris*, MD/0.23, Mun/10YR Black, Text/Sandy/silt, Const/Firm, Rts Abundant large.

Sample No 14/24m DV/formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.20m, Mun/10YR 3/1 Black with white quartz grains, Text/Gritty, Const/Firm, Rts/Abundant, mixed from top to base.

Sample No 15/22m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.20m, Mun/10YR 3/1 black, Text/Sandy, Const/Firm.

Sample No 16/20m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.20m, Mun/10YR black, Text/Gritty, Const/Firm, Rts/Abundant, fine with thicker *Pteridium* root present.

Sample No 17/18m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.32, Mun/10YR 3/1 black, Text/Gritty, Const/Friable, Rts/Occasional fine, St/Rare. Centre of cultivation strip.

Sample No 18/16m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.44m, Mun/10YR 3/1 black, Text/Gritty sand, Const/Friable, St/Rare Rts/Abundant fine below turf.

Sample No 19/14m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.45m, Mun/10YR 3/1 black, Text/Gritty, Const/Firm, St/Rare Rts/Abundant fine with thicker *Pteridium* root present.

Sample No 20/12m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.46m, Mun/10YR black, (lower 10YR 6/4 yellowish brown), Text/Gritty, Const/Firm, Rts/Abundant large at 0.12m becoming fine with depth. Weathered sandstone at 0.38m.

Sample No 21/10m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.50m, Mun/7.5 YR 3/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Firm, St/ Abundant angular, Rts/Abundant fine with thicker *Pteridium* root present.

Sample No 22/8m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.50mm, Mun/7.5YR 3/1 very dark grey(lower 7.5YR 5/4 brown, Text/Gritty, Const/Firm at top, friable with depth, Rts/Rare, St/ Large angular stones at base intermixed with weathered sandstone.

Sample No 23/6m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.67m, Mun/7.5YR very dark grey, Text/Silty sand, Const/Plastic, Rts/Rare, St/Present and impeding. Shell present encroaching on midden material.

Sample No 24/4m Not recorded due to the presence of large rock

Sample No 25/2m DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.42m, Mun/7.5YR 3/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Firm, Rts/Abundant fine with thicker *Pteridium* root present, St/Large angular blocks with medium smaller stones. Midden material present.

Sample No 26/0m Recorded from within east facing section due to the presence of boulders near the surface. DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/Not established,Text/Gritty, Const/Friable due to exposure thicker *Pteridium* root present.

Sand, transect C—D soil sample descriptions

Sample 21/1 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/ Frequent small, St/Rare. Homogenous due to ploughing.

Sample 18/2 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Sandy, Const/Friable, Rt/ Frequent, St/Occasional. Homogenous due to ploughing.

Sample 16/3 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.25m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/Frequent *Pteridium* down through the profile. Homogenous due to ploughing at surface. Base consists of archaeological layer.

Sample 14/4 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.40m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/ Frequent small, ST/Occasional angular fragments Homogenous due to ploughing. Weathered sandstone at the base, root impact at base.

Sample 12/5 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.45m, Mun/10YR 2/2 very dark brown, Text/Sandy, Const/Loose and friable down to 0.33m, Rt/ Abundant *Pteridium* roots in upper section, St/Absent.

Sample 10/6 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/ Frequent small. Homogenous due to ploughing.

Sample 8/7 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/ Frequent small. Homogenous due to ploughing.

Sample 6/8 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/ Frequent small. Homogenous due to ploughing.

Sample 4/9 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/ Frequent small. Homogenous due to ploughing.

Sample 2/10 DV/ formerly *Pteridium aquilinum*, MD/0.30m, Mun/10YR 4/1 very dark grey, Text/Gritty, Const/Loose and friable, Rt/ Frequent small. Homogenous due to ploughing.

Bibliography

- Hodgson, JM 1978 *Soil Sampling and Soil Description*. Oxford.

Published by [The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland](#), in association with the [Council for British Archaeology and Historic Scotland](#).
Available free of charge in HTML format (see [Terms & Conditions of Use](#)).

Use <http://www.sair.org.uk/sair31> to cite this page.
ISSN 1473-3803; ISBN 978 090390361 5

[prev](#) [back](#) [home](#) [next](#) [print](#)

All files start from ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/resources.html?sfs_ba_2007 > Downloads > ...

... > Data > Artefact and ecofact catalogues > Soil_transect_descriptions.pdf