

Houseteads, Northumberland

Land snails

The following species were identified:

Marpessa laminata (Montagu) 1

Arianta arbustorum (L.) 4 (1 with intact periostracum)

Cepaea sp. 1

These are land snails. Arianta and Marpessa generally live in fairly shaded conditions, in leaf litter, under logs and stones, etc. Nothing can be said about the Cepaea as it is not specifically identifiable. One example of Arianta has an intact periostracum (the protein coating around the shell), and unless preserved under anaerobic conditions the shell must be of recent origin.

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