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BOLSOVER CASTLE - THE HUMAN REMAINS GUY GRAINGER

The bones examined consisted of the mixed remains of at least ten individuals. 8 individuals were represented by mandible and maxilla fragments, while two were represented by post cranial remains only.

The information from the mandible and maxilla fragments, together with certain assignable skull fragments is given in table 1.

The condition of the bones was generally poor, and a great deal of post mortem damage was visible.

Age, Sex and Stature

Ageing:- Dental Attrition was used for determining the age of the adult remains, while dental eruption was used for the infants. In the case of the sub-adult (Individual 3) a combination of dental attrition and eruption, and epiphyseal fusion were employed. 2 individuals were present as post cranial remains only. One was an infant of 0-1 years of age, based on the size of the bones, and one an adult. It was impossible to assign a sex to any individual, however 3 innominate fragments could be sexed, two were female and one male.

As only one complete long bone (a radius of indeterminate sex) was recovered no measurements were possible.

Non Metrical Variation

Three of the six adult mandibles examined possessed mandibular tori. Perforate olecranon fossae were seen in two left humeri. Wormian bones were seen in two individuals, and also in several unassigned cranial fragments. In at least two cases the bones occurred in the coronal, sagittal and lombodoid sutures. A cervical rib was seen.

Disease

All adults had periodontal disease, and showed signs of dental hypoplasia. The adolescent also had dental hypoplasia. Dental caries was observed in two individuals, and the overall incidence of dental caries was 6.4%. Periapical abcesses were seen in one individual. Orbital osteoporosis was observed in two individuals.

Evidence of osteoarthritis was present in many bones. The most common areas being the vertebrae. It was also seen on the appendecular skeleton, both on the long bones and the extremities.

A series of small holes were seen in the frontal and parietal areas of one skull; they were on the internal surface and did not extend to the outer surface of the cranium.

Trauma

A lump on the right side of the mandible of Individual 3 just below the mental foramen could have been the result of trauma.

Number of Individuals represented

	L.	R.
Mandible		
Adult	3	5
Adolescent	1	1
Infant	2	2
Femur		
Adult	6	4
Adolescent	-	1
Infant	-	3

TABLE 1. AGE, SOME DISEASES AND CERTAIN DISCONTINUOUS TRAITS

INDIVIDUAL	AGE (YRS)	PERIODONTAL DISEASE	DENTAL HYPOPLASIA	DENTAL CALCULUS	DENTAL CARIES	PERIAPICAL ABCESSES	MANDIBULAR TORI	ORBITAL OSTEOPOROSIS	WORMIAN BONES
1	3–4				0/3				
2	6–7				0/3				
3	16–18				4/20				
4	25+				0/3				
5	30–35				0/6				
6	30–40				0/13				
7	35–45				0/13				
8	35–45				1/22	4			