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Report on the Human Bone - Balksbury Camp, Andover, Hants.

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The skeletal remains from a single inhumation burial were submitted to the Laboratory for examination prior to radiocarbon dating. The bone clearly came from one individual and was in a moderate state of preservation, although there was some damage to the extremities of the long bones. Observations were made for age, sex, stature, health and dental, cranial and post-cranial morphology and metrics (this latter category was recorded only to enable future comparisons with other finds from this area or period).

The individual, probably a female, was aged at approximately 15-20 years. Stature was estimated at 1.56m \pm .445 (c.5'1"). Sex was assessed on the maximum diameters of the femoral and humeral heads, discriminant function analysis of the talus and calcaneus (Steele 1976) and on the general size of the skeleton. The metric methods used here allow for approximately 85-95% accuracy. The size of the bone, particularly the left humerus, which was complete, strongly suggested an individual of the female sex but the fact that growth and maturation of the skeleton were incomplete precluded a firm attribution of sex.

Age was estimated on the development of the dentition, the

degree of epiphyseal union and fusion of the spheno-occipital synchondrosis (Schour and Massler 1941, McKern and Stewart 1957, Stewart 1979). For the assessment of epiphyseal union the left humerus only was used since both the proximal and distal epiphysis were fusing (though not the medial epicondyle), which suggested that the apparent non-union of epiphyses of other bones disguised a situation in which there had been cartilaginous union, at the very least, during life.

Stature was estimated using the maximum length of the left humerus and the regression equations for females of Prover (1970).

There was no evidence for any pathology on either the dentition or the bones of this individual.

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