

ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY

REPORT

4428

SERIES/No CONTRACTOR

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TITLE The District Heating Scheme
The animal bones

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The Animal Bones

A small group of animal bones was recovered from Roman deposits, the following species were identified; ox (Bos domestic), ovicaprid (Ovis domestic/Capra domestic), pig (Sus domestic), and domestic fowl (Gallus domestic). The table summarises the bones from each feature.

Table

	ox	s+g	pig	lar	sar	fowl	unid	total
Area A. Post dating destruction of Building 1								
F1 25	1	2	6	14	1	-	7	31
Areas B&C. Pre-building Activity								
F6 27	-	-	1	8	8	-	15	32
Areas B&C. Construction of Buildings 1&11								
F6 28	-	3	1	-	3	-	-	7
Area E. Layers pre-dating the ditch								
F14 12	2	-	-	7	-	-	-	9
F14 11	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
F14 10	-	2	-	-	4	-	-	6
F14 7	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	8
F14 4	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	4
Area E. The Ditch								
F14 9	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
F14 1	17	-	1	11	-	-	-	29
F15 1	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	5
Area G. The Riverbank								
Th 1 2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
total	22	9	18	44	19	2	22	136

lar = ox-sized frags sar = sheep/goat sized frags

The bones were recorded and measured using the method of Jones et al 1981. A copy of the archive is housed at SLAEC. The number of bones is too low to warrant any discussion of butchery techniques etc. The total length of a single ox metatarsal suggested a withers height of 114 cms (F14 1) using Fock 1966, and the total length of an ovicaprid metacarpal a withers height of 54 cms (F15 1) using Teichart 1975. Many bones show evidence of butchery in the form of chop marks and it is probable that this material is food debris.

References

- Fock J 1966. *Metrische Untersuchungen an Metapodien einiger Europaischer Rinderassen* Gedruckt mit Genehmigung der Tierarznei, Fakultät der Universität München.
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- Teichart M 1975. *Osteometrische Untersuchungen zur Berechnung der Widerristhöhe bei Schafen.* In *Archaeozoological*

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