

88 Borough High Street Southmeck

The Animal Bones

A total of 71 bones were recovered from Roman deposits, the following species were identified; ox (Bos domestic), ovicaprid (Ovis domestic/Capra domestic), pig (Sus domestic), horse (Equus domestic), domestic fowl (Gallus domestic), and oyster (Ostrea edulis). The table summarises the bone from each period.

Table

	ox	s+g	pig	lar	sar	horse	fowl	oyster	unid.	total
The Early period.	4	1	2	3	-	-	-	1	5	16
Gully & Building Remains	2	1	1	4	1	2	-	-	-	11
The Building Use	1	-	-	2	-	-	ibird	-	-	4
The Building Demolition	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	6
Features Post-dating Building										
T 11 2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
T 7 3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	3
T 7 9	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
T 11 2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
T 7 4c	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
T 7 13	3	3	3	2	-	1	-	-	13	25
total	11	5	9	17	3	4	2	1	19	71

lar = ox sized sar = sheep/goat sized

An archive of the identifications and measured is stored at SLAEC

All the bone except horse is likely to be food debris, some of which showed evidence of chopping.

A complete horse metacarpal (from T 7 20) gave a withers height of 131 cms using Kieswalter (1974) which the size of a pony 12-13 hh. From T 7 4c a metapodial shaft fragment tentatively identified as horse showed evidence of working and slight polish and may be the early stages of a handle.

References

Kieswalter In 1974 A von den Driesch & J Boessneck. Kritische Anmerkungen zur Widerristhoehenberechnung aus Langenmassen vor-und Fruhgeschichtlicher Tierknochen. Saugtierkundliche Mitteilungen, 22, pp 325-348.