ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY

REPORT

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SERIES/No

CONTRACTOR

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TITLE

Report on a skeleton from St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury

Report on a Skeleton from St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury

Janet D. Henderson March 1984

The remains of a skeleton from this site were examined for details of demography, anthropology and pathology. The bones were found to be well preserved although only part of the skeleton was present (c. 1/2). Since there was only one individual available for examination no analysis of the anthropological record was attempted. The details - of dental, cranial and post-cranial morphology and metrics - are kept in the site archive where they are available for study.

Demography

The skeleton was found to be that of a male, aged 35-45 years. Stature was estimated at $1.74m \pm .0405$ (c.5'8.5"). Details of the methods used to assess sex, age and stature are given in the site archive.

Pathology

Evidence for pathological change was generally found to be absent on this individual. The only alterations to the bones to be observed were on the spine where there was some slight development of osteophytes at the anterior margins of the vertebral centra (generally associated with the ageing process). Further a number of vertebrae (T12-15) had Schmorl's nodes present. None of these observations could be regarded as of great significance. Finally it was noted that a sixth lumbar vertebra was present. This was not considered to be pathological.