

BIRD BONES FROM A ROYAL HUNTING LODGE, WRITTLE, ESSEX.

Rep. 1546

14th. Century.

(3)

Amended FILE 22 SEP 1957

GOOSE, (Anser sp.) A metacarpal bone, 90 mm. in length seems to belong to a small Grey-lag, but it is not possible to say whether it is a domestic bird.

12 JAN 1958

PHEASANT, (Phasianus colchicus.) Parts of 2 males and one female.

HERON, (Ardea cinerea). Parts of one immature bird.

STOCK DOVE, (Columba oenas). Two adults and one immature.

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15th. Century.

GOOSE, (<sup>Anser</sup>~~ANSER~~ sp.) A tibia is of large size and is probably of a domestic form. A smaller bird is also present, of normal Grey-lag size.

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DOMESTIC FOWL, (Gallus sp.) There are parts of two large, one <sup>195</sup>medium and one <sup>195</sup>small, adults. In addition there are remains of <sup>195</sup>six pullets, all of very similar age. One adult tarsal bone is cut across at the "knuckle" part, as in preparation for trussing.

DUCK, (Anas sp.) One bone of a large species.

Mallard, (Anas platyrhynchos). Parts of one bird.

MUTE SWAN, (Cygnus olor) Represented by one bone, a coracoid.

TEAL, (Anas crecca) . Wing bones present of 3 individuals.

OYSTER CATCHER, (Haematopus ostralegus) One bird.

GOLDEN PLOVER, (Charadrius apricarius). One bird.

WOODCOCK, (Scolopax rusticola) . One bird.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT, (Limosa lapponica). One bird.

KNOT, (Calidris canutus). One bird.

Small Wader of unknown sp. as I have no bone which matches. It is about Ring Plover size.

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continued

from Writtle, continued.

cf. Common gull, (Larus canus). One bird.

20. SEP. 1967

ROCK DOVE, (Columba oenas). Two birds. One immature metacarpal shows a chop mark where flight feathers severed in preparation for cooking.

PARTRIDGE, (Perdix perdix). One bird.

JACKDAW, (Corvus monedula). One bird.

Comments on the collection of birds.

1. Pheasant, <sup>Known in Roman times (but penned?), here</sup> shown to be established by this date as free ranging game.
2. Shore with mud flats shown to be included in the hunting range.
3. Big game like swans probably killed with bow and arrow rather than by falcons.
4. A number of the birds would be so called "Winter visitors" and would indicate hunting between Sept. and about March.

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D. Bramwell.  
18.9.67

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