Ancient Monuments Laboratory Report 101/89 THE HUMAN BONE FROM ST PETER'S STREET, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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Summary

Ten burials (2 male adults, 4 female adults, 3 unsexable adults and 1 female adolescent) of late Anglo-Saxon date were excavated from the site at St Peter's Street, Ipswich. The burials showed a high frequency of vertebral anomalies.

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THE HUMAN BONE FROM St. PETER'S STREET, IPSWICH. SUFFOLK (EXCAVATED 1986-7)

Introduction to the site

During the course of excavations in 1986 and 4987. 10 Anglo-Saxon burials of late 9th-early 10th century date were found at St. Peter's Street, Ipswich. They represent interments in gardens behind dwellings.

The human remains

1- Age. sex and bone preservation

Preservation was scored as good, moderate or poor on the basis of visual inspection of the remains. Sex was determined using the morphology of the pelvis and skull, together with the general size and robusticity of the skeleton.

For juveniles (for the purposes of the present report those aged under 18 years) and young adults epiphysial fusion was used to estimate age, with reference to the chart of Ubelaker (1978: Fig. 62). For older adults dental attrition (Brothwell 1981) was the principal technique used, but cranial suture closure (Perizonius 1984) and the morphology of the pubic symphyses (McKern & Stewart 1957; Gilbert & McKern 1973) were also taken

Context	Sex A	ge	Preservation	Competeness
0295	Female	22-35	Moderate	About 60-80%
0314	Unsexable	Adult	Moderate	<20% (lower leg and
0339	Female	16-18	Moderate	foot bones only) About 60-80%
0375	Unsexable	Adult	Moderate	<20% (foot bones only)
0400	Male	Adult	Good	About 20-40%(no skull or
0408	Female.	25-35	Good	mandible) About 80%+
0415/0417	Male	About 25	Good	About 40-60%
0425	Unsexable	17-20	Poor	About 20-40% (no hand or foot
0578	Female	35-45	Good	bones) About 80%+
0634	Female	Adult	Moderate	About 20-40% (mainly lower half of body)

Table 1: The preservation and demographic composition of the sample

Many of the bones are stained black

A skeletal element was scored as present if it was represented by a .complete or incomplete bone. Some of the burials contained a few stray human bones; these are not included in Table 2. Table 2: Representation of skeletal elements

Skeletal element	Number represented
Skull	6
Mandible	6
Cervical vertebrae	32
Cervical vertebrae	52
Thoracic vertebrae	60
Lumbar vertebrae	26
Sacrum	7
Sternum	5
L ribs	43
R ribs	52
L clavicle	4
R clavicle	5
L scapula	6
R scapula	6
L humerus	6
R humerus	7
L radius	5
R radius	6
Lulna	5
R ulna	5
L corpola	0
L carpais	
K calpais	14
L inclacal pais	21
Kinetacarpais	23
L hand phalanges	19
K nand phalanges	19
U nand phalanges	21
L pelvis	7
R pelvis	7
L F emur	7
R femur	7
L patella	5
R patella	4
L tibia	8
R tibia	8
L fibula	7
R fibula	8
L calcaneus	6
L calcaneus	7
L talus	6
R talus	7
L tarsals*	17
R tarsals*	26
L metatarsals	35
R metatarsals	38
L foot phalanges	10
R foot phalanges	7
U foot phalanges	17
L=left R=right	U=unknown side *=excluding talus and calcaneus
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2. Metric variation

(a) Stature

Adult stature was estimated from longbone measurements using the formulae of Trotter & Gleser (1952, 1958, reproduced in Brothwell 1981 Table 5). The results are shown below.

Table 3: Stature

Individual	Sex	Stature (cm)
0295	F	167
0400	М	166
0408	F	154
0415/0417	М	172
0578	F	160
0634	F	173

(b) Meric and cnemic indices

The meric index is a measure of the anterior-posterior flattening of the sub-trochanteric area of the femoral diaphysis; the cnemic index expresses the transverse flattening of the tibia at the level of the nutrient foramen. The significance of these indices is uncertain although they may be explicable in terms of adaptation of the bones to mechanical stresses. Brothwell (1981: 88, 89), and the results are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Meric and cnemic indices

	Meric	index	Cnemic	index
Individual	L	R	L	R
0295	82.7	83.2	70.8	72.5
0339	74.1	74.7	72.0	-
0408	61.7	70.5	76.7	68.8
0415/0417	79.8	80.0	77.1	76.1
0425	79.3	77.4	71.1	73.8
0578	79.5	79.8	70.7	70.7
0634	78.6	-	62.9	65.2

A few other post-cranial and cranial measurements were taken; these can he found in the list of burials.

3. Non-metric variation

Non-metric traits take the form of minor variations in skeletal form such as presence or absence of bony spurs or foramina. For at least some of these variants there is evidence that they are to some extent inherited, although the causes of many remain obscure.

31 cranial and 20 post-cranial traits were scored on a presence-absence basis; those with the scope for bilateral

expression were scored separately for Trait definitions were taken mainly for Table 5: Cranial and non-metric trait	or left and right sides. From Berry & Berry (1967) and Finnegan (1978).
Metopic suture:	1: 0339 0: 0295, 0400, 0425, 0578
Ossicle at Lambda:	1: 0408 0: 0295, 0425, 0578
Lambdoid ossicle:	1: 0408, 0578 0: 0295, 0425
Inca bone:	0: 0295, 01339, 0408, 0425, 0578
Saggital ossicle:	0: 0295, 0408
Ossicle at bregma:	0: 0295, 0339. 0408, 0425, 0578
Coronal ossicle:	0: 0339, 0578
Fronto-temporal articulation:	0/0: 0578
Epipteric bone:	0/0: 0578
Squamo-parietal ossicle:	0/-: 0408 0/0: 0425, 0570
Parietal notch bone:	1/0: 0573 0/0: 0408, 0425
Auditory torus:	-/0: 0295 0/0: 0339, 0408, 0425, 0578
Foramen of Hushke:	1/0: 0408 0/1: 0339 -/0: 0295 0/0: 0425, 0578
Ossicle at asterion:	0/-: 0425 0/0: 02108, 0578
Palatine torus: Maxillary torus: Mastoid foramen extra-sutural:	0: 0339, 0408, 0578 0: 0408, 0578 0/1: 0425 -/0: 0295 0/0: 0339, 0408, 0578
Mastoid foramen absent:	0/1: 0339 -/0: 0295 0/0: 0408, 0425, 0578

Double condylar facet on occipital:	-/0: 0570:
	0/-: 0425
	0/0: 0295, 0339, 0408
Parietal foramen:	1/1: 0408
	1/0: 0339
	0/1: 0295, 0425
	0/0: 0578
Accessory infra-orbital foramen:	-/0: 0425
	0/-: 0408
	0/0: 0570
Zygomatic-facial foramen:	1/-: 0425
	0/1:0339
	-/1: 0408, 0578
	0/-: 0295
Divided hypoglossal canal:	1/0: 0425
	0/1:0339
	-/0: 0295, 0578
	0/0: 0408
Posterior condylar canal patent:	1/0: 0408
	1/-: 0425
	-/1: 0578
	-/0: 0295
Precondylar tubercle:	-/0: 0578
-	0/0: 0339, 0408
Foramen ovale incomplete:	0/-: 0408
	0/0: 0578
Supra-orbital foramen complete:	1/1: 0400
	1/0: 0339, 0578
	0/-: 0295
	0/0: 0425
Maxillary M3 absent;	-/0: 0339
	0/0: 0408, 0578
Mandibular M3 absent:	0/0: 0339, 0408, 0425, 0578
Mandibular torus:	0: 0339, 0408, 0578
Mylohyoid bridging:	-/1: 0295
	0/-: 0425
	0/0: 0339, 0408, 0578

Table 6: Post-cranial non-metric traits

Fossa of Allen:	1/1: 0339, 0425, 0578 0/1: 0415/0417, 0408 0/0: 0295
Plaque formation:	0/1: 0415/0417 0/0: 0295, 0408, 0425, 0578
Exostosis in trochanteric fossa:	1/0: 0408 1/-: 0425, 0634 0/0: 0295, 0415/0417, 0578
Supra-condyloid process:	-/0: 0295 0/-: 0400 0/0: 0339, 0408, 0415/0417, 0425, 0578
Septal aperture:	-/0: 0295 0/-: 0400, 0425 0/0: 0339, 0408, 0415/0417, 0578
Acetabular crease:	1/1: 0339 -/0: 0295 0/-: 0634 0/0: 0408, 0415/0417, 0578
Accessory sacral facets on ilium:	-/0: 0295, 0408 0/0: 0339, 0415/0417, 0578
Sacral spina bifida occulta:	1: 0415/0417, 0425, 0578 0: 0295, 0408
Sixth sacral segment:	0: 0295, 0409, 0415/0417, 0578(4 segments)
Acromial articular facet:	-/0: 0295, 0400, 0578 0/0: 0339
Os acromiale:	-/0: 0295, 0400, 0578 0/0: 0339
Supra-scapular foramen	-/0: 0578 0/-: 0408, 0415/0417 0/0: 0400
Vastus notch	1/1: 0408 1/0: 0634 0/1: 0578 0/- 0295 0/0: 0415/0417
Vastus Fossa	0/-: 0295 0/0: 0408_0415/0417_0578_0674
Emarginate patella	0/-: 0295 0/0: 0408, 0415/0417, 0578, 0634

Anterior calcaneal facet double:	1/1: 0295, 0415/0417 -/1: 0339 0/0: 0714, 0408, 0578, 0634
Anterior calcaneal facet absent:	-/0: 0339 0/0: 0295, 0314, 0408,
	0415/0417, 0578, 0634
Atlas facet doublet	0/1: 0295 0/0: 0339, 0400, 0408
Posterior atlas bridging:	0/1: 0295 0/-: 0425 0/0: 0339, 0400, 0408
Lateral atlas bridging:	0/0: 0295, 0339, 0400, 0408

1=trait present 0=trait absent -=no observation possible. Scores for bilateral traits are presented as score for left side/score for right side.

Several spinal anomalies (in addition to sacral spina bifida occulta) were present in the sample. Burial 0578, which showed complete sacral spina bifida, had only 4 sacral segments. This did not appear to be as a result of lumbarisation of the first sacral vertebra, but rather of a failure of fusion of the fifth sacral segment to the main body of the sacrum. Variations of this type at the sacro-coccygeal transition are not uncommon but have received little study since they are of no great clinical significance (Schmorl & Junghanns 1971: 66-67). The sacrum also lacks its normal anterior curvature. A section of the arch

of the fifth lumbar vertebra is missing or detached (ante-mortem) between the right pars interarticularis and the midline. Clefts at the pars interarticularis are termed spondylolysis. The roughened appearance of the right pars interarticularis is typical of cases of spondylolysis, where a narrow cleft in the bone is bridged in life by fibrous tissue. The cleft at the midline has a smooth border, typical of cases of spina bifida.

In cases of spondylolysis trauma may rupture the fibrous tissue across the cleft between the posterior part of the neural arch and the rest of the vertebra, leading to forward slippage of the vertebral body (termed spondylolisthesis). This does not appear to have occurred in the present case. Presumably the fact that the cleft was only unilateral would have helped prevent spondylolisthesis. In life the defect was probably symptomless.

Burial 0408 shows several anomalies of the atlas: a bridge of bone connects the left transverse process with the posterior arch; there is an incomplete bridge on the right side. The left foramen transversarium is incomplete and the vertebra shows spina bifida.

Spina bifida is most common at the sacral, lower lumbar and atlas vertebrae (Schmorl & Junghanns 1971: 83). In spina bifida occulta the defect is bridged in life by fibrous tissue and causes no symptoms.

There is strong evidence that spina bifida and spondylolysis are inherited and are linked genetically (Wiltse 1962); furthermore "spondylolysis is frequently associated with simultaneous occurrence of spinous process cleavage involving the same vertebra" (Schmore & Junghanns 1971: 87), as occurred in 0578. It is likely that variations in the numbers of vertebrae in the various areas of the spine also inherited (op.cit.:56), but it does not appear that variations in the number of sacral vertebrae are genetically linked to spondylolysis (Eisenstein 1978).

The frequency of sacral spina bifida occulta at St Peter's Street is rather high (3 cases out of 5 for which observations could be made). This compares with a frequency of 1 case out of 17 in the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at School Street, Ipswich; the difference in frequency between the two sites is statistically significant (p=0.024-Fisher's exact test). The higher frequency in the St Peter's Street material may indicate that they were drawn from a different population from that which used the school Street cemetery or, more probably, that the burials at St Peter's Street were of individuals closely related to one another genetically.

4. Pathology

(a) Dental pathology

(i)Dental caries. Dental caries was scored as present or absent in each tooth, and as present or absent in individuals with one or more fully erupted teeth available for study. Of the 5 individuals for whom caries could be scored 3 were found to have one or more caries cavities. The results with respect to individual teeth are shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Distraction of the carious permanent teeth

Maxilla

	M3	M2	M1	PM2	PM1	С	12	I1	I1	12	С	PM1	PM2	M1	M2	M3
Tooth	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	4	4	3	3	2
Carious	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
Teeth	3	2	3	4	4	4	4	2	4	3	3	4	4	4	3	3
Carious	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1

Mandible Of a total of 89 teeth 12 are carious.

Dental caries is a multifactorial disease but many studies of non-industrial population have shown a strong correlation between caries rates and consumption of carbohydrate.

(ii) Ante-mortem tooth loss. This was scored on a presence-absence basis for each erupted tooth position, and as present or absent in individuals with one or more tooth positions available for study. Of 6 individuals for whom observations could be made two displayed evidence for ante-mortem tooth loss. The results with respect to individual tooth positions are shown in Table 8.

Table 8% Distribution of ante-mortem tooth loss

MAXILLA

	M3	M2	M1	PM2	PM1	С	12	I1	I1	12	С	PM1	PM2	M1	M2	M3
Tooth posits.	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	2
A-m loss	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Tooth posits.	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
A-m loss	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	Ι

MANDIBLE

Of a total of 112 tooth positions 9 showed evidence for ante-mortem tooth loss.

Dental caries and diseases of the periodontal tissues are major causes of tooth loss.

(iii) Alveolar abscesses. Of the 6 individuals with one or more observable tooth positions 2 displayed alveolar abscess cavities: 0408 had an abscess cavity at the socket of the left maxillary second premolar and 0425 had a cavity at the socket of the right mandibular first molar. in both cases the abscesses were at the apices of teeth whose crowns had been destroyed by caries, suggesting that their cause was infection of the jaw via the pulp cavity of the tooth when the latter became exposed to the oral environment as a result of caries.

(iv) Dental calculus. This takes the form of a concretion on the teeth consisting mainly of calcium salts and, in life, organic material in which flourish numerous bacteria. It may be considered as mineralised dental plaque, and is associated with aoor oral hygiene. Of 5 individuals for whom calculus could be scored 4 showed evidence for it 3 (burials 0339, 0425 and 0578) to grade I and 1 (burial 0408) to grade II, on the scale defined ay Dobney & Brothwell (1987).

(b) Arthropathies

(i) Degenerative joint disease. This is generally divided into two categories: that affecting the vertebral bodies is termed osteophytosis and that affecting the other joints is termed osteoarthritis (Collins 1949). Both human and animal studies have shown that mechanical stress is an important factor in the aetiology of degenerative joint disease. The most usual cause seems to be repeated minor traumata, as might result from day to day activities (although it may follow acute traumatic injury to

a joint – see below); this leads to dgeneration of the intervertebral disc or joint cartilage with subsequent macroscopic bony changes, including marginal lipping and joint surface irregularities. Degenerative joint disease is associated with general 'wear and tear' to the joints and as such its prevalence varies with individual age and with the amount of physical stress to the joints in life. Degenerative joint disease is distinguished from other arthropathies using criteria described by Steinbock (1976), Ortner & Putschar (1905) and Rogers et al. (1987).

Osteaphytosis and osteoarthritis are scored as grade I, II or III with reference to the scheme of Sager (1969, reproduced in Brothwell 1981: Fig. 6.9). The results (adult burials only) are quantified with respect to individuals for whom observations could be made and with respect to vertebrae or diarthroidal joint surfaces. The results are shown in -Tables 9-11.

Table 9: steqphytosis: maximum severity by individuals

Maximum severity								
0	1	II	III					
1	4	1	0					

Table 10: asteophytosis: prevalence by vertebrae

C	ervi	ical		Thoracic	Lun	nbar		Total	
0	Ι	II	III	0 I II I	II 0 1	II	III	0 1 II I	Π
14	5	0	0	37 10 0 (0 12 8	1	0	63 23 1 ()

Table 11: Osteoarthritis: maximum severity by individuals

Maximum severity

0	1	II	III
5	2	1	1

Table 12: Osteoarthritis

	Sev	erity	
0	Ι	II	III
3	0	0	0
4	0	0	0
24	2	0	0
27	9	2	2
18	1	1	1
32	1	0	0
34	6	0	0
3	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
4	0	0	0
3	0	0	0
3	0	0	0
4	0	0	0
	0 3 4 24 27 18 32 34 3 1 4 3 4	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c cccc} Severity \\ 0 & I & II \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 24 & 2 & 0 \\ 27 & 9 & 2 \\ 18 & 1 & 1 \\ 32 & 1 & 0 \\ 34 & 6 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 \\ \end{array}$

		Severi	ity	
Skeletal element	0	Ι	II	III
L proximal humerus	3	0	0	0
R proximal humerus	2	0	0	0
L distal humerus	5	0	0	0
R distal humerus	4	Õ	Õ	0
L proximal radius	4	Ŏ	Õ	Õ
R proximal radius	-	Ŏ	Ŏ	Õ
L distal radius	2	Ŏ	1	Õ
R distal radius	$\overline{0}$	Ŏ	0	Õ
L proximal ulna	4	Ŏ	Ŏ	Õ
R proximal ulna	4	Õ	Õ	0
L distal ulna	2	Ŏ	1	Õ
R distal ulna	5	Ŏ	0	Õ
L carpals	18	0	3	0
R carpals	14	0	0	0
L metacarpals	17	0	0	0
R metacarpals	22	1	0	0
L hand phalanges	19	0	0	0
R hand phalanges	19	0	0	0
U hand phalanges	18	0	0	0
L acetabulum	6	0	0	0
R acetabulum	5	0	0	0
L proximal femur	6	0	0	0
R proximal femur	5	0	0	0
L distal femur	5	1	0	0
R distal femur	4	1	0	0
L patella	4	1	0	0
R patella	3	1	0	0
L proximal tibia	5	1	0	0
R proximal tibia	6	0	0	0
L distal tibia	7	0	0	0
R distal tibia	7	0	0	0
L proximal fibula	1	0	0	0
R proximal fibula	1	0	0	0
L distal fibula	6	0	0	0
R distal fibula	5	0	0	0
L calcaneus	6	0	0	0
R calcaneus	6	0	0	0
L talus	6	0	0	0
R talus	6	0	0	0
L tarsals*	16	1	Õ	0
R tarsals*	22	0	0	0
L metatarsals	31	1	Õ	0
R metatarsals	32	0	0	1
L foot phalanges	10	0	0	0
R foot phalanges	7	0	0	0
U foot phalanges	17	Ō	0	0
C TOOL PHILING CO	- 1	0	5	•

L= left R= right U-unknown side *excluding talus and calcaneus

The distal left ulna and radius of burial 0415/0417 show extensive bony proliferation at the joint margins, together with some irregularity of the joint surfaces; similar changes are present in 3 of the 7 left carpals present for this individual.

Bony proliferation is particularly marked on the distal ulna where it has completely obscured the styloid process. These lesions represent grade II osteoarthritis. The lunate and the hamate carpal bones show small irregular exostoses (not originating from the joint surfaces or margins). A few vertebrae show grade I osteoarthritis, as does the right first metacarpal. The right radius and ulna are normal as are the 3 right carpals present. It seems probable that the lesions at the left wrist represent osteoarthritis sequential to trauma. No evidence of fracture was found on X-ray.

(ii) Osteochondritis dissecans. Burial 0634 showed lesions suggestive of osteochondritis dissecans on the right patella and the distal joint surfaces of both femora. All these joint surfaces also show grade I osteoarthritis. On the lateral condyle of the right femur there is an irregular raised area (approximately 7mm diameter) of sclerotic bone; medial to this lies a smaller area of pitting. The right patella has a pitted erosion 7mm in diameter on the lateral part of the joint surface. The left femur shows an irregular pitted erosion on the joint surface in the depression between the condyles. A little bone from this pitted area rises proud of the joint surface. There is an area of raised, irregular bone on the medial condyle. The left patella is normal (except for grade I osteoarthritis).

It is probable that these lesions represent osteochondritis dissecans. This is an avascular, aseptic necrosis occurring in the subchondral bone of a joint. As the disease progresses the necrotic fragment cleaves away leaving a pit in the joint surface. Some cases exhibit healing which, as seems to have occurred in 0634, manifests itself in skeletal remains as a localised overgrowth of bone.

Modern data show that the overwhelming majority of cases of osteochondritis dissecans occur at the knee, and when multiple lesions occur they tend to be symmetrical. The precise aetiology is uncertain, but trauma seems to play a major role (Jacobs 1976).

There is a small pit in the proximal joint surface of a left hallucial first phalanx present as an intrusive bone with burial 0415/0417. This too probably represents osteochondritis dissecans.

(c) Trauma

(i) Fractures. The prevalence of fractures with respect to total number of bones (calculated a described for Table 2) is 2/675 identifiable bones. Both these fractures were found in burial 0578. This individual showed healed fractures of the right radius and ulna. The radius fracture is in the midshaft region; there is marked callus formation, the surface of which is porous, and slight angulation at the break. The ulna fracture is 5-7cm from the distal end and is firmly united. Callus is less abundant and appears to be rather more remodelled than that at the radius fracture. In neither the radius or the ulna did gross or radiographic examination show significant shortening of the bone due to over-riding of the broken ends.

The lateral surface of the left humerus of this burial bears an irregular exostosis, about 2cm long, approximately 6cm from the distal end of the bone. This probably represents a case of traumatic myositis ossificans. Traumatic myositis ossificans is a calcification of a haematoma; this may result in the formation of a calcified fragment within soft tissue or as in the present case, it can become part of existing bone tissue. It follows trauma causing deep bruising; if this is sufficient to traumatise the periosteum and cause haemorrhage beneath it then the haemorrhage may calcify, giving rise to a bony exostosis. It is particularly common in the elbow region (Skajaa 1958).

(ii) Schmorl's nodes. An intervertebral disc consists of a tough outer layer (the annulus fibrosus) surrounding a core (the nucleus pulposus) which, until early adulthood, is composed of semi-gelatinous material. In younger individuals excessive compression of the spine (such as might occur due to heavy lifting) may result in extrusion of material from the nucleus pulposus into the adjacent vertebral body. The bony

manifestation of this is a depression or cleft - the Schmorl's node. In some individuals congenital weaknesses in the cartilage plate of the vertebral body may increase the likelihood of the formation of Schmorl's nodes, but there is no doubt that a single trauma may rupture a healthy disc (Schmorl & junghanns 1971; 158- 168).

Table 13; Distribution of Schmorl's nodes

Individual	No of affected vertebrae	No of nodes (i=inferior, s=superior surface)
3295	7 thoracic 1 lumbar	10 (6i, 4s) 1 (s)
0408 0415/0417	2 thoracic 5 thoracic 1 lumbar	2 (li, 1s) 8 (5i, 3s) 1 (s)

Prevalence of Schmorl's nodes with respect to individuals and with respect to vertebrae can be obtained using the totals from the osteophytosis scores (Tables 9 and 10).

(d) Cribra orbitalia

Cribra orbitalia takes the form of small pits or perforations in the orbital roofs. Of the 5 individuals who could be scored for the condition 2 (0297 & 0339) showed lesions, both of the cribriotic (Brothwell 1981: Fig. 6.17) type.

Cribra orbitalia seems to be associated with iron deficiency anaemia (Hengen 1971; Stuart-Macadam 1987). In addition to deficient dietary intake of iron, anaemias may be caused by gut parasites - these were no doubt common in the unhygienic conditions prevailing in antiquity.

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CATALOGUE OF BURIALS

Key.

All measurements are in millimetres unless stated. Entries left blank or - denote missing data. C, T, L and S refer to cervical, thoracic, lumbar and sacral vertebrae respectively.

PRESERVATION: Moderate, skeleton 60-80% complete

SEX: Female

AGE: 22-35

STATURE: 167cm

DENTAL FORMULA:

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Key: .=tooth present in socket X=tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem -=socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present 0=congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=deciduous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA: Cribriotic type

DENTAL CALCULUS: -

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA: -

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:

SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	C 0/7	T 3/10GrI	L 0/5
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	C 3/6GrI	T 1/12GrI	L 2/5GrI

OTHER JOINTS: Osteophytosis GrI on S1

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Bregma-lambda chord=106.4 Lambda-opisthion chord=95.5

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Meric index L=82.7 R=83.2 Cnemic index L=70.8 R=72.5 Femoral head diameter L=44.0 R=44.0 Humerus maximum length R=327 Radius maximum length R=237 Ulna Maximum length R=258

REMARKS: Three thoracic vertebrae show Schmorl's nodes on both their superior and inferior surfaces, 3 have nodes on their inferior surfaces only and one on its superior surface only. A lumbar vertebra has a large Schmorl's node on its superior surface. Bones stained black.

PRESERVATION: Moderate, skeleton <20% complete

SEX: Unsexable

AGE: Adult

STATURE:

DENTAL FORMULA:

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 LEFT RIGHT

Key: .=tooth present in socket X=tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem -=socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present 0=congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=deciduous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA:

DENTAL CALCULUS:

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA:

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:

SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS: C T	L
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OSTEOPHYTOSIS: C T L

OTHER JOINTS:

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS:

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS:

Remarks: Lower leg and foot bones only

PRESERVATION: Moderate, skeleton 60-80% complete

SEX: Probably female

AGE: 16-18

STATURE: -

DENTAL. FORMULA:

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Key: .=tooth present in socket X-tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem *= tooth lost ante -mortem -= socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present O= congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=deciduous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALTA: Cribriotic type

DENTAL CALCULUS GrI

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA: 0

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	С	Т	L
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	С	Т	L

OTHER JOINTS:

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS:

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Meric index L=74.1 R=74.7 Cnemic index L=72.0 Femoral maximum length L=345 Tibia total length L=287 R=284 Fibula maximum length R=268 (all longbone lengths without epiphyses) PEMARKS: Papes from the hands downwards stained black

REMARKS: Bones from the hands downwards stained black.

PRESERVATION: Moderate, skeleton <20% complete

SEX: Unsexable

AGE: Adult

STATURE: -

DENTAL FORMULA:

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 LEFT RIGHT

Key: .=tooth present in socket X-tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem *= tooth lost ante -mortem -= socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present O= congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=decicuous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA:

DENTAL CALCULUS:

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPL ASIA:

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	С	Т	L
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	С	Т	L

OTHER JOINTS:

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS:

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENT6

REMARKS: Foot bones only

PRESERVATION: Good, skeleton 20-40% complete

SEX: Male

AGE: Adult

STATURE: 166cm

DENTAL FORMULA:

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Key: .=tooth present in socket X-tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem *= tooth lost ante -mortem -= socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present O= congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=decicuous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA:

DENTAL CALCULUS:

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA:

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS	C 2/5GrI	T 3/6GrI	L-
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	C 1/4GrI	T 2/7GrI	L-

OTHER JOINTS: GR I: 1R rib

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS:

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Humerus maximum length L=310 Radius maximum length R=231 Ulna maximum length R=269

REMARKS: Some bones stained black

Context: 0408

Preservation: Good, skeleton >80% complete

Sex: Female

Age:25-35

STATURE: 154cm

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Key: .=tooth present in socket X-tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem *= tooth lost ante -mortem -= socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present O= congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=decicuous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA: 0

DENTAL CALCULUS: Gr II

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLAS1A: -

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	C 0/7	T 0/9	L 0/5
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	C 0/6	T 0/12	L 0/5

OTHER JOINTS:

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Mastoid height L=29.0

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Meric index L=61.7 R=70.5 Cnemic index L=76.7 R=68.8 Femoral head diameter L=40.7 Femoral bicondylar width R=73.4 Femur maximum length L=403 R=407 Tibia total length L=317 R=319 Radius maxumum length L=217 R=218 Ulna maximum length L=232

REMARKS: Atlas anomalies: there is a failure of fusion of the posterior arch of the atlas at the midline (spina bifida). A bony bridge runs from the left transverse process to the posterior arch and there is an incomplete bridge on the right hand side. The left foramen transversarium is incomplete.

The proximal end of the left femur is twisted about 60 degrees from its normal position so that the head projects anteriorly instead of medially. No pathology is apparent in this bone, however. Two thoracic vertebrae bear Schmorl's nodes, one on its superior, one on its inferior surface.

CONTEXT: 0415/0417

PRESERVATION: Good, skeleton 40-60: complete

SEX: Male

AGE: About 25

STATURE: 172cm

DENTAL FORMULA:

Key: .=tooth present in socket X-tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem *= tooth lost ante -mortem -= socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present O= congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=decicuous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA: -

DENTAL CALCULUS: 0 DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA: 0

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	C-	T 0/4	L 0/5
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	С	T 3/5GrI	L 2/5GrI

OTHER JOINTS: GrII: distal L ulna and radius, 3 L carpals GrI: distal end of R 1st metacarpal

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS:

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Meric index L=79.8 R=80.0 Cnemic index L=77.1 R=76.1 Femoral head diameter L=47.9 R=48.5 Femoral bicondylar width L=80.8 Femur maximum length L=460 Tibia total length L=390 R=392 Radius maximum length L=250 Ulna maximum length L=270 (radi2a3lna lengths are inclusive of osteophytes around distal joint surfaces)

REMARKS: Bones from the distal femurs upwards are stained black.

The GrII osteoarthritis of the left wrist is probably due to trauma. There are exostoses on the hamate and lunate bones and exuberant osteophytes, particularly on the distal joint surface of the ulna. X-ray revealed no evidence for fracture.

Three thoracic vertebrae show Schmorl's nodes on both their inferior and superior surfaces, 2 have nodes on their inferior surfaces only and a lumbar vertebra has a node on its superior surface.

PRESERVATION: Poor, skeleton 20-40% complete

SEX: Unsexable

AGE: 17-20

STATURE:

DENTAL FORMULA:

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Key: .=tooth present in socket X=tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem -=socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loosCRIBRAh present 0=congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=decicuous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA: -

DENTAL CALCULUS: GrI

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA: 0

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	C- 0/1	Т-	L -
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	C-	Т-	L-

OTHER JOINTS:

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Mastoid height L=32.5

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Meric index L=79.3 R=77.4 Cnemic index L=71.1 R-73.8 Tibia total length L=365 R=359

REMARKS: Lower leg bones stained black. No hand or foot bones.

PRESERVATION: Good, skeleton >80% complete

SEX: Female

AGE: 35-45

STATURE: 160cm

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Key: .=tooth present in socket X=tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem -=socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present 0=congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=decicuous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA: 0

DENTAL CALCULUS: GPI

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA: 0

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	C 0/6	T 2/11 GrIII	L 1/5GrIII
		2/11GrII	1/5GrII
		3/11GrI	1/5GrI
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	C 1/3GrI	T 4/11GrI	L 4/5GrI

OTHER JOINTS: GrI: Distal joint surface L metatarsal, 1L, 5R ribs

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Nasion-Bregma chord=108.3 Mastoid height R=28.9 Bifrontal breadth=92.0 Bregma-Lambda chord=108.5

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Meric index L=79.5 R=79.8 Cnemic index L=70.7 R=70.7 Femoral head diameter L=43.8 R=43.5 Femoral bicondylar width L=75.2 R=73.9 Femur maximum length L=423 R=416 Tibia total length L=344 R=345 Humerus maximum length R=308 Radius maximum length L=232 R=234

REMARKS: The sacrum has only 4 segments and displays complete spina, bifida. In addition it does not display its normal anterior curvature, but is almost staight.

The fifth lumbar vertebra shows a neural arch defect: the R side of the neural arch is missing from the pars interarticularis the midline.

The R ulna and radius both show a healed fracture. That on the radius is at the midshaft and shows abundant, porotic callus. There is slight angulation at the break. The ulna fracture is 5- 7cm from the distal end and is firmly united, showing much less callus than the radius. X-ray reveals no evidence for shortening of either bone due to overriding of the broken ends - the right ulna and radius are in fact 6mm and 2mm longer respectively than their (normal) counterparts in the left forearm.

On the lateral surface of the left humerus, about 6cm from the distal end, there is an irregular exostosis about 2cm long. This is probably traumatic myositis ossificans.

PRESERVATION: Moderate, skeleton 20-40% complete

SEX: Female

AGE: Adult

STATURE: 173cm

DENTAL FORMULA:

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8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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Key: .=tooth present in socket X=tooth lost post-mortem *=tooth lost ante-mortem -=socket missing or damaged T=socket missing or damaged but loose tooth present 0=congenital absence of tooth U=unerupted E=erupting C=caries cavity A=abscess at root d=decicuous tooth present

CRIBRA ORBITALIA:

DENTAL CALCULUS:

DENTAL ENAMEL HYPOPLASIA:

DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE:			
SPINE: OSTEOARTHRITIS:	C -	Т-	L 0/1
OSTEOPHYTOSIS:	C -	Т-	L 1/1Gr1

OTHER JOINTS: Osteophytosis: GrII on Si Osteoarthritis: GrIII: distal joint surface of R 1st metatarsal GrI: both distal femora & patellae. proximal L tibia. L medial cuneiform

CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS:

POST CRANIAL MEASUREMENTS: Meric index L=78.6 Cnemic index L=62.9 R=65.2 Femoral head diameter L=45.1 Femur maximum length L=457 R-385

REMARKS: There is an irregular, raised area approximately 7mm diameter, of sclerotic bone on the lateral condyle of the right femur. Just medial to this there is a smaller area of pitted bone. The right patella shows a pitted, sclerotic area on the lateral part of the joint surface. The left femur shows an irregular, pitted eroded area on its distal joint surface in the depression between m condyles. A little bone from this pitted area rises proud of the joint surface. The lesion is about 7mm diameter. There is a similar area of raised, irregular bone on the medial condyle.

These lessions probably represent osteochrondritis dissecans, the areas with bone rising proud of the joint surface being healed lesions.