

APPENDIX 1 ANIMAL BONE

by Bethan Charles

ARC BBW00

Introduction

- 1.1.1 Excavations conducted at Beechbrook Wood produced a total of 617 (209 g) fragments of hand retrieved bone of which only 8 were identified to species (Table 7.1). A further 804 (109 g) fragments of bone were recovered from environmental samples, sieved through a mesh of >10 mm and 10-4 mm, from which only 10 fragments were identified to species (Table 7.2). The majority of the sieved bone came from two burnt fills. Fill (561), in burnt pit cut [562] produced 514 fragments, and fill (2342) from ditch group 2150 in multiple enclosure 3072 produced 11 fragments of burnt bone.

Methodology

- 1.1.2 The assemblage was recorded through the use of a simple recording sheet. This enabled a quick calculation of totals to be made along with a rough estimation of the number of individuals. Sheep's tooth eruption and wear was measured using a combination of Payne (1973) and Grant's (1982) tables. Cattle tooth eruption and wear was measured using Halstead (1985) and Grant's (1982) tables.

Quantification

- 1.1.3 All of the bones from the site were in very poor condition with considerable root damage and chemical etching.

Provenance

- 1.1.4 Cattle, sheep and pig were the only bones identified to species from the assemblage, the majority of which came from Middle to Late Iron Age features. One sheep tooth row from context (277) (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) was aged 4-6 years of age and one cattle tooth row from context (1465) (Late Iron Age) was from an adult. A single fragment of pig tooth was recovered from environmental samples taken from context (561) in burnt pit cut [562].

Conservation

- 1.1.5 The animal bone is currently stored within finds boxes in a dry environment and no further work is required.

Comparative material

- 1.1.6 The assemblage is too small to enable meaningful comparisons with assemblages from the surrounding region.

Potential for further work

- 1.1.7 The small number of bones identified to species does not provide much information regarding the economy of the site other than the presence of the animals at the site. Therefore no further work is recommended.

ARC BWD98

by Bethan Charles

Introduction

- 1.1.8 A very small quantity of burnt animal bone (12 g) was recovered from a single context during Fieldwork Event ARC BWD98.

Methodology and quantification

- 1.1.9 The assemblage was visually examined with regard to species, age, sex and evidence for butchery, and recorded on a pro forma sheet.
- 1.1.10 Of a total of seven fragments recovered from context (188) only three were large enough to be identified to species, and those fragments are detailed in Table 7.3. Two of the identified fragments were from a caprine/cervid mandible with knife marks on the edge of the remus, and one fragment was from a sheep rib.

Provenance

- 1.1.11 All fragments were recovered from one context, (188), the fill of Late Iron Age/Early Roman ditch [128].

Conservation

- 1.1.12 The material is stable and needs no further conservation.

Comparative material and potential for further work

- 1.1.13 This is a very small and undiagnostic assemblage, and requires no further work.

Bibliography

Grant, A., 1982 The Use of Tooth Wear as a Guide to the Age of Domestic Ungulates. In Wilson, B et al. *Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*. BAR British Series **109**, 91 -106

Halstead, P., 1985 A study of Mandibular teeth from Romano-British contexts at Maxey. In F. Pryor and C. French. *Archaeology and environment in the lower Welland valley. Clo. I*. East Anglian Archaeology Report 27:219-224.

Payne, S., 1973 Kill-Off Patterns in Sheep and Goats: The Mandibles from Asvan Kale. *Anatolian Studies*. Journal of the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara. Vol XXIII. 281 - 303

Table 7.1: Percentage of hand collected identified fragments by context, feature interpretation and period from ARC BBW00.

Context	Interpretation	Period	% of identified fragments		Count	Weight (g)
			Cattle	Sheep		
2213	Enclosure Ditch	MIA	100	0	2	11
1465	Ditch	LIA	100	0	3	35
1518	Pit	LIA	100	0	1	8
1567	Enclosure Ditch	LIA	100	0	1	11
1697	Ditch	MD	100	0	1	6

Table 7.2: Percentage of sieved identified fragments by context, feature interpretation and period from ARC BBW00.

Context	Interpretation	Period	% of identified fragments			Count	Weight (g)
			Cattle	Sheep	Pig		
2213	Enclosure Ditch	MIA	0	100	0	1	0
2342	Enclosure Ditch	MIA	0	100	0	1	1
277	Enclosure Ditch	LIA/RO	0	100	0	1	7
561	pit	(MBA/LB A)	0	86	14	7	4

Table 7.3: Quantification of identified fragments of burnt animal bone from ARCBWD98

Context	Interpretation	Period	% of identified fragments			Count	Weight (g)
			Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig		
188	Ditch	LIA/ERB		42		3	