

An evaluation of the human bone recovered during an Archaeological Targeted Watching at 23-28 Charterhouse Square, Farringdon (XSF10)

Context: RBS TWB [71]

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An evaluation was conducted on the human skeletal remains recovered during archaeological investigations in September 2011 by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA). These works were carried out as part of an archaeological targeted watching brief at the site of the proposed Crossrail Farringdon Eastern Ticket Hall. All disarticulated remains were examined following Museum of London Archaeology standards (Powers unpublished).

One context of human bone RBS TWB [71] was recovered from Trench 1 to the north side of the RBS building. This comprised two adult right femora (upper leg) and one adult left tibia (lower leg). The bone was in good condition with preservation of cortical bone and joint surfaces. All the bones displayed evidence of post mortem breakage, most likely resulting from later disturbance. The disarticulated bone (not in normal anatomical position) represented a minimum number of two adult individuals present (Table 1).

Previous archaeological works within the area have revealed evidence of human burial (Barber and Thomas 2002, 12—14). The possible association with the charterhouse burial ground suggests that the human bone from context [71] most likely relates to the redeposition of remains due to later disturbance of medieval burials within the vicinity.

Site code	Context	Body area	Elements present	Age	Sex	Pathology	MNI	Comments
XSF10	71	Lower limb	R. femur	Adult	Undetermined	None	1	Post mortem breaks to proximal shaft, Iron stains
XSF10	71	Lower limb	R. femur	Adult	Undetermined	None	1	Missing proximal and distal ends
XSF10	71	Lower limb	L. tibia	Adult	Undetermined	None	1	Missing distal end
						Total MNI	2	

Table 1 Summary of human bone from context [71]

Bibliography

Barber, B, and Thomas, C, 2002 *The London Charterhouse*, MoLAS Monogr 10, London

Powers, N, Unpublished Museum of London Archaeology Service guidelines for the assessment of inhumations and disarticulated bone