

### 5.1.16 Trench 13 animal bone

By Priscilla Lange

	<b>C3</b>	<b>Roman or later</b>		
	<b>Linear feature [13015]</b>	<b>Destruction layers</b>	<b>Total</b>	
<b>Taxon</b>	<b>NISP</b>	<b>NISP</b>	<b>NISP</b>	<b>%</b>
Cattle	2	2	4	17
Sheep/Goat	10	5	15	62.5
Sheep	[1]	[3]	[4]	
Pig	3		3	12.5
Horse	2		2	8
<b>Total identifiable</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>	
<b>% identifiable</b>				<b>44</b>
Large Mammal	10	1	11	
Medium Mammal	17	3	20	
<b>Total unidentifiable</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>31</b>	
<b>% unidentifiable</b>				<b>56</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>55</b>	

Table 5.195 Trench 13 totals.

### Third century AD

#### *Linear feature [13015], Fill (13016)*

The bones in this linear feature are well preserved, and none are in poor condition. Carnivore gnawing is low at 14% and burning even lower as only one bone was burnt. The only complete elements are isolated teeth.

Sheep/goat and pigs predominate over cattle, as can be seen in the table above (Table 5.195), although the amount of bone is very small. Both cattle remains are from adults, an almost complete second phalanx and fragment of horn. Cranial and mandibular remains along with isolated teeth of sheep/goat dominate this sample at 80%. A sheep mandible was aged at 1-2 years but an isolate lower premolar 4 and lower molar 3 were from older individuals, 3-4 years and 4-6 years respectively. Both of these has oral problems: the premolar 4 has plaque deposits and the molar 3 has not worn evenly on its occlusal surface which is sharp and pointed (shear mouth). A further sheep/goat upper molar has root pearly, associated with old age at Alfred's Castle.

Pig remains are also mostly isolated teeth (2 out of 3). An adult female is represented by a worn lower canine. An unshed upper deciduous incisor and a fibula shaft fragment are the other two pig elements.

The two horse remains are in fact from one metacarpal which was broken in two and both pieces deposited in this feature.

## **Roman or later**

### *Destruction layers (13002) and (13020)*

Destruction layers (13002) and (13020) are taken together as there is very little bone in both (Table 5.195). There were eight in layer (13002) and three in layer (13020), all sheep. Cattle bones, a humerus and tibia are both unfused proximally and are probably from the same individual as they are the same age (younger than 3.5-4 years). The other sheep/goat bones from (13002) are a fragment of a male pelvis and distal metacarpal. All other bones are unidentifiable including three Medium Mammal ribs.

In layer (13020) all three bones belong to one sheep: a right distally unfused metatarsal which articulates with two first phalanges and is aged younger than 1.5-2 years. By coincidence, the two sheep/goat bones from (13002) are also from the right side. But the metacarpal there is fused distally so there are two different adult individuals one an adult male and one older than a year, due to size, but younger than 2 years.