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**Evaluation of biological remains from excavations at
Huntington South Moor, York (site code: YORYM 2000.574)**

by

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Summary

A single sediment sample from deposits revealed by excavations at Huntington South Moor, York, was submitted for an evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.

The very few biological remains recovered from the sediment sample were of no interpretative value.

No further work is recommended on the current material.

KEYWORDS: HUNTINGTON SOUTH MOOR; YORK; EVALUATION; POST-MEDIEVAL; MODERN; PLANT REMAINS; CHARRED PLANT REMAINS

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Introduction

An archaeological evaluation excavation was carried out by York Archaeological Trust at Huntington South Moor, York (NGR: SE 6245.5430), during July 2000.

A single sediment sample ('GBA'/'BS' *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992) was recovered from the deposits. Pottery evidence could only broadly date the activity on site to the post-medieval and modern periods.

All of the samples were submitted to the EAU for evaluation of their bioarchaeological potential.

Methods

The sediment sample was inspected in the laboratory and its lithology recorded using a standard *pro forma*, prior to processing, following the procedures of Kenward *et al.* (1980; 1986), for recovery of plant and invertebrate macrofossils. The washover and residue were examined for plant remains. The washover was also examined for invertebrate remains, and the residue was examined for other biological and artefactual remains

Results

Archaeological information, provided by the excavator, is presented in square brackets.

Context 1006 [backfill of depression, possibly associated with a tree or hedge base]
Sample 1/T (2 kg sieved to 300 microns followed by washover)

Somewhat varicoloured (primarily light grey, locally light grey-brown and light yellow brown), stiff (working plastic), slightly silty clay. Flecks of

?charcoal, ?charred grain, and frequent modern rootlets were present in the sample.

The very small residue consisted of about 100 cm³ of modern roots and fine burnt and unburnt amorphous fragments (to 4 mm) which seemed to be peat or mor humus (the peat-like material accumulating on heathland), with a little charcoal and coal, and clasts of ?burnt soil. Perhaps all this material represents ash. The only uncharred remains were traces of seeds of toad rush (*Juncus bufonius* L.), of no interpretative significance in isolation.

Discussion and statement of potential

No further study of the biological remains from these samples is necessary.

Recommendations

No further work is recommended on the current material.

Retention and disposal

The current material may be discarded.

Archive

All material is currently stored in the Environmental Archaeology Unit, University of York, along with paper and electronic records pertaining to the work described here.

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