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**Evaluation of biological remains from Clarence Street, York  
(sitecode: YCS98)**

by

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**Summary**

*One sediment sample from deposits revealed by excavations at Clarence Street, York was submitted for an evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.*

*The very few recovered biological remains were of no interpretative value.*

*No further work is recommended on the current material.*

KEYWORDS: CLARENCE STREET; YORK; NORTH YORKSHIRE; EVALUATION; CHARRED PLANT REMAINS; VERTEBRATE REMAINS

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## **Evaluation of biological remains from Clarence Street, York (sitecode: YCS98)**

### **Introduction**

An archaeological excavation was carried out by Field Archaeology Specialists at Clarence Street, York, in October 1998. One sediment sample ('GBA' *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992) was recovered from the deposits. This sample was submitted to the EAU for evaluation of its bioarchaeological potential.

### **Methods**

The sediment sample was inspected in the laboratory and a description of its lithology was recorded using a standard *pro forma*. All of the sample was processed, following the procedures of Kenward *et al.* (1980; 1986), primarily to recover vertebrate remains and artefacts (if present).

### **Results**

#### **Context 1001**

Sample 1 (12 kg bulk sieved to 500 µm and washover)

Moist, light to mid grey-brown with orange-brown patches (from rotted modern rootlets), brittle to crumbly (working soft), clay silt. Very small and large stones (2 to 6 and >60 mm), rotted charcoal and modern roots and rootlets, were visible in the sample.

The very small washover was mostly of modern rootlets with a little fine charcoal and some small fragments of brick/tile (to 3 mm). Three herring (*Clupea harengus* L.) vertebrae and two unidentified fragments of mammal bone were also noted.

The modest residue was mostly of stones (to 120 mm), gravel and sand with some modern rootlets,

charcoal (to 15 mm), and fragments of bone (some burnt). The bone was mostly unidentified mammal fragments (48 fragments) with a single fish vertebra (possibly cyprinid).

No artefacts (other than the small fragments of brick/tile) were recovered from the sample.

### **Discussion and statement of potential**

The recovered ancient biological remains were too few to be of interpretative value.

### **Recommendations**

No further work is recommended on the present material.

### **Retention and disposal**

Any remaining sediment samples may be discarded.

### **Archive**

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

### **Acknowledgements**

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## References

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