

**Notes on the vertebrate remains from Wharram-Le-Street, North Yorkshire  
(site code 1999.96)**

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**Methods**

The vertebrate remains were recorded using the protocol outlined in Dobney *et al* (1999). Where possible, fragments were identified to species or species group, using the reference collection at the Environmental Archaeology Unit, University of York. Fragments not identifiable to species were grouped into categories: large mammal (assumed to be cattle, horse or large cervid) and medium-sized mammal (assumed to be caprovid, pig or small cervid). The total weight of bone was recorded for each context. Measurements were taken according to von den Driesch (1976).

**Results**

Bone was recovered from six contexts, all assumed to be medieval in date (probably 11th to 13th Century). A total of 62 fragments of bone (weighing 1375.5 g) were recovered, of which 16 were identifiable to species level. Species present included cattle, caprovid (sheep/goat), horse, pig and chicken. Overall preservation was fair to good and colour was uniformly fawn. The angularity (appearance of broken surfaces) was mostly described as slightly battered. Four bones were measured (Table 1), two isolated teeth and two mandibles (yielding ageing information) were also recovered.

**Context 1000**

1 sheep/goat mandible with P3 and P4  
1 cow maxilla with teeth  
5 unidentified large mammal fragments  
8 unidentified medium sized mammal fragments  
Weight = 316.8 g

**Context 1001**

1 cow M3  
1 horse pelvis fragment  
1 pig tooth fragment  
5 unidentified large mammal fragments  
6 unidentified medium sized mammal fragments  
Weight = 135.1 g

**Context 1005**

1 horse maxillary molar  
1 cow metacarpal (measurable) with small, well remodelled, ossified haematoma on anterior medial aspect of proximal half of the shaft. Also the lateral vestigial metacarpal was present, fused to the proximal end of the shaft.  
Weight = 160.6 g

### Context 1011

1 horse radius (measurable)  
1 horse metacarpal (measurable)  
1 sheep/goat humerus (measurable)  
2 unidentified fragments  
Weight = 453.0 g

### Context 1013

1 unidentified medium-sized mammal fragment  
Weight = 3.0 g

### Context 1023

1 cow scapula (heavily chopped)  
1 cow mandible with ?M2 erupting  
1 cow M3  
1 chicken coracoid (subadult)  
1 sheep/goat maxilla with teeth  
1 horse 2nd phalanx (chopped)  
9 unidentified large mammal fragments  
10 unidentified medium sized mammal fragments  
Weight = 307.0 g

### Discussion and statement of potential

Although preservation was good, the very small size and broad dating of the assemblage renders it of no interpretative value.

### References

Dobney, K. M., Jaques, S. D. and Johnstone, C. J. (1999). [Protocol for recording vertebrate remains from archaeological sites]. *Reports from the environmental Archaeology Unit, York* 99/15.

von den Driesch, A. (1976). A guide to the measurement of animal bones from archaeological sites. *Peabody Museum Bulletin* 1. Cambridge Mass., Harvard University.

*Table 1. Measurements of (probable medieval) bones from Wharram-Le-Street, North Yorkshire*

Context	Species	Element	Side	Measurements				
1005	Cow	Metacarpal	L	GL= 174.83	SD=26.84	Bp=48.99	Dp=32.25	Bd=51.27
				Dd=27.97	Dem=21.15	Dvm=28.10	Dim=24.63	
1011	Horse	Radius	R	GL=330	Ll=316	Bp=79.83	BFp=71.29	SD=35.49
				Bd=72.56	BFd=59.34			
1011	Horse	Metacarpal	L	SD=32.75	Bp=48.07	Dp=31.65		
1011	Sheep/goat	Humerus	L	BT=28.66	HT=17.82	HTC=14.14		

