

3. FEATURE 15

a) *Skeletal Inventory and Condition*

Feature 15 was apparently disturbed by intrusive activity and much of the skeleton is missing.

The cranium and mandible are absent.

Four complete cervical vertebrae (probably C3, C4, C6, and C7) are present in excellent condition. In addition, fragments of C1 and C2 are preserved in poor condition. Fifteen lumbar and thoracic vertebrae are preserved. Three of them are certainly L3-L5, but the condition of the others makes it impossible to determine precisely which vertebrae are absent.

The sacrum is present though the inferior portion (below S2) is not preserved. Both innominates are present in fairly good condition. The left is complete with the exception of the anterior portion of the ilium and a small portion of ischiopubic ramus. The right is complete with the exceptions of the anterior portion of the ilium and the top portion of the pubis at the pubic symphysis.

The lower limbs are not preserved. However, there is a first cuneiform from a left foot, discovered out of place, which the excavators suggest may be associated with the skeletal material from Feature 15. Nothing about the bone contradicts this interpretation.

A small fragment of sternum is preserved in poor condition. In addition, a number of rib fragments are preserved (approximately eight from the right side and nine from the left side). In only five of these ribs (including one first rib) are the vertebral articulations present.

Both clavicles are present. On the right side, only the middle portion of the bone is preserved, with no articular ends; on the left side the bone is complete with the exception of the distal end. The scapulae are present; in both cases the glenoid fossa is present in good condition as well as a portion of the scapular spines and coracoid processes. The medial borders of both scapulae are absent. More of the right scapula is present than the left. Both humeri are present. The right one is complete and in excellent condition, with only some outer bone missing from the humeral head. The left humerus has both the proximal and distal portions quite eroded. Both ulnae are present. The right is in excellent condition; the left is in very poor condition, retaining only the shaft and a

portion of the proximal end. The radii are both present. The right is in excellent condition and complete, the left has only the radial shaft present and even that has the outer bone eroded away, and the proximal and distal articular surfaces are in extremely poor condition. Fourteen carpals are present, mostly in identifiable, poor to good condition. All metacarpals and ten hand phalanges are present in reasonably good condition with some articular surfaces broken off.

b) *General Description and Pathology*

1) Vertebral Column

Like the rest of this skeleton, the cervical vertebrae are extremely small. The bodies of the cervical vertebrae have slight porosity and marginal osteophytes resulting in lipping. Although the outer surfaces of the bodies of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae are eroded and in fragile condition, the bodies have slight porosity of the articular surface and marginal osteophytes increasing as one moves inferiorly on the vertebral column.

2) Sacrum and Pelvis

The sacrum is wide and fairly curved in the frontal plane. The superior articular surface has small marginal osteophytes. The innominates are small and gracile. The acetabula are small and deep. The acetabular rims have essentially no lipping. The pubis has a marked ventral arc and a concave subpubic concavity. It is somewhat difficult, given the condition of the bone, to evaluate the sharpness of the ischiopubic ramus, but it appears to be sharp. All of these features suggest that the individual is female (Phenice 1969). In addition, the pubis is long, and the sciatic notches are extremely wide and symmetrical. These features, as well as the small overall size and general gracility of the bones, are consistent with the individual being female. No preauricular sulcus is present on either ilium, nor is there any pitting on the dorsal surface of the left pubis (the right is absent). The auricular surfaces (iliac surfaces of the sacroiliac joints) are broad (along the long axis of the innominate) and short.

3) Ribs, Manubrium, and Sternum

The ribs are small and gracile. The rib cage is all quite fragmentary but no arthritis is visible on the joint surfaces which are preserved nor is any other pathology evident.

4) Upper Limb

Like the rest of the skeleton the clavicles are gracile and small. The medial articular surface on the left clavicle is covered by very fine porosity. In addition, the line of fusion of the medial portion of the clavicle to the **epiphysis** seems to be visible. The scapulae have glenoid fossae with smooth surfaces free of osteophytic development.

The humeri are small with no evidence of arthritis. The olecranon fossa is not perforated. The deltoid tuberosities are not well developed, but the lateral supracondylar crest on the right humerus is sharp and prominent. The left humerus is poorly preserved and thus cannot be evaluated.

Radii and ulnae are gracile and small. The left radius (which is complete) has smooth joint surfaces with only very slight evidence of lipping on the anterior margin of the distal surface. The right ulna (also complete) has smooth joint surfaces and no evidence of pathology.

The fifth metacarpal has a small raised area on the lateral surface of the bone. This could represent a healed fracture.

c) *Sex*

This individual is certainly female. This is based largely on the characters of the pelvis, especially the pubis. The overall size and gracility of the skeleton are consistent with the diagnosis of female based on the pelvis.

d) *Age*

All epiphyses are fused and this individual was clearly adult. The lack of degenerative arthritis or osteoporosis suggests that the individual was not of an advanced age (probably late 20s through 40s at the time of death), but in the absence of dental remains or a well-preserved pubic symphysis, it is not possible to be more precise.

e) *Cultural Modification*

No cultural modifications were seen on those portions of the skeleton that were preserved.

f) *Stature*

Based on the formula for stature reconstruction for American White Females (Trotter 1970), using humerus length, this individual's stature was approximately 154 cm +/- 4.45 (60.1 inches). Stature reconstruction based on ulna and radius is within the range of the estimate based on the humerus.

g) *Population Affinity*

Because the skull was missing, it was impossible to determine the population affinity of this individual. Nothing from the postcranial skeleton indicated that this individual might not have been of European ancestry, like the other skeletons from this site.

h) *Summary*

This partial skeleton represents an adult female who had no evidence of disease and evidence of only minor degenerative changes such as osteoarthritis. During life she would have been approximately 60.1 inches (5 feet) tall.

4. **FEATURE 29**

a) *Skeletal Inventory and Condition*

The cranium and mandible were in good condition. Most individual bones of the skull are present (including the right incus [one of the ear ossicles]). Most of the teeth which would have been in the jaws at the time of death were preserved. All four first deciduous incisors are absent, but it is impossible to determine whether they were lost postmortem (likely because they are small, single rooted teeth whose roots had probably already begun to resorb in preparation for being shed) or whether they had fallen out prior to death. The four first permanent molars in which only the crowns and a portion of the roots had formed are present. The crowns of the second permanent molars are visible in the crypts.

The vertebral column is represented by fragmentary vertebral arches which were not fused to the bodies. C1, C2, and two other unidentifiable cervical vertebrae are preserved as well as fragments of at least ten other (thoracic and lumbar) vertebrae. The ribs are also extremely fragmentary. The manubrium and sternum are not preserved in identifiable form.