
9 Human remains from Lambsdale Leans

by L H Wells

The remains are those of two individuals: one (Lambsdale I) represented by the left half of the skull and mandible with fragments of vertebral column, pelvis and limbs and the other (Lambsdale II) by the hinder half of the skull with no other associated parts (Section 7.2; Illus 18).

Lambsdale I is clearly shown by the remains of the pelvis to be female. The vault sutures are almost completely obliterated, externally as well as internally, indicating a middle-aged or even elderly individual. This agrees with the evidence of extensive arthritic change in the vertebral, pelvic and hip joints. Despite this the teeth, although considerably worn, were nearly all still in position.

The remains are too heavily corroded for any measurements to be made on either the limb-bones or the skull. They have belonged to a small-boned woman; the clearly defined muscle markings on the limb-bones show that she had led an active life. The remaining portion of the skull is somewhat warped, but it was evidently of medium size and moderately dolicho-cranial.

Lambsdale II represents a younger, but still fully adult individual, and from its slender build was probably also female. The fragment appears to have formed part of a skull shorter and wider than that of Lambsdale I.

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