

Note on Human Remains discovered at Pile Marsh, Bristol

BY F. ELLIS.

The object of this note is to record the discovery of Romano-British remains, which is believed to have been hitherto unrecorded. In the Spring of 1894 workmen, while laying the sewer for a new road (Roseberry Road) at Pile Marsh, St. George, Bristol, unearthed at intervals along the excavation fifteen or more skeletons lying in a row. The main bulk of the bones were unceremoniously thrown together and removed to Avonview Cemetery. However, by the intervention of the writer the better preserved skulls were kept, and are at present on show in the Anthropological Museum of the University of Bristol. Unfortunately no coin or other dateable object was reported as accompanying the skeletons. A number of highly oxidised lead fragments were found by the workmen, who stated that they belonged to a leaden shell, which they had cut through.

The market gardens, in which these discoveries were made, were known for a time as "skeleton park." The area is now, however, completely built over, but the site may be indicated by the sewer through Roseberry Road, during the excavations for which the finds were made, the interments being opposite houses numbers 11 and 15.