

slab of plaster. This is the last major bony element to be found in the burial pit and signifies the end of burials in the eastern platform at the lowest levels of Building 44.

Area South: X-finds

Unit (11608)

- X5: humerus (lt.)
- X6: femur
- X7: femur
- X8: tibia
- X9: hipbone
- X10: skull
- X11: hipbone
- X12: skull
- X13: hipbone
- X14: humerus (rt.)
- X15: hipbone
- X16: skull
- X17: tibia
- X18: femur, mid-shaft
- X19: patella (lt.)
- X20: vertebrae (2 lumbar)
- X21: humerus, mid-shaft
- X22: femur
- X23: femur
- X24: ribs, small vertebrae fragments
- X25: humerus
- X26: possible tibia
- X27: hipbone
- X28: clavicle (rt.)
- X29: scapula (prob. rt.)
- X30: humerus (rt.)
- X31: humerus (prob. lt.)
- X32: ulna (lt)
- X33: probable radius
- X34: radius
- X35: possible ulna
- X36: fibula
- X37: clavicle
- X38: mandible

Area: Team Poznán (TP)

The TP area yielded several Neolithic skeletons this field season. Disturbance to the skeletons by post-Neolithic people was the common theme. All the skeletons recovered this season were partial. Adults and children were represented.

Space 248 (11566), (11569), (11570), (11571), (11700), (12265), (10986)

The disarticulated, partially articulated, and articulated remains of several adults and juveniles were found on one floor level of Space 248. The space had suffered considerable disturbance by post-Neolithic people. The skeletal elements were located in the eastern portion of the space where the north, south and east walls were intact. Most of the western portion of the space had been seriously impacted by later construction activities. The human remains appeared to lie between two floors. The plaster on the floors that remained was interrupted.

The human remains were all quite disturbed. Many disarticulated bones were scattered in the space although there were a few individuals whose bones were articulated. The articulated elements were given skeleton unit numbers. Non-articulated bony elements were assigned X-find numbers in the burial fill (10986). Laboratory analysis suggested several disarticulated bones belonged to a single individual and these bones were collapsed into one skeleton unit number (12265). Otherwise the bones could not be matched to one another at this point in our analysis. No skeleton was complete or even nearly complete. No burial cuts were evident for any individual. Adults and children are represented.

One individual (11566) was found in direct association with a bucranium (F.11562) in the northwest area of the Space 248. Most of this individual was missing due to the excavation of a large pit in post-Neolithic times. The head was clearly in close approximation to the bucranium.

The burial event or events that account for this distribution of human remains are intriguing. Is the distribution of the bones the result of Neolithic or later activities? If Neolithic, then this may have been a mass burial. Certainly (11566) whose skeleton was found in association with the bucranium, and (11569) looked to be *in situ* from Neolithic times. They did not look like discarded skeletons put there in later times. It is not clear if this can be said of the other skeletons. An additional argument for a Neolithic context of the bones is the presence of the plastering above and below the skeletal elements. In the area around the bucranium, the plaster was more intact than in the southern part of the space (except for the southern wall which was plastered). For (11569) the hand bones were clearly between two layers of plaster but it is not certain if all the other elements had plaster above also. The argument for a late disturbance of the burials is the clear sign of late activities throughout the area. It is possible that some of the burials were *in situ* and others were the result of disturbance by later post-Neolithic peoples.

Space 248, (11566) (1 adult, possible female)

This partial skeleton had been disturbed significantly by the excavation of a post-Neolithic pit. The majority of the skeleton was removed during later times. However, the cranium of (11566) was found and it was in direct association with a bucranium that had not been disturbed. This bucranium was in the west wall of the northwest corner of Space 248. While the majority of (11566) was missing, body position can be inferred from the bones remaining. The body was on its right side, flexed at the hip and knee. The head was to the west. This was an adult, possibly a female.

Space 248, (11569) (1 middle adult female)

This partial skeleton was one of the most complete skeletons in the group. This middle adult female was lying on her stomach with the right arm extended towards or above the head. The right leg was flexed at the hip and knee so that the leg was splayed to the right side of the body and the feet were at her hip. The head and left side of the body were missing. These were disturbed by post-Neolithic people as they dug pits into the floors of Space 248. The right hand was between two layers of plaster in the area of one horn tip of the bucranium which is directly associated with (11566). It is possible (11569) was also related to the bucranium.

An articulated left leg and both feet from another individual (11700) were directly under (11569). Other disarticulated bony elements were in the area immediately surrounding this individual.

Space 248, (11570) (1 infant)

This is an infant burial whose bones were mostly disarticulated when found. The body position was indeterminate. The infant was located in the south area of Space 248 where there was a concentration of skeletal elements. A string of beads was found near the infant but the bones did not appear to be directly associated with it.

Space 248, (11571) (1 adult)

This individual is represented by an articulated leg. The left femur and tibia were found in the south area of Space 248. The tibia was against the plastered south wall. The leg bones are from an adult. The femur displays a healed fracture with a well-developed bony callus. A horn core was found directly under the femur.

Space 248, (11700) (1 adult)

This individual consists of an articulated left lower leg and some bones from both feet. The rest of the body was missing due to later human activities in the area. The bones are from an adult. These lower limb bones were found directly under (11569).

Space 248, (12265) (1 infant)

This is a partial infant skeleton whose bones comprise some of the disarticulated bones found in the south area of Space 248. The bones were deemed to be the same individual by one of us (TK). Some of the bones were found pressed into the plastered south wall of the space with plaster on them. Overall, the bones are poorly preserved.

(11561) (no feature number) (1 adult, possible female)

This is a partial adult skeleton consisting of a partial cranium, mandible, cervical vertebrae and some feet bones. It is possible the feet represent another individual. This individual is a possible female. The bones are highly fragmented. No burial cut was noted.

F. 1911, (11720) (1 adult)

This adult was disturbed during later time periods. Large post-Neolithic pits are present around this burial. The body was on its left side and tightly flexed at the hip and knee. The left leg is flexed so tightly that the knee is at the forehead. The right side is missing more elements than the left. The remaining bones are fragmentary.

F. 1912, (11739) (1 adult), **(11762)** (2 adults)

This concentration of bones was multi-layered and complex. At least three individuals are represented in this cluster of bones. The bone concentration was surrounded by post-Neolithic pits. At first, it was thought the concentration of bones were Neolithic individuals who had been put into this concentration as the later people excavated their pits. On closer examination, several of the bony elements were articulated and it was clear that the pits actually cut into the concentration of bones. It seems unlikely that these bones are redeposited during later times but rather that they represent a multiple burial of Neolithic origins that had been severely truncated during late times.

All of these individuals are adults. One of these (11739) is a possible female. Preliminary lab analysis suggests an MNI of three individuals. Given that so many elements were articulated, it is probable that if these bones were moved at all, full decomposition had not occurred.

Area TP: Bone Clusters

(11592) and (11593)

These units consist of two clusters of human bones discovered during excavation in TP. (11592) consists of a radius and some vertebrae. These bones were located next to a wall and between a cluster of animal bones and another cluster of human bones (11593). (11593) is a lumbar vertebra. (11592) and (11593) may be the same individual. Additional analysis in the lab should clarify this matter.

(12203), Space 248

Several disarticulated human bones were found in this cluster. All were in a disturbed context. The bones included adult and juvenile materials from the cranium and post-cranium. These bones may have been disturbed at the same time as the other disarticulated and articulated Neolithic skeletons in the upper layers of Space 248. Fragments of plaster were also found in the fill. The bones were given X-find numbers in (12203).

Area TP: X-finds

(10986) (burial fill from upper layer of Space 248)

- X11: child's skull (could be same individual as X21, X33)
- X12: mandible fragments (right, ramus and condyle)
- X13: femur (possibly same as (11569))
- X14: tibia (possibly same as (11569))
- X16: hipbone (south area, near beads)
- X17: vertebra fragment (south area, near beads)
- X19: ulna (right) (could be same individual as X29)
- X20: scapula fragment (probable)
- X21: 1 deciduous tooth
- X23: adult skull (upside down)
- X24*: child's skull
- X25: ulna (right)
- X26: rib
- X27*: child's skull
- X28: child's skull
- X29: adult humerus (right) (could be same individual as X19)
- X30*: child's humerus (right)
- X31: lower arm bone (ulna?)
- X32: rib
- X33: juvenile sacrum (could be same individual as X11 and X21)
- X35: hipbone (adult, right)
- X36*: child's skull (probable infant)
- X37: distal ulna
- X41*: juvenile femur
- X43*: several infant bones

*X-finds later viewed as single individual (12265)

(11563)

- X1: rib and scapula fragments (probably same as (11566))

(11588)

- X1: parietal fragment
- X2: cranial fragment

(12203) (burial fill from lower layer of Space 248)

- X1: distal femur shaft
- X2: sacrum + hipbone
- X3: humerus (lt.)
- X4: distal femur (with condyle)
- X5: mandible (1): right and left sides of body
- X6: mandible (2): right body + symphysis
- X8: femur (left)
- X9: cranial fragments
- X10: ulna (right)
- X 14: frontal fragment (lt.)

(12235)

- X1: subadult mandible

(12240)

X4: femur (rt.) and rib fragments

Area Istanbul Team: Isolated Remains

The human bone recovered during the first season’s excavation by the Istanbul team were isolated remains. A few bones, including one burnt femur, were found at or near the surface in possibly disturbed contexts. Other isolated bony elements were discovered in spaces or rooms. Cranial and post-cranial elements were found. The majority of the isolated remains were adult. The subadult material includes one cervical vertebra and one metatarsal.

Late Burials (Late Roman/Byzantine) from 2005

The 17 late skeletons were found in the 4040 and TP areas of excavation. Nearly all individuals displayed the typical pattern of this time period in their position and orientation. The bodies were in an extended position with the heads to the west and the feet to the east. There was one exception to this pattern where the feet were to the west and the head to the east. Most of these skeletons were extended on their back but five individuals were extended on their right side. These five individuals were clustered together in the south part of the 4040 in well-defined graves.

Distinct graves were in evidence for many of the late burials. They varied in size and in depth. One of the deep graves was nearly 2 meters long and was longer than the individual in the grave was tall. One other nearby grave was empty. In nearly all instances, the late graves disturbed earlier Neolithic deposits.

For the Late burials, few grave goods were uncovered this field season. A glass vial was found near the left ear of one child and stone beads were found around the neck of an adult. Otherwise, only coffin nails and coffin wood were associated with the late burials.

Several of the late burials were in areas close to the surface and suffered the same degradation from erosion as did the Neolithic skeletons in these areas. The condition of the bones in these instances is poor.

Age	4040	TP	Total
Neonate/infant	2		2
Child	3	3	6
Adolescent	1		1
Adult	7	1	8
Total	13	4	17

Table 3: Late Roman/Byzantine Burials by Age

Descriptions of Late Skeletons

Area: 4040

F. 1571, (10314) (1 middle adult male)

The skeleton was of a middle adult male. The body was extended on its back with the arms were alongside the body. The skeleton was partially disturbed on its right side. The grave was clearly defined with coffin wood and nails present. The individual demonstrated evidence of structural scoliosis of the thoracic spine.

F. 1598, (10339) (1 adult female)

This individual was an adult female. The skeleton was truncated at its midsection by later building activities. Only the lower portion of the skeleton was present. Dorsally extended on its back, the body was in a well-defined grave.

F. 2042, (12123) (1 infant)

The well-defined grave of this one-year old infant was located between two Neolithic walls. The body was on its right side in an extended position. The legs were slightly bent at the knees. The left leg was on top of the right leg. Some disturbance to the burial had occurred. Animal disturbance was high in this area. Some coffin wood