

Record 3: Infant burial 1

SMR Number

1 041 736

1 041 736 - MDO18605

Site name

Colliton Park, Dorchester; Infant burial 1

Colliton Park, Dorchester; Infant burial 1

An infant burial, containing the remains of two infants, was found in a shallow grave cut into the floor at the southeast corner of Room 3 of the Roman Town House, Building I, at Colliton Park, Dorchester.

Monument types and dates

GRAVE (Late, Roman - 300 AD to 409 AD)

Evidence

INHUMATION (Late, Roman - 300 AD to 409 AD)

Evidence

Description and Sources

Description

Infant Burial 1 was one of a number found associated with the Roman Town House, Building I, at Colliton Park during excavations in 1937-8. It was found in the southeast corner of Room 3 in the South Range in a scoop in the floor, apparently dug at a late stage in the life of the building (1).

The remains of two separate infants were recovered from this scoop (2), though only one was recognised during excavation. One was the skeleton of an at-term foetus and was either a still birth or peri-natal death. The only recognisable bone from the second infant was a fragment of left femur only. Some bird bones were apparently also found in association (1).

Sources

Index: National Monuments Record. NMR Monument Record. SY 69 SE 24

Article in serial: Drew, C D and Collingwood Selby, K C. 1937. 'First Interim report on the Excavations at Colliton Park, Dorchester, 1937-1938' Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society. 59. 1-14

Excavation archive: Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society. 1937-1938. Colliton Park, Dorchester.

1. Bibliographic reference: Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England). 1970. An Inventory of Historical Monuments in the County of Dorset. Volume Two (South East) Part II. p572 no. 215c

2. Unpublished document: Firth, J. 1992. Report on the Infant Burials from Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset.

Location

National Grid Reference

SY 68969 90953 (point) SY69SE Point

Administrative Areas

Civil Parish Dorchester, West Dorset

Address/Historic Names

None recorded

Designations, Statuses and Scorings

Associated Legal Designations

Scheduled Monument- DO141

Colliton Park Roman house

Other Statuses and Cross-References

Dorset Historic Environment Record - 1 041 736

Royal Commission Inventory Reference - Dorchester 215c

Ratings and Scorings - None recorded

Land Use

Associated Historic Landscape Character Records - None recorded

Other Land Classes

Geology: chalk

Land use: Monument display

Related Monuments

1 041 182 Colliton Park, Dorchester; Roman Building I, 'Roman Town House'

Finds - None recorded

Associated Events/Activities

EDO4434 Colliton Park, Dorchester (Event - Intervention)

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Associated Individuals/Organisations - None recorded