The information collated into this table is transcribed from the publications listed in the Bibliography. Not all of this information is uniform or consistent in its content, but it has been entered as published. The project main database has added fields that reconcile, amend and extend the data, but what is presented here is the base line material. All fields should be read together in order to determine the record for each individual.

Site ID

This is a unique code given for each burial site. It consists here of DHM for the historic county of County Durham; a three letter code denoting the historic parish; hyphen to separate the entry; a two letter code for the site type (BI – isolated burial inhumation; IC – inhumation cemetery; MC – mixed rite cemetery of inhumations and cremations); a running sequence number for that type of site within the parish

Grave Number

This is the number or code for the grave as given in the text. Taken together with the Site ID, this gives a unique identifier for each individual in the corpus. If a site has been excavated by a modern field unit, a unique skeleton number is usually generated, but these are listed separately in the database and are not given here. Only those burials that fall within the time frame of the project (AD300-800) are included, although sites such as Wearmouth extend beyond that – these other burials are not recorded.

The following code elements are used:

- X denotes that an unknown number of individuals were present, so this is a group entry to denote their presence
- / denotes a multiple burial (inhumation or cremation), for example 002/003; 145/a
- - is used when subsequent excavations on a site have used the same number sequence for their graves. The number before **–** equates to the year of excavation, for example 62-004, 63-004

Skeletal material present

This is a simple yes/no record, but does not indicate the amount of the skeletal material that survived, which could range from a small amount of tooth enamel to a complete set of bones.

Sex

The binaries of Female and Male as determined by osteoarchaeological analysis. The entries are recorded from the text but the level of accuracy of these is very variable, apart from those carried out by field unit specialists. The majority are Unknown. Degrees of uncertainty have not been included, for example F? is entered as F.

Gender

The socially constructed identity of the individual as determined by their associated artefacts. Hence this only applies to furnished burials. The elements used are: Feminine (denoting the presence of brooches and beads); Masculine (denoting the presence of weaponry); Not determined (no

information about their social identity could be found from the burial record). This is a simplistic notation and generally masks variations in identities in this period. Sex and gender are not always aligned, however, and by splitting these two elements, anomalies can be retained and made visible.

Age at death

Information transcribed from the text. Many entries will not have been determined by osteoarchaeological analysis and are based on the perceptions of the excavator. The terminology is imprecise as to meaning that could be tied to a range of ages – what 'child' or 'young adult' might mean in one era could be different in another. Only those ages at death determined by bones specialist might be relied upon. The age is given in years in most cases, or by months if stated.

Burial rite

Inhumation or cremation

Position of body

A range of body positions are listed. Where possible these have been determined from the grave plan rather than the text, as there are terminological differences. For example what is given as 'crouched ' may actually be more similar to flexed and the body is on one side.

The range of entries is:

- Crouched – body on its side in a contracted position, and with the legs at less than 90° to the body
- Flexed – generally supine but with legs bent to one side
- NA – no available information
- Left side extended – laid out on the left side. This also includes those with a slight degree of flexion in the legs
- Right side extended – laid out on the right side. This also includes those with a slight degree of flexion in the legs
- Prone – face down in the grave. The body may be in a variety of positions.
- Supine – laid out extended on the back

Grave orientation

The orientation of the grave cut (and the body within) is reconciled to eight options. These are:

- E-W
- W-E
- N-S
- S-N
- SW-NE
- SE-NW
- NE-SW
- NW-SE

The first element should indicate the head position, if known. This data is dependent on the correct positioning of the north arrow on the grave and site plans.

Form of grave

The majority of the graves are assumed to be simple dug features – this data is included in order to highlight the local variants. The list entries are:

- Cairn – under a stone mound
- Cist – a stone lined (and covered) grave
- Flat – a simple dug grave
- Rock cut – a grave excavated into solid rock