

EXCAVATIONS AT SHEEP STREET, PETERSFIELD, 1976

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ABSTRACT

Rescue excavations in the centre of Petersfield uncovered the rear part of a medieval and post-medieval property, that for much of its history was known as the Ship Inn. The documentary history of the site is discussed, and the excavated features, including a medieval well, are described. The medieval pottery, the first large assemblage from the town, and the botanical samples are presented in detail.

INTRODUCTION

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE SITE

by N Cahill

Sheep Street retains, particularly on its southern side, many picturesque 18th-, 17th- and even 16th-century buildings, which alone would merit greater attention being paid to the street than has hitherto been the case. Most histories and guides to the town, however, dismiss Sheep Street as merely the road leading from the Market Place (the Square) to the Spain. In the 17th century this was indeed the common, if not the only way of referring to the street, the first reference to 'Ship Street' being in 1710. 'Sheep Street' occurs only after 1732, and in 1737 it was called Spain Street, or (1760) 'Spain Street or Ship Street'. Sheep and Ship Street were interchangeable names for the street well into the 19th century. The derivation of the name is unknown; the suggestion that the sheep market was held in the street remaining totally unproven. It is more likely that the Ship Inn (first recorded in 1653) gave its name to the street, although, of course, this leaves the origin of the inn name a mystery. The 17th century was a period of much formation and alteration of street names in Petersfield, and for a previously anonymous road to be named after an inn was quite a common occurrence. In the same fashion,

Church Lane was renamed after the Chequer Inn as Chequer Lane in 1727, and renamed again as Three Horse Shoe Lane when the inn changed its name in 1776 (Petersfield Area Historical Society 1976; HRO 21M64 & 20M67 passim).

The excavation site is that of the Ship Inn itself. This had previously been thought to be on the same site as the recently closed Royal Oak, in fact a little to the east. This historical investigation concentrates on the period before 1800, the aim being to reach as far back in time as possible, in order to complement the archaeological work, rather than to explore the history of the site during the period of the entirely different post-agricultural and industrial town (Ings 1976/7).

It is virtually impossible to identify individual inhabitants of Petersfield before the 16th century, let alone the properties they owned and dwelt in, but examination of the various deeds, leases, rent rolls and wills surviving for the town (HRO 21M64, 6M56, 20M67 and will indices; Page 1908, 111-16) show the earliest recorded occupants of the Sheep Street site to have been John and Elizabeth Denyer, who died in 1543 and 1545 respectively (HRO index of 16th-cent. wills, B19W and U116W). John Denyer was relatively wealthy, although his trade or business is unknown. His, and his widow's will, reveal that there were in fact two houses on the site, the smaller one being left to a younger son, but both eventually coming to the second son, Richard. Denyer's neighbours in 1543 were Clement Louf and Elizabeth Abarrow, whose family had supplied in 1515 the first recorded mayor of Petersfield, Henry Abarow. This suggests that Sheep Street was at this time the home of wealthy and important burgess families (Yates 1979).

The site had passed by 1568 to Andrew Marden, again otherwise unknown (HRO 6M56/50), and was still held by the Marden

family in 1589, when Nicholas and Martha Marden transferred the property that had been Richard Denyer's to Andrew and Elizabeth Marden (HRO 21M64 Box VIII/23/2). It next appears in 1626 as the property of Roger Terril or Tirrel (*ibid*).

It has already been suggested that the street was the home of some of the town's more noted inhabitants, and in Roger Terril this is amply borne out. He first occurs in records in 1586, being taxed for £3 on the value of his goods. He was a butcher by trade, and was mayor in 1611, at the height of the dispute for control of the town with its then Lord, Thomas Hanbury (Yates 1979, 23).

Whatever the importance of the wool and cloth trade had been to Petersfield in the late Middle Ages (and the evidence remains both fragmentary and circumstantial), by the 16th century, the town relied for its prosperity on leather-associated industries and its inns and hostelries. The earliest court roll, of 1515, which may or may not have covered the clothworkers, records 14 butchers, 4 leatherworkers and 3 shoemakers fined for trade infringements. The mayor, Henry Abarow, was an innkeeper, and Petersfield's position at the meeting point of several important roads, not least the London–Portsmouth road, ensured that innkeeping remained one of the town's main sources of prosperity, and continued to provide many of the mayors and other officers of the town throughout this period, as did the butcher's and glover's trades (Yates 1979, ii ff; Page 1908).

This wealth and power was well evident in Sheep Street. In 1626, besides Mayor Terril himself, his neighbours were William Pay, gentleman, and Richard Tawke, mayor in 1642 (HRO 21M64, VIII/23/2; 6M56/55). The tenements in the street were in the heart of the old town, near the market place and the church, and seem to have been allotted at an early date some of the common lands of the Borough, an indication of their ancient and important standing in the town (the focus at the High Street/Dragon Street crossing apparently being a later development – rather the reverse of previously accepted opinion) (HRO 6M56 *passim*; *contra* Yates 1979).

Although Terril was an important man in a

wealthy area, it must be remembered that he was first and foremost a business man, and used his premises to carry out his trade. He was one of a number of butchers ordered not to wash their hides or animal offal in the nearby Brook Stream in 1605 (BL Add R.28015). It is likely that he also built the slaughterhouse recorded on part of the site under investigation in 1653, since Terril sold the site in 1626 to an alehousekeeper, who had no connection with the butchery and is not likely to have gone to the expense of building a slaughterhouse (HRO 21M64, VIII/23/2).

The purchaser in 1626 was John Page, one of a prolific Petersfield family (*ibid*). A John Page, glover, was recorded in 1608; either the same or a different one was an alehousekeeper in 1620, and again a John Page was Bailiff of the town in 1641 (*ibid*; 6M56/47, 48, 54). It is likely that these last two references are to that John Page who owned the Sheep Street plot between 1626 and 1653. It was he who gave the alehouse the name the 'Ship', for it was already called this when transferred to its next owner in 1653, Thomas Westbrook (HRO 21M64, VIII/23).

It is interesting that, although the site clearly continued to be an alehouse after 1653, it was also the actual home of the Westbrook family, another mayoral family (Page 1908, 112, quoting Exch. Dep. Hants 6 Jas I, Mich 1). There is evidence to suggest, moreover, that as late as 1713, the Pages were still living at the site (HRO 21M64, sale of Castle House), and this could indicate that the two houses referred to in 1543 were still in existence in the 18th century, with the Pages as the tenant keepers of the one used as an alehouse.

Three generations of Thomas Westbrooks are recorded at the Ship. All of them were glovers by trade, although the eldest was also an innkeeper and victualler. He died in 1680, holding the Red Lion in College Street as well as the Ship, and an inventory of goods taken at his death includes the contents of an inn, but most probably that of the Red Lion (HRO Probate Records, Archdeacon's Ser, 6 Dec 1680; Grainger *et al* 1977). It is interesting to note as a reflection of the importance of brewing and hostelries in the area, and the transience of the establishments involved in these trades, that both of the tenements to the

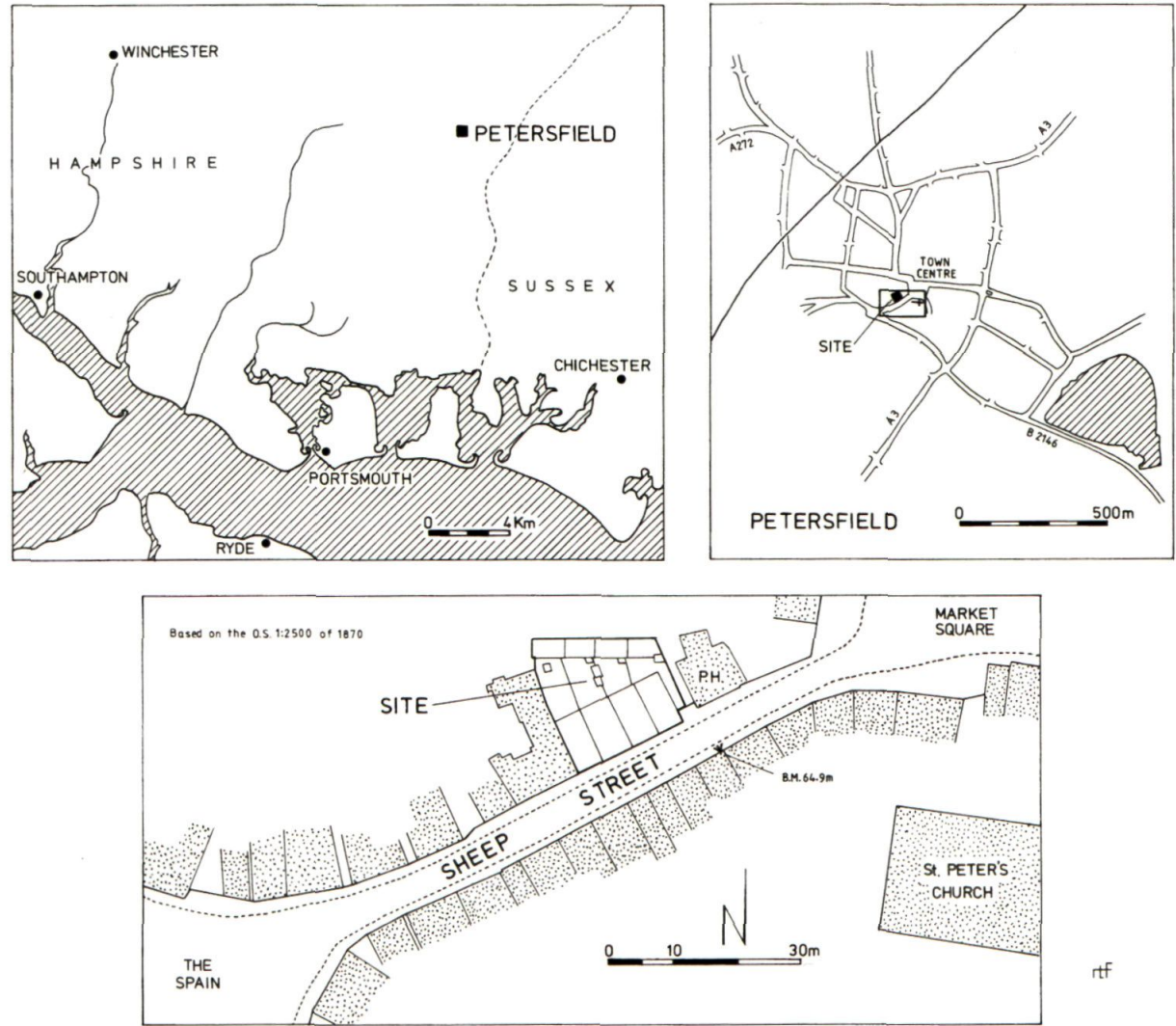


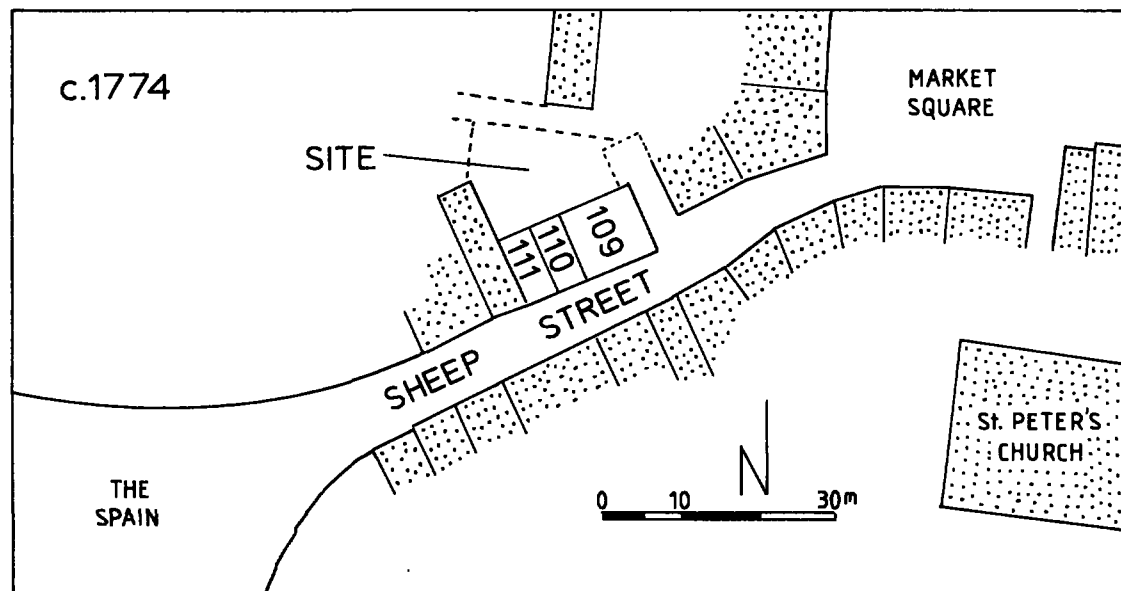
Fig 1. Petersfield: Location Plans.

west of the Ship at this time were involved in the trade. The Westbrooks' immediate neighbours were, from 1687–97, William Knight, and then until 1728 his son-in-law, William Lowfield, who were maltsters and owned a malthouse on the site (HRO 21M64, III/3). Beyond them was the site of the New Chequer, moved here by Thomas Linney from its old site near the church some time after 1714, but moved again by the late 18th century (HRO 21M64, V/17; Grainger *et al.* 1977).

The Ship is recorded in 1653, 1696, 1705 and 1737 (Grainger *et al.* 1977; HRO 21M64 *passim*), when it was sold by Phebe Westbrook to William Harrod, a butcher, and thereafter seems to have reverted to being a butcher's premises, since in 1748 it was transferred to Thomas Bradley, another butcher. It was described then as 'all that messuage once an Alehouse called the Shipp, now three tenements' (HRO 21M64, VII/23/2).

At this time the site seems to enter a new phase, in common with the rest of Sheep Street. Many of the old large properties of the 17th

century were being sub-divided into smaller units, often though not always tenanted by smaller men; at least fourteen older properties became over twenty new ones, many of them shops and workshops. At the turn of the 18th century Sheep Street had still been the residence of several gentlemen, eg Nicholas Allen in 1691, Robert Tomlinson in 1702 and John Heather in 1727 (HRO 21M64, XIV/27 & IV/17, 20M67/112). Although the three tenements that had been the Ship were at first occupied by fairly wealthy individuals, they too in the end became mere shops (see Fig 2 for the site in 1774). Thus the tenements in 1737 were occupied by the widow of William Harrod, the previous owner, by an otherwise unknown William Addams and by William Pyle, a Romsey clothier, who owned two of the tenements in 1737, and was sufficiently wealthy, or extravagant, to be £200 in debt to a gardener in 1748 (HRO 21M64, VIII/23). By 1760, the whole site had been bought by John Joliffe, who most certainly did not live there, but rented out the butcher's premises to Joseph



Based on the Hylton map
(H.C.R.O.)

Fig 2. Petersfield c 1774.

Soabne, another tenement to one John Lasseter, the other remaining empty. By 1776, almost the whole of Sheep Street had been bought up by big landlords, Joliffe and Norton Powlett especially, and the tenants were increasingly lesser men. In 1776, the three tenements were occupied by William Brachstone, butcher, William Hall, clockmaker, and John Steer, possibly a weaver. Others of their neighbours included innkeepers, a glover, a shoemaker, a tailor, a mercer and a fisherman (HRO 21M64, maps & schedules prepared for John Joliffe, 1741–71).

The site of the Ship Inn is extremely important as being one of the few 'capital' properties of the late medieval/early modern town that can be identified. It lay in what was one of the preferred residential streets of the town – typically of the late middle ages, in the centre, close to the church and the market place. It was the place of mayors and gentry: it was, moreover, the site of one of the earliest recorded of the town's hostelrys, which most probably gave its name to the street as a whole. It admirably reflects the changing fortunes of the inner town itself. As the market place gave way in importance to retail shops, and the focus of the town's economic activities shifted to the High Street and Dragon Street, the gentry were simultaneously gaining control over the town, living in newer, bigger, and often suburban houses, and the butchers and other craftsmen lost their civic importance and power. All these processes can be traced in the effect they had on Sheep Street.

Given the almost manic ebb and flow of property leases, exchangings, sales, and changes of use, size and character, it is remarkable that the property retains a recognisable identity back to within thirty years of the beginning of effective, usable written records of the town in 1515.

THE EXCAVATION

The loss of some of the site archive has severely curtailed the extent to which the excavation itself can be described here by the authors who were

part-time members of the excavation team. The site referred to in the historical summary above consisted of three tenements in the 18th century, now divided into four properties with yards behind (Fig 1). The excavation mainly took place to the rear of the properties, largely within the yard area. The features uncovered, therefore, largely consisted of features such as pits and wells (Fig 3), as might be expected of the rear parts of medieval and post-medieval properties, rather than the house foundations to be expected further towards the street frontage.

Most of the features were of post-medieval date, and indicated a series of pits and depressions being dug within the excavated area, together with a well (Fig 3, F117) and lines of square and sub-rectangular post-holes that probably marked the positions of temporary structures.

A small number of the features excavated could be assigned a medieval date (Fig 4). They lay in two distinct areas of the site: on the north-east side where there was a large sub-rectangular cut partly bounded by an insubstantial stone wall, and in the north-west corner was a series of pits, including a stone-lined well c 3 m deep (Fig 4, F12; Fig 5). The purpose of the rectangular cut is unknown, but it was infilled in the 15th century, and seems to have been separate from the other group of more typical rear yard features, and thus it may have been part of a separate property. This would conform with the subdivision of the site known from the historical documents, and may suggest that the original division of the site into separate properties had taken place by the 13th/14th centuries.

The artefactual evidence, particularly from the medieval well, shows a reasonable degree of wealth by virtue of the fine pottery, and by the evidence of worked stone in the surviving structural foundations. This again can be fitted into the picture painted in the historical discussion of the site being of relatively high status in Petersfield.

A final conclusion to be drawn from the excavation is that Roman occupation probably existed within the area of the later medieval town, to judge from the pottery redeposited in the F12 well filling.

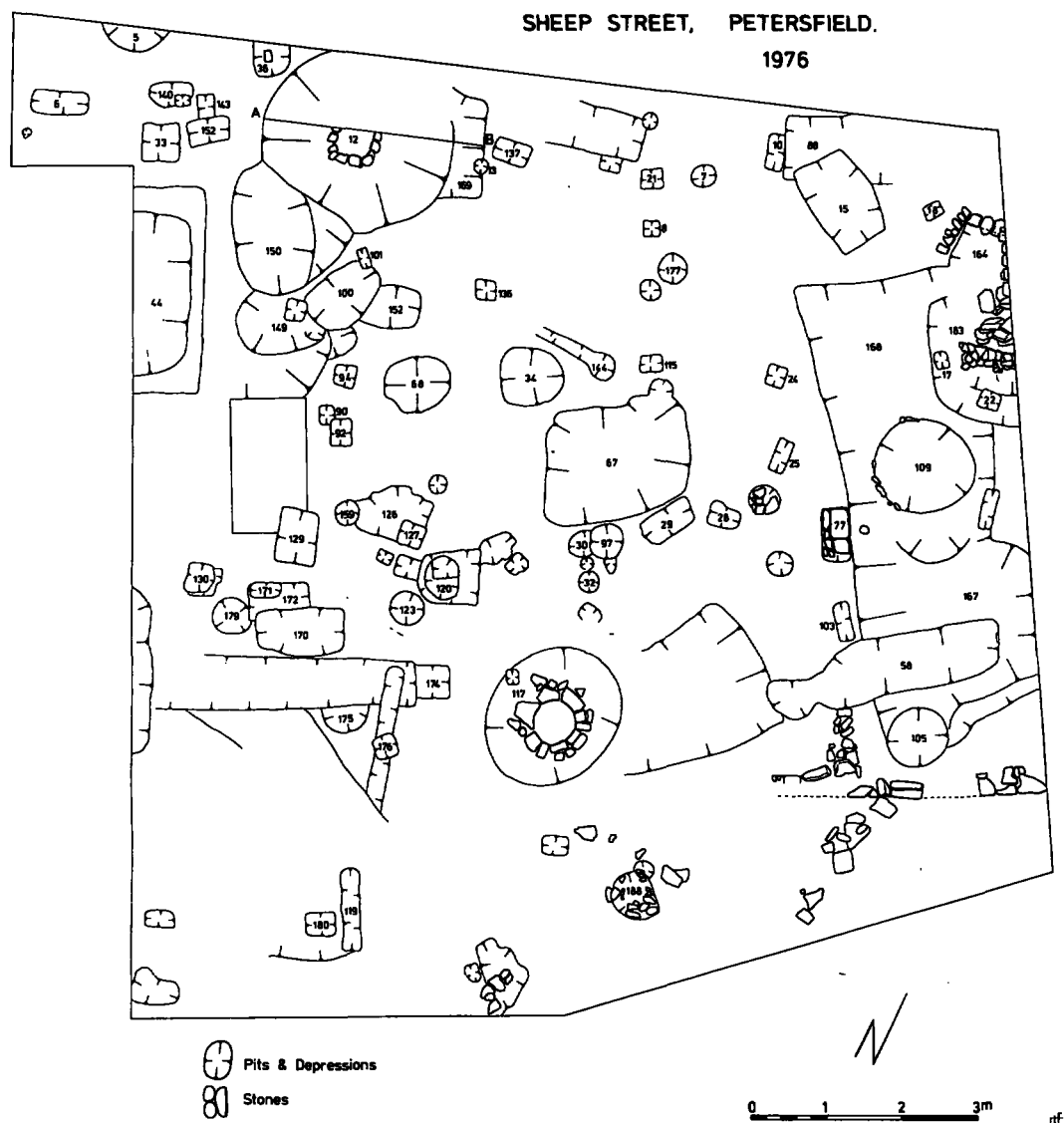


Fig 3. Petersfield: Plan of excavated features.

THE FINDS

Pottery

The excavation of the topsoil of any small domestic garden which has been well used and turned over regularly over several centuries, as

was the case here, never fails to produce an extensive and random series of domestic pottery types. Many of these may only consist of small insignificant body sherds from commonplace vessels, varying in date range from the medieval period to present times, and in all fabrics from coarse earthenware to fine porcelain. Such was

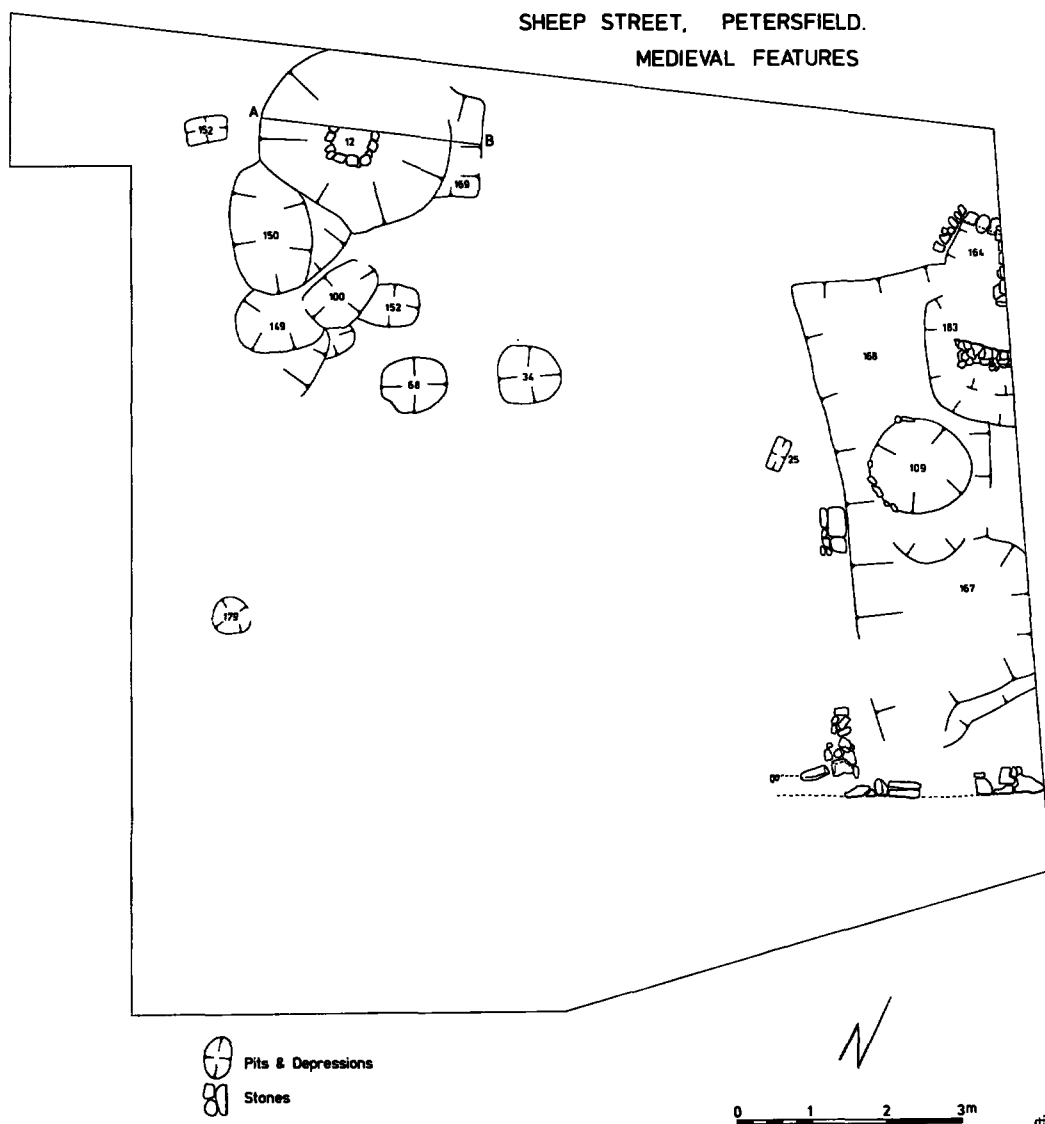


Fig 4. Pctersfield: Plan of excavated medieval features.

the situation at Sheep Street, and although the material was retained by the excavators no attempt has been made to quantify or categorise this. Figure 3 is a composite plan of the site showing all excavated features, which could be separately identified and dated with some degree of certainty, many of which contained material of

the type discussed above. However, beneath the topsoil level several features were positively identified and confirmed to be of medieval origin. These features are shown on Fig 4, and it is the pottery which was recovered from these that is listed and illustrated below (Figs 6–9).

A stone-built well, F12, proved to be an

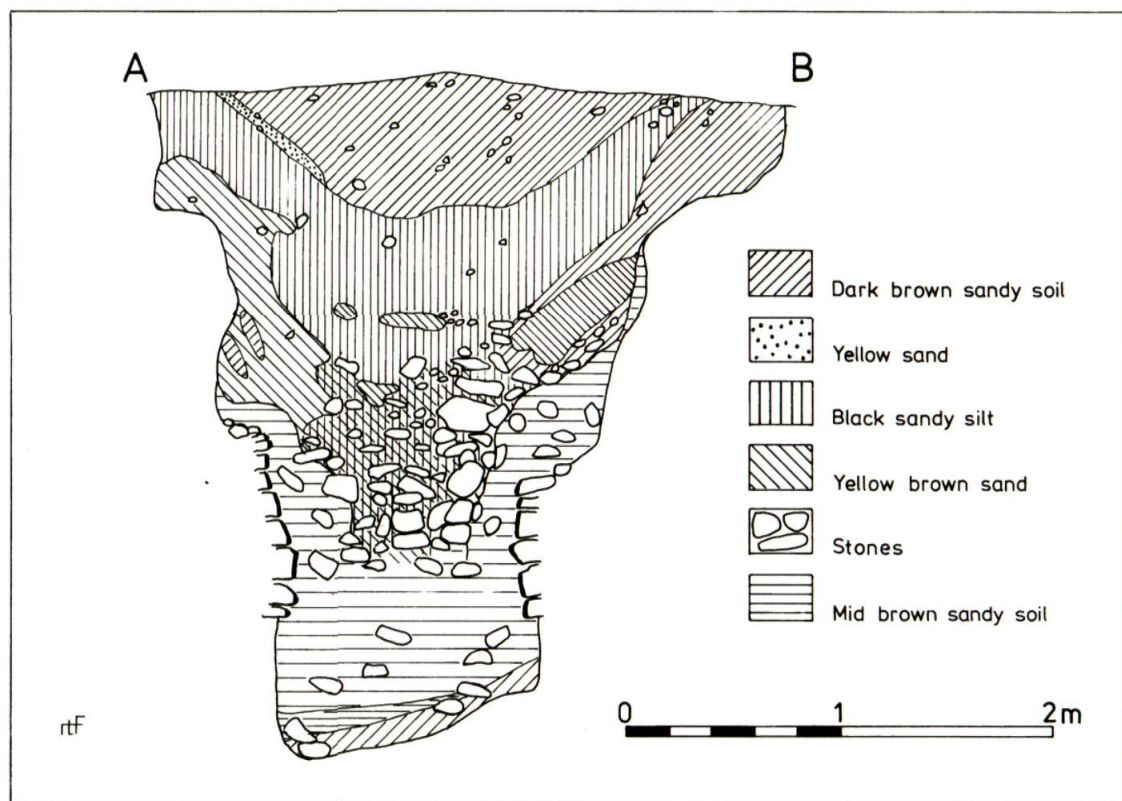


Fig 5. Petersfield: F12, stone built well section.

interesting source of material on excavation, the mid-brown sandy soil infill in the lower part of the well (Fig 5) contained sherds of Romano-British coarseware along with later medieval types. It appears highly likely that the Romano-British period sherds (Fig 6: 1–15), were residual material included in the deliberate backfilling of the well in the late medieval period. Comparison would suggest a parallel with the excavated wares from Portchester Castle which were dated to the second quarter of the 4th century AD, (Cunliffe 1975), particularly the pie-dish rims (Fig 6: 4–6), and the mortarium fragment (Fig 6: 14), which although resembling New Forest products may be from the nearer kilns of Alice Holt, near Farnham; (Lyne, Jeffries, 1979). Not illustrated are five small sherds from perhaps two thumb-indented beakers of the New Forest type.

The medieval wares from this well (Fig 6: 16–23, and Fig 7: 24–28) cover a fairly broad time span, from the late 12th century cooking pot sherd (Fig 6: 16) which compares with material from Southampton (Platt and Coleman-Smith, 1975, Fig 139), to the green-glazed and strip-decorated pitcher sherds of 14th century date of the type found at Oyster Street, Portsmouth, (Fox and Barton, 1986). The majority of these coarsewares are in the sandy-textured fabric produced in the SE Hampshire region, although pitcher sherds (Fig 7: 24–5) are more typical of the West Sussex products (Barton 1979).

Figure 8 includes coarseware of the date range 13th to 15th century of local Hampshire/Surrey origin, from four minor features. The various sherds from domestic utilitarian vessels are of forms already encountered from urban medieval

sites throughout the area. Wares recovered from feature F 168 (Fig 9: 1–19), include coarse earthenwares of local manufacture, of 13th to 15th century date, which show a West Sussex influence in style.

Coarsewares (Fig 6)

Roman

- 1 Rim fragment, storage jar. Grey fabric with many fine grit inclusions. Buff surfaces.
- 2 Rim sherd, grey sandy fabric.
- 3 Rim sherd, grey sandy fabric.
- 4 Rim sherd, grey sandy fabric. Pie dish.
- 5 Rim sherd, buff sandy fabric with greyish surfaces.
- 6 Rim sherd, buff fabric with some fine grit inclusions. Pale orange external surfaces.
- 7 Rim sherd, buff sandy fabric.
- 8 Body sherd from a flask or bottle in a hard grey fabric, with black surfaces.
- 9 Rim sherd, grey fabric with much fine grit.
- 10 Rim sherd, fine buff fabric with greyish surfaces.
- 11 Rim sherd, fine sandy pale buff fabric.
- 12 Rim sherd, buff fabric with much fine grit.
- 13 Rim sherd, grey sandy fabric.
- 14 Rim and body sherd in pale orange fabric, finely gritted. Mortarium.
- 15 Tile fragment in orange-buff with lattice scoring.

Medieval

- 16 Rim sherd from a large cooking pot. Grey fabric with some gritty inclusions. Buff exterior surface, scratch-marked.
- 17 Rim sherd, cooking pot. Grey sandy fabric.
- 18 Rim sherd, cooking pot. Grey sandy fabric.
- 19 Rim sherd, in a grey gritty fabric.
- 20 Rim sherd, grey gritty fabric with buff surfaces.
- 21 Rim sherd, grey sandy fabric with pale buff-orange surfaces.
- 22 Rim sherd, grey sandy fabric with pale orange buff exterior.
- 23 Small body sherd, grey sandy fabric with pale orange-buff exterior surface. Applied thumb strip decoration.

Coarsewares (Fig 7)

- 24 Rim sherd, jug. Grey fabric with pinkish surfaces. Creamy-white wash over interior surface. Lightly incised decoration. Green glazed externally.
- 25 Rim sherd, jug, with handle stub. Grey sandy fabric with buff surfaces. Patches of green glaze on exterior.
- 26 Body sherd from a zoomorphic aquamanile. Pale buff fabric with some minute red-brown inclusions. Bright yellowish green glaze over exterior. Peg-stamped decoration. S England.
- 27 Body sherd, jug. Fine grey fabric, with cream-buff interior surface and green glazed exterior. Applied strip decoration.
- 28 Body sherd, jug. Grey sandy fabric with trace of amber glaze on exterior. Applied strip decoration.

Coarsewares – mainly local – Hampshire/Surrey origin (Fig 8)

- 1 Rim sherd, cooking pot. Sandy grey fabric with pale orange external surfaces.
- 2 Rim sherd, storage jar. Grey sandy fabric with buff exterior. Many small flint inclusions.
- 3 Rim sherd, cooking pot. Grey sandy fabric with dull pink orange interior surface.
- 4 Small body sherd, storage jar. Grey-buff fabric with many small flint inclusions. Thumbled strip decoration.
- 5 Jug sherd. Grey sandy fabric with under glaze white slip painting. Green glazed exterior.
- 6 Major part of lower body from a cooking pot. Grey sandy fabric with orange buff exterior. Applied thumb strip decoration. Brushes exterior surface.
- 7 Bowl. Grey buff sandy fabric with small flint inclusions. Sparse green glaze over lower interior.
- 8 Small rim sherd, bowl. Grey-buff fabric with small flint inclusions.
- 9 Upper body of jar. Sandy pale orange fabric. Green-brown glazed interior with patches of glaze on exterior.
- 10 Part of rod handle, jug. Grey sandy fabric with full orange surfaces. Badly fired glaze, green-brown on exterior surface.
- 11 Cooking pot rim sherd. Grey sandy fabric with orange-buff surfaces.

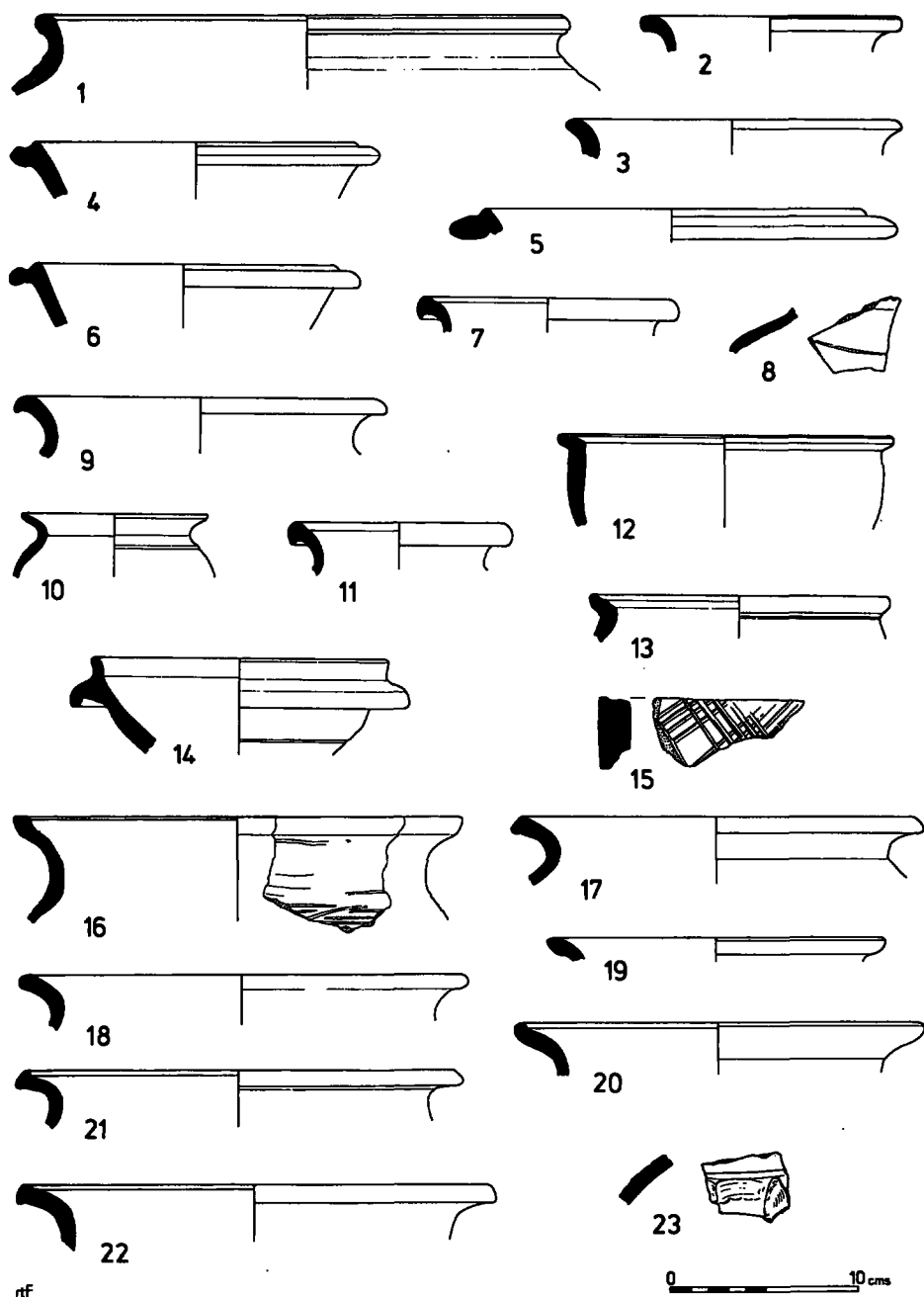


Fig 6. Petersfield: Pottery from F12.

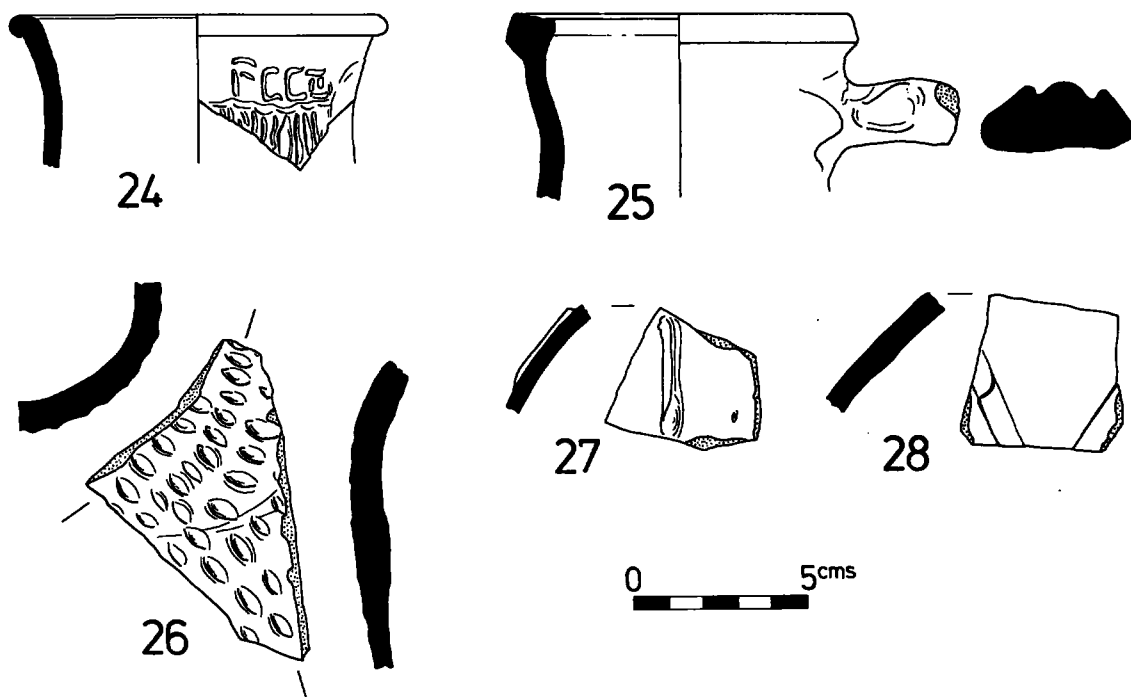


Fig 7. Petersfield: Pottery from F12.

- 13 Cooking pot rim sherd. Grey sandy fabric with buff surfaces.
- 14 Cooking pot rim sherd. Grey sandy fabric.
- 15 Bowl rim sherd. Grey sandy fabric with dull orange exterior surface. Trace of green glaze on interior.
- 16 Jar rim sherds. Coarse grey gritty fabric.
- 17 Body sherd, jar or cooking pot. Grey sandy fabric with buff exterior. Thumbled strip decoration.

Coarsewares, mainly of local origin (Fig 9).

- 1 Jug body, in grey sandy fabric with green glazed exterior.
- 2 Jug neck, grey sandy fabric with pale orange external surface.
- 3 Jug neck, grey sandy fabric with pale orange surfaces. Green-amber glazed exterior.
- 4 Small sherd, possibly from a dish. Grey sandy fabric with buff surfaces.
- 5 Small sherd from neck of jug. Grey sandy fabric with pale orange interior surface and green-brown glaze over exterior. Impressed and thumbled pellet decoration.
- 6 Part of jug base, sandy pink fabric with very shallow thumbing around base.
- 7 Two sherds from shoulder of jug, grey sandy fabric with decorated strip around collar line. White painted decoration under glaze. Green glazed exterior.
- 8 Part of strap handle, grey sandy fabric with deep slashing. Small spots of amber glaze on upper surface.
- 9 Base sherd from jug, sandy grey-pink fabric with minute flint inclusions.
- 10 Base sherd from jug, grey sandy fabric, fairly coarse execution.
- 11 Body sherd from jug, hard grey fabric with white slipped exterior. Combed decoration with green-brown glaze on outer surface. Fabric contains many small black inclusions and minute flint particles.

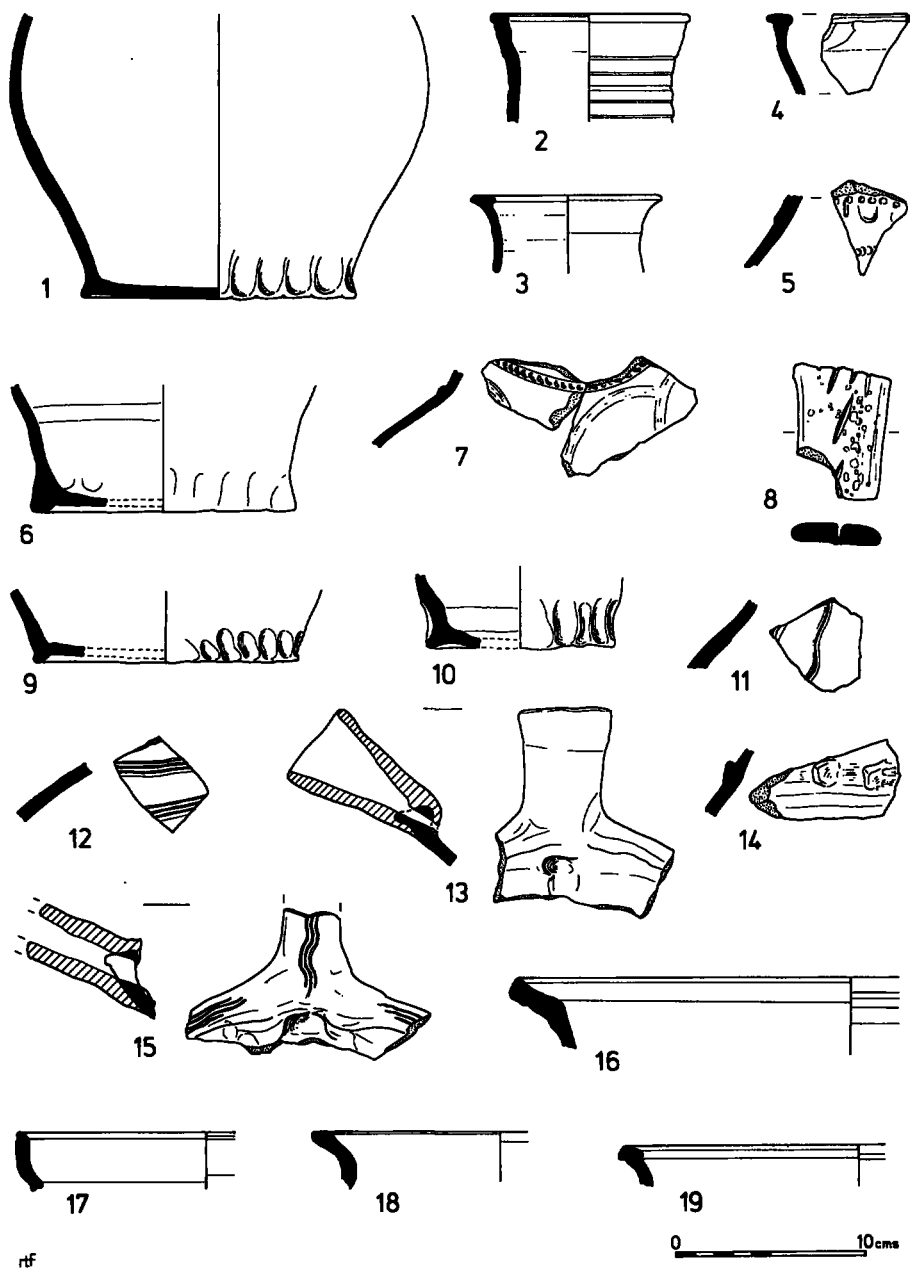


Fig 8. Petersfield: Pottery from F167 (nos 1–6), F150 (nos 7–8), F169 (no 9) and F34 (nos 10–17).

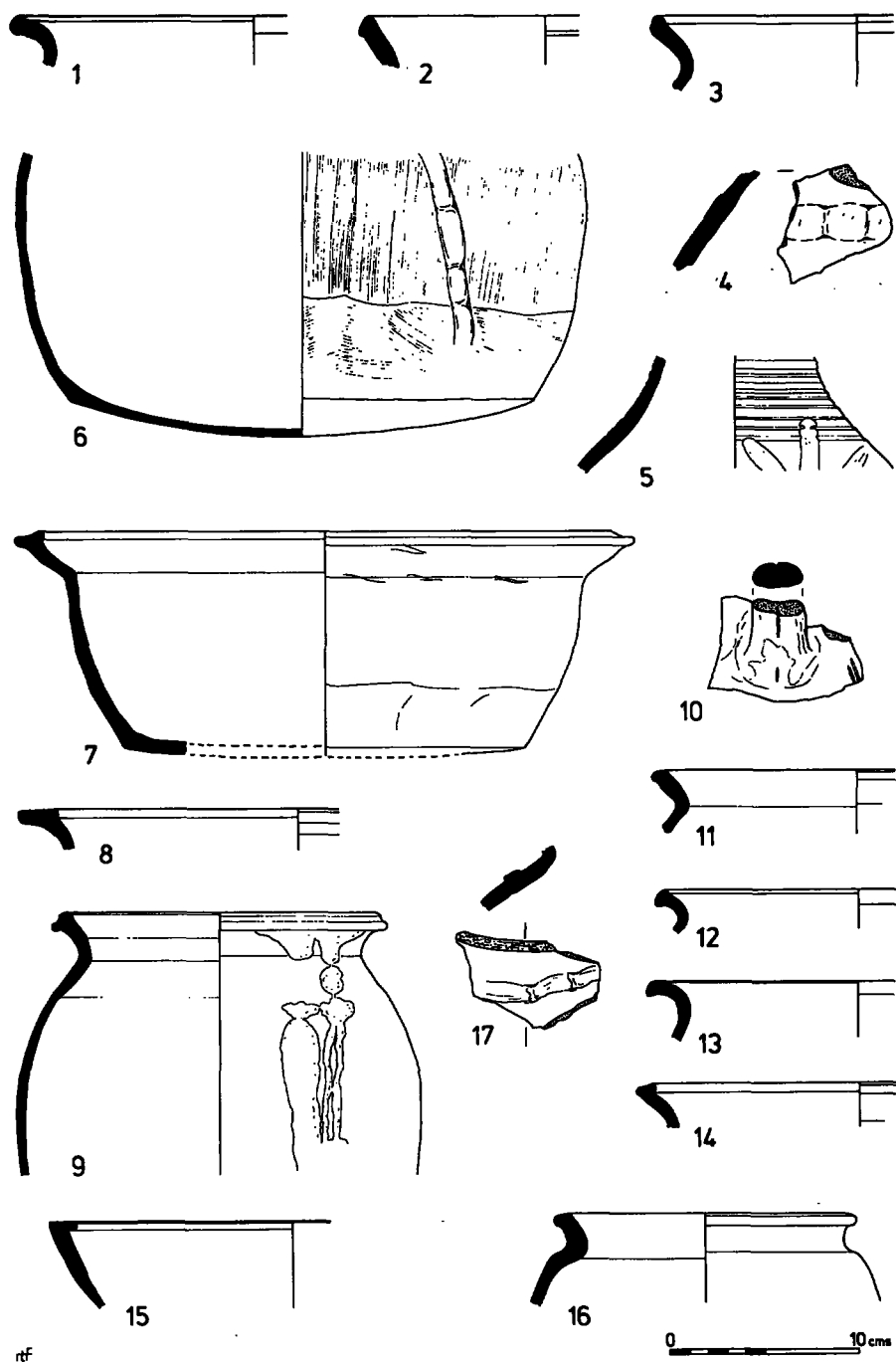


Fig 9. Petersfield: Pottery from F168.

- 12 Body sherd from jug, hard grey fabric with orange-pink internal surface. Combed decoration with green-brown glaze over exterior. Fabric rich in minute flint inclusions.
- 13 Skillet handle, in a grey sandy fabric with pinkish exterior surfaces.
- 14 Small body sherd from a storage jar, grey sandy fabric with buff surfaces. Thumbled strip decoration.
- 15 Skillet handle, in a grey sandy fabric with pale orange exterior surfaces. Combed decoration and traces of green glaze on upper surfaces.
- 16 Rim sherd, bowl, in grey sandy fabric with buff surfaces.
- 17 Small rim sherd, grey fabric with pale orange exterior surface. Bowl or lid.
- 18 Rim sherd, jar, pink sandy fabric with pale orange external surface.
- 19 Rim sherd, cooking pot. Grey sandy fabric with orange-brown external surface.

Other Finds

Metal work (not illustrated).

Iron knife of the 13th to 14th century (F133).

Large bronze buckle with impressed key pattern and black enamel infill of the 18th century (F44).

Clay Tobacco Pipes (not illustrated).

Spurred bowl with a stem stamp with letters in relief. Henry Taplin, Chichester, c 1723-74 (F65).

Stem fragment with incuse mark. John Edmunds, Portsmouth, c 1723-54 (F63).

Glass (not illustrated).

Dark olive green wine bottle. Early 18th century. (F44).

Small clear white bottle or phial. 18th century. (F37).

Palaeobotanical Evidence by Frank Green

Four samples were taken for analysis from this site, from medieval pits of 13th or 14th century date. These features looked the most likely to produce carbonised botanical evidence. Because the site had a sandy sub-soil it was unlikely that botanical material would be preserved in a form other than carbonised. In each case the soil samples were taken from the top half-metre of the

excavated pits, and it is therefore impossible to get an overall impression of the total botanical contents or variation from within the pits and features concerned. The botanical finds from the site are given in Table 1.

The range of plants represented in the samples from this site consisted of a range of ruderal weeds as well as some cultivated plants. The plants of economic significance include bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), oat (*Avena sativa*) and rye (*Secale cereale*). The quantity represented from the different features on this site is similar to the quantities of cereal found on other sites in Hampshire of this period. It is probable that the cereals represented some minor domestic activities which resulted in their carbonisation and hence preservation. The identification of the caryopses of wheat as bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) was facilitated by the presence of a rachis fragment of this species in one sample. On a statistical basis it is impossible to say anything positive about the cereals present. It should be noted that rye (*Secale cereale*) does occur on this site. This is a cereal which is often present in very small quantities on medieval sites in the area. Larger concentrations would be expected especially as rye is quite commonly referred to in literature and often granaries destroyed during some catastrophe contained large concentrations of rye.

Of the wild plants in the sample, though fairly numerous, very few could be actually identified to species, due to the poor preservation of the evidence. The most noticeable group of plants represented include *Chenopodium album*, *Plantago lanceolata*, *Galium* sp. and *Chrysanthemum segetum*. All these plants can be considered as weeds of arable crops during the medieval and later period. It is only in recent times that select herbicides and crop seed cleaning have removed these species from modern cereal crops. It is therefore possible that these weeds originated from a cereal crop imported to the site, they may have been imported with the cereals actually found in the sample. Having said this it is also possible that these plants inhabited the site somewhere in the vicinity of the features excavated.

The presence of broad bean (*Vicia faba* as well

Table 1 Sheep Street, Petersfield: botanical finds

SPECIES		SYNONYM		CONTEXTS	
		F 12	F 68	F 109	F 150
CARYOPHYLLACEAE					
<i>Silene</i> sp. indet.		0	0	1	0
CRUCIFERAE					
<i>Brassica</i> sp. indet.		0	3	0	0
CHEMOPODIAECEAE					
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	Fat Hen	0	3	0	0
PAPILIONACEAE					
<i>Trifolium</i> sp. indet.		0	0	1	0
<i>Vicia faba</i> L.	Broad Bean	1	2	1	0
<i>Vicia</i> cf. <i>sativa</i>		0	0	1	1
POLYGONACEAE					
<i>Polygonum</i> sp. indet.		0	0	2	1
OLEACEAE					
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L.	Ash	0	0	1	0
BETULACEAE					
<i>Betula</i> sp. indet.	Birch	0	1	1	0
CORYLACEAE					
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Hazel-nut (Fragments)	0	0	1	1
PLANTAGINACEAE					
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	Plantain	0	0	2	0
RUBIACEAE					
<i>Galium</i> sp.	Cleavers	2	0	1	0
CAPRIFOLIACEAE					
<i>Sambucus niger</i> L.	Elder-berry	0	0	1	0
COMPOSITAE					
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> L.	Corn Marigold	0	0	1	2
<i>Compositae</i> sp. indet.		1	0	2	1
CYPERACEAE					
<i>Carex</i> sp. indet.		0	0	2	0
GRAMINEAE					
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.	Bread Wheat (Caryopses)	2	4	1	0
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.	Bread Wheat (Rachis)	1	0	0	0
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	Barley (6 row, Hulled)	2	2	1	5
<i>Avena</i> cf. <i>sativa</i>	Oat	4	1	1	2
<i>Secale cereale</i> L.	Rye	0	1	0	0
<i>Gramineae</i> sp. indet.	Grass	0	0	2	0
Bud frags.		0	5	6	0

as *Vicia* cf. *sativa* and *Trifolium* sp.) in the samples is interesting as these species rarely occur on major urban sites such as Winchester in the 13th and 14th centuries (Green 1979). Their presence on this site would probably be consistent with a degree of rural activities taking place on the Sheep Street site. It is possible that a different range of economic activities took place which

resulted in the presence of these species. The presence of *Trifolium* is exceptionally unusual and this taken into consideration with other species present in the samples such as the wild grasses may indicate that material such as animal fodder or bedding for animals/humans was being imported to the site.

Other species in the samples indicate the

collection of woody plants and trees perhaps for fuel. A large quantity of bud fragments including fragments of birch as well as some birch catkins were also present in carbonised form. Other seeds from trees included Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). These finds probably represent deliberate collection of material perhaps for fuel. Once again, it is interesting to note that a similar range of material was present from Wareham (Dorset) which is also a small town and is situated in a region of sandy soils. As with Wareham it may be that the evidence from

Petersfield points to the collection of shrubby plants and wood perhaps from local heaths or commons for fuel; the presence of *Carex* sp. within one of the samples from Sheep Street could either point to a wet environment or this could have come from a local heath.

It can therefore be seen from the botanical evidence that a range of activities using plant materials was taking place on this site and that it is possible to see not only the products of arable agriculture but possibly activities usually associated with rural or semi-rural environments.

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