

EXCAVATIONS IN FRIARS WALK, LEWES, 1989

by Miles Russell

With contributions by J. Cooper, H. Holden, E. Jarzembowski, L. Pontin, A. Ross, E. Somerville and P. Stevens.

INTRODUCTION

During February 1989, the Field Archaeology Unit conducted a trial excavation on the site of the Clothkits building, Friars Walk, Lewes. (Fig. 1.b) The aims of the excavation were to further resolve the problem of early settlement in the peripheral zone of Lewes and to establish whether Saxo-Norman dwelling structures could be located in the town. It was also considered important to assess any evidence which might further strengthen the claim that Lewes was an important early-medieval port.

THE EXCAVATIONS

It was decided to excavate a continuous east-west section through the east-facing slope, a distance of some 60 metres. Unfortunately, limitations of time, money and labour, and the added complication of the presence of mains services meant that for most of its length the trench could be no more than 2 metres wide. It was, however expanded at the western end (the site of the Clothkits garden) in the hope that here disturbance to medieval features had been minimal. It was not widened at the eastern, street frontage as Freke's excavations at No. 40 Friars Walk (Freke 1978) had shown this area to be greatly disturbed by post-medieval cellar activity.

As the topsoil from the garden area was removed it became increasingly clear that the natural slope of the hill had, within the last 300

years, been largely terraced flat, (Fig. 2.a), removing all but the deepest medieval features cut down into the underlying clay. This meant that there was no one area on the site which remained relatively undisturbed by recent activity.

At the eastern end, as predicted, post-medieval tenement housing was encountered (Fig. 3.iv). In the far north-east corner was part of a chalk lined, brick floored cellar (78) filled with chalk rubble. Its uppermost layers contained 1920's material. Another cellar (141) was located 5.5 metres to the west, together with two chalk-lined wells (65 and 81). The fill from the wells and the second cellar suggested that they had gone out of use by the late 18th century. Between the two cellars was a 6 mm. thick layer of charcoal (77) lying at the very base of the topsoil. It was not associated with any finds.

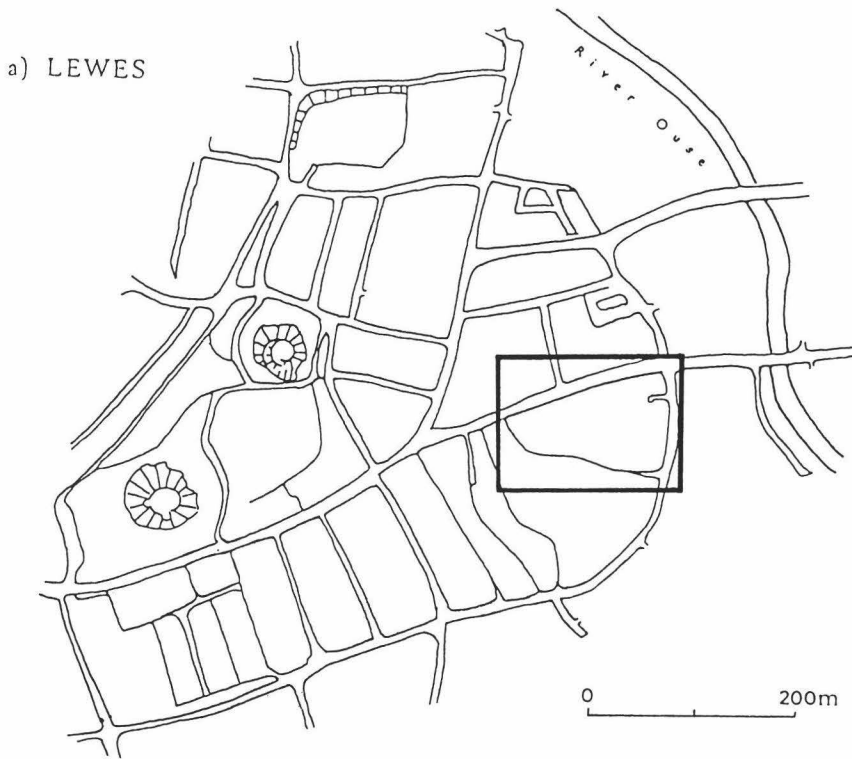
Seven metres to the west of this street frontage lay the first medieval features (Figs. 2 & 3). These were a series of pits which, in their final phases at least, had been used as rubbish or cess pits.

Pit 50(51)

Cuts medieval pit 53. It contained 15th/16th century pottery.

Pit 62(60, 61, 95, 124, 125, 150)

A vertical sided pit, probably a well, cutting features 72 and 64. It was traced to a depth of just over 2 metres, but not bottomed for safety



b) THE EXCAVATIONS

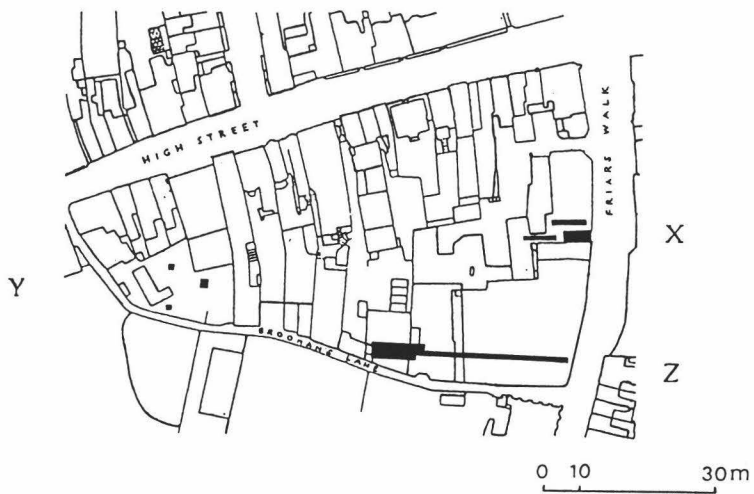


Fig. 1. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Maps showing the location of archaeological work. X = 1976 excavations (Freke 1978). Y = 1979 excavations (Rudling 1983). Z = 1989 excavations.

FRIARS WALK 1989

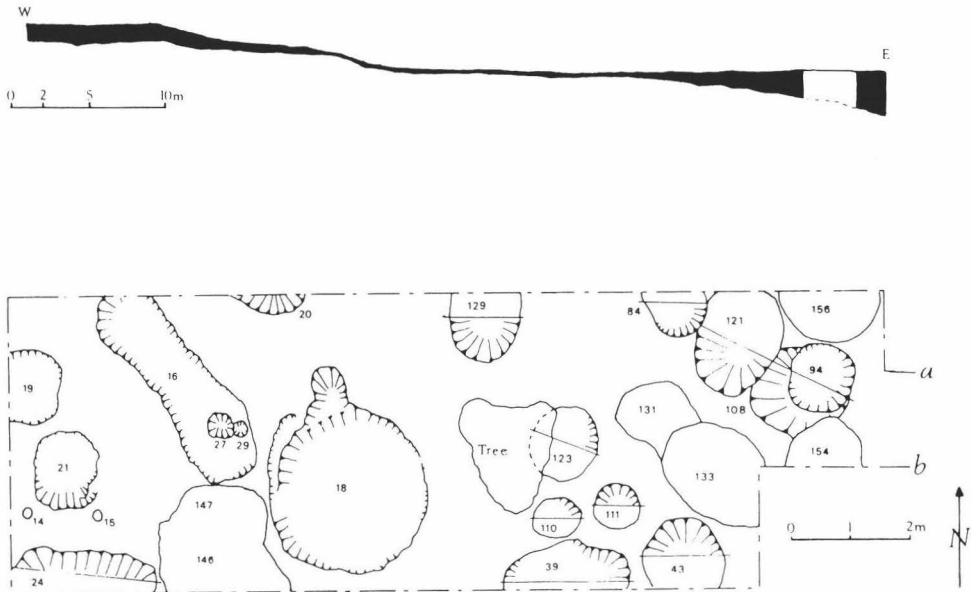


Fig. 2. a. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. North facing section of trench showing garden soil overburden on top of the natural clay.
 b. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Trench plan part i.

FRIARS WALK 1989

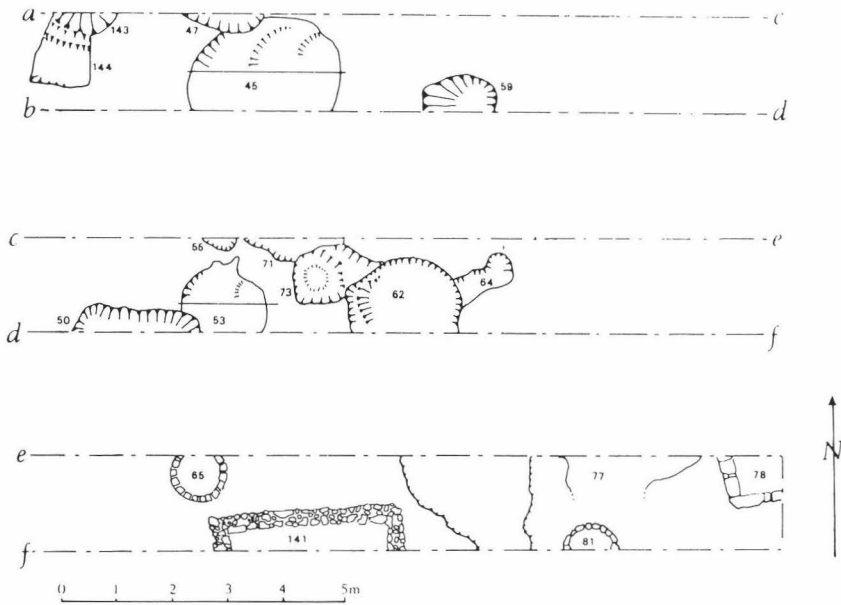


Fig. 3. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Trench plan parts ii, iii and iv.

reasons. Probing suggested at least a further metre of fill. Fills contained late 13th/early 14th century pottery.

Pit 73(72,87)

A very shallow feature cutting pit 71 and cut by 62. Pottery suggests a 13th/14th century date.

Pits 53(52,113); 55(54); 71(70)

Pit 53 is cut by 50. Pit 71 by 73. All yielded 11th/12th century flint-tempered pottery.

Pit 64(63)

Pit 64 is cut by 62. It was very shallow and produced small quantities of burnt clay, but no pottery.

The largest concentration of features occurred at the western end of the trench. All the excavated features, with the exception of 16, 18 and 44, were half sectioned. 18 proved to be a well, but could not be bottomed due to lack of time. 144 was a square pit and 16 a very shallow rectangular feature overlying two post-holes (27 and 29). Features 131, 133, 146, 147, 154 and 156 could not be excavated as time ran out, but it was noted that feature 154 cut pit 108 and feature 133 cut 131. Both 133 and 131 were noted to contain sherds of Ringmer type, datable to the late 13th/early 14th century. Pit 131 also appeared to be lined with an olive-brown 'sulphurous' clay.

Pit 21(10, 37)

This was the most recent feature in this area of the site. It was a straight sided pit, possibly a well, which had been used as a dump for late 18th/early 19th century bottle glass. It was not bottomed.

Post-holes 14(3) and 15(4)

These post-holes at the edge of pit 21 produced no finds. Presumably they are associated with the pit.

Pits 20(9, 32); 47(49)

Pit 47 cuts Medieval pit 45. Both 47 and 20 are late 17th century.

Pits 24(13); 39(40)

Both were at the southern edge of the trench. Both produced 15th/16th century tile and pottery.

Pits 84(83); 121(120, 135)

Pit 121 cuts medieval pit 108 and is 15th/16th century in date. 84 produced no datable material, but was seen to be cutting 121. It was a very shallow feature, 5–8 cms, having been largely terraced away.

Cut 16(5)

This, too, has been badly affected by terracing. What is left is a very shallow (10 cm.) rectangular feature with 14th/15th century finds. It cuts post-holes 27 and 29.

Pit 143/4(68, 69, 104, 105, 114)

Only half of this feature was visible, however its shape is reminiscent of a number of bloomery furnaces excavated at Hartfield (Tebbutt 1979). Burning was in evidence around 143, suggesting that this was the furnace end, while the shallower end (144) was for tapping slag. Large areas of vitrified clay, presumably the wall of the last furnace to be built, and small quantities of ironslag were recovered from fills 68, 69, 114 and 105. Fills 68 and 69 also produced fine Ringmer Ware. 13th/early 14th century.

Pits 19(33, 34 148, 149); 59(58, 140); 111(106); 123(122)

Various sized oval pits, all producing 13th/14th century pottery. 124 was partially disturbed on the western side by tree roots.

Pit 18(7, 116, 117, 126, 127, 136) (Fig. 4)

A roughly circular pit 2.8 metres in diameter. It was traced to a depth of 1.8 metres, though probing suggested it continued for at least another 2 metres. It was probably a well and pottery suggested that its uppermost fill was deposited in the 11th/13th centuries. 7, 117, 126, 127 and 136 all represent various slump fills (127 and 136 being on the southern edge of the feature

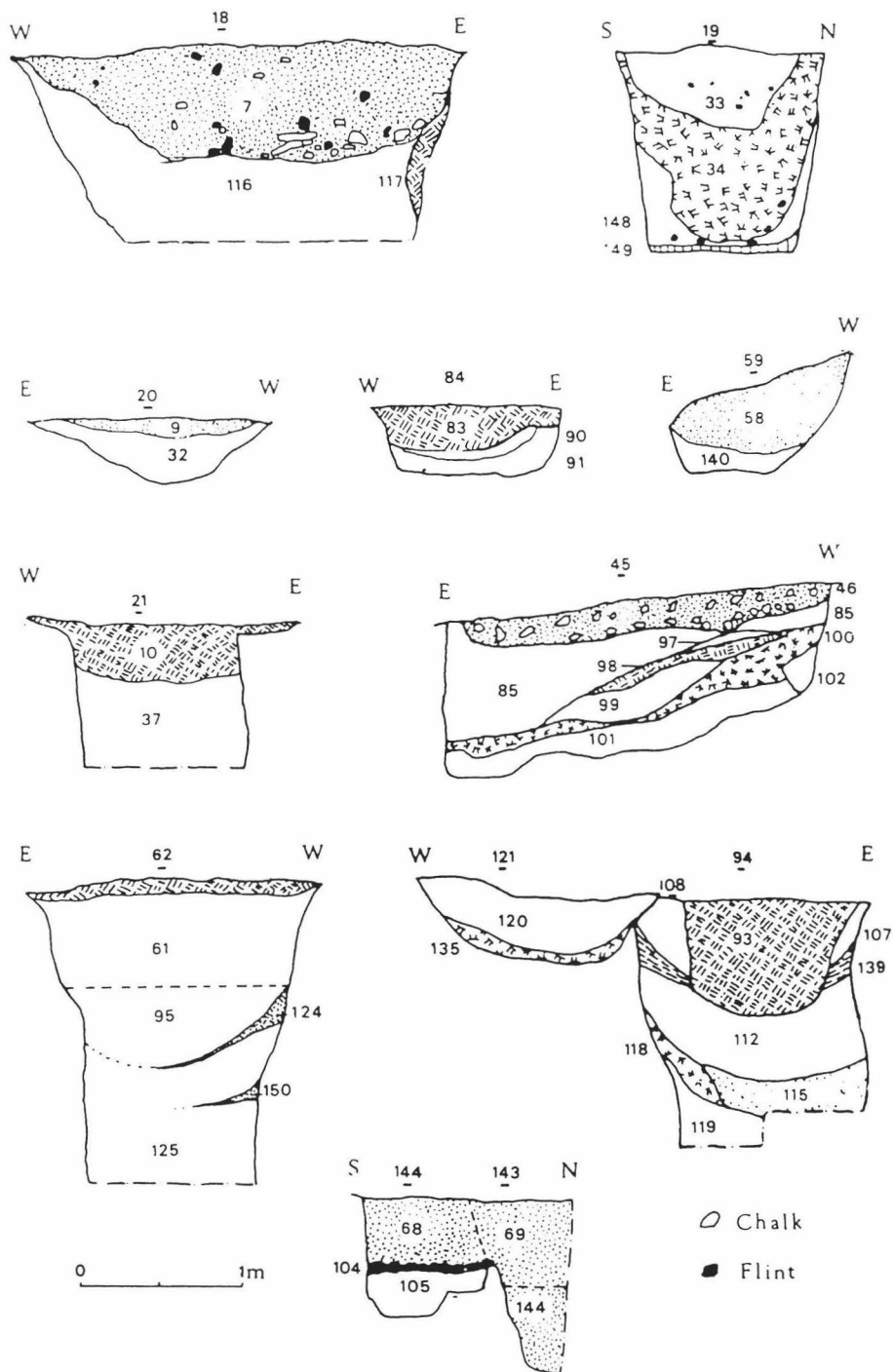


Fig. 4. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Sections. Note: only sections over 40 cm. deep are illustrated.

are not in the section drawing). 116 consisted of irregular, small to large fragments of chalk and flint against the north and east sides of 18 and may represent the last vestige of a well lining. The irregularity at the north edge may be connected with some kind of 'feed area' for the well.

Pits 43(42); 94(93); 110(109); 129(128)

All were shallow, circular features producing coarse flint-tempered pottery from the 11th/12th centuries.

Postholes 27(28) and 29(30)

Posthole 27 cut by 29. Both were cut by feature 16. 29 produced 11th/12th century pottery.

Pit 108(107, 112, 115, 118, 119, 139)

Cut by pits 94, 154 (undug) and 121. Pottery from this feature was 11th/12th century flint-tempered ware, though two pieces of 11th-century imported pottery were recovered from fills 107 and 112.

CONCLUSIONS

No evidence of Saxo-Norman dwelling structures was recovered from this excavation. Perhaps early housing was confined to the strip facing Friars Walk, evidence of which has almost certainly been obliterated by post-medieval cellar construction.

Randall's 1620 town map of Lewes shows no housing along the line of Broomans Lane. The map, however, is schematic and it may have omitted 'slum' or lesser housing. Though it was not possible to excavate close to Broomans Lane to check this theory, the large scale terracing activities conducted on the hill slope would appear to have erased all but the deepest features cut down into the natural. Shallow gullies or floor levels left by timber-framed dwelling structures would almost certainly not have survived.

Evidence to confirm that there had been early medieval structures in the vicinity came

from the slate, mortar, chimney pots, structural daub, stonework, brick and tile all recovered from rubbish fills.

Very little, therefore, can be said to clarify the problems of early settlement in the peripheral regions of Lewes. Freke, following his excavations in North Street (Freke 1976), postulated a Saxo-Norman suburb in north-east Lewes, abandoned by the 14th century and with the area reverting to open ground. It is clear that at Friars Walk the dating of rubbish fills suggests some form of continuous occupation in this area from the 11th to the 20th centuries.

Scant evidence to support early medieval trade links was gained from the analysis of pottery types: the majority are local wares. Examples of imported pottery from this period were the single examples of 11th century Northern European wares from pit 108.

Ed. Jarzembowski has, however, made several interesting points regarding trade links, based on his study of the geological material. His suggestion is that most of the stone recovered from the site first arrived in Lewes as ballast in empty or semi-empty cross-channel trading vessels. Once dumped, this material could easily be scavenged for building, or other purposes, from the river area.

Links with the north of England are suggested by the quern fragment and piece of vesicular basalt recovered from pit 18. Perhaps these can be seen as part of a direct trade system with the north, with Lewes exporting Wealden iron?

The piece of mica-quartz-schist grinding stone is a relatively rare find for Sussex. Such hones originate from southern Norway and were in great demand as blade sharpeners until their decline as a trade item in the mid-15th century. Unfortunately, as Norwegian hones are in evidence at the medieval waterfront in London (Ellis 1969) the Friars Walk piece may indicate a trade connection between Lewes and London rather than a direct link between Sussex and Norway.

Industrial activity in the medieval period is

attested by furnace 143/4 which contained iron slag. *In situ* medieval industrial activity has only been located in two other areas of the town: a copper/bronze smelting furnace in Edward Street, north-east Lewes (Page 1973) and a furnace from the south west of the town (unpublished finds, Barbican House).

One last problem was raised by this excavation. This concerned the early occupation of Lewes, as three Roman tiles were recovered from pits at the western end of the site. All were residual, but their discovery within a comparatively small sample area, when added to the Roman pottery from Freke's trenches in Friars Walk (Freke 1977) and Rudling's trial trenches at the western end of Broomans Lane (Rudling 1983) further strengthens the possibility of locating an area of Roman activity close to the River Ouse.

THE FINDS

Pottery (Figs. 5, 6, 7a)

I would like to acknowledge the help of Mark Gardiner. He is not, however, responsible for any errors I may have made in drawing conclusions from his advice.

PIT 108(112) 11th/12th century

1. Rim. Dark grey-brown outer margin, light grey-brown inner margin, dark grey core. Medium flint temper.
2. Rim. Light brown-grey outer margin, grey inner margin, light brown core. Coarse flint temper. Scored and stabbed decoration.

PIT 45(85) 11th/12th century

3. Body sherd. Brown-orange margins, light brown core. Medium flint and shell temper. Incised decoration.
4. Rim. Brown-orange outer margin, grey-orange inner margin, grey core. Medium flint temper. Top of rim lightly finger impressed.
5. Body sherd. Orange-grey outer margin, dark grey inner margin, grey core. Fine flint temper. Stamped and incised. Possibly the top of an applied cordon.

PIT 18(7, 116) 11th/13th century

6. Rim. Grey-buff brown margins, grey core. Coarse flint and chalk temper. Layer 7.
7. Rim. Buff orange ware. Coarse flint and quartz temper. Layer 7.
8. Body sherd. Orange outer margin, grey-brown inner margin and core. Medium flint temper. Stamped circle, incised line decoration. Layer 7.

9. Rim. Buff-brown outer margin, buff-orange inner margin, grey core. Medium flint and chalk temper. Applied strip with thumb decoration. Layer 7.
10. Spout. Buff-orange margins, grey core. Fine flint and chalk temper. Layer 7.
11. Rim. Dark grey-black margins and core. Medium flint, fine chalk temper. Layer 7.
12. Rim. Orange margin partially coated in yellow-green glaze, inner margin coated in white-orange slip, grey core. Fine flint temper. Layer 7.
13. Rim. Buff-orange margins, grey core. Fine flint and shell temper. Layer 116.
14. Spout. Crude spout with grey-brown margins and grey core. Coarse flint temper. Layer 116.
15. Body sherd. Orange outer margin, buff-brown inner margin, grey core. Fine flint temper. Incised and stamped decoration. Layer 116.
16. Body sherd. Buff-orange outer margin, grey-brown inner margin, grey core. Fine flint temper. Layer 16.

PIT 19(34) 13th/14th century

17. Rim and spout. Light buff-brown margins, dark grey core. Fine quartz sand temper.
18. Rim. Buff-brown, grey margins and core. Coarse flint, fine shell temper.
19. Handle. Buff-orange margins, grey core. Fine flint temper. Lightly thumb decorated strap handle of coarse Ringmer Ware.
20. Rim. Buff-brown margins, grey core. Fine flint temper. Stabbed decoration on inside rim.
21. Lamp. Buff-brown margins, heavily soot discoloured, dark grey core. Medium flint and chalk temper.
22. Rim and base of bowl. Dark grey-black margins and core. Medium flint temper.

PIT 62(61, 95, 125) 13th/14th century

23. Rim. Yellow-brown outer margin, yellow-grey inner margin, dark grey core. Fine flint and shell temper. Layer 61.
24. Rim. Buff-brown inner margin, grey-brown outer margin, light grey core. Coarse flint temper. Layer 61.
25. Rim and lip. Orange-brown margins, grey core. Medium shell and flint temper. Stabbed decoration on inside rim. Layer 61.
26. Rim. Orange-red outer margin, orange-brown inner margin discoloured black in areas, grey core. Fine flint temper. Ringmer-type ware. Layer 95.
27. Spout. Orange-brown outer margin, brown inner margin, grey core. Medium flint temper. Coarse Ringmer type. Layer 95.
28. Rim and base of platter. Orange-brown outer margin, orange inner margin, grey core. Fine flint temper. Coarse Ringmer type. Layer 95.
29. Body sherd. Orange margins, grey core. Medium flint and fine shell temper. Incised decoration. Layer 125.

PIT 111(106) 13th/14th century

30. Body sherd. Orange-brown margins, grey core. Coarse flint temper. Thin finger impressed strip decoration.
31. Rim. Orange-brown outer margin partially discoloured black, orange-brown inner margin, grey core. Coarse

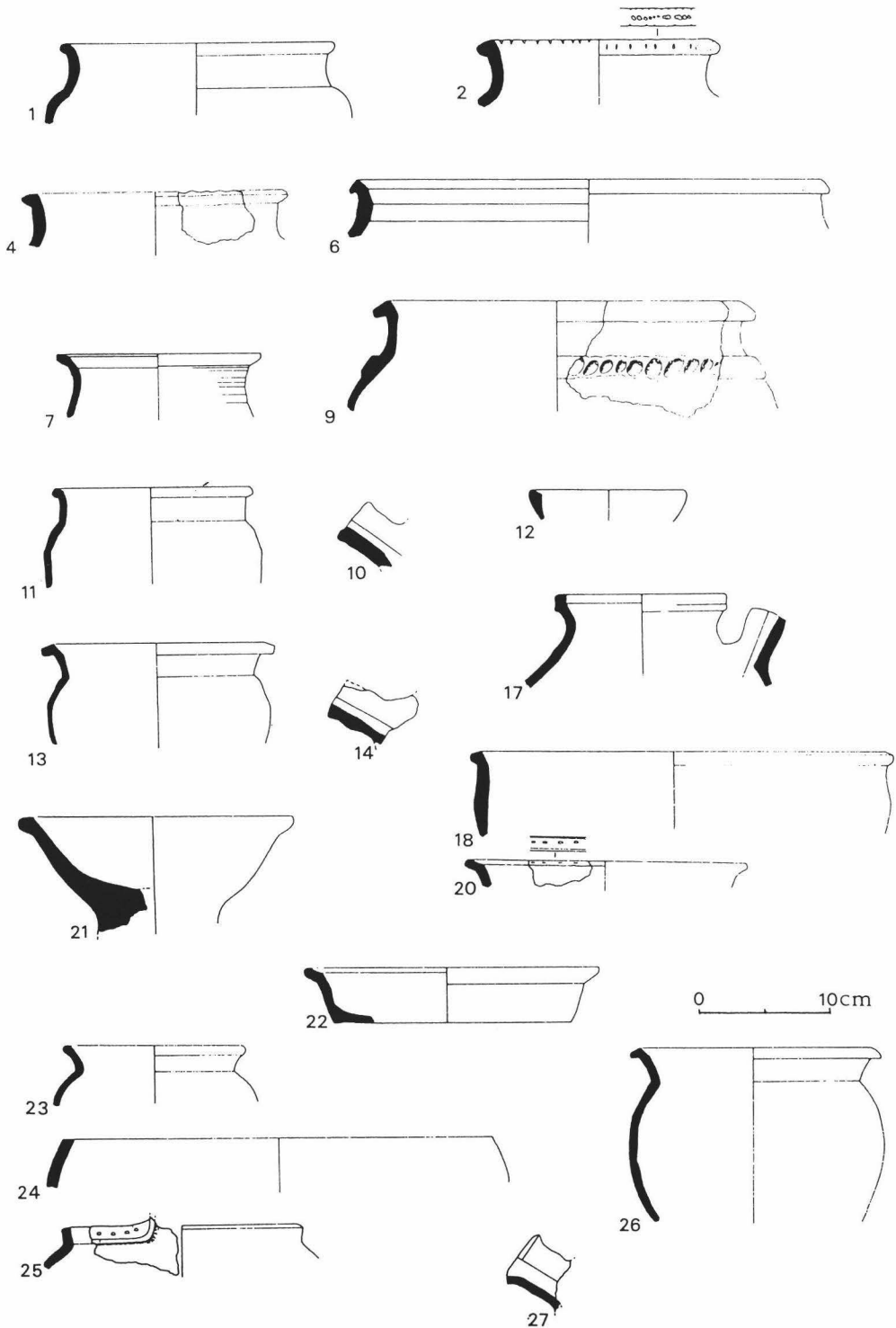


Fig. 5. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Pottery: rims, bases and spouts (x 1/4).

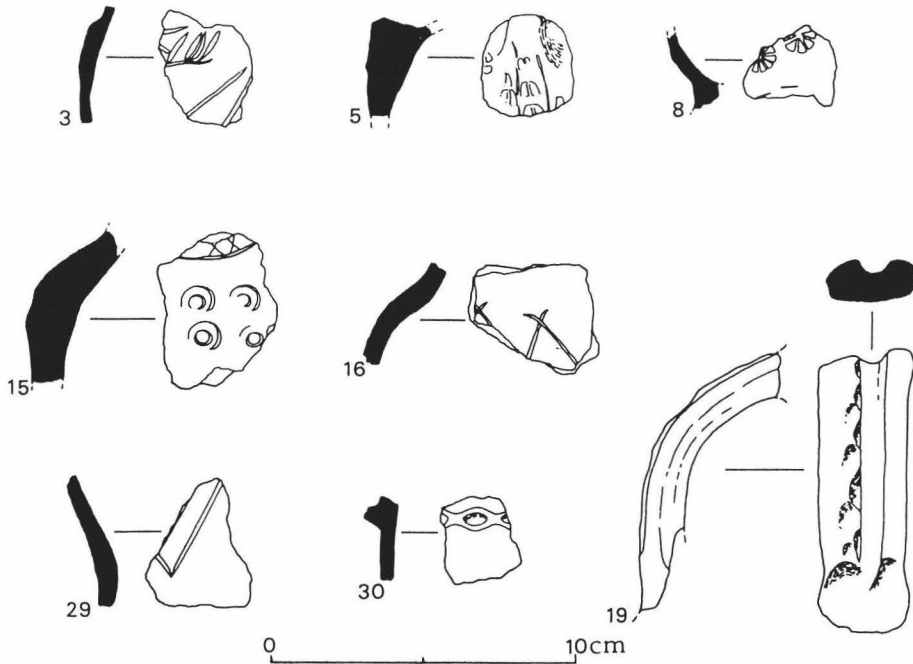
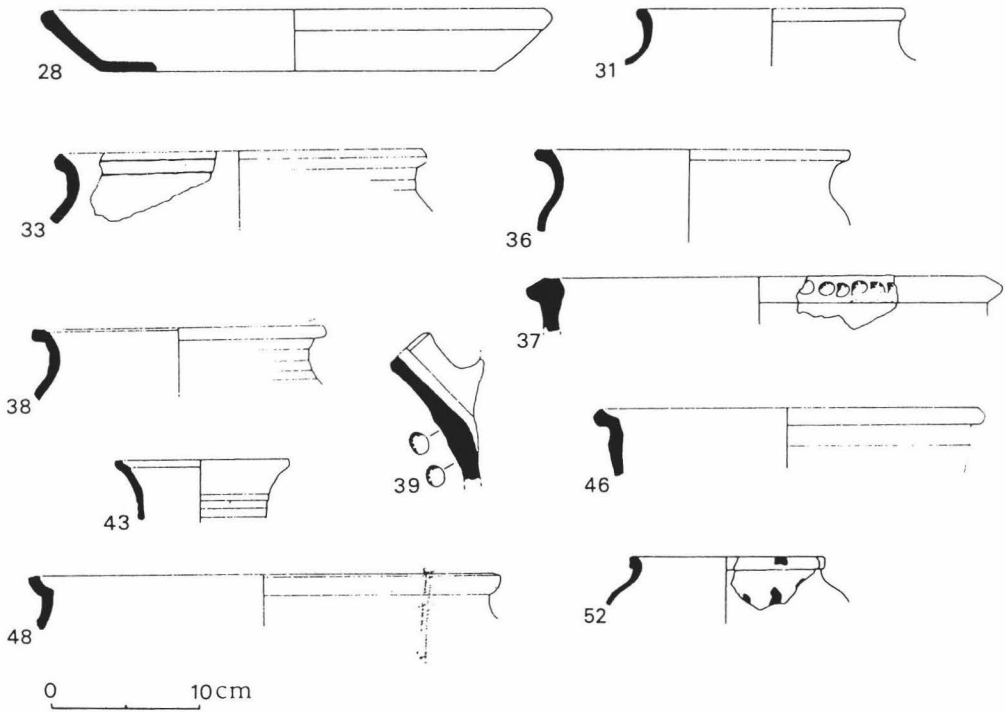


Fig. 6. a. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Pottery: rims, bases and spouts ($\times \frac{1}{4}$). b. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Pottery: handle and body sherds ($\times \frac{1}{2}$).

FRIARS WALK, LEWES EXCAVATIONS

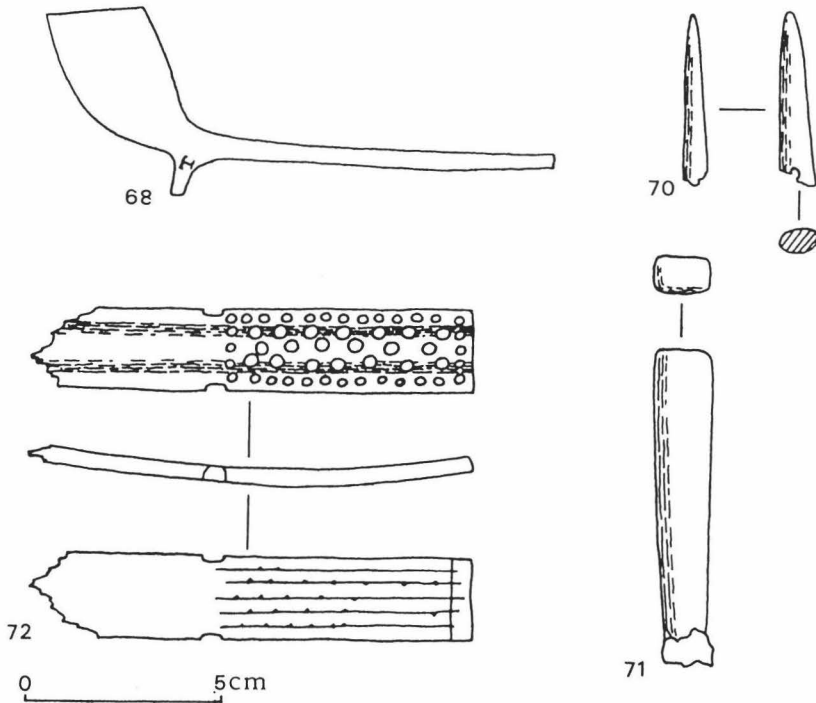
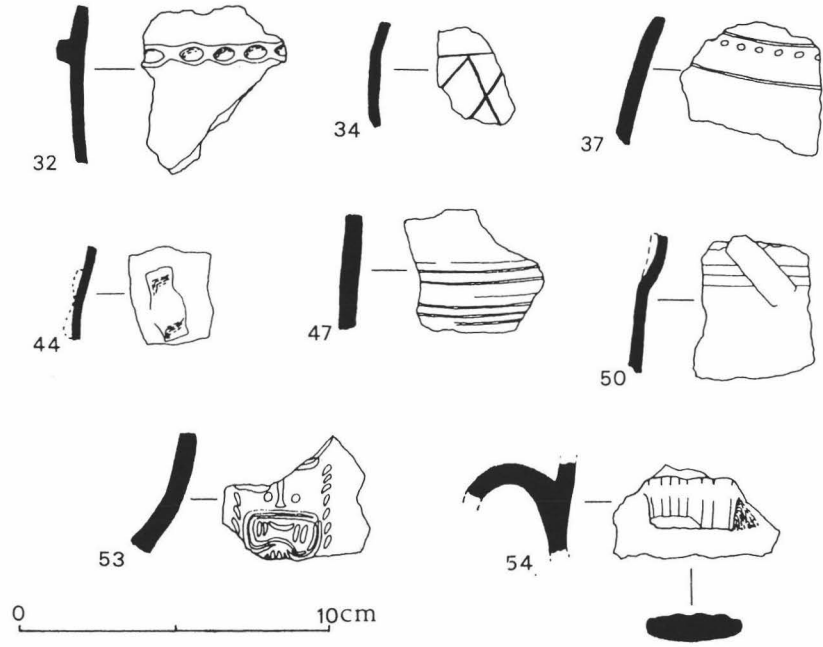


Fig. 7. a. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Pottery: handle and body sherds (x 1/2). b. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Clay pipe and bone artifacts (x 1/3).

- flint and shell temper. Coarse Ringmer type.
32. Body sherd. Red-orange margins, light grey core. Thin finger impressed strip.
33. Rim. Red-orange margins, grey core. Medium flint, fine shell temper. Incised strips on inside just below rim. Coarse Ringmer type. Layer 69.
34. Body sherd. Orange outer margin, orange-brown inner margin, grey core. Medium flint, fine shell temper. Incised decoration. Layer 114.
- PIT 144(68,105)
35. Not illustrated. Rim. Orange-brown margins discoloured black in areas, orange-grey core. Fine flint and shell temper. Fine Ringmer type. Layer 68.
36. Rim. Orange margins, grey core. Coarse flint, fine shell temper. Stabbed decoration on rim. Coarse Ringmer type. Layer 68.
37. Body sherd. Red-brown outer margin, brown inner margin, grey core. Coarse flint and shell temper. Incised and stabbed decoration.
38. Not illustrated. Rim. Orange outer margin, discoloured black in areas, orange-brown inner margin, grey core. Fine flint and shell temper. Fine Ringmer type. Layer 105.
39. Spout. Orange-brown margins, grey core. Coarse flint and shell temper. Thumbled decoration below spout. Layer 105.
- PIT 16(5) 14th/15th century
40. Not illustrated. Rim. Orange margins, light grey core. Fine quartz sand temper, outer surface partially coated in olive green glaze.
41. Not illustrated. Body sherd. Light grey outer margin and core, dark grey inner margin. Coarse flint and fine shell temper. Lightly incised decoration.
- PIT 24(13) 15th/16th century
42. Rim. Red-orange margins, grey core, fine quartz sand temper. Outer surface partially coated in brown glaze.
- PIT 39(40) 15th/16th century
43. Jug neck. Red-orange margins, grey core. Quartz sand temper. Outer surface partially coated in green/brown glaze.
44. Body sherd. Light brown outer margin, dark brown inner margin, light grey core. Fine flint temper. Small applied strap decoration.
45. Not illustrated. Body sherd of Surrey White Ware with external light yellow glaze.
46. Rim. Dark grey outer margin and core, light brown inner margin heavily soot discoloured. Medium flint temper.
47. Body sherd. Light brown outer margin, buff brown inner margin, grey core. Fine flint temper. Inner margin has traces of olive green glaze. Incised decoration.
- PIT 50(51) 15th/16th century
48. Rim. Dark grey-brown margins, grey core. Fine flint temper.
49. Not illustrated. Body sherd. Cream yellow white margins and core, fine quartz sand temper. Outer surface coated in 'Tudor green' glaze.
- PIT 121(120) 15th/16th century
50. Body sherd. Orange-brown outer margin, orange-red inner margin, light grey core. Fine flint and shell temper. Applied strap decoration.
- Imported Wares* (by L. Pontin)
51. Body sherd. Well formed, wheel thrown vessel of cream yellow, grainy fabric. Paintwork traces disappeared soon after exposure to air. Possibly 11th century.
52. Rim. Well formed, wheel thrown vessel of similar fabric to no. 51. A very heavy lead oxide slip has been added. Paintwork has turned purple following a high firing process. Almost a proto-stoneware. Possibly 11th century.
- Without petrological analysis it is very difficult to put a date and location on these forms, except to say they were widely produced in north and west Europe from the 9th to early 12th centuries.
53. Body sherd. Bellarmine jug (Holmes type VIII). Copy of Rhenish d'Alva Bellarmine jug. Produced by John Dwight in Fulham, approximately 1675 to the early 18th century. It is distinguished by the lower lip being pulled to the centre of the mouth and teeth inside the mouth itself.
54. Handle. Stoneware Bellarmine (of different vessel to no. 53). Nothing distinguishable about handle. Tentatively 18th century.
- Metal Objects* (Fig. 8)
55. Flat-bottomed iron hook. Heavily corroded. Pit 18, layer 7.
56. Not illustrated. 230 mm. long iron spike coming to a rough point. Broken at other end. Heavily corroded. Pit 18, layer 7.
57. Copper alloy taper-grip with decorated bulb. Pit 18, layer 7.
58. Lead plumb bob/fishing weight. Pit 18, layer 116.
59. Small rectangular lead strip with impressed grooves – uncertain function. Pit 18, layer 116.
60. Copper alloy spatula/knife blade. Pit 47, layer 49.
61. 'D'-shaped iron belt(?) buckle, heavily corroded. Pit 50, layer 51.
62. Half of an iron horse-shoe. Both shoe and nails heavily corroded. Pit 108, layer 112.
63. Small bronze fitting (from a key?). Pit 108, layer 112.
64. Large iron key. Medium corrosion. Pit 143, layer 69.
- Glass*
65. Not illustrated. Bottle neck of olive-green glass. Lip fairly close to aperture and tooled smooth. 1680–1750. Pit 47, fill 49.
66. Not illustrated. Bottle base of 'black' glass. Mallet type with sagged bottom. Pontil scar from where base was held during detachment from blow pipe. c. 1700–1780. Fill of cellar 141.
67. Not illustrated. Bottle neck of 'black' glass. Slim bodied 'port bottle' type. Thick double-laid lip. c. 1780–1820 (a further 61 examples were recovered from this context). Pit 21, fill 37.

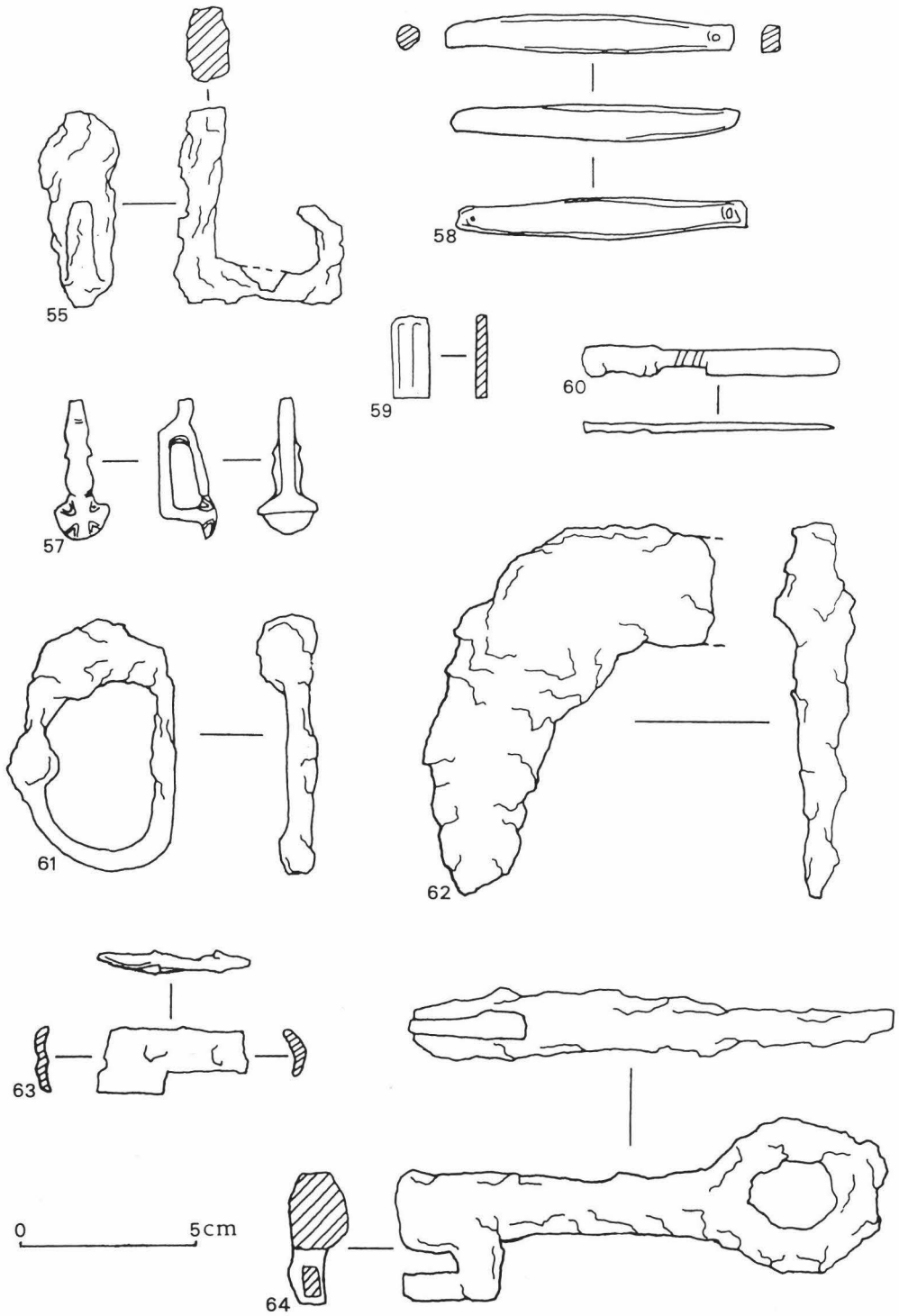


Fig. 8. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Metal objects.

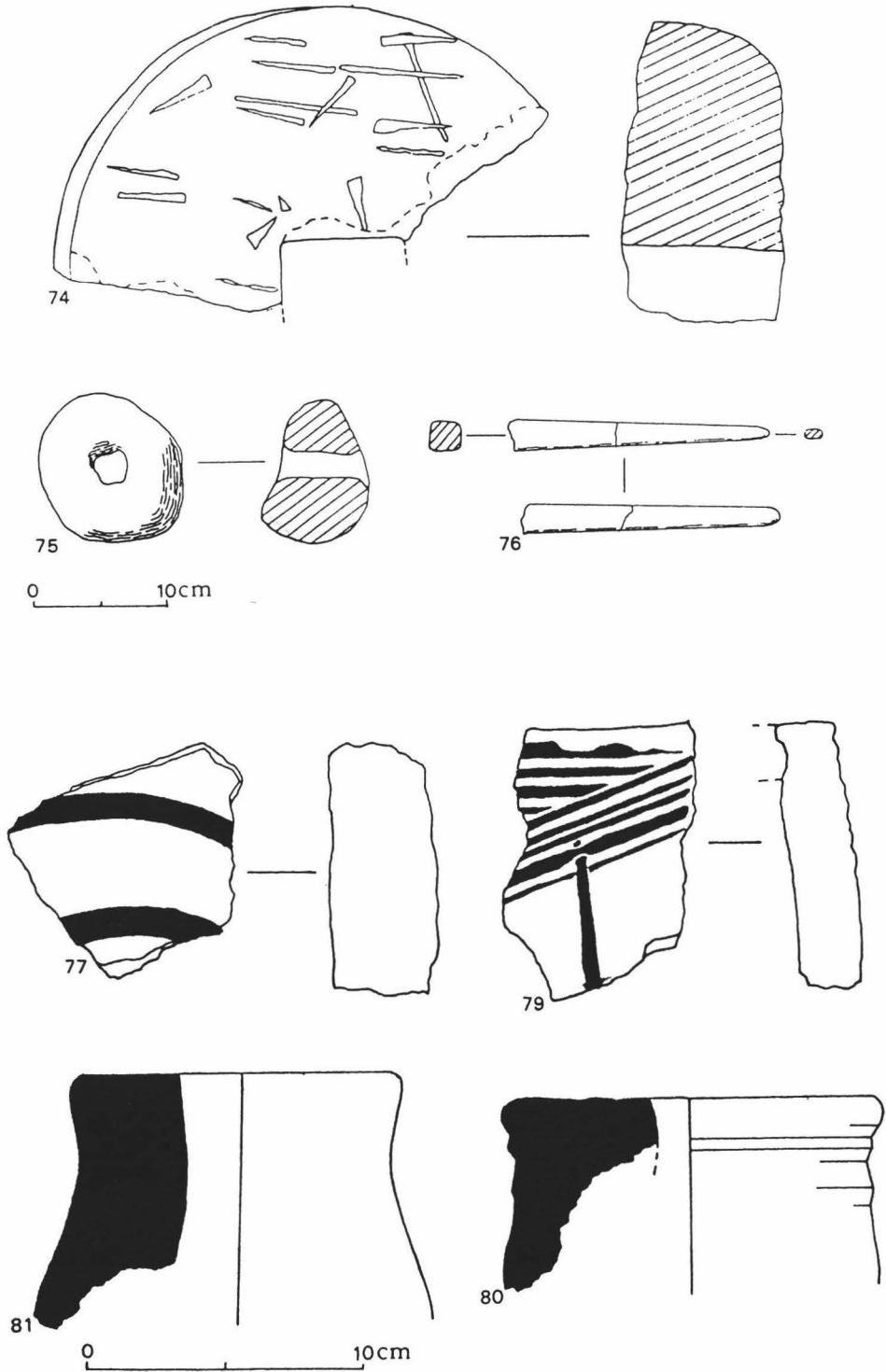


Fig. 9. a. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Stone artifacts. b. Lewes, Friars Walk 1989. Tile, chimney/tuyere, and chimney pot.

Clay Tobacco Pipes (Fig. 7. b)

68. Bowl and part of stem. Spur initialled 'T.N.'—possible Thomas Neeve who was working in Lewes from 1775 to 1802. Fill of cellar 141.
69. Not illustrated. Part bowl and stem with a large flat spur. Late 17th century. Pit 20, fill 32.
Parts of clay pipe were also recovered from pit 21.

Worked bone (Fig. 7. b)

70. Part of a needle/awl, broken 46 mm. from tip. Displays a 2 mm. diameter drilled hole at break. Pit 129, fill 128.
71. Polished handle, 75 mm. long, 15 mm. wide at bottom tapering to 10 mm. at blade end where there is heavy corrosion. Pit 47, fill 49.
72. Brush/comb, broken along centre of handle. 4 mm. thick, 20 mm. wide and over 110 mm. long. 52 bristle holes drilled into head. Lightly curved. Pit 47, fill 49.
73. Not illustrated. Squared piece of highly polished bone. 7 mm. wide and over 22 mm. long. Broken at both ends. Pit 18, fill 7.

Flint (none illustrated)

Four pieces of prehistoric flintwork were recovered from different contexts. All were flakes, two of which showed some signs of retouch. All were residual and none were particularly diagnostic. They are probably Neolithic/Bronze Age. Fire-cracked flints were found in fills 50 (80 gms), 52 (30 gms), 60 (70 gms) and 113 (26 gms).

Geological Resources (by J. Cooper, E. Jarzembowski and A. Ross)

(Questions about trade arising from these results are dealt with in the Conclusions above)

Artifacts (Fig. 9. a)

74. Part of a small quernstone (estimated diameter 260 mm.) of Millstone Grit. The top of the quern is roughly tooled and part of the central squared hole is preserved. Pit 18, fill 7.
75. Holed flint pebble, the hole being the deliberately widened remains of a washed out sponge fossil. It was probably used as a weight for a fishing net.
76. A grinding stone of fine-grained metamorphic mica-quartz-schist. 120 mm. long, tapering to a semi-blunted point and broken at the other end. Mica-quartz-schist makes an excellent blade sharpener, though this example appears to be unworn. Pit 62, fill 95.

Discussion

The stone of the Wealden Series formed only a part of the excavated sample. Fragments of Wealden Sandstone from the Tunbridge Wells and Hastings Beds were recovered from pits 18, 19, 105, 114, 136 and 144. Wear patterns on samples from 105, 114 and 136 suggested they had been used for sharpening tools. The holed flint pebble from pit 18 probably came straight from the nearest beach.

The non-local stone formed just over half of the geological sample. A piece of vesicular basalt, originating from northern England/Scotland/Northern Ireland was recovered from Pit 18, fill 116.

The quernstone from fill 7 of the same feature is

probably of Yorkshire/Northumbrian Millstone Grit.

A piece of shelly oolitic limestone from pit 144, fill 68, is from either the Cotswolds or France, while samples of feldspathic limestone from pits 18, 39 and 144 all probably have a French origin.

A large rock sample from Pit 18, fill 17, is either a volcanic rock known as Ignimbrite, or a piece of highly fused sandstone. If the latter, then fusion would have occurred if the stone had formed part of a kiln/oven base.

The single piece of mica-quartz-schist grinding stone is from southern Norway.

Building Material (Fig. 9. b)

i. ROMAN TILE (residual)

77. Fragment of tegula. Orange margin, orange-grey core. Small angular quartz inclusions. Fragment displays two lightly (finger?) impressed curving bands 6 mm. thick, separated by a 22 mm. gap. Pit 19, Fill 34.
78. Not illustrated. Fragment of tegula. Orange margins, grey-brown core. Small-medium angular quartz inclusions. Displays two lightly impressed straight bands 8–9 mm. thick, separated by a 2 mm. gap. Cut 16, fill 5.
79. Fragment of box-flue tile displaying corner joins. Buff-orange with angular quartz and crushed flint inclusions. Incised surface created by a five-toothed comb operating in horizontal and diagonal bands. Pit 45, fill 85.

ii. MEDIEVAL TILE (none illustrated)

A total of five pieces of unglazed tile came from medieval contexts (one from pit 59, fill 58; two from pit 39, fill 40; two from pit 19, fill 34). All tile was fragmentary and only thickness could be measured. They range from 24–28 mm. All had buff-orange/grey margins and grey cores, with fine quartz sand temper.

iii. CHIMNEY POTS (Fig. 9. b)

80. Flattened top with lightly flanged lip. Grey-orange margins, buff-orange core. Finely crushed flint temper. 40 mm. in thickness. Pit 143, fill 69.
81. Flattened top. Coarse grey/brown flint grit ware. 25 mm. thick. Inside face is smoke-stained. Pit 108, fill 107.
82. Not illustrated. Flattened top with lightly flanged lip. Pale orange margins, buff-orange core. Small-medium flint temper. 27 mm. thick (two body fragments were also recovered from this context). Pit 18, fill 7.
83. Not illustrated. Flattened top; with 4 mm. lip. Buff-orange sandy ware with light crushed flint temper. 16 mm. thick. Pit 39, fill 40.
84. Not illustrated. Body fragment of orange-brown margins, dark grey core. Lightly tempered with quartz, 20 mm. thick. Areas of its outer surface retain an olive green glaze. Cut 16, fill 5.

Fragments of chimney pot were also recovered from pit 19, fill 34 and pit 144, fill 68.

iv. BURNT CLAY/DAUB (none illustrated)

A total of 6,755 gms of burnt clay/daub was recovered (details in archive). 2,240 gms were faced, 1,565 gms preserved wattlework impressions. Only context 61/95 of pit 62 provided a sample large enough to study.

Two distinct sizes of wattle were used: 8–12 mm.;

16 mm. and above. Examples preserving both types demonstrated that the thinner wattles were laid horizontally in groups of two against the larger verticals, which were in groups of three or more. Presumably this created a framework of 'basket weave' type on which the daub was directly applied.

v. MORTAR (none illustrated)

The only mortar samples recovered were two 'earthy' and highly friable fragments (120 gms) from the lowest part of fill 125 in pit 62. They were both of a cream-yellow (calcareous) matrix and contained small-medium sub-angular flint and crushed shell inclusions.

vi. SLATE (none illustrated)

Small quantities of very much broken roofing slate were recovered from Contexts 5, 13, 37, 43, 48, 50, 61, 68, 72. They are all from the same source, the South Hams area of Devon. None displayed peg holes. The apparent 'rust marking' on some examples is a geological intrusion.

vii. POST-MEDIEVAL TILE (none illustrated)

Seven pieces of post-medieval tile were found in the 17th century fills of pit 20 and cellar 141. All displayed square peg holes 8 x 10 mm.—11 x 9 mm. and ranged between 11–14 mm. in thickness.

Animal Bones (by E. Somerville and P. Stevens)

(Note: Due to lack of time and personnel no sieving could be conducted on the site. There may, therefore, be a bias in the type of bone material recovered).

There was a total of 4,380 bones from the site of which 1,419 (32 per cent) could readily be identified. These included 1,209 bones from mammals and 58 bones from birds, which were identifiable to anatomical part and species.

A marked feature of the assemblage was its degree of fragmentation. Thus although 4,170 bones could be classed as mammalian, further identification was possible only on 29 per cent of these. This is considerably less than the approximate 50 per cent level usual for urban sites. It was noticeable that long bones and metapodials were usually recovered in an incomplete state, suggesting that marrow was extracted before the bones were discarded. Indeed, the general nature of the assemblage, typified by the predominance amongst the mammal bones of skull bones and metapodials, strongly suggests the making of soup.

MAMMALS

As in most medieval sites, the bone assemblage was dominated by the bones of the three main food species: sheep/goat, cow and pig. It is probably a safe assumption that the unidentified bones belong to these species. Both adult and immature animals are represented in the assemblage.

i. Sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) bones are almost ubiquitous, being present in 42 of the 53 levels represented in the sample. In total there were 848 fragments identifiable as sheep/goat, 70 per cent of the mammalian total.

ii. Cow (*Bos taurus*) is also well represented, with a total of 246 fragments, 20 per cent of the mammalian total. In general, cow bones are also well distributed, but tend to turn up in smaller numbers than those of sheep/goat. A cow metapodial from Pit 18, layer 7, showed the pathology typically induced by use of the animal for traction.

iii. Pig (*Sus domesticus*) is the least common of the main farm livestock species. As with sheep/goat and cow, there is

no obvious pattern to the distribution of these species. A total of 97 pig bones was identified, 8 per cent of the total. Although both adult and immature animals were represented, it seemed to be the case that the majority of jaws and teeth belonged to adults, whereas limb bones were more often those of juveniles. The occasional occurrence of isolated lower canines from boars was also noted.

iv. Horse (*Equus caballus*) was represented by nine bones. These were all found in five layers (7, 61, 63, 112 and 116). A femur and a tooth came from layer 7 (pit 18) and a further tooth and phalange from layer 116 of the same feature. Layer 61 (pit 62) produced a metapodial. A proximal scapula was identified from layer 63 (pit 64). The largest number of bones from a single layer came from layer 112 (pit 108); this produced a proximal scapula, a complete radius, a broken metapodial in which the proximal articular surface was worn flat, and a mandibular symphysis which showed a pathological misalignment of one of the incisors.

v. Carnivores. Dog (*Canis familiaris*) was not represented. Cat (*Felis catus*) was represented by a total of six unbroken limb bones from both adult and immature animals retrieved from layers 7, 85, 61, 93 and 112.

vi. Birds. In total 17 layers contained bird bones which were largely unbroken. Chicken (domestic fowl, *Gallus domesticus*) was most common with 46 bones being identifiable to this species. Ten goose (*Anser anser*) bones were identified. Pigeon (*Columba livia*) and crow (*Corvus spp.*) were each represented by one find, in layers 33 and 34 (pit 19) respectively.

The greatest amount of sheep/goat, cow and pig bones were recovered from 13th/14th century fills. Bones of cat, chicken, horse and goose remained at stable levels throughout the 11th/14th centuries. After the 14th century only sheep/goat, cow and pig are represented and these in extremely small numbers.

(N.B. This is only a preliminary report. A full report of the bones will be produced in due course.)

Marine Resources (by E. Somerville)

(The 152 fish bones were provisionally identified by species only.)

Only ten fish bones were recovered from pre-13th century fills. These were of cod (*Cadus morhua*). Of the remaining 142 bones, four species could be distinguished. The bulk of the fish bones were again cod. One other cod-like fish was present in pit 18 (fill 116) and pit 19 (fill 33), and two vertebrae of flatfish were found (pit 19, fill 34, and pit 62, fill 61). Thorn-back ray (*Raja clavata*) was identified from one spine in pit 19 (fill 34).

Oyster shells were found in virtually all medieval and post-medieval contexts, though they exhibit a marked decline in numbers after the 16th century. Edible mussel shells appear only in 13th/16th century fills. There was a single crab claw from the 17th century (pit 47, fill 49).

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The finds and archive have been deposited at Barbican House Museum.

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Town Maps of Lewes in Barbican House Library: Figg, W. 1824. 440 yds. to 3 ins; Ordnance Survey 1873. 1:500; Ordnance Survey 1909. 1":1 mile; Randall, G. 1620.