

CHAPTER 5: GODALMING

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Summary

Three excavations in or near to the historic town of Godalming are reported upon in this chapter. The first, at Holloway Hill, indicated that the occupation of Godalming had extended to the near vicinity by the 13th century, although the possibility that the finds relate to a separate site, outside of the town, must be acknowledged. The 13th century evidence consisted of a layer containing relatively frequent finds of pottery. This deposit was sealed by hillwash (probably resulting from the establishment of the medieval Bargate quarries up the hill), before the establishment of a three-bay house in the later 16th century. Below-ground evidence for its structural history was recovered, showing that it had been extended in the 17th century and then divided into two properties in the 19th century. Its dismantling in 1989 for re-erection at the Weald and Downland Museum, Singleton, is likely to have produced more comprehensive evidence, but this is not currently available.

The excavation at Mint Street produced a number of finds which hinted at occupation nearby in the prehistoric and Roman periods. Medieval settlement began in the 11th century, perhaps at the same time as the nearby church began to be developed as a minster. The Mint Street frontage itself may not have been built over until the early 14th century. It was in the years around 1300 that Godalming was developed as a market and this may help explain the provision of new buildings.

The excavation at Bridge Street also hinted at occupation nearby in the prehistoric and Roman periods. Finds, rather than features, were the most clear-cut evidence for mid-Saxon occupation, and their quantity was greater than that for any site of this date previously excavated in Surrey. Occupation from the 11th to the 13th century was, however, well evidenced by both finds and features. The finds were dominated by the pottery collection, which is of considerable interest and importance in its own right. The features consist of a mixture of gullies, pits and postholes. Despite the relative frequency of these it has proved impossible to arrive at a clear understanding of their patterning or function. Occupation continued down to the end of the 13th century, when the site was taken over for agricultural use, continuing down to the late 19th century. The status of the Saxon and early medieval site is uncertain, but a farmstead, separate from the town, seems most likely.

Excavation at 5–7 Holloway Hill, Godalming

ROB POULTON

Preface and acknowledgements

The excavation at 5–7 Holloway Hill which took place in November and December 1989 was organized as an adjunct to the dismantling and recording of the standing structures by Richard Harris and members of the Weald and Downland Museum. The work was funded by the County Engineer's Department, Surrey County Council, as part of a programme of archaeological work in advance of construction of the Godalming relief road, and the assistance of Martin Wood and Dave Murray of the County Engineer's Department is gratefully acknowledged. On site the assistance of Graham Hayman, Giles Pattison and Jan Pauliny-Toth deserves particular gratitude.

The aims of the excavation were threefold: to ascertain whether there was occupation of the site prior to the construction of the 16th century house; to assess the below-ground evidence for the construction and use of the building; and to establish what use was made of the plot to the rear of the Tudor structures. In order to do this the whole area occupied by the building was carefully examined, but limitations of time meant that only sample trenches were excavated to the rear (fig 5.1).

Knowledge of the site prior to excavation was very limited for the period before the 19th century when the house was marked on the tithe (1848) and later maps. The site lay beyond the expected limits of the medieval town (O'Connell 1977).

The site was excavated as three distinct areas: trench 1, covering the whole of the ground beneath the 16th century building; trench 2, which was 5.50m long and 1.25m wide to the east of the building; and trench 3, which was 1.25m wide and sampled the whole length of the available plot (26m) with a 6m extension along the east side of the building. The modern garden soils in trenches 2 and 3 were removed by JCB, but all other layers were excavated by hand. The results are described below in chronological order.

The excavation (M129–M133)

MEDIEVAL OCCUPATION (PHASE 1)

Evidence for this was found only in bays 1 and 2 of the house (fig 5.2), where it was sealed by a considerable depth of hillwash (fig 5.3, sections 1–5, context 138). Because of this depth it was not possible to trace its precise extent by excavation, but it was clear that it did not extend southwards beyond bay 2; to the east, where trench 3 was located, the layer was not observed either, although the excavations were sufficiently deep to have revealed it (had it existed) at a number of points.

The evidence consisted of a layer of grey-brown silty sand (138, 155) with lighter sandy patches (141), containing pottery of 13th century date, a small amount of roof tile and an iron knife of late-Saxon type. The layer is of a type frequently found to the rear of properties in medieval towns (cf Mint Street, Godalming in this volume), and its distribution and extent here might suggest it derives from occupation somewhere near the corner of Holloway Hill and High Street (fig 5.1).

HILLWASH DEPOSITS (PHASE 2)

The medieval occupation layers rested over a light brown sandy layer with occasional pieces of sandstone (of Bargate type). The appearance of this layer was little different from those above the occupation deposit, except that the latter (131, 134, 137) had a thin scatter of finds and occasional

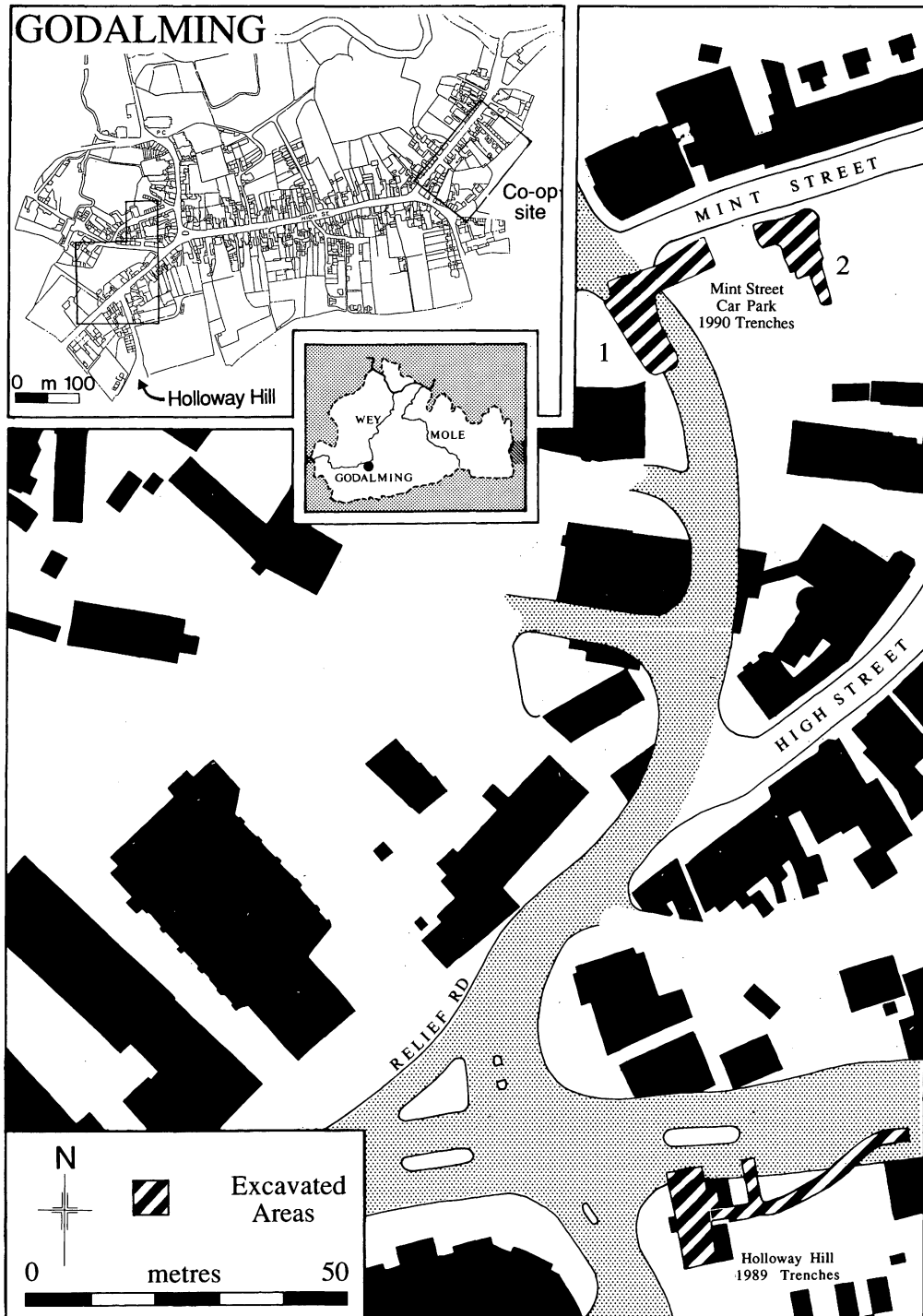


Fig 5.1 Godalming: location of the Holloway Hill and Mint Street excavations, with (inset) Godalming as shown on the 1st edition OS map of 1870. The area shown as 'Co-op Site' is that of the trench and excavation area location plan for the Co-operative Wholesale Society site (fig 5.17).

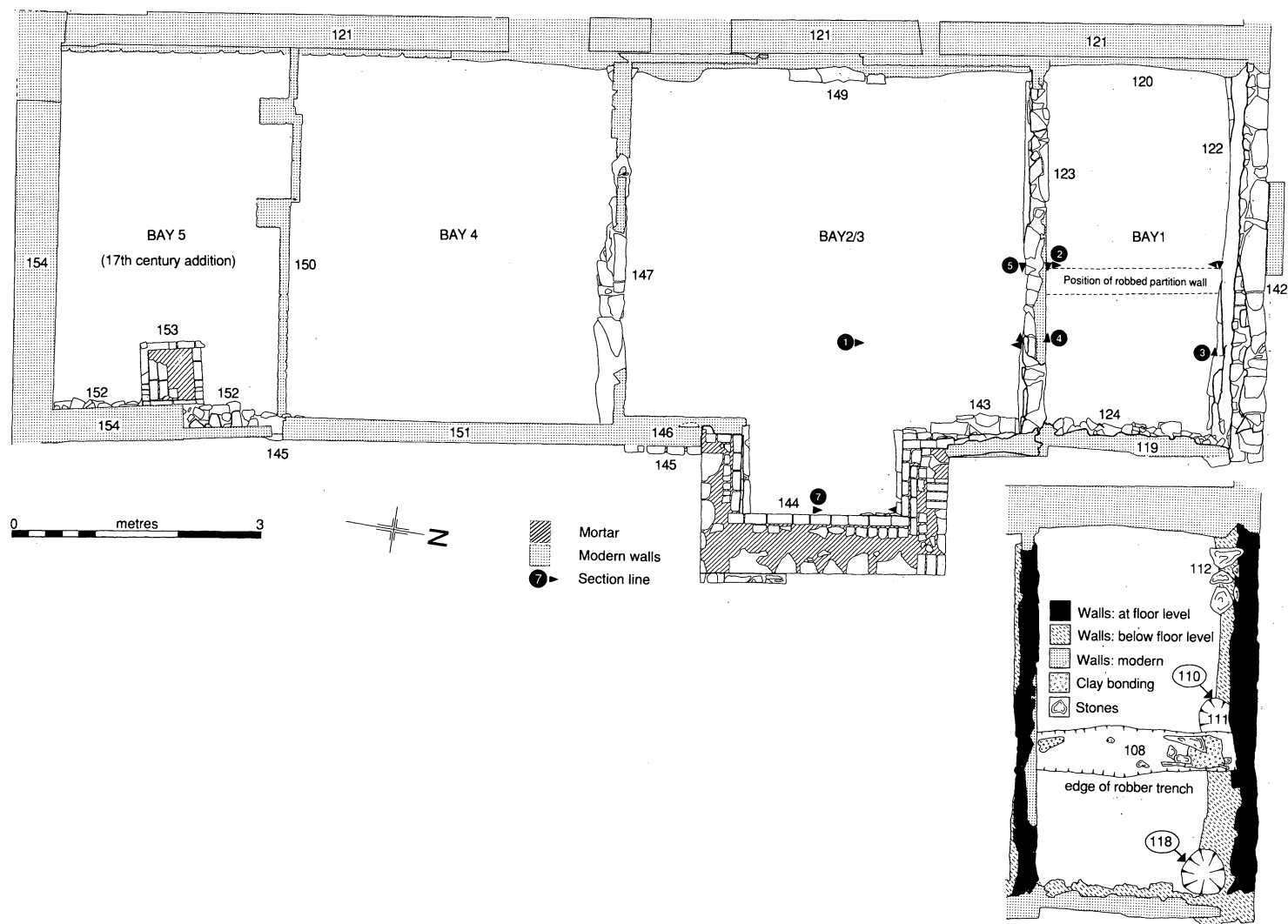


Fig 5.2 Holloway Hill, Godalming: detail plan of excavation of the 16th century building (trench 1, phase 3)

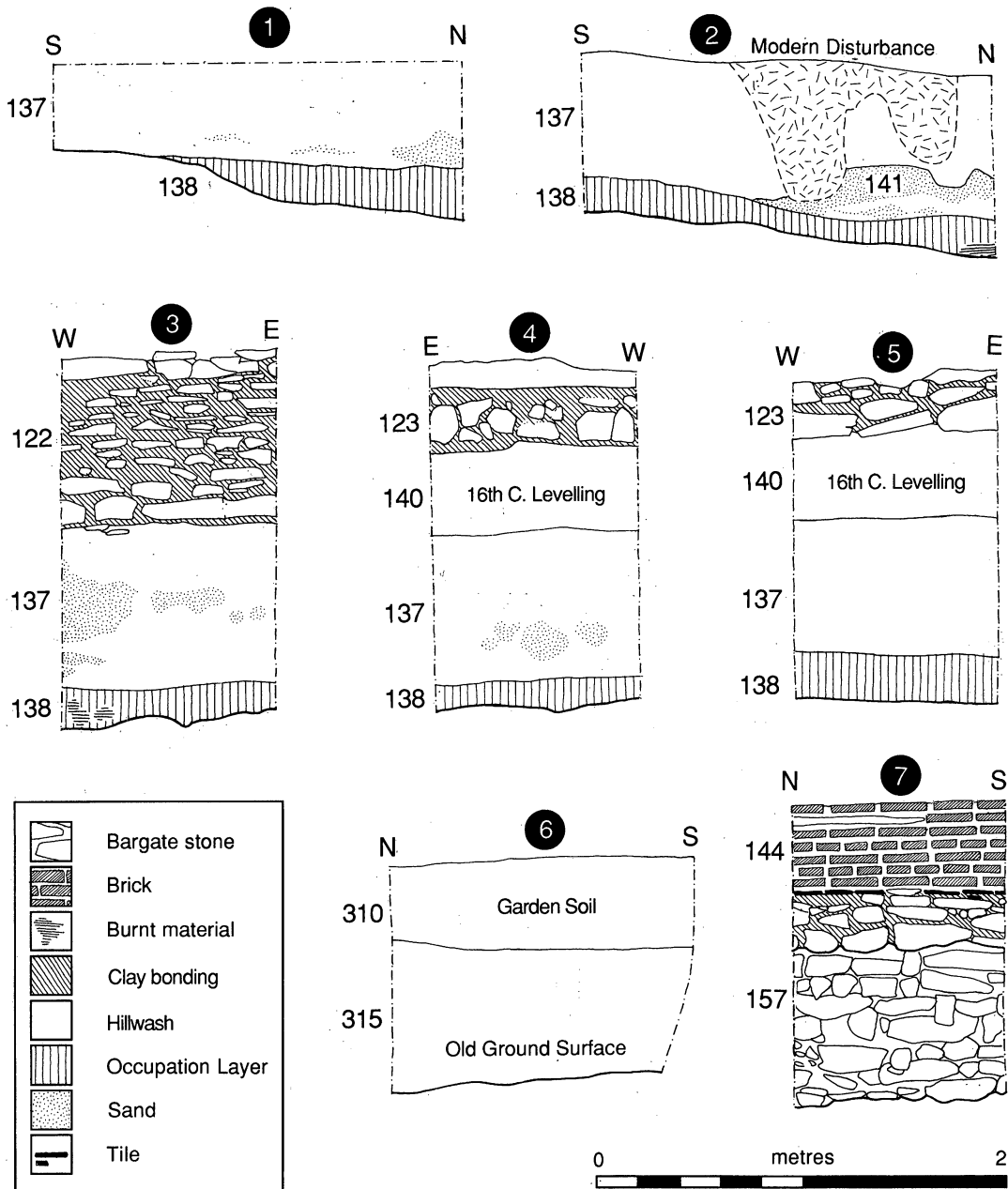


Fig 5.3 Holloway Hill, Godalming: sections, principally of sample trenches within trench 1, which revealed the depth and partial extent of phase 1 (13th century occupation) and the presence of phase 2 (hill wash)

charcoal flecks within them. It was still possible to identify two separate layers where the 13th century occupation deposit was absent, and again the upper layer (156, 206, 315) contained a few finds, particularly at the interface, which seemed to represent an old ground surface.

The finds from the upper layer were, where datable, of either the 13th or 16th centuries, which may suggest they are largely derived from phase 1 or intrusive from phase 3. Both upper and lower deposits are clearly hillwash which, the evidence of the former ground surface suggests, began to accumulate quite quickly (fig 5.3, sections 1–6) from the later 13th century onwards, following a period of stability.

THE 16TH CENTURY HOUSE: CONSTRUCTION AND INITIAL USE (PHASE 3)

The constructional history of the house has been briefly summarized by Nigel Barker (1991) as follows:

The original timber framed building was a single house with three rooms on each floor, a central room, approximately 18ft square, a small service room (originally divided in two) and a larger room at the south end. The roof was clasped side-purlins, but with the purlins tenoned into the truss over the central room. A 17th century extension to the south end retained its Bargate stone walls but its original form is unknown.

The house originally had a central rear stack, which was then rebuilt slightly later in the 17th century using the same foundations, possibly because the original stack suffered from some structural weakness. The greatest change in the house occurred in the mid 19th century when the original front wall was removed and replaced with dressed Bargate stone, whilst the interior was divided, extra chimneys and outshots added to form two cottages and the original staircase was removed.

The present report is confined to the evidence of the foundations and floor levels of the building. This had been constructed with its long axis aligned to Holloway Hill, on a site which had not been occupied since at least the 13th century.

The site sloped steeply downhill from south to north and it was this which determined the sequence of construction (fig 5.2). The outer sill walls (on which the timber framing was to rest) were probably all constructed first, although this cannot be proven unequivocally because of the loss of the main south and west sill walls (represented by the later foundations 150 and 121 respectively). It was evident that walls 122 (fig 5.3, section 3) and 124 at the north end are primary in the sequence and of one build, consisting of a wide foundation built on the original ground surface which gradually narrows in until it reaches sill-beam level (fig 5.4). The walls are constructed of Bargate stone slabs, bonded with sandy clay and roughly coursed. Wall 143 (bay 2/3) is of continuous build with 124, and wall 157 is likewise of the same build as 143. In the case of 157, though, the construction was more careful and regular, and had been taken down below original ground level. This was because of the need to take the weight of the brick chimney above, the lowest courses of which (144) survived, separated from 157 by a roof tile levelling course (fig 5.3, section 7). Feature 144 seems to represent the original chimney and was built of bricks 21 x 10.5 x 6cm (average) bonded with mortar. At a higher level, dismantling by the Weald and Downland Museum team had shown that the chimney had been almost entirely rebuilt, and from the mortar bonding of the rebuild (161) two sherds of pottery suggested that the original structure may have failed by the early 17th century.

Once the outer walls were in place the ground within was partially levelled. In bay 1 a considerable levelling up was necessary (fig 5.3, sections 4, 5), while at the south end it is possible, though not provable, that levelling down was necessary. The layers (115a, 130, 140; 116 was a tipline of mortar fragments within 115a) consisted of redeposited hillwash sand. The few finds are of 16th century date.

The next stage was the construction of the sill walls for the internal partitions, and other internal features. The construction method for the main partition walls (123, 147) was the same as for the external walls, except that base and top were of equal width. Wall 147 was built off the old ground surface, but the base of 123 was on the initial levelling layer (fig 5.3, sections 4, 5).



Fig 5.4 Holloway Hill, Godalming: view of bay 1 (looking east, scale in 20cm divisions), showing the deep foundation of the external walls 122 (left) and 124 (background) and the shallow foundation of the internal wall 122 (right) over levelling material

Evidence that bay 1 had been originally divided into two was found in the form of 108, a single fragmentary course of Bargate blocks; the upper levels had been subsequently robbed (phase 4, 102, 109) but the base was at the same level as 123, suggesting that the two were contemporary. Three large slabs of clay-bonded Bargate stone (149) might, from their position central to the original house, mark the position of a threshold, while two courses of Bargate stone in the north-west corner of bay 1 (fig 5.2; fig 5.5, 112, 126) could mark the location of a staircase to the upper floor, but the evidence is rather weak.

After the construction of these internal walls, the final levelling to the intended floor level took place. This layer was very similar to the primary deposit levelling and was most extensive in bay 1 (114, 115b, 127, 128) and rather thinner in bay 2 (133). The few finds again indicated a 16th century date, although as the early floor levels had been removed some later material had intruded into these layers.

Over most of the building the 16th century floors and other internal features had been completely removed. Within bay 1 some evidence existed in the form of a hard, apparently trampled, surface (113) which survived over most of the area west of the robbed partition wall (108). A small pit (110, 111) cut this surface but was sealed by 106, of similar extent to 113 but perhaps in fact its broken upper surface. All these contexts contained only 16th century material as did another pit (117, 118) east of 108 (fig 5.2). A floor of beaten earth seems to be implied and the fact that only here were 16th century cut features found might suggest the original floor was more solid (flagstones or tiles) elsewhere in the house. The floor in bay 1 must also have been replaced by more solid materials by the end of the 16th century.

To the rear of the house, trenches 2 and 3 were dug in an attempt to locate evidence for back-lands activity. Only in the area immediately behind the building were significant features found

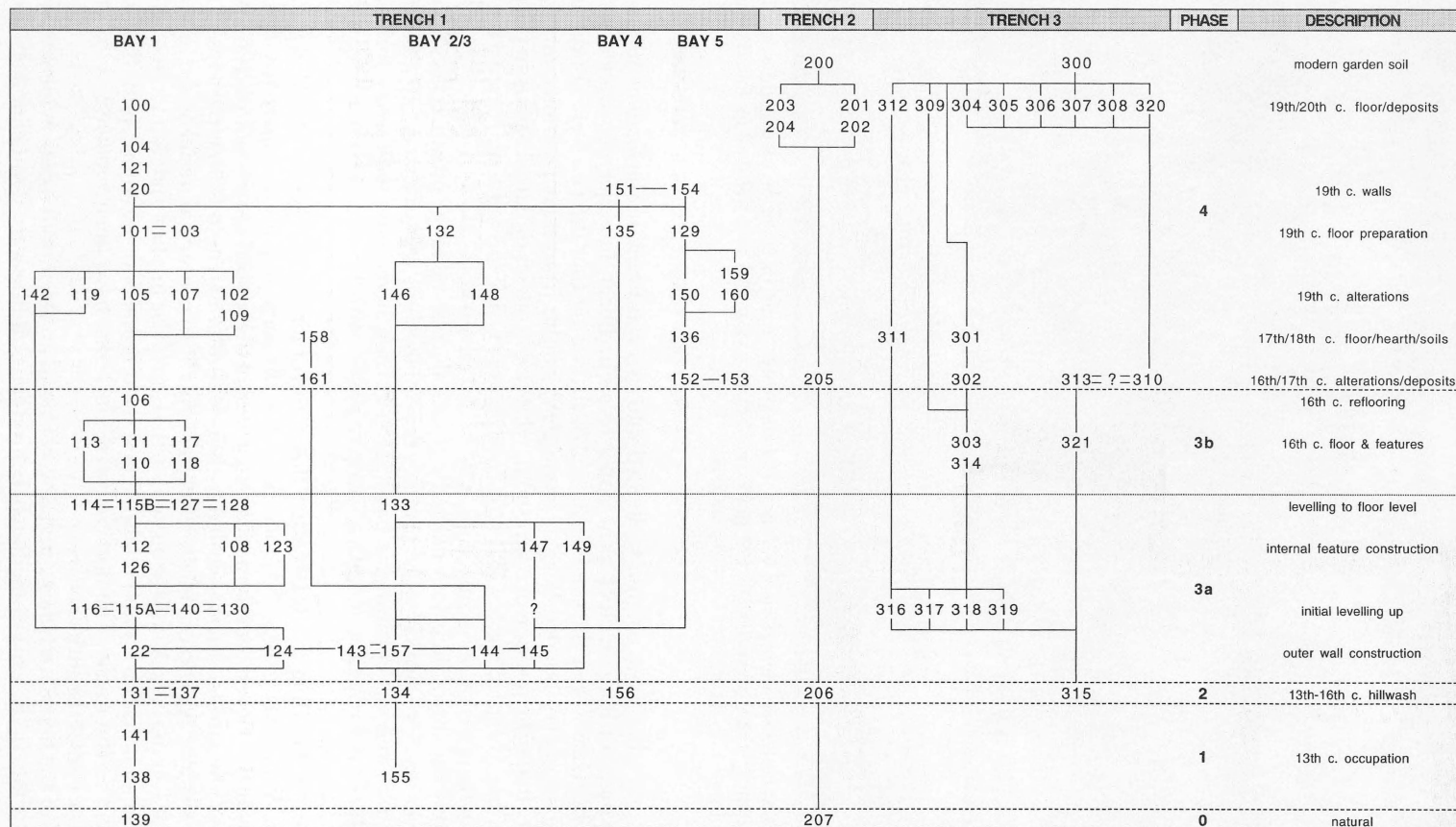


Fig 5.5 Holloway Hill, Godalming: Harris matrix of the contexts revealed in trenches 1-3

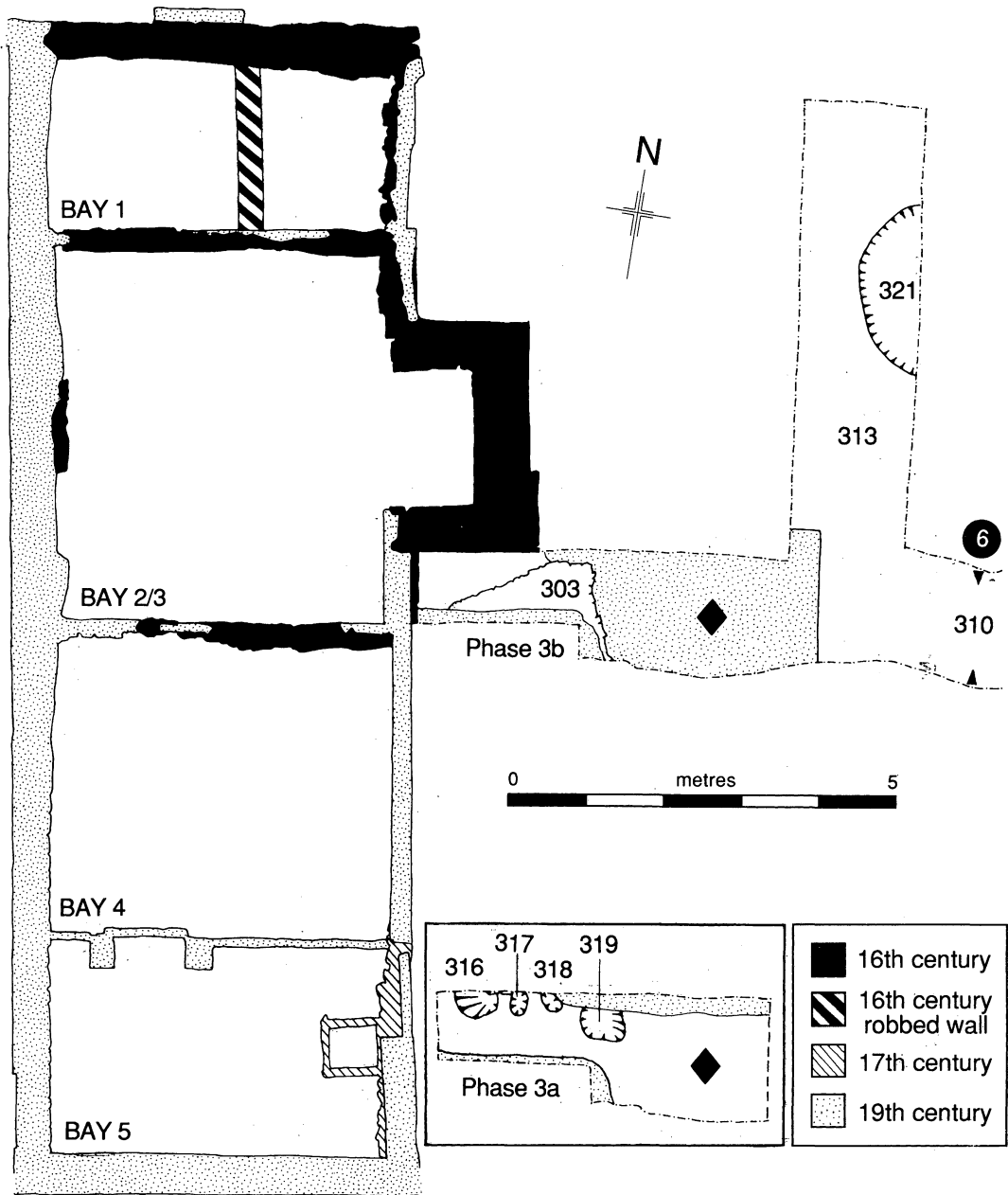


Fig 5.6 Holloway Hill, Godalming: features of phase 3a (inset) and phase 3b in trench 3, shown in relation to the main building. The remainder of trench 3 and trench 2 did not reveal material of phases 1, 2 or 3, apart from hillwash deposits 315 (see section 6, fig 5.3) and 206.

(fig 5.6). Four small pits or postholes (316, 317, 318; 319) were dug hard up against 144, and seem most likely to represent scaffolding holes for construction of the chimney (either for the first or second build, or both). Above these, features 303 and 314 represent an accumulation of broken brick and tile mixed with mortar and stone. It was thought at the time of excavation that this was

a crudely constructed path, but it is difficult to see where this might have led to, and it is perhaps more likely that it is debris from construction work, especially of the chimney. Context 321 was potentially the most interesting feature encountered, but unfortunately was only revealed almost at the end of the work, and its depth within a narrow trench meant that it could not be bottomed. It appeared to be circular, and the beginnings of possible stone lining hint that it may have been a well. The position, to the rear of bay 1 (perhaps the service bay: see Conclusions), would be an appropriate one, but if so, it went out of use quite quickly as its fill is of 16th century date, as is the layer sealing it, 313 (phase 4).

THE 16TH CENTURY HOUSE: SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS (PHASE 4)

Layer 313 might, in fact, almost equally aptly be considered as part of phase 3. However, as there was no sharp distinction between 313 and 310, and as 310 graded into the modern garden soil (300), it has seemed best to treat all these layers as part of the development of the garden soils. That said, 313 does seem to have relatively large amounts of 16th century material, representing primary dumping of refuse to the rear of the house, and this could be clearly distinguished from the soils above. Layer 310 is partially of the same origin, but, as excavated, included material which accumulated later. The later soils and pits need no separate description (fig 5.6 and site archive) here, but it is worth noting the absence of pits of any date before the 19th century, and the very small quantities of finds dating to the later 17th and 18th centuries recovered from the garden soils. Trench 2, further away from the house (fig 5.1), had no evidence for primary 16th century rubbish disposal but was otherwise closely similar (fig 5.4 and site archive).

The house itself underwent a major alteration in the 17th century with the addition of bay 5 (fig 5.2). The date is based on structural analysis, not archaeological finds. At ground level the surviving elements were 152, the east wall, which was constructed of mortared, cut Bargate stone and a brick structure, 153, which was of one build with 152. Feature 153 had a rectangular floor of mortared brick, laid flat, within brick walls of a single brick width; at least one course of these had been lost and their original height is uncertain. The most likely interpretation is that it is the setting for a brazier. The rebuilding of the main chimney stack (161) was also of 17th century date.

The evidence for subsequent alteration and additions does not require detailed treatment here (fig 5.5 and site archive). The main fact to note is the division of the house into two properties in the 19th century, which also entailed the loss of almost all earlier floor levels and a remodelling of the main hearth in bay 2/3.

The finds

Note: a list of abbreviations is printed at the front of this volume. For an explanation of codes for ware and fabric types see chapter 6.

THE POTTERY, by Phil Jones (figs 5.7–5.9)

A total of 612 sherds (c 15kg, c 8.3 EVEs) were collected from the three trenches of the site, and of these c 10% are of medieval wares, and the rest are of post-medieval types. Some 83 sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from phase 1 contexts, but these and all the other medieval sherds from the site are of 13th or early 14th century vessel forms and fabrics, and there appears to be a lack of any sherds of later medieval pottery. Assemblages of phases 2 and 3 are dominated by post-medieval redware types, although the greater majority are of Tudor Brown style fabrics and forms, that are most likely to be of 16th century date. Approximately 21% of the pottery of phases 2 and 3 is of post-medieval whiteware, which never accounts for more than c 17–20% of the pottery of any of the succeeding 17th to 19th century assemblages of the site. Coarsewares dominate the post-medieval assemblage, with only small quantities of sherds of stoneware (29), tin-glazed wares (7), porcelain (2), Staffordshire feather-slipped ware (1), creamware (2), and china (14).

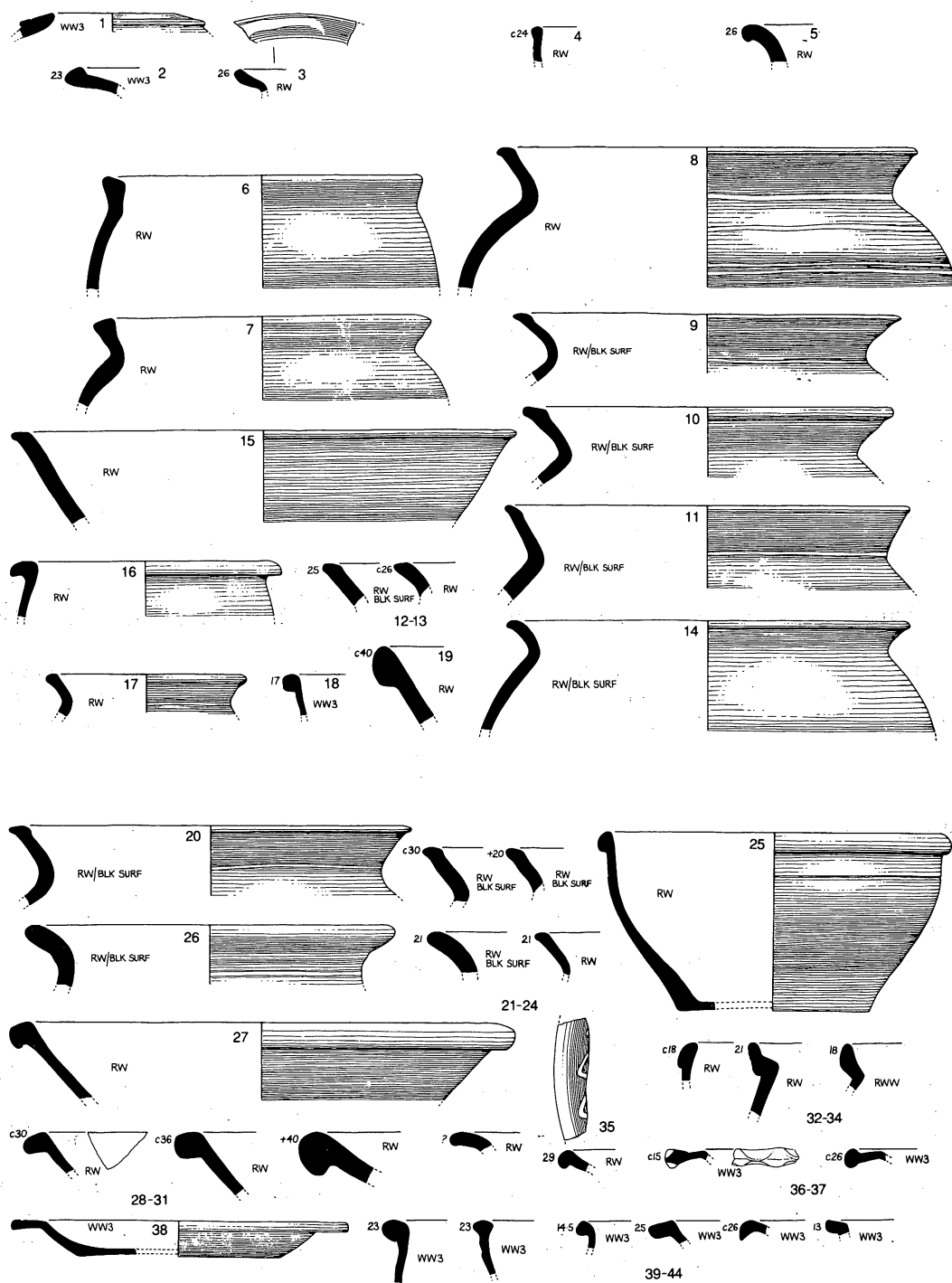


Fig 5.7 Holloway Hill, Godalming: pottery from contexts 206 (1-3), 321 (4), 303 (5), 313 (6-19) and 310 (20-44). Scale 1:4

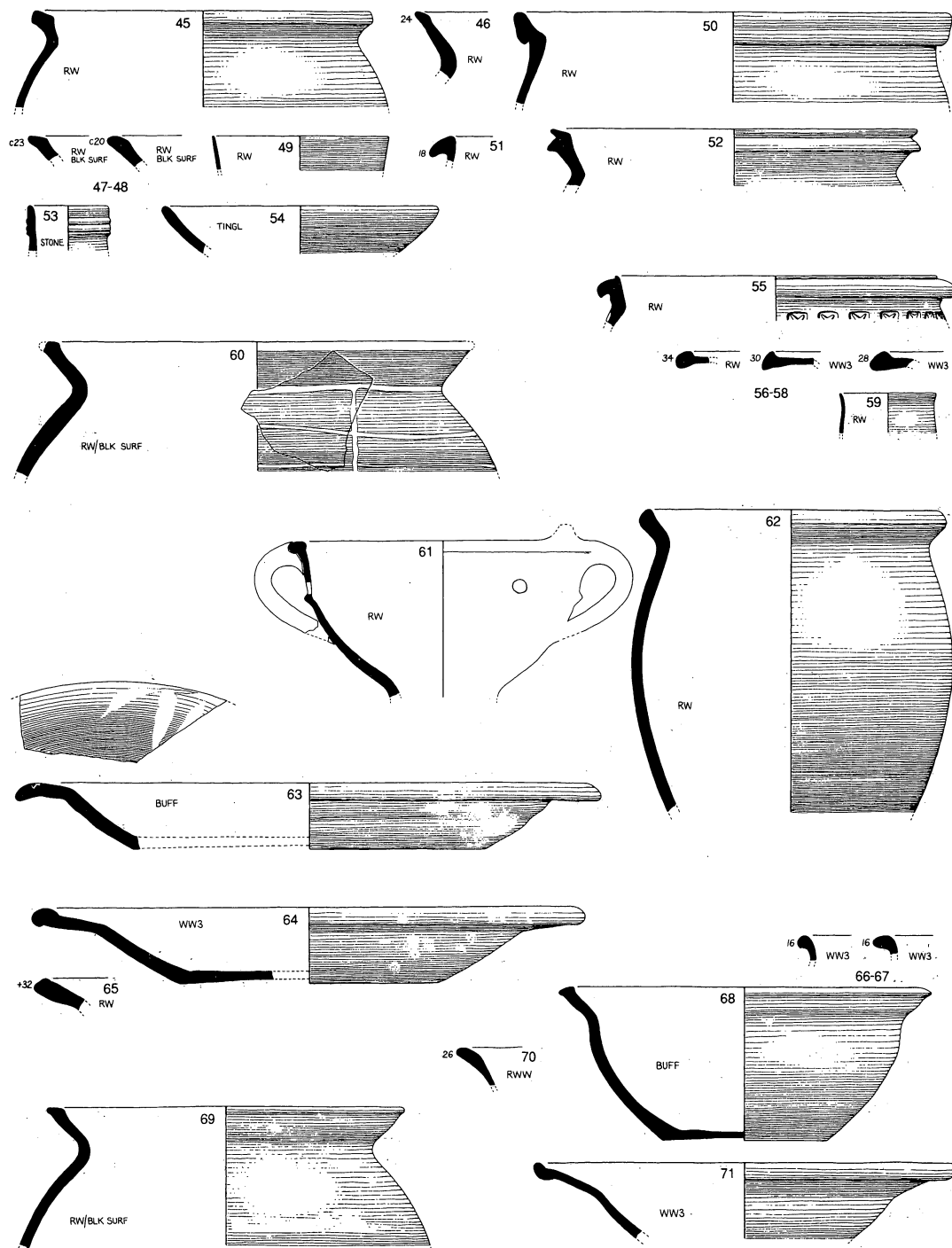


Fig 5.8 Holloway Hill, Godalming: pottery from contexts 311 (45–54), 300 (55–59), 305 (60), 101 (61–62), 102 (63), 106 (64–65), 161 (66–67), 111 (68), 113 (69), 115 (70) and 117 (71). Scale 1:4

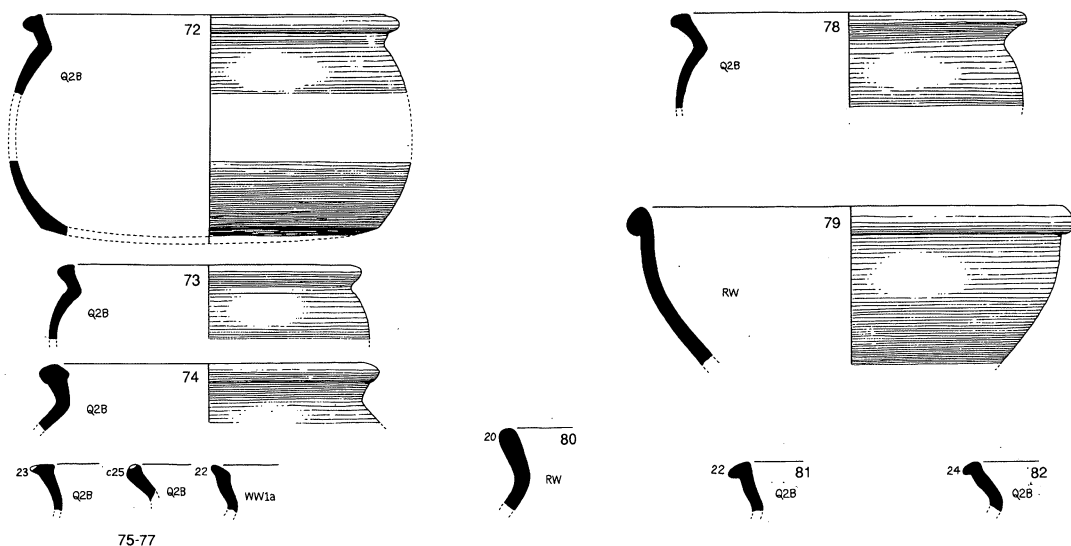


Fig 5.9 Holloway Hill, Godalming: pottery from contexts 138 (72–77), 131 (78), 136 (79), 135 (80), 141 (81) and 155 (82). Scale 1:4

Phase 1

Most sherds are of grey/brown sandy Q2B fabric type, including the rimsherds of seven cp/jars (nos 72–76, 81, 82), several scratch-marked sherds from these or similar vessels, and only one small sherd that is glazed and bears incised decoration. Coarse medieval shelly ware S2 is represented by twelve sherds, and there is also the rim of a coarse whiteware WW1A cp/jar (no 77). All the vessel forms, as well as the mix of shelly and grey/brown sandy fabrics, are typical of 13th century assemblages from western Surrey; the presence of the whiteware sandy sherd in the lowest occupation layer, 138, suggests that all the pottery of this phase had probably been deposited during the second half of that century.

Phase 2

This includes small assemblages from the old ground surface in trench 2, context 202, and from the hillwash deposits that lay over it in trench 3, context 315, and over the medieval occupation layers in trench 1, contexts 131, 134, 137. The pottery is a mixture of 13th and 16th century material, and 14 of the 33 sherds are of the same three wares that were found in contexts of phase 1, including a rimsherd (no 78) and scratch-marked body sherds of Q2B fabric. There is also a single small whiteware sherd of the finer WW2 type, that has combed decoration and is green glazed (not illustrated). The hillwash of trench 1 also contained a sherd of a late medieval or early post-medieval buff ware; amongst the later sherds from the similar contexts of trenches 2 and 3 are: four of Tudor Brown type early post-medieval Border redwares, including the rim of a jar with white-slipped decoration (no 3); four of post-medieval Border whiteware WW3, including the rimsherds of a dish (no 2), and a ginger jar (no 1).

Phase 3

Some 109 sherds (c 3kg, 1.3 EVEs), that are mostly of 16th and early 17th century pottery types, were sampled from features that were associated with the construction and early use of the late

16th century building. Post-medieval redwares predominate (*c* 70%), but more than half of these are of buff coloured and sparsely glazed Tudor Brown types. Some sherds with black surfaces and white painted decoration, are of a vessel form that is reminiscent of late medieval cp/jars (eg no 69 and others in later contexts, see below). Other forms of buff/redware include the rims of two bowls and a jar with internal green glaze (nos 4, 62, 68), two unglazed flange-rimmed dishes, one of which has white slip decoration (nos 63, 65), and the rim of a large bowl or jar (no 5). The rim of another jar or bowl is in fabric RWW, about which it is difficult to decide whether it is of a red or whiteware (no 70). There are only ten sherds of post-medieval Border whiteware, but these include the profile of a dish with internal brown glaze (no 64), a fragment of a base with internal green glaze (not illustrated), and the rim of a bowl with internal mottled green glaze (no 71). The only other pottery, apart from twelve residual medieval sherds, is six sherds of Raeren and Frechen stoneware that include part of the beard from a Bartmann-type bottle.

Phase 4

A total of 386 sherds were sampled from contexts that had probably been deposited after alterations had been made to the house in the 17th century. Most were from midden deposits, pits, and garden soils, that had lain outside the building in trenches 2 and 3, and only nineteen sherds were found in trench 1 in direct association with the building itself.

Within the building, two Border whiteware rimsherds (nos 66, 67) were incorporated within the mortar bonding of a 17th century alteration context (161); and the rim of a 17th or 18th century-type redware bowl with internal green glaze (no 79), was found in the make-up of a floor deposit context (136). All the other sherds that were recovered from within the building were from 19th century contexts, and are a mixture of 17th century and later pottery types. Of note is part of a redware chafing-dish (no 61) from context 101.

From contexts of this phase in trench 2, 29 sherds were recovered, but most were of 19th century deposition. There was, however, part of a garden soil (context 205) that may have been buried during the early 17th century; this contained thirteen sherds of buff Tudor Brown style redware, three sherds of whiteware, including a rimsherd of a green-glazed dish that has an incised wavy line on the flange, and a sherd of Frechen stoneware. The context also contained the only Roman sherd, which is of a grey sandy ware.

Rather more pottery of this phase was recovered from trench 3 (335 sherds), and much of this was from midden deposits (310, 313) that are probably to be associated with the 17th and 18th century occupation of the house. The two assemblages are dominated by redwares, and 313 may have been the earliest, since it includes sherds from at least six jars of a form that is reminiscent of medieval types (nos 8–14, 17). Five of these had blackened surfaces and horizontal white painted lines round the body. Post-medieval type redware forms represented in the 313 assemblage include jars (nos 6, 7), a bowl (no 15), a chamber-pot (no 16), and a pancheon (no 19), all of which were internally green-glazed. Six sherds (of 75) from 313 were not of redware. Two are of stoneware, including the rim of a bottle (not illustrated), and four are of Border whiteware, including the rim of a jar or bowl with internal yellow glaze (no 18). Midden layer 313 seems likely to have been sealed sometime during the 17th century.

The other midden deposit, 310, had probably also begun to accumulate during that century, but seems to have lain open until the late 18th or early 19th century. Domestic redware predominates, but there is a little more 17th and early 18th century Border whiteware (*c* 23%), in addition to 12 sherds of stoneware, two of tin-glazed wares, one of cream ware, and two of 'china'. All the rimsherds from 310 are illustrated (nos 20–44), and full descriptions are available in the archive.

Other phase 4 contexts of trench 3 contained rather less pottery, that is a mix of 17th and 18th century-type sherds. Of note is a black-surfaced redware jar with white-slipped trellis decoration from 305 (no 60), and a rimsherd from a 17th century tin-glazed bowl with external under-glaze blue painted decoration, from 311 (no 54). All other rimsherds from these and other phase 4 contexts of trench 3 are illustrated (nos 45–60), and full descriptions are available in the archive.

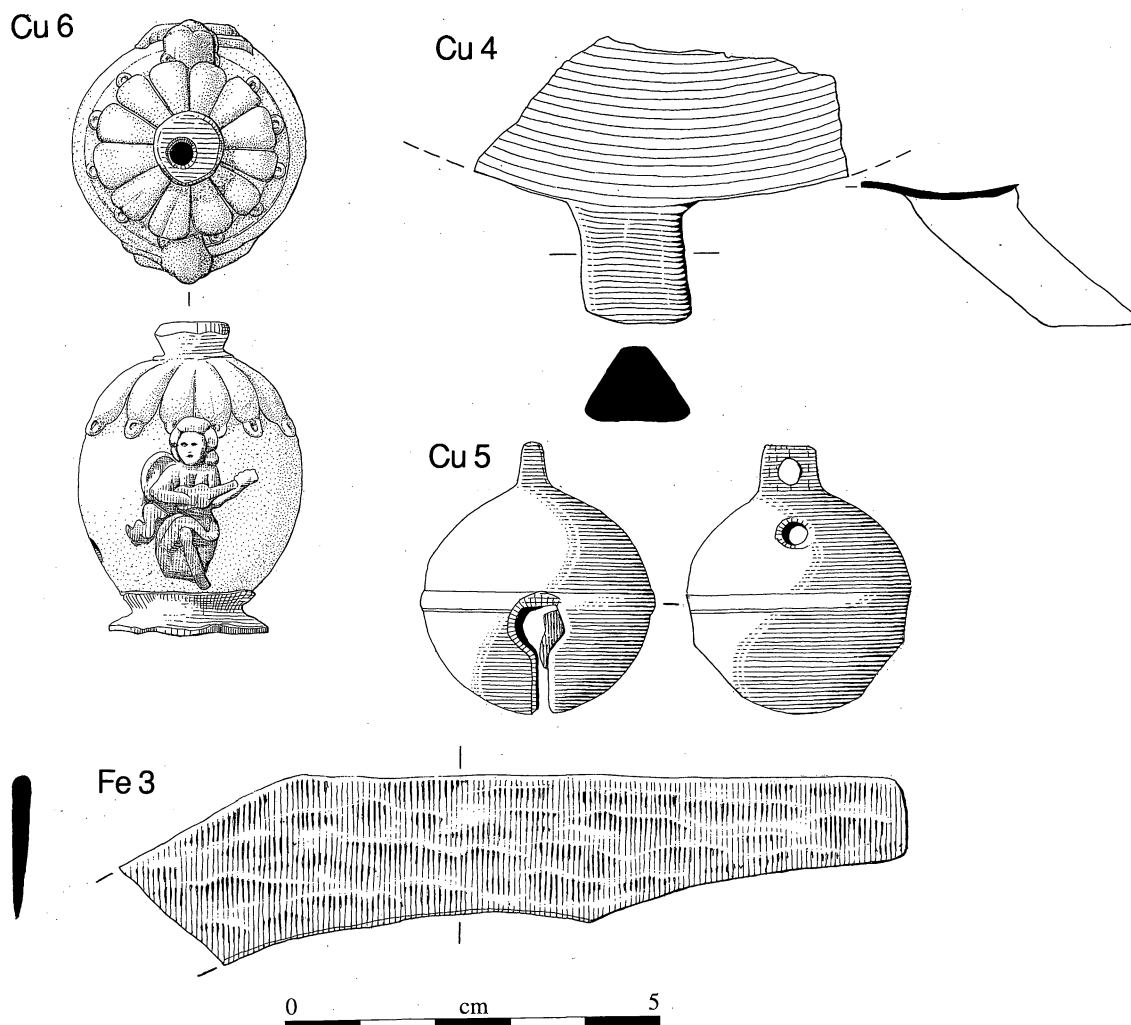


Fig 5.10 Holloway Hill, Godalming: selected small finds (see M136-M142 for details of the others). They are: Cu 4, foot of 16th century copper vessel; Cu-5, rumbler bell of later medieval date; Cu 6, sword pommel of c 1600; and Fe 3, knife of early medieval type. Scale 1:1

THE BUILDING MATERIALS, by Suzanne Huson

There is a very small collection of building materials from the site, with only 5705g of medieval/post-medieval roof tile, one example of which was glazed and all of which were of peg-hole type. Some 1315g of post-medieval brick were also recovered. The majority of these materials came from contexts in phases 3 and 4. In addition, 30g of mortar and only 11g of chalk were recovered. See microfiche, M134-M135.

THE OTHER FINDS, by Suzanne Huson

There are few objects of interest amongst the collection of small finds from the site. Those of intrinsic interest have been illustrated (fig 5.10). Other objects of note are two traders' tokens of

17th century date (one of which was from Cranleigh and the other from Alton, Hampshire), and parts of two copper alloy vessels, one at least of 16th century date. The rest of the copper alloy finds are comprised mainly of pins, lace tags and a buckle. Amongst the iron objects there are three knives (including one Fe 3 of late-Saxon type), a spur and various architectural fragments, including hinge arms and a key plate; mostly quite modern in date. Other finds are those generally found on sites of this type and date: some glass, both window and vessel; clay pipes, and two lead came fragments.

A full list of all other finds from the site can be found on microfiche (M136–M142). The more important finds are illustrated in figure 5.10 and described in the caption.

THE ANIMAL BONE

There was only a small quantity of bone and much of that in disturbed contexts, and it was decided, therefore, that a closer investigation of the material was not warranted, as it was unlikely to yield significant results (see M143–M144).

Conclusion

The conclusion may be considered in the light of the aims of the excavation as noted in the preface. Although the Tudor house was constructed on what was, in effect, a virgin site, there had been, some three centuries earlier, a limited spread of material, derived from occupation nearby, into this area. This points to the possibility that by the 13th century Godalming had extended to somewhere near the junction of Holloway Hill and High Street. There is an alternative suggestion that the material could derive from a separate occupation to the town, but this seems less likely. Whether Holloway Hill existed as a road or track at such a date is unknown. The medieval occupation was sealed by hillwash deposits which had accumulated quite rapidly. This suggests that erosion was taking place further up the hill, and one might speculate that this resulted from clearance of trees and other vegetation from the steep slopes, in connection with development of the medieval Bargate stone quarries.

The three-bay house was constructed somewhere in the later 16th century on the evidence of the finds, especially pottery, recovered. If and when a dendrochronological date is obtained it will be of considerable interest for the dating of such pottery. A full discussion of the structural history and form of the buildings will be far more appropriate in the context of the analysis of the well-preserved superstructure which will be undertaken by the Weald and Downland Museum in association with the reconstruction of the building. Some interesting details of the constructional sequence did emerge (above), although the earliest floor levels had mostly been destroyed. Evidence for an original subdivision of the smallest bay, bay 1, together with the discovery that it had an earthen floor, beneath which broken pottery had been buried, suggests that it may well have been a service bay. This conclusion may be strengthened by the discovery of a possible well to the rear of bay 1. At the opposite, southern, end of the building, the addition of bay 5 in the 17th century may have been to provide a forge, since the probable base for a brazier was an integral part of the construction.

Outside the building, evidence for changing methods of rubbish disposal was of particular interest. In the 16th and earlier 17th centuries rubbish seems to have been thrown out behind the building (although this did not include food refuse). The practice seems to have then ceased until the later 19th century, during and after which a number of pits were dug apparently for rubbish disposal, which is perhaps associated with the use of the building as two separate dwellings. It may be that in the middle period (from which there were comparatively few finds) such practices were confined to the furthest extent of the plot eastwards, which it was not possible to sample.

Excavation in Mint Street, Godalming

ROB POULTON

Preface and acknowledgements

The excavation on the site of the Mint Street car park at Godalming (fig 5.1, p 163) took place during October and November 1990. The work was funded by the County Engineer's Department, Surrey County Council, as part of a programme of archaeological work in advance of construction of the Godalming relief road, and the assistance of Martin Wood and Dave Murray of the County Engineer's Department is gratefully acknowledged. On site the assistance of Giles Pattison, Alison Peckham and a number of members of the Godalming Archaeological Group deserves particular mention.

The primary aims of the excavation were: to establish when buildings were first constructed along Mint Street; to date the origin of medieval settlement in this part of Godalming, and to assess the extent and character of use of the site through the medieval period.

The excavation (M147–M151)

Two trenches were excavated, but in trench 2 only a very small area had escaped destruction of early levels by modern activity (fig 5.11), and what follows therefore relates largely to trench 1. Excavation proceeded by removal of the car park surface and foundation by mechanical excavation, followed by hand removal of the features below. Layers and the fills of features of whatever date tended to be of a grey-buff slightly silty sand and, despite considerable care, it was not always possible to distinguish the fills of intercutting features until they had been partially excavated.

PHASE I: 12TH–13TH CENTURY (M149)

A medieval occupation layer was identified over much of the area of trench 1 (figs 5.12, 5.13) and in a small part of trench 2 (fig 5.11). Within trench 1 the layer was very thin over the whole western area of the trench, and the distinction between it (162, 144) and the post-medieval soil above (142) was to some extent arbitrary. Deposition of this layer began in the 12th/13th century but over how long a period it continued to accumulate is uncertain. However on its eastern edge it was contiguous with and perhaps slightly overlay 145, the upper part of a more substantial occupation layer (c 150mm deep) extending over the north-central part of the trench and which was excavated in a series of spits (166, 169, 172, 201), which clearly showed its creation and use in the 12th and 13th centuries, but not beyond; 149 was a discrete portion of the same layer, perhaps truncated to below spit 169.

A limited number of features belonging to this period were identified (fig 5.12). Nothing much can be said about 185, 186, 203 and 205–208 which were all postholes or very small pits with no obvious pattern or function. Feature 204 deserves note as a more substantial pit, but its function was not apparent. The only feature of real interest was 177, the main part of which was c 1.25m square and 0.55m deep with vertical sides, and two substantial postholes (199, 200) at either end of the south-west side. Posthole 211 on the east side could also be related to this feature. Finds were not plentiful, but enough to indicate a 12th century date, while a probable interpretation is that it served as a cesspit. Some of these features (203–208) were excavated after removal of 201 (the lowest spit of the occupation soil), but their fills were substantially identical in character to the occupation soil. Formally and stratigraphically (fig 5.14) they are regarded as sealed by 201, but

they could have been dug and backfilled at any point during the development of the occupation soil.

PHASE 2: 16TH–17TH CENTURY (M149–M150)

No features or layers were revealed which can be shown to belong wholly to the 14th or 15th centuries, although 162 (as noted in the discussion below) might properly belong to that period rather than phase 1. A reasonable number of features of 16th and 17th century date were identified and these were all located in the southern part of trench 1 (fig 5.12). Many of these features seem to be postholes, but no structures can be identified from their distribution. A series of intercutting pits (164, 171, 173) at the southern edge of the site probably represent cesspits.

PHASE 3: 18TH–20TH CENTURY (M150–M151)

A large number of modern features was identified: their sole interest lies in their effect upon the pattern of recovery of evidence for earlier periods and this is discussed below.

The finds

WORKED FLINT, by Suzanne Huson (fig 5.15)

The quantity of flint waste and artefacts recovered was of some interest. A total of 187 worked flints was found, having been worked from a mixture of chalk and gravel derived flint. There is a limited number of tools but of note is a geometric blade microlith, three scrapers and seven cores/possible cores. The collection can be dated as later Mesolithic, although some of the opposed platform cores hint at a Neolithic date. A full catalogue of the worked flint can be found in microfiche (M152–M154). I would like to thank Jon Cotton for his comments on the flints.

THE POTTERY, by Phil Jones (fig 5.16)

Note: a list of abbreviations is printed at the front of this volume. For an explanation of codes for ware and fabric types see chapter 6.

A total of 619 sherds were recovered from the site, of which 8 are prehistoric, 28 are Roman, 4 are probably Saxon, and 37 are post-medieval. The great majority are of medieval types (542 sherds, 3.67kg), but only a little less than half of these were from medieval contexts, and the remainder had been redeposited in post-medieval assemblages.

Prehistoric pottery

Eight sherds (54g) are tempered with calcined flint-grits, but the grits and fabric are different from that of early Roman Silchester-type ware (see below), and it is more likely that they are prehistoric. One body sherd from context 162 has a linear groove, but the others are featureless.

Roman pottery

All but two of 28 sherds are of grey sandy wares, that, for the most part, have the appearance of being Alice Holt/Farnham types. They include the rim of a storage jar (no 1), a jar with a flanged rim (no 4), two beaded and everted rimsherds that are, perhaps, from cordon-necked jars (nos 2, 3), and the rim of a hemispherical bowl (no 5). A greyware body sherd from context 142 is rilled, and may be from a jar of a type that was made at Tilford/Overwey (Lyne & Jefferies 1979, 43–5). The rim of a bead-rimmed jar in a coarse, calcined, flint-gritted Silchester ware-type fabric, and a grog-tempered sherd from context 162, are also, most probably, of Roman date.

Two of the Roman sherds were found in medieval features 177 and 204, twenty came from medieval soil deposits, and the others were from post-medieval or unstratified contexts.

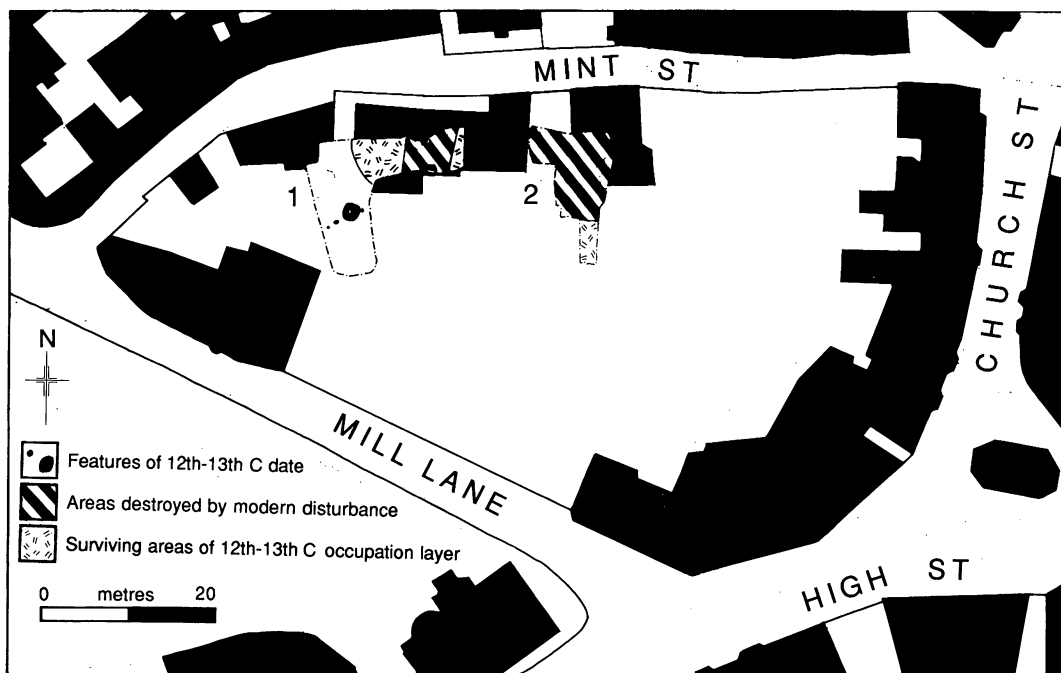


Fig 5.11 Mint Street, Godalming: areas of early medieval occupation shown in relation to the surrounds as they were in 1848 (the tithe map: note that Mint Street was called Harts Lane at that date)

Saxon pottery

Four sherds were identified, including a grass/chaff-tempered sherd that was unstratified. It is interesting to note that no sherds of this early-mid Saxon ceramic tradition were found at the Co-operative Wholesale Society site. The other three sherds are of the mid-Saxon fine sandy fabric SAXQD, of which two were found as residual sherds in post-medieval contexts, and a rimsherd was recovered from the basal early medieval context 204 (no 6).

Medieval pottery

FLQ7 Saxo-Norman flint-tempered ware

52 sherds (240g), of which five were from basal features, and six from early soil contexts 149 and 201. The sample includes seven rimsherds of cp/jars, all of which had simple, straight-everted terminations (one illustrated, no 13).

SNC Saxo-Norman chalky-tempered fabric

108 sherds (795g), of which 14 were from basal features, and 13 from early soil contexts 149 and 201. The sample includes 11 rimsherds of cp/jars, all with simple, straight-everted, or slightly beaded terminations (illustrated examples nos 7-12).

S2 Coarse shell-tempered ware

29 sherds (161g), of which three were from basal features, and 13 from other medieval contexts. The sample includes two rimsherds, both of everted-rimmed cp/jars,

of which one from the highest medieval soil context 162 is slightly thickened at the termination, and the other (unstratified) is slightly beaded. None illustrated.

IQ Ironstone sandy ware

66 sherds (527g), of which three were from basal features, six from early soil contexts 149 and 201, and nineteen from other medieval contexts. The sample includes eight rimsherds of cp/jars, of which four have simple, straight-everted terminations (eg nos 14-16), and the others have beaded terminations (not illustrated).

GQ1A Poly-tempered early medieval fabric

35 sherds (240g), of which nine were from basal features, four from the lowest soils 149 and 201, and eleven from other medieval contexts. There are five rimsherds of cp/jars, of which four have simple straight-everted terminations (eg no 18), and the other is beaded (not illustrated).

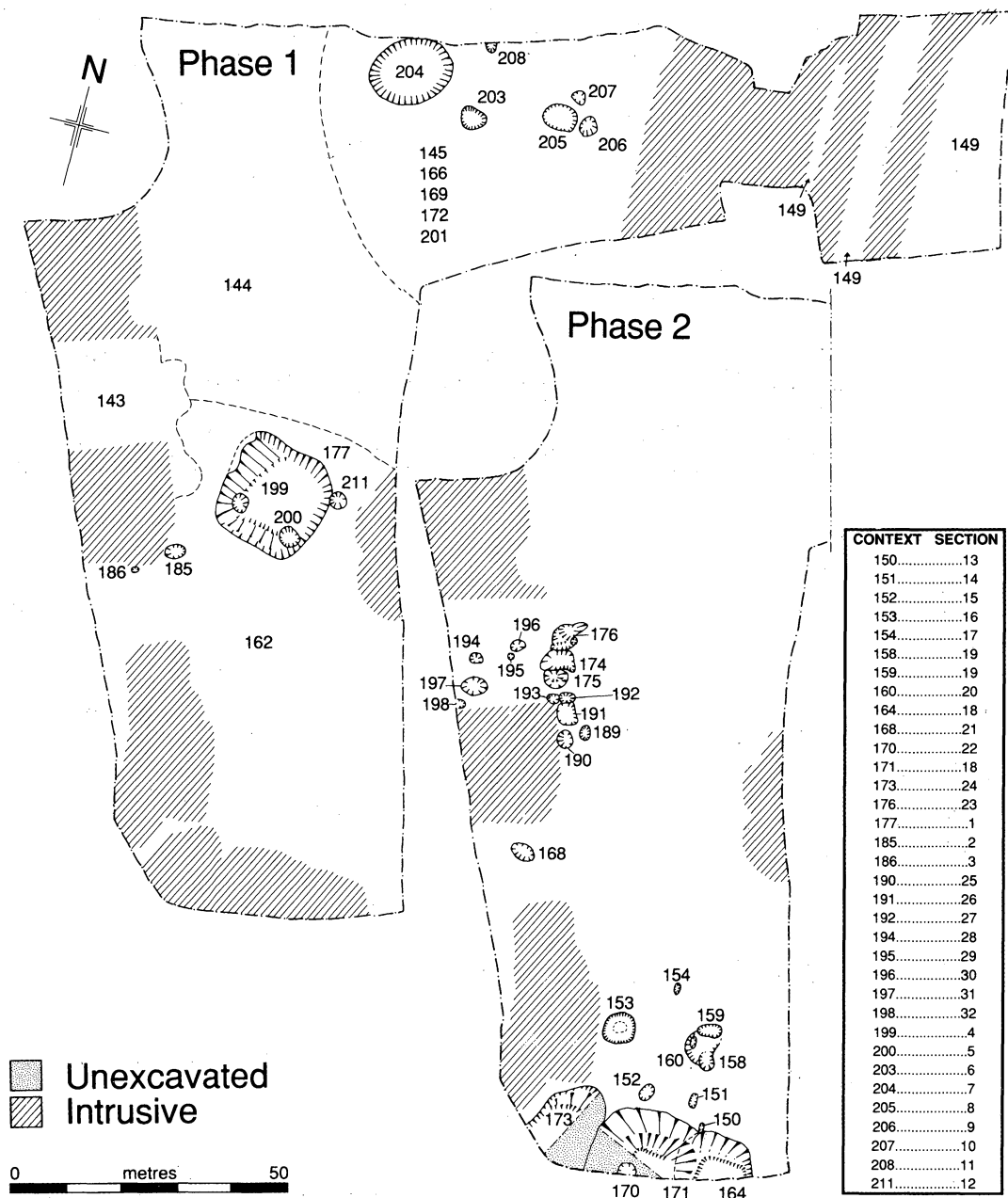


Fig 5.12 Mint Street, Godalming: plans of trench 1, showing phases 1 and 2. There is no large-scale plan of trench 2, but fig 5.15 shows the location of layer 209, the main context of interest.

GQ2A Coarse grey/brown sandy fabric

27 sherds (277g), of which one was from basal context 177, two from the lowest soil layer 201, and ten from other medieval contexts. The sample includes two cp/

jar rimsherds, one with a simple everted rim (no 17), and the other with an expanded termination (not illustrated). Two scratch-marked body sherds were also recovered, of which one was from the early soil 201.

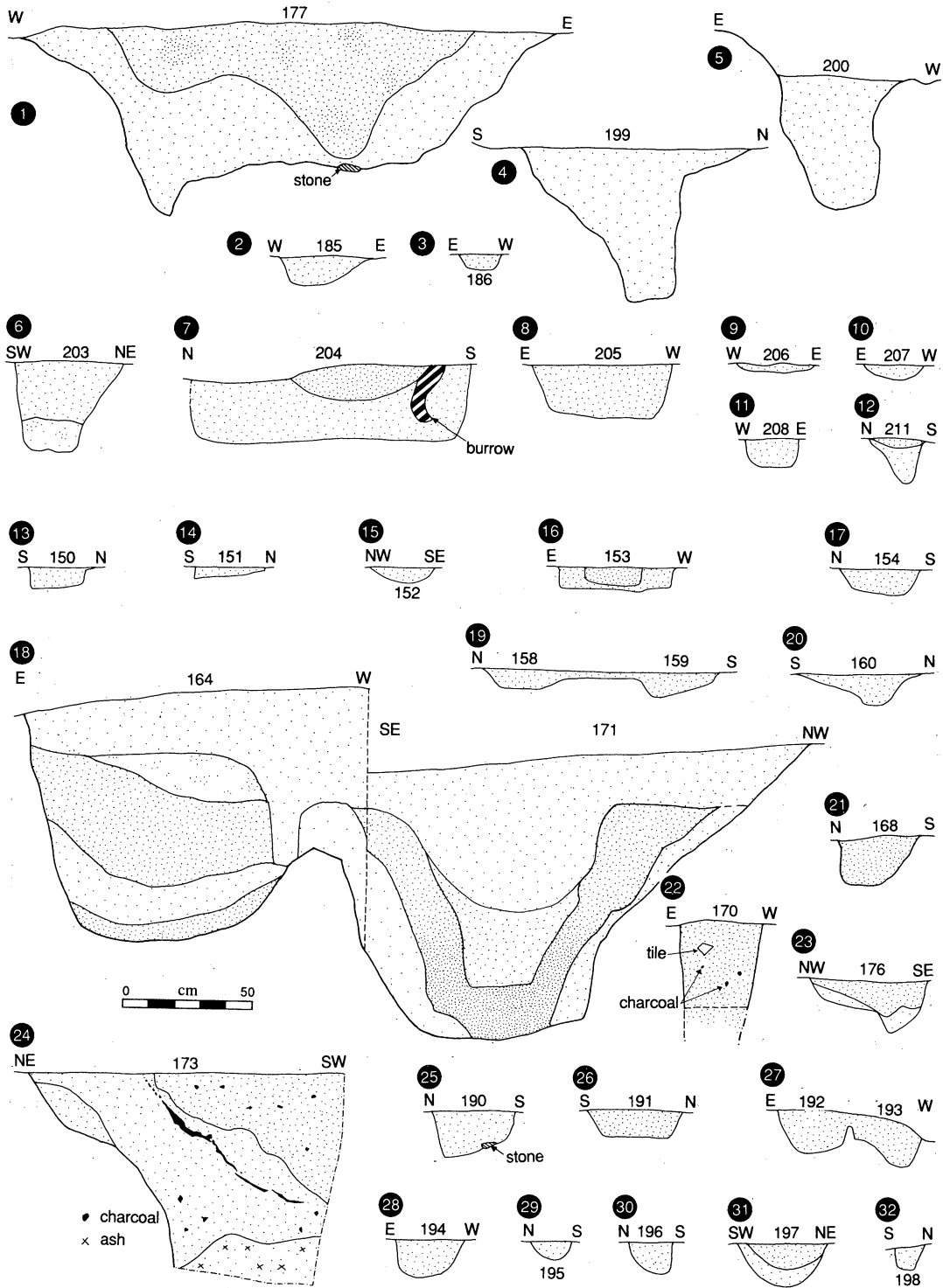


Fig 5.13 Mint Street, Godalming: sections of phase 1 and phase 2 features

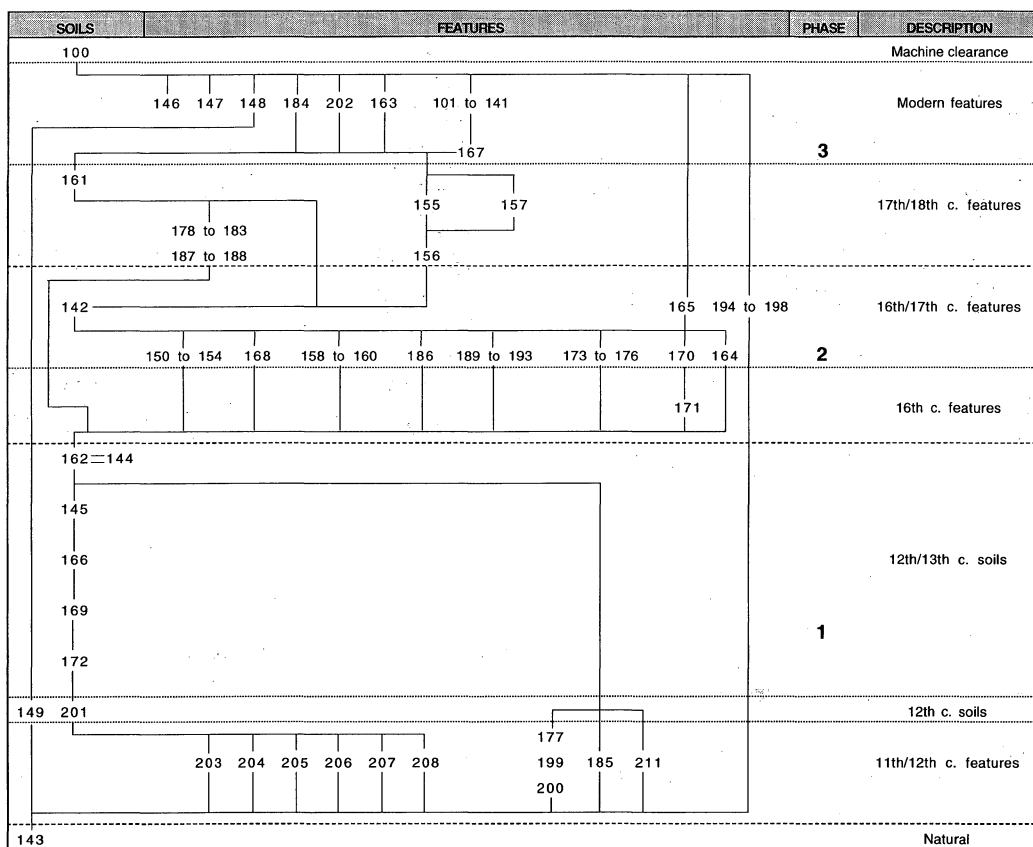


Fig 5.14 Mint Street, Godalming: Harris matrix of the contexts

Grey/brown sandy ware tradition: Q2 and FQ2 fabrics

Q2B GODALMING-TYPE STANDARD GREY/BROWN SANDY FABRIC

97 sherds (631g), of which four were from basal features, and 29 from other medieval contexts. There are six rimsherds of cp/jars, of which two are simple straight-everted types and the others slightly beaded. Two were finger-impressed along their rim tips (none illustrated). Fourteen body sherds are scratch-marked, usually horizontally but occasionally diagonally; such treatment has also been applied to the exterior of a base angle sherd, both on the lower body and over the base plate. Three glazed sherds were recovered, of which only one was from a medieval context, that of the later medieval soil 145.

FQ2 GODALMING-TYPE FINER GREY/BROWN SANDY FABRICS

41 sherds (262g), of which two were recovered from basal feature 177, and nine from other medieval contexts. The sample includes four rimsherds of cp/jars, all slightly beaded (one illustrated, no 19), and several sherds both

glazed and unglazed from jugs, including a finger-impressed base.

WW Whiteware: fabrics WW1-3

WW1A COARSE SANDY WHITEWARE

50 sherds (253g), of which seven were from the medieval soil layers 172, 169, and 162. The sample includes two rimsherds, one from a cp/jar and the other from a jug (none illustrated).

WW1B SPARSE COARSE SAND

11 sherds (94g), all residual in post-medieval contexts. Includes the flanged rim of a large bowl (not illustrated).

WW2 MEDIUM SANDY WHITEWARE

22 sherds (98g), including three from the later medieval soil 162. The only rimsherd is from a small lid (no 20), and there is a sherd from a jug that was decorated with

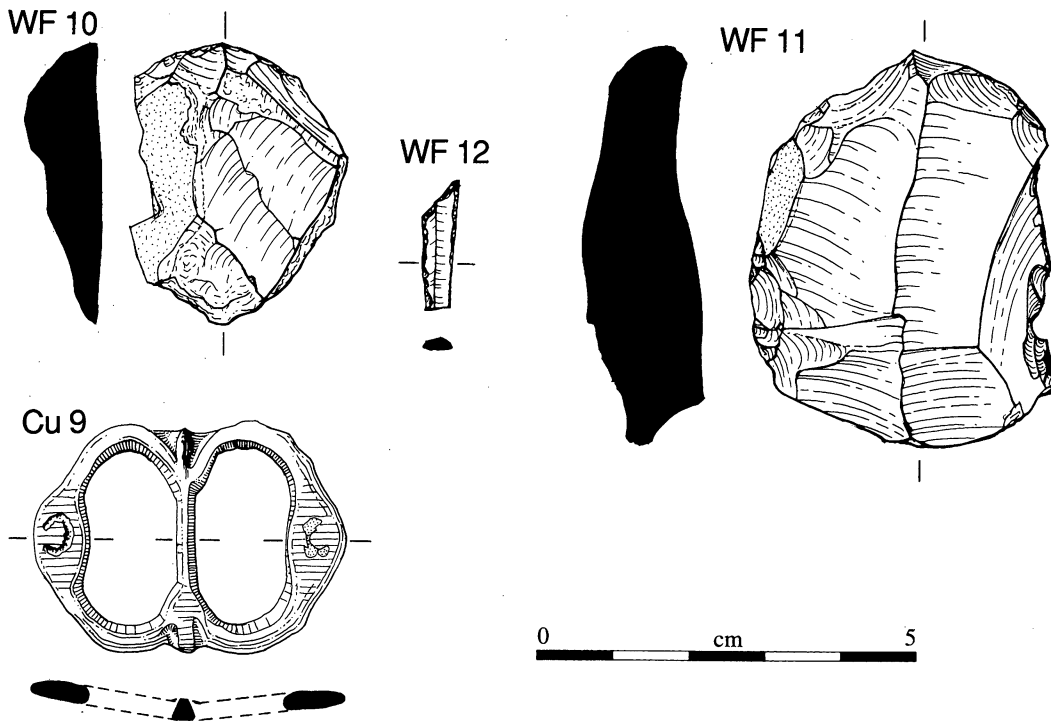


Fig 5.15 Mint Street, Godalming: selected small finds (see M157–M161 for details of the others). They are: WF 10 and WF 11, flint scrapers of which WF 10 is heavily used and may be Neolithic; and Cu 9 is a double-loop buckle, perhaps of 15th century date. Scale 1:1

stick-end impressions and a horizontal groove (not illustrated).

WW3TG TUDOR GREEN TYPE

Four sherds (5g), all residual in post-medieval contexts. The sample includes the rimsherd of a typical straight-sided cup (not illustrated).

LMBUFF Late medieval/transitional buff sandy ware

34 sherds (584g), including two from the late medieval soil 162. The sample includes three rimsherds from jars or bowls, and a handle fragment that is partly white-slipped (none illustrated).

Discussion: medieval sherds from stratified contexts

Of 541 medieval sherds from the site, 224 are of early medieval calcareous and poly-tempered fabrics (FLQ, SNC, S2, GQ1), 66 are of an early medieval sandy ware (IQ), 164 are of the grey/brown sandy ware tradition (GQ2, Q2, FQ2), and 87 are of whiteware types. There is, therefore, more pottery of the period from the 12th to the 13th century, than for the later medieval period, and this imbalance is also apparent in the assemblages from the stratified medieval deposits.

Forty-two sherds (398g) were recovered from those basal features of the site that contained pottery (contexts 177, 200, 204–206), of which over 75% are of calcareous and poly-tempered wares (fig 5.16). Only three sherds are of the early sandy ware IQ, and another eight of the grey/brown tradition, including a glazed sherd that is probably from a jug, in the finer fabric FQ2B. It is possible that contexts 177, 204 and 206, had been deposited during the 12th century, since they all contain grey/brown sandy sherds; contexts 200 and 206 may have been approximately contemporaneous, since the sandy sherds with rare flint and chalk from them (GQ1A), are also likely to have been part of the grey/brown sandy ware tradition. It is not known for certain how many of the calcareous and poly-tempered sherds were residual in these contexts.

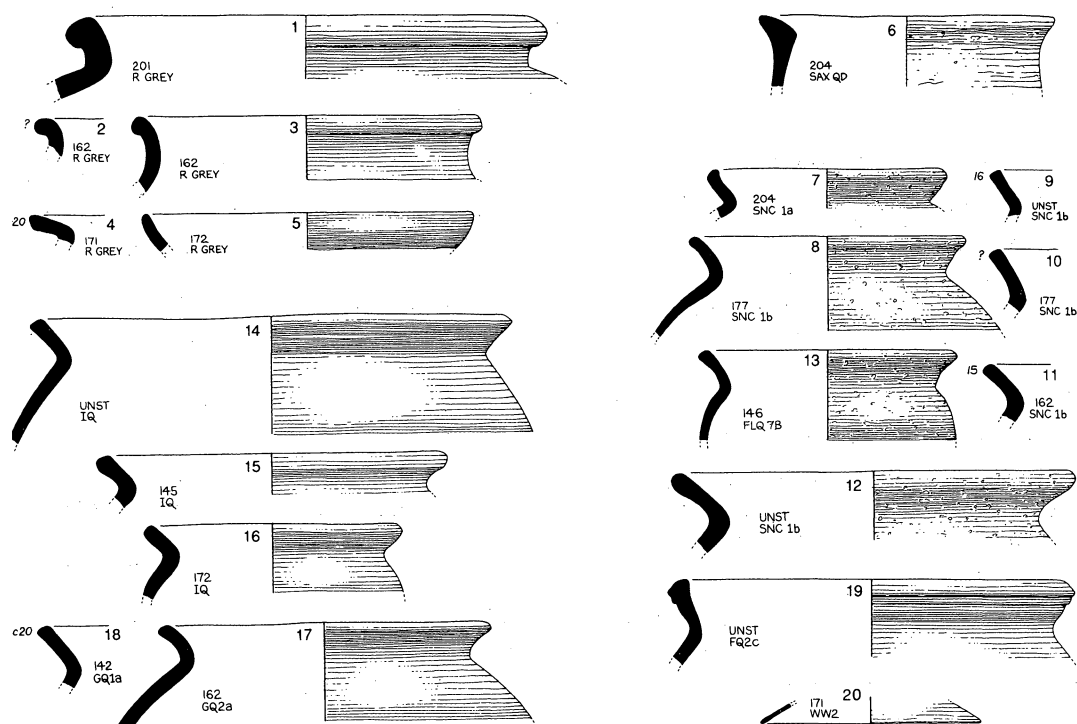


Fig 5.16 Mint Street, Godalming: the pottery. Context number and fabric type are indicated within each drawing. Scale 1:4

All later stratified medieval pottery was recovered from an accumulation of soil across trench 1 that had been removed in a series of spits of *c* 5 cm average thickness. The lowest spit, 201, and a discrete portion of the same layer, 149, both contained a similar mixture of sherds as those of the basal features (fig 5.16). There are no glazed sherds, however, which one might have expected in a layer that had probably begun to accumulate during the late 12th or early 13th century, but their absence may be because of the relatively small size of the sample (47 sherds).

Above 201, the next four spits of the soil accumulation (172, 169, 166, 145), contained 114 sherds of a mixture of 12th to early 14th century types, but with none that could be recognized as being of late medieval fabrics or forms. The proportion of grey/brown sandy ware (*c* 20%), however, was less than that which had been recovered from the basal features (*c* 29%), and only a little more than in the lowest soil spit (*c* 16%). The earliest coarse whiteware (WW1A) sherds from the site were recovered from spits 172 and 169 (two and one sherds respectively), which implies a date of deposition after *c* 1240/60, although their rarity could suggest that this may not have been long after their introduction to the town. The proportion of calcareous and poly-tempered sherds remains high at over 60%, though all but a few were probably residual.

The highest of the medieval soil spits, 162, contained 48 sherds. Amongst this collection of largely residual material are a few sherds of finer whiteware (WW2), and two of a buff sandy ware that is more likely to have been of a 15th century type. In all, seven sherds from 162 are of whiteware, 18 are of the grey/brown sandy ware tradition, and the others are of earlier medieval types.

Since there is a decline in quantity of most early medieval types through the sequence of spits (most notably the SNC and GQ1 types), and an appearance of new types in higher spits (ie WW and LMBUFF sandy ware), it is possible that the soil layer 201/172/169/166/145 had accumulated

slowly during the 12th and 13th century, and that 162 may have been the remnant of a later layer that was deposited during the 15th century.

THE BUILDING MATERIALS, by Suzanne Huson

There was a reasonably diverse collection of building materials from the site, although none was found in any quantity. Only 1772g of medieval/post-medieval peg roof tile was recovered, including 2 examples which were glazed and part of a ridge tile. The majority of the tile was found in phase 3 and only a very small quantity in phase 1. Evidence of slate roofing was indicated by a meagre 2g found in phase 3.

Also recovered was 169g of mortar, some of which has white plaster attached to it. Other materials included 150g of chalk, 52g of tufa and 258g of other stone. For a full catalogue of building materials see M155–M156.

SMALL FINDS, by Suzanne Huson

A full catalogue of the small finds may be found in M157–M161. Amongst the objects of note are six coins/tokens, of which all the identifiable ones are post-medieval in date. Other copper alloy finds are mainly pins and lace tags, although a ?15th century buckle (fig 5.15) and a post-medieval type Jew's harp were also recovered. Identifiable objects in iron include a knife, an awl, a small hook, a possible hinge arm and a number of nails.

The rest of the small finds are usual for sites of this type and date, and include lead window cames, bone buttons, some glass (both window and vessel), pieces of two slate pencils and clay pipes, a number of which bear makers' marks on their stems or spurs.

ANIMAL BONE

A detailed report on this small and very fragmented collection has not been judged appropriate (M162).

Discussion

PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN EVIDENCE

The evidence for these periods is entirely artefactual as all features and layers were of medieval or later date. The character and quantity of worked flint recovered from the site is consistent with there having been an occupation site in the near vicinity in the Mesolithic period, and perhaps also in the Neolithic. A few sherds of calcined flint-gritted pottery could be of Neolithic or any later prehistoric date, and the same may well apply to the 'pot-boilers' (calcined flints) recovered, and, again, some nearby settlement is indicated. Some 28 sherds of Roman pottery represent a greater quantity than could be expected from, for example, rubbish disposal on fields and therefore indicates occupation somewhere close by.

MEDIEVAL OCCUPATION

The earliest occupation on site is associated with a build up of soils and a few cut features (fig 5.12). The finds suggest an 11th century date for the start of occupation either on or immediately adjacent to the excavated area, and the soils continued to develop down to the 13th century. No evidence for structures was found and this presumably implies that the houses from which the artefacts were derived were sited on Church Street or Mill Lane. The virtual absence of earlier Saxon material suggests that settlement was only extended to include this area in the Saxo-Norman period, perhaps from an earlier nucleus more tightly centred on the parish church (fig 5.1). It is interesting that this date is similar to that of the building or rebuilding of the church of St Peter and St Paul (Blair 1991, 97–9) and the two may well be connected and mark the

development of the settlement in tandem with the assumption by the church of minster status, replacing the earlier minster at Tusesley (Poulton 1987, 204–5).

Photographs of the south side of Mint Street before its development as a car park in the 1960s show that amongst the buildings then standing were some of 16th or 17th century date. Features of this date were also well represented in excavation (fig 5.12). The most puzzling aspect of the excavation is, then, the absence of any contexts datable to the 14th or 15th centuries and the comparative rarity of finds of this period. A speculative explanation might be that in the late 13th/early 14th century the Mint Street (Harts Lane) frontage was built over for the first time, thus sealing and protecting the occupation deposit below: no evidence for such buildings was found in excavation, but as all trace of buildings apart from 19th century cellars and deep foundations had been removed by levelling associated with the construction of the car park this does not vitiate the interpretation. It has been frequently observed (eg Poulton, this volume, chapter 7) that features of 14th and 15th century date are very rare in proximity to buildings in medieval towns, so their absence here need occasion little surprise (if the Mint Street frontage was built over). Beyond the street frontage only a very thin layer (162/144) of occupation material survived 16th century and later reworking; although this has been assigned to phase I it clearly contained a little material of later date and might, in fact, represent a remnant of a layer accumulated over the whole medieval period. If this speculative date for the provision of housing along Mint Street is accepted then it is worth noting its coincidence with the establishment of Godalming as a market centre in 1300 (O'Connell 1977, 25), and suggesting that the two ought to be connected.

The foregoing account has pointed, for the first time, to the likelihood of prehistoric and Roman settlement within the area of Godalming town, and enabled a framework (admittedly speculative) to be advanced for some of the key stages in the development of the topography of medieval settlement. These are important results and prove, if proof is needed, the value of small-scale excavation in advance of development.

Excavation on the Co-operative Wholesale Society premises at Bridge Street, Godalming

ROB POULTON

Preface and acknowledgements

In January 1991 the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd obtained permission to redevelop their land at Bridge Street as a supermarket (in the event the site became a Waitrose supermarket). A condition of the planning permission was that there should be a suitable scheme of archaeological work, recognizing the potential of this large area of land adjacent to the medieval town of Godalming. The Surrey County Archaeological Unit was commissioned to design and carry out the scheme. The area was evaluated by a series of machine-cut trial trenches distributed across the area (fig 5.17) in February 1991. As a result one area (fig 5.18) was selected for more detailed examination during March–April 1991. Grateful thanks are due to the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd for their generous funding of the excavation and post-excavation work, and to the architects, the Modern Design Group Ltd, for their assistance in making the necessary arrangements on-site. The work was mostly carried out by members of SCAU, including Tony Champion, Simon Hind, Graham Hayman, Greg Morrison and Giles Pattison, under the direction of Rob Poulton. Voluntary assistance from George Inwood and especially Graham Berton was also gratefully received.

Introduction

The topography of the site before excavation began showed the highest ground to be in the south-west, with the levels dropping rapidly towards Bridge Street and more gradually in a north-easterly direction until just beyond trench 6 (fig 5.17), from which point onwards the ground was more level. Excavation showed that this reflected an earlier situation in which a terrace edge, running very approximately north-east to south-west, existed in the vicinity of trench 5: the gravel terrace was overlain and its edge partially obscured by deposits of hillwash sand, which gave way to alluvial sand deposits just beyond trench 6, with these latter marking the floodplain of the river Wey. The great majority of the finds of archaeological interest came from the area of the river terrace, but some observations of interest also came from the floodplain.

The main report below treats the excavations as a single site. It may be useful to summarize the results of work on the individual trenches here, particularly as a number of them will not feature again in the report.

Trench 1: finds and features were all of modern date. Earlier features would have survived if originally present.

Trench 2: finds and features were all of modern date, apart from the agricultural soil (group 3, below). Earlier features would have survived if originally present.

Trench 3: productive of medieval material and incorporated into the main area excavation.

Trench 3a: as trench 3.

Trench 4: as trench 2.

Trench 5a: medieval material was found, but only at the north-western end of the trench.

Trench 5: productive of medieval material and its south-western end was incorporated into the main area excavation.

Trench 6a: modern disturbance was found to a depth of 2m+ along the whole length of this trench and would have destroyed earlier levels, if any.

Trench 6b: as trench 6a.

Trench 7a: produced a number of medieval features sealed by a considerable depth of hillwash deposits. The agricultural soil (group 3, below) was absent.

Trench 7b: a large number of features was identified initially, but on excavation these proved to be generally shallow and amorphous, with several producing 17th/18th century finds. It was concluded that the whole group was the product of relatively modern activity and excavation discontinued.

Trench 8: produced some medieval features, but was most notable for the concentration of early pottery in the lower levels of the agricultural soil (group 3).

Trench 9: seemed to be sited in an area which had been levelled down in recent years, removing early features which may originally have been present.

Trench 10: as trench 9, although the modern disturbance was much deeper at its southern end, which influenced the decision not to expand on trench 7a.

Trench 11: proved to be sited over a modern cellar.

Trench 12: as trench 2.

The excavation (M165–M175)

A conventional phasing and matrix are not appropriate for this site, where there was little stratigraphy, and the contexts have instead been grouped by period or type.

GROUP 1: 11TH–12TH CENTURY, AND PERHAPS EARLIER

A number of features produced pottery of 11th or 12th century and earlier dates. Two gullies, A and B (fig 5.18) ran parallel and in a north-south direction. Both were confined to the area of the excavation and it is considered that they were infilled in the 11th or 12th century, and that it is unlikely that they were dug much earlier.

The remaining features of this date were a heterogeneous collection of pits and possible post-holes (figs 5.18–5.20). Their fills, as were those of the gullies, were almost invariably a grey buff sandy silt yielding no clue to their original function. Neither does it seem possible to discern any structural or other patterning in their distribution.

GROUP 2: 13TH–14TH CENTURY

Features of this date were fewer in number than those of group 1, and consisted of three stretches of gully, five pits or postholes which were widely scattered (fig 5.18), and a few other ill-defined features. Gullies C and D may be related to the group 1 gullies, but the shape of the latter was less definite and it was not quite parallel to the others. Gully E was approximately at right angles to the others (the modern pottery in 371 must have been derived from the adjacent feature).

GROUP 1/2: UNDATED, BUT PRESUMED MEDIEVAL

A substantial number of features produced no dating evidence on excavation. These were almost all small pits or postholes with a fill of grey sandy silt. As features of groups 4 and 5 generally had distinctive fills it is presumed that group 1/2 contexts are contemporary with groups 1 and 2. They do not, however, enable any patterns to be seen in the distribution of features.

GROUP 3: AGRICULTURAL LAYER, ? 13TH–19TH CENTURY

This layer was encountered in excavation across the area between trench 2 and trench 5. It consisted everywhere of a homogeneous grey sandy silt (visibly, if not descriptively, distinct from the fill of the features which were found below it) varying between 200 and 600mm in depth, the depth becoming generally greater towards the north. Cleaning of exposed sections produced occasional potsherds and tile fragments (mostly less than 50mm in maximum dimension), with the pottery more concentrated and in larger pieces towards the bottom of the layer. The pottery is

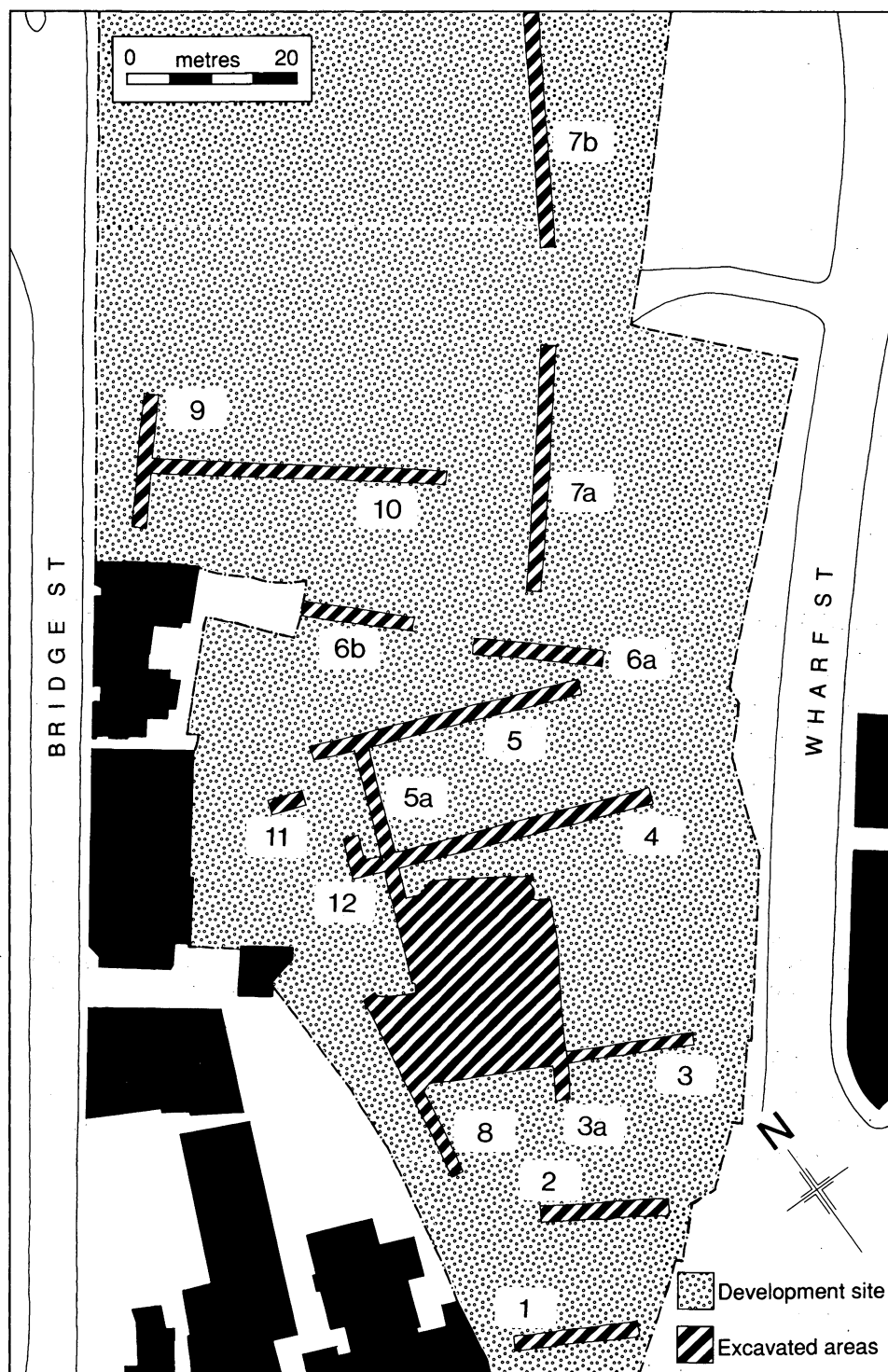


Fig 5.17 CWS site, Godalming: trenches and excavation areas. See fig 5.1 for the location of this area relative to Godalming.

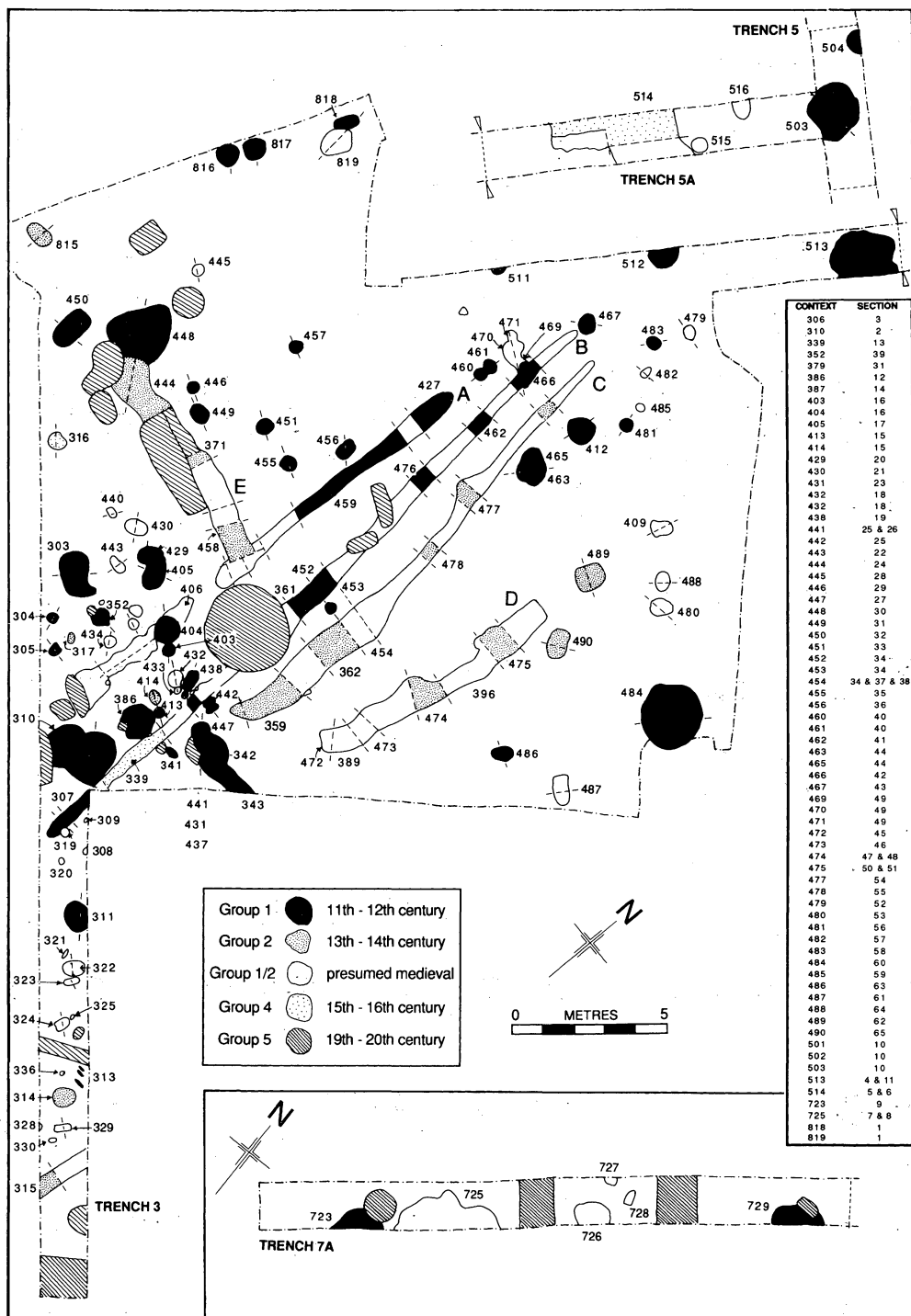


Fig 5.18 CWS site, Godalming: excavated features in the main area and adjacent trenches, and in trench 7a

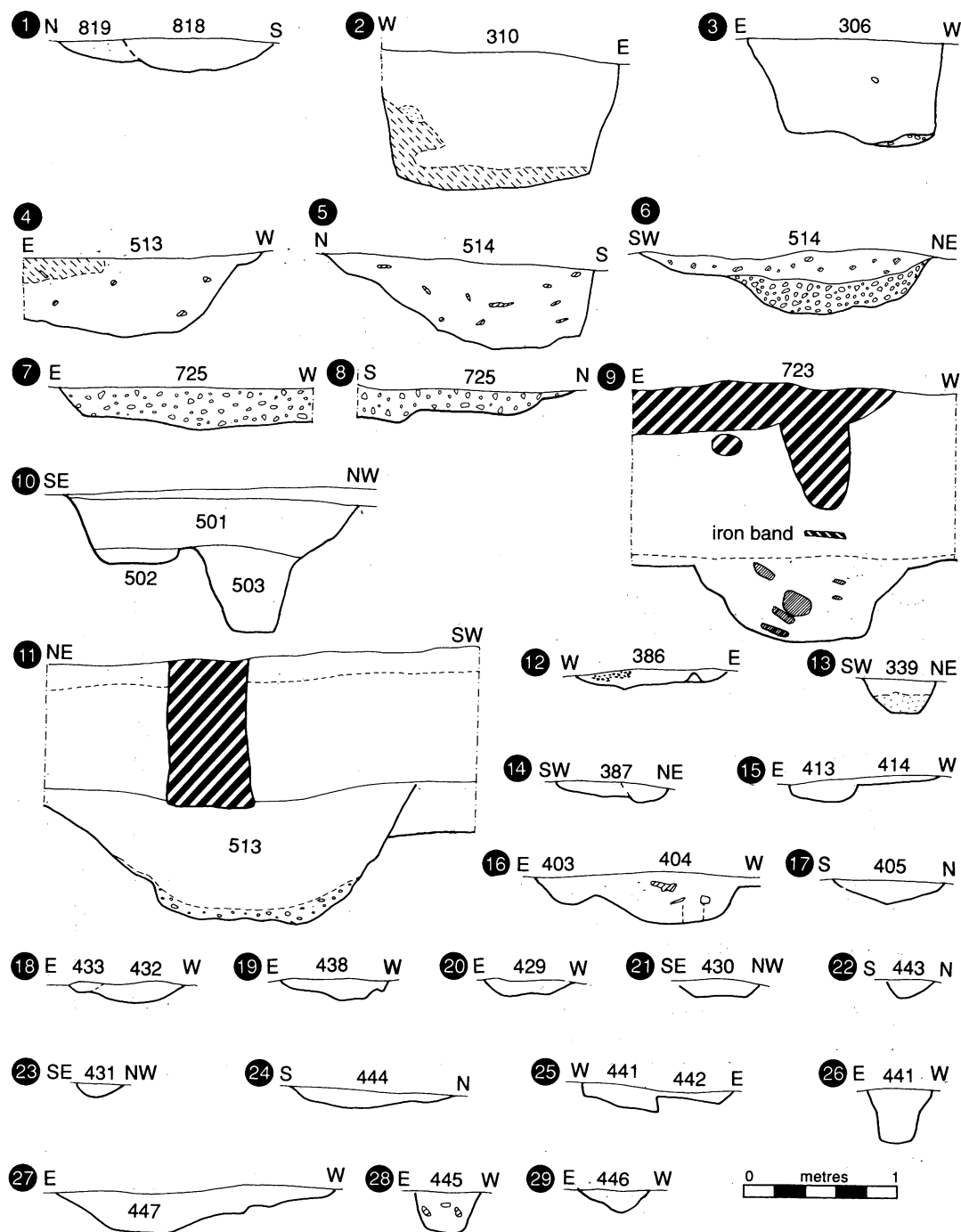


Fig 5.19 CWS site, Godalming: sections 1–29 of group 1, 2 and 4 features. See fig 5.20 for a key to the figures.

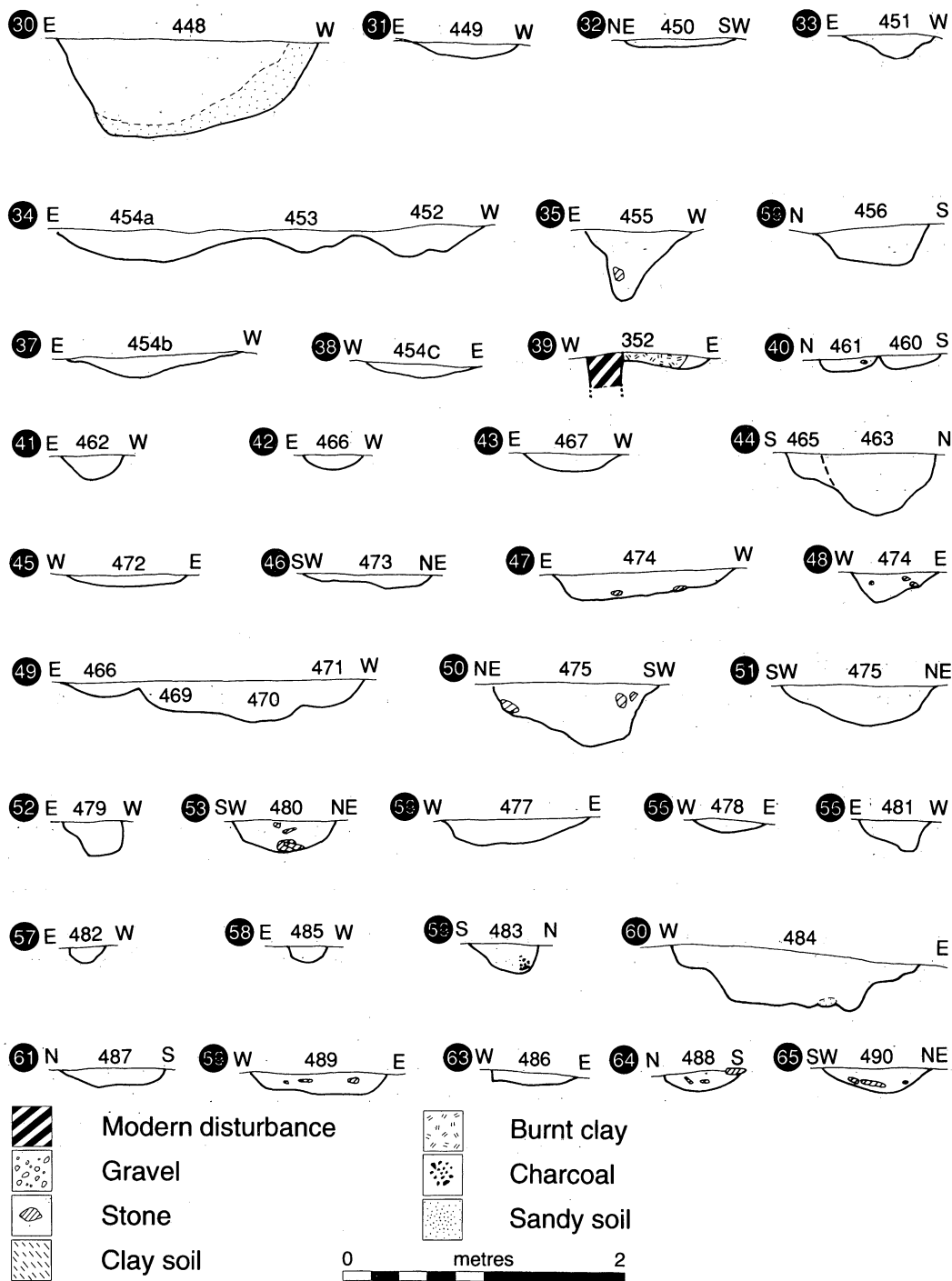


Fig 5.20 CWS site, Godalming: sections 30-65 of group I, 2 and 4 features.

mostly 13th century or earlier, with a smaller number of later sherds extending in date down to the 18th century. The layer looks to have resulted from tilling of the ground over a prolonged period, after the main occupation ceased in the 13th century or a little earlier, with the earlier occupation material becoming incorporated into its profile. The depth to the north is presumably the result of soil creep down the slope. The rarity of 14th–18th century material presumably suggests there was no occupation in the immediate area until the further change of land use in the 19th century, when the ground was split into a number of distinct plots, as indicated on the tithe and 1st edition (1870) OS maps (cf O'Connell 1977, fig 5.13).

GROUP 4: 15TH–16TH CENTURY FEATURES

A large feature, perhaps a ditch (514), seems to have been filled in the 15th century while a small pit (316) produced 16th century material. A scatter of pottery of this date may indicate a period of more intensive activity than earlier or later: part of a Tudor watering can (fig 5.22, no 105) might suggest that market gardening was being practised.

GROUP 5: 19TH–20TH CENTURY FEATURES

Features of this date were only recorded where they were found at the level of group 1 and 2 features. They are of no intrinsic interest.

The finds

THE POTTERY, by Phil Jones (figs 5.21, 5.22)

Note: a list of abbreviations is printed at the front of this volume. For an explanation of codes for ware and fabric types see chapter 6.

Of c 1700 sherds recovered from the site, two are prehistoric, 34 are Roman, over 300 are of mid–late Saxon fabrics, and over 600 are of late Saxon or Saxo-Norman types. The remainder is mostly of late 12th to mid-14th century types (over 600 sherds), and there is very little late medieval or post-medieval material (about 100 sherds).

Contexts with only one or two sherds of Roman pottery (502), or Saxon pottery (397, 415, 425, 429, 431, 437, 460, 468, 470, 511), may have been filled prior to the 11th or 12th century, but need not necessarily have been. This is because there seems to have been a considerable degree of re-deposition of sherds from about the mid-12th century, and nearly all later context assemblages have high proportions of residual pottery.

The prehistoric and Roman sherds probably derive from occupation that had probably been nearby rather than in the direct vicinity of the excavated site, but there is less certainty about the location of mid-Saxon and Saxo-Norman settlement. The mid-Saxon pottery is the largest quantity of such wares to have been excavated from a site in Surrey, and the amount of Saxo-Norman material is also large enough to suggest that occupation ought to have been directly on site. Although the lack of any evidence of buildings could be because shallow foundations may have been destroyed by truncation, a more plausible explanation for the quantities of pottery and absence of structures, however, may be that preferred by the excavator (p 204), which is that the site could have been over the near-backlands of buildings that lay a little further to the north or west.

Most of the medieval pottery was recovered from a deep layer of soils, or else from features sealed below it. These contained few sherds and very little other midden debris, and their purposes are unknown.

All the contexts of the site have been divided by the excavator into five groups according to their stratigraphy and the latest datable sherds of their pottery assemblages. Group 1 contexts contain sherds of types that had been in circulation prior to the mid-13th century; those of group 2 also contain whiteware sherds of late 13th and 14th century types; group 3 comprises the contexts of the deep soil layer which includes medieval and Tudor material; group 4 is represented

by two features that cut through the soils and which contained Tudor-type pottery, and group 5 contexts contained 19th and early 20th century sherds.

Nearly all the rims and other diagnostic sherds of medieval and earlier pottery have been drawn for publication. Quantification was by count, weight, and EVEs, and such data are presented as mean percentage proportions in tables 5.1 and 5.2. Tables that give the raw figures can be found in the archive.

The report that follows includes brief accounts of the prehistoric and Roman sherds, full descriptions of the mid-Saxon and Saxo-Norman wares, and summaries of the other medieval and post-medieval pottery from the site. There is also a catalogue in fiche of the context assemblages of groups 1 and 2 (M169–M171). Further details of the wares and fabrics and a discussion of these in relation to the collections from other Surrey towns can be found elsewhere in this volume (chapter 6).

Roman (fig 5.22, nos 69–71)

Of 34 Roman sherds, 23 are of grey sandy wares, and these include the rims of three jars (nos 69–71) and two thick body sherds from later Roman Alice Holt/Farnham-type storage jars (Lyne & Jefferies 1979, 45). Most of the other material is also of late 3rd or 4th century types and includes a sherd from the wire-cut base of a 'Surrey Buff' (Overwey/Tilford-type) jar (Lyne & Jefferies 1979, 43–44), another from an Oxfordshire-type white sandy mortarium, three sherds of Oxfordshire-type colour-coated ware, and two thick sherds of a red/buff ware that is also, most probably, a late Alice Holt/Farnham type. Not all of the featureless greyware sherds need have been of the late Roman period, however, since there are also two small sherds of Central Gaulish Samian pottery from the site. There is also a base sherd of fine pink/buff ware, and from group 4 context 514 a glazed redware sherd that could be Roman although there must remain some uncertainty about such an identification (it could be Tudor). Six of the Roman sherds were from group 1 contexts (including one from 502 that was the only sherd in the feature) and six were from those of group 2. All sherds are rolled to a certain degree.

Mid-Saxon (fig 5.21)

A total of 326 sherds of handmade and thick-walled pottery was recovered from the site; these sherds are mostly from simple round-based vessel forms that are very similar to mid-Saxon pottery from other sites in central and southern England (Hurst 1976, 299–310; Hodges 1981, 5–14). At least three separate ware types are represented: CQ with chalk and sand temper, SAXQ with sand temper, and SAXFL with crushed flint temper.

Although ten features contained one or two sherds of these types as the only datable artefact(s) in their fills, they may not have been of mid-Saxon date (see above), since they could have been re-deposited. They are described below, together with the other material which is certainly residual. There was proportionately more of these wares in group 1 contexts (c 46% of all sherds calculated from a mean average of statistics based on count, weight, and EVEs), than in those of later groups (group 2 c 15%, group 3 c 24%, group 4 none), but even in the very late assemblage of group 5 they still formed a significant proportion of all included pottery (c 20%). Overall, these mid-Saxon wares represent c 29% of all pottery from the site.

Chalk and sand-tempered ware

The temper is of frequent comminuted chalk fragments, generally between c 0.2 and 0.5mm in size but with some up to 1.5mm, and sub-rounded quartz sand of about the same size range and variability. Two fabric types were determined: CQA with more chalk (frequent) than sand (moderate to frequent); and CQB with more sand (fre-

quent) than chalk (sparse to moderate). Since roughly equal proportions of both were found, and the vessel forms look very similar, it seems likely that the division is artificial, and that only one ware with a slightly variable temper mix is represented. The division has been maintained however, since it is possible that one mix had been preferred at an earlier date than the other.

Fifty rim fragments were found, most of which were

from jars with simple everted rims (nos 1–10, 12–17, 23–52), but because of the rough manner in which they had been made it was not possible to determine how many vessels are represented. No rimsherds could be joined. The jars varied in size between 10 and 19cm at the rim, and, on the basis of an absence of base-body angles on any of the other sherds, they had, almost certainly, been round-based. Some have smoothed and partly-burnished surfaces, and some have a wiped finish. Other vessel forms are poorly represented but include a cresset lamp (no 11) and a pedestal base of another, unless it had been a small lid (no 18). The only decorated sherd has reed-stabbed impressions (no 19). A few of the CQB jar rims are more strongly lenticular than those of CQA, and have internal angles (nos 16, 43–48). At least two of the rounded bases had been pushed up to enable the jars to stand properly (nos 20–21), and there is the base of a very small vessel that may have been a cup or small bowl (no 22).

CQ was the most common of the three wares and represents c. 75% of the mid-Saxon pottery. There are 118 sherds (1.63kg, 2.54 EVEs) of CQA, and 127 sherds (1.34kg, 1.57 EVEs) of CQB.

SAXQ Sand-tempered ware

The 75 sherds of this ware contain a temper of sub-rounded quartz grains, but there are variations in the grading of these which enabled a division into four fabric types: SAXQA with very coarse sand (2 sherds, 47g), SAXQB coarse sandy (10 sherds, 133g, 0.09 EVEs), SAXQC with 'standard'-sized grains (36 sherds, 436g, 0.44 EVEs), and finer SAXQD (27 sherds, 433g, 0.18 EVEs). There is a close similarity between the temper of these fabrics and that of the grey/brown medieval sandy wares of western and central Surrey (see under Medieval Sandy wares below). The Saxon pottery is

thicker walled and of cruder manufacture than later sandy wares, but these aspects apart, SAXQB resembles GQ2 variants (and specifically the GQ2a fabric of Godalming), and SAXQD compares well with the finer sandy fabrics of FQ2 (FQ2b and FQ2c in Godalming). It must be considered as a possibility, therefore, that the medieval sandy wares of the region could have developed from mid-Saxon precursors such as these examples from the Godalming Co-operative site.

Thirteen rim fragments from simple everted-rimmed and round-based jars were found. Four are of the coarse variant (nos 61–64), seven are of the standard type (nos 53–57, 59–60), and two were finer (nos 66, 67). A SAXQC body sherd has some poorly defined burnished decoration (not illustrated), and a base sherd of SAXQD that had been pushed up to enable the vessel to stand, has what appears to be comb-burnishing of the lower body wall (no 65).

SAXFL Flint-tempered ware

Only one sherd was found, the rim sherd of a small jar (no 68) with a temper of frequent crushed flint, some sparse chalk inclusions and some rare quartz sand grains (36g, 0.08 EVEs). There are some similarities between this temper mix and that of FLQ fabrics (see below), which hint at a connection between the mid-Saxon and late Saxon/Saxo-Norman wares.

SAXODD Other probable Saxon wares

Five body sherds (51g) of hand-made pottery are of 'odd' fabric types that may have been of different wares, but could simply have been variations of the principal types described above. Some contain grog inclusions.

Late Saxon and Saxo-Norman Wares (fig 5.22, nos 72–85)

Sherds of these wares were divided into the five broad ware groups of chalk, flint, coarse shell, sand, and coarse poly-tempered fabric types. Some or all of these belong to ceramic traditions that have late Saxon origins, and some sherds from the site may well be from 10th and 11th century vessels. Most of these traditions were probably still extant during the early 12th century, however, and the coarse shelly ware is known from elsewhere in the county to have been produced as late as the 13th century, but in a developed style. Most of the vessels of these various wares from the Co-operative site were handmade, but a few were wheel-thrown.

The relative proportions of these wares compared to all others vary little through groups 1 to 3. The flint-tempered FLQ types (c. 9, 12 and 11% through groups 1 to 3; and c. 9% of all pottery from the site), and the chalky SNC types (c. 10, 7 and 13%; and c. 9% of all pottery), are the best represented wares, followed by the early sandy IQ ware (c. 5, 3 and 7%; and c. 6% of all pottery), the coarse shelly S2 ware (c. 4, 6, and 3%; and c. 3% of all pottery), and the coarse poly-tempered GQ1 type (c. 2, none, and less than 1% through groups 1–3; and c. 1% of all pottery from the site).

FLQ Saxo-Norman flint-tempered ware

198 sherds (c. 1.2kg, 1.02 EVEs) with frequent crushed flint inclusions, of which about 40% also contain rare chalk and quartz grains (FLQ7A fabric type), whereas the others contain sparse to moderate amounts of chalk and sparse quartz sand (FLQ7B fabric type). It seems

most likely, however, that these are variants of a single ware.

Twenty-seven rim fragments were recovered, and all seem to be from cp/jars with simple everted or slightly beaded rims, and an external diameter at the rim of between 14 and 19cm (eg nos 72–74, 77, 78). None of the

rimms are finger-impressed. All vessels were handmade, and the only base angle sherd that was identified is weakly carinated and displays a very concave basal area. Most sherds are grey in the core, and have similar, or patchy grey to brown, surfaces. Several vessels have a wiped finish, especially at the rim.

The ware represented by the FLQ7 fabrics probably has a late Saxon ancestry, and is also almost identical to that of the SAXFL rimsherd from the site, but the vessels were not as crudely made or as thick-walled as the earlier Saxon sherd.

SNC Saxo-Norman chalk-tempered fabrics

173 sherds (c 1kg, 1.16 EVEs) with frequent comminuted chalk fragments, of which c 15% have no other tempering agents but do include some rare flint and sand grains (SNCIA fabric); c 37% have sparse inclusions of flint and sand (SNCIB); and c 48% are of a more distinctly polytempered fabric with sparse flint and moderate to frequent quartz sand inclusions as well as the chalk temper (SNCIC). Because of the relatively small sample size and a lack of much stratigraphical information, it has not been possible to establish whether more than one ware-type is represented, or if the coarse SNCIC fabric had been a later development of the chalk-tempered tradition. Some of the vessels of SNCIA and IB fabric types appear to have been wheelthrown, but most sherds, of all three types, were from proficiently hand-made vessels that had wiped surfaces.

Twenty-six simple everted or slightly beaded rim fragments from cp/jars were recovered, with external diameters of between 14 and 22cm except for one that was 11cm. Only one of these rimsherds is finger-impressed. Two of the cp/jar rims are illustrated (nos 76, 79), and the one that is of SNCIB fabric had probably been wheelthrown. Two, and possibly three, large bowls were made from the SNCIA fabric (eg no 75), as was a fragment from the strap handle of an unglazed pitcher (not illustrated). A few base angle sherds were recovered, and all display a distinct carination and sagging base plates.

The tradition probably has a late Saxon ancestry within the region and can be compared with other Saxo-Norman wares from the south-east of England that have a wheel-thrown element, but which developed into the handmade early medieval tradition of manufacture during the late 11th and early 12th century.

S2 Coarse shell-tempered ware

84 sherds (c 0.5kg, 0.28 EVEs) with frequent coarse shell fragments and only rare accessory inclusions of iron minerals and quartz sand. The type is commonly found in most excavations of 12th and 13th century sites in western and central Surrey, but as a small proportion of all collected pottery. This tradition of tempering probably has some late Saxon antecedents in the region, however, and in some late 11th and early 12th century deposits at Reigate *Cherchefelle* in east Surrey it had been the major type found (Jones 1986, 58).

Eleven rim fragments from cp/jars were recovered, and accord with the known range of rim type variations that have been found elsewhere within the county. Only one is illustrated (no 80).

IQ Ironstone sandy ware

122 sherds (c 1kg, 0.45 EVEs) of this distinctive Saxo-Norman sandy ware that also has frequent inclusions of crushed iron-cemented sandstone. Nine cp/jars are represented by rimsherds (including nos 81 and 82), and another rim with a diameter of c 30cm is probably from a storage jar (not illustrated). The ware has been identified in London, where it is called 'Early Surrey Ware' (Vince & Jenner 1991, 73). In the waterfront deposits of the City it was most common during the late 11th and early 12th century, but the ware is suspected of having continued in production for the remainder of the 12th century in west Surrey.

GQ Coarse sandy 'early medieval' types

83 sherds tempered with large sub-rounded quartz sand grains. Some that contain accessory inclusions (GQIA fabric) may be of a separate ware from those that only have a sand temper (GQ2A fabric), and the latter is probably a coarser variant of the grey/brown sandy ware tradition (see below).

GQIA POLY-TEMPERED EARLY MEDIEVAL FABRIC

21 sherds (118g, 0.08 EVEs) with frequent large sand grains and rare to sparse chalk and flint inclusions. There is proportionately more in group 1 contexts, but the sample is too small to draw any conclusions from this. Three simple everted rimsherds from cp/jars were found, with diameters or between 16 and 18cm (none illustrated).

GQ2A COARSE GREY/BROWN SANDY FABRIC

62 sherds (0.51kg, 0.45 EVEs), tempered only with large sand grains. There are proportionately more sherds from group 1 contexts (17, which represents c 5% of all pottery) than from those of later groups. The sample includes rimsherds from seven cp/jars, five of which are of simple everted type (including no 85). The other two, one finger-impressed and the other club-beaded (no 84), are more proficiently made in the manner of the standard grey/brown sandy ware fabric of Godalming Q2B; it seems reasonable to suppose that they are coarse, and possibly early, variants of that ware. This conclusion is supported by the use of scratch-marking on the bodies of some cp/jars of both GQ2A and Q2B types. No other fabric types represented on site have sherds that are treated in the same manner. It remains uncertain whether GQ2A was the antecedent type, or whether there had been a relationship between GQ2A and the Saxon fabrics with very similar coarse sandy mixes, SAXQA and SAXQB.

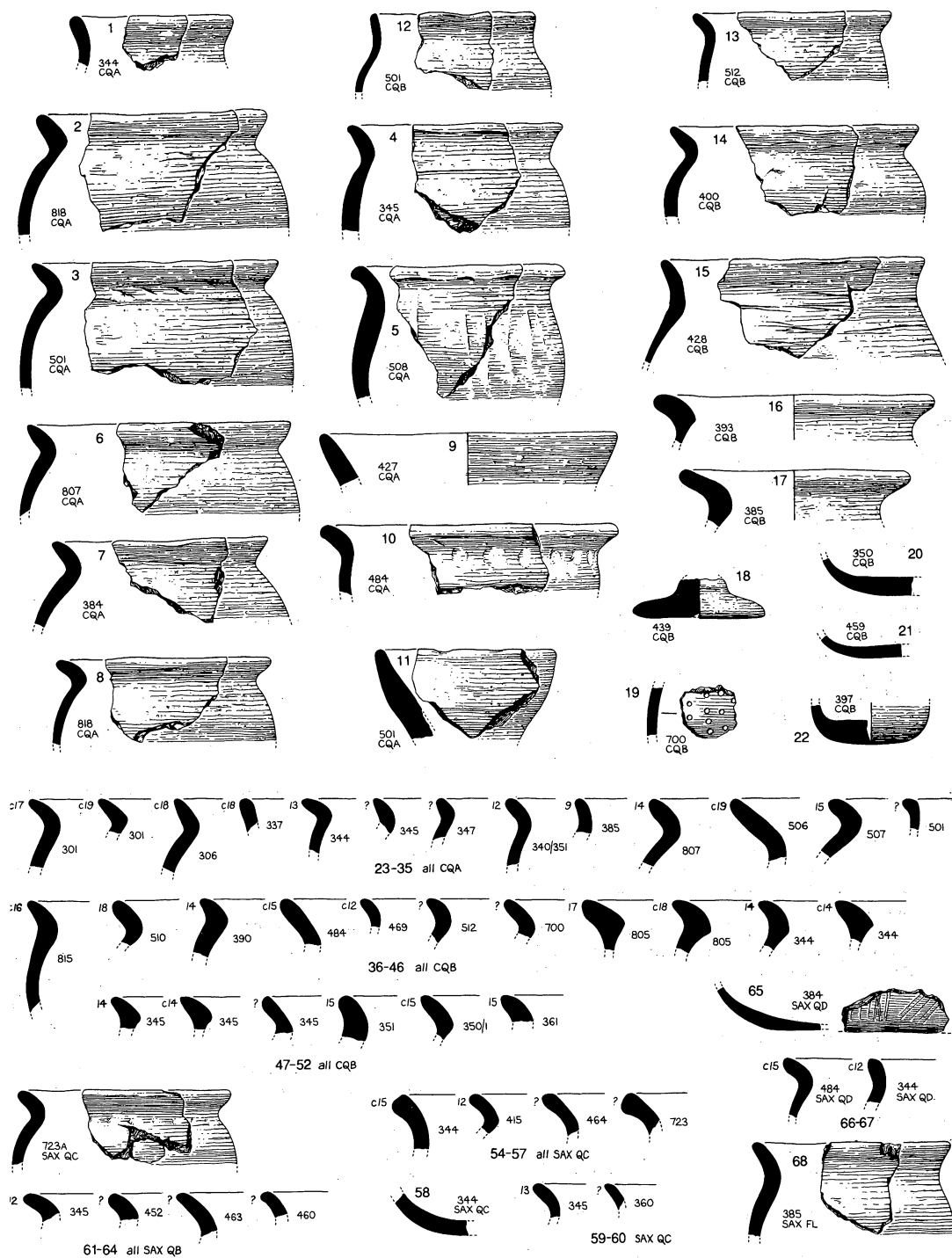


Fig 5.21 CWS site, Godalming: the mid to late Saxon pottery (nos 1-68). Context number and fabric type are indicated within each drawing. Scale 1:4

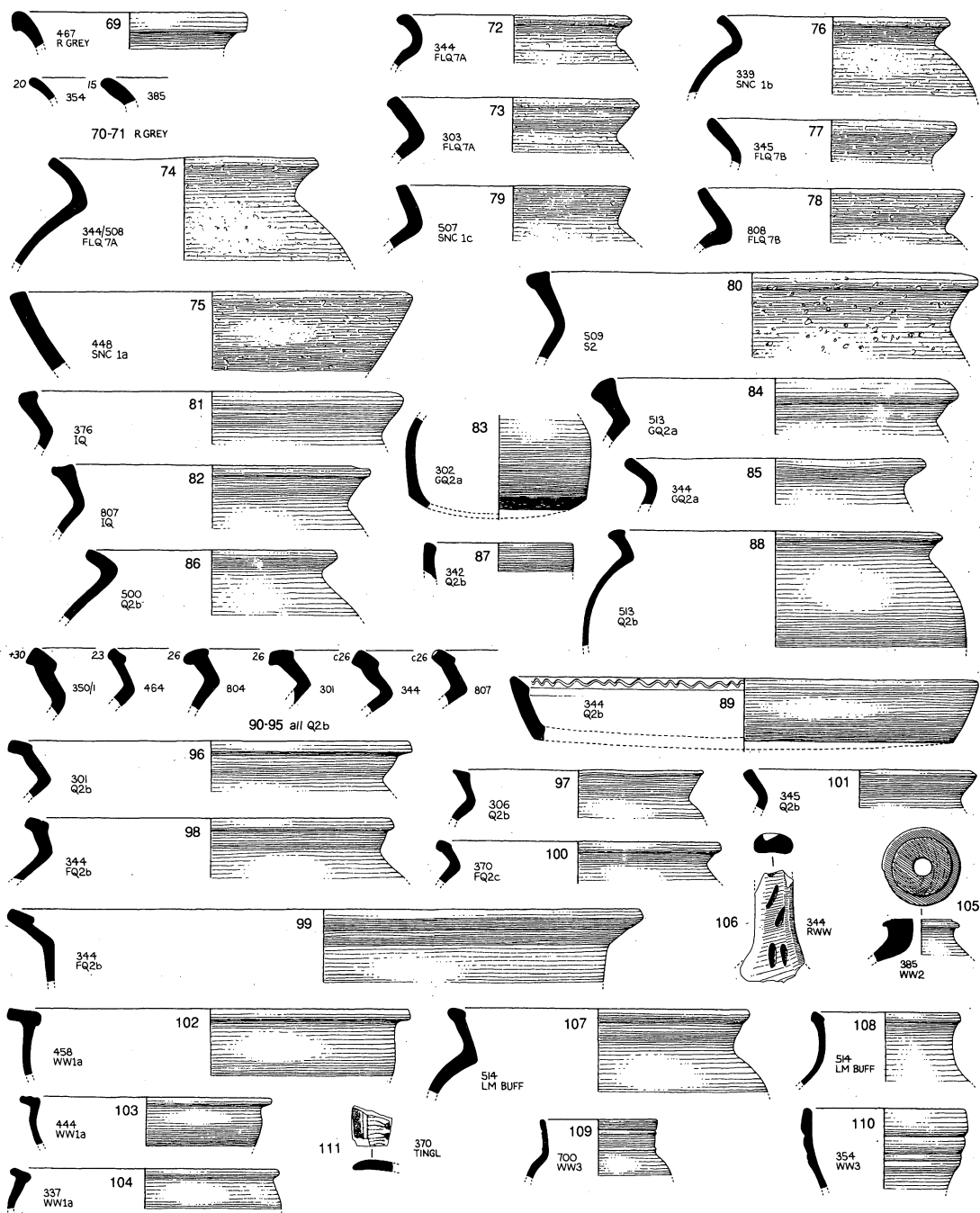


Fig 5.22 CWS site, Godalming: Roman, medieval and early post-medieval pottery (nos 69–110). Context number and fabric type are indicated within each drawing. Scale 1:4

TABLE 5.1 CWS site, Godalming: pottery by feature, group and fabric. PRE and R pottery is excluded from the % calculations. Percentages are given to the nearest whole figure (o indicates less than 0.5). AVGE indicates the average of count, weight and EVEs.

		PRE	R	SAX	SNFL	SNC	S ₂	IQ	GQ ₁	GQ ₂	Q ₂	FQ ₂	WW	PM	WW	BUFF	RWW	RW	TB	TIN	ST	CHINA	RQ	Total
GP 1	Count	1	8	122	64	40	27	29	11	19	67	23	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	414
	%	-	-	30	16	10	7	7	3	5	17	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 2	Count	-	4	18	15	10	11	9	-	5	34	34	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	162
	%	-	-	11	9	6	7	6	-	3	22	22	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 3	Count	1	16	143	99	93	37	60	5	26	133	82	37	5	5	2	5	5	5	-	-	-	2	756
	%	-	-	19	13	13	5	8	1	4	18	11	5	1	1	0	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	100
GP 4	Count	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	13
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9	27	-	-	36	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 5	Count	-	4	43	20	30	9	34	5	12	69	44	24	22	11	-	17	10	2	2	2	4	-	362
	%	-	-	12	6	8	3	9	1	3	19	12	7	6	3	-	5	3	1	1	1	1	-	100
Total	Count	2	34	326	198	173	84	132	21	62	304	184	89	27	20	3	23	15	2	2	2	4	2	1707
	%	-	-	20	12	10	5	8	1	4	18	11	5	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	100
GP 1	Wt (gm)	-	313	1528	302	286	139	201	51	120	463	130	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3549
	%	-	-	47	9	9	4	6	2	4	14	4	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 2	Wt (gm)	-	17	137	82	67	66	55	-	38	229	218	180	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1089
	%	-	-	13	8	6	6	5	-	4	21	20	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 3	Wt (gm)	14	177	1744	621	732	208	556	29	215	1296	532	385	68	89	33	89	47	-	-	-	-	9	6844
	%	-	-	26	9	11	3	8	0	3	19	8	6	1	1	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 4	Wt (gm)	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	56	-	96	11	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	188
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	32	-	54	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 5	Wt (gm)	-	29	679	134	127	76	242	38	139	929	463	213	233	251	-	156	238	6	9	26	-	3988	
	%	-	-	17	3	3	2	6	1	4	23	12	5	6	6	-	4	6	0	0	1	-	100	
Total	Wt (gm)	14	547	4088	1139	1212	489	1054	118	512	2923	1348	850	301	436	44	248	285	6	9	26	9	15658	
	%	-	-	27	8	8	3	7	1	3	19	9	6	2	3	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	91
GP 1	EVEs*100	-	11	254	25	40	11	13	12	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	413
	%	-	-	63	6	10	3	3	3	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 2	EVEs*100	-	4	20	2	8	4	-	-	5	24	7	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	103
	%	-	-	20	2	8	4	-	-	5	24	7	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 3	EVEs*100	-	7	121	58	69	-	25	-	21	102	14	10	39	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	469
	%	-	-	26	13	15	-	5	-	5	22	3	2	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 4	EVEs*100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 5	EVEs*100	-	-	98	13	11	13	7	6	7	59	23	17	41	-	-	11	5	4	-	-	-	-	315
	%	-	-	31	4	3	4	2	2	2	19	7	5	13	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	100
Total	EVEs*100	-	22	493	98	128	28	45	18	80	185	44	56	80	26	-	14	5	4	-	-	-	-	1326
	%	-	-	38	8	10	2	3	1	6	14	3	4	6	2	-	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	100
GP 1	AVGE %	-	-	47	10	10	5	6	2	7	10	3	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 2	AVGE %	-	-	15	6	7	6	4	0	4	22	16	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
GP 3	AVGE %	-	-	24	12	13	3	7	0	4	20	7	4	3	1	0	1	0	-	-	-	0	0	100
GP 4	AVGE %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	20	0	64	5	4	-	-	0	0	-	-	100
GP 5	AVGE %	-	-	23	6	6	4	5	1	3	20	10	5	7	3	-	3	3	1	0	0	0	-	100
Total	AVGE %	-	-	28	9	9	3	6	1	4	17	8	5	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	100

TABLE 5.2 CWS site, Godalming: quantification of pottery in Group 1 and Group 2 features. Italicised figures are excluded from the totals and percentages. Percentages are given to the nearest whole figure (o indicates less than 0.5). INTR means intrusive.

	SAX	SNFL	SNC	S2	IQ	GQ1	GQ2	Q2	FQ2	WW	INTR	R	PRE	Total
Group 1														
Gully A														
Count	13	7	5	84	6	2	1	8	2	1	—	—	—	49
%	27	14	10	8	12	4	2	16	4	2	—	—	—	100
Weight gm	174	35	19	22	61	11	3	40	5	8	—	—	—	378
%	46	9	5	6	16	3	1	11	1	2	—	—	—	100
EVEs*100	31	1	7	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	51
%	61	2	14	6	18	0	0	0	0	0	—	—	—	100
Mean %	44	9	10	7	15	2	1	9	2	1	—	—	—	100
Gully B														
Count	17	6	7	1	4	—	6	9	1	—	2	1	—	52
%	33	12	13	2	8	—	12	17	2	—	—	2	—	100
Weight gm	115	42	55	3	34	—	26	58	16	—	72	6	—	355
%	32	12	15	1	10	—	7	16	5	—	—	2	—	100
EVEs*100	8	—	8	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
%	40	0	40	0	20	—	0	0	0	—	—	—	—	100
Mean %	35	8	23	1	12	—	6	11	2	—	—	1	—	100
Others														
Count	92	51	28	22	19	9	12	50	20	2	1	7	1	305
%	30	17	9	7	6	3	4	16	7	1	—	—	—	100
Weight gm	1239	225	212	114	106	40	91	365	109	8	—	307	—	2509
%	49	9	8	5	4	2	4	15	4	0	—	—	—	100
EVEs*100	215	24	25	8	—	—	12	47	—	—	—	11	—	331
%	65	7	8	2	0	0	4	14	0	0	—	—	—	100
Mean %	48	11	8	5	3	2	4	15	4	0	—	—	—	100
Group 2														
Gully C														
Count	6	6	3	6	4	—	1	15	17	4	—	—	—	62
%	10	10	5	10	6	—	2	24	27	6	—	—	—	100
Weight gm	38	30	29	36	18	—	7	83	131	52	—	—	—	424
%	9	7	7	8	4	—	2	20	31	12	—	—	—	100
EVEs*100	8	2	2	4	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	23
%	35	9	9	17	0	—	0	17	13	0	—	—	—	100
Mean %	18	8	7	12	4	—	1	20	24	6	—	—	—	100
Gully D														
Count	4	—	4	—	1	—	1	6	5	3	—	—	—	24
%	17	—	17	—	4	—	4	25	21	13	—	—	—	100
Weight gm	36	—	26	—	8	—	3	49	24	18	—	—	—	164
%	22	—	16	—	5	—	2	30	15	11	—	—	—	100
EVEs*100	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	17
%	59	—	0	—	0	—	0	41	0	0	—	—	—	100
Mean %	32	—	11	—	3	—	2	32	12	8	—	—	—	100
Gully E														
Count	2	3	2	4	2	—	2	8	7	7	1	—	—	37
%	5	8	5	11	5	—	5	22	19	19	—	—	—	100
Weight gm	6	31	9	21	16	—	25	51	32	48	5	—	—	239
%	3	13	4	9	7	—	10	21	13	20	—	—	—	100
EVEs*100	—	—	6	—	—	—	5	13	4	19	—	—	—	47
%	0	0	13	0	0	—	11	28	9	40	—	—	—	100
Mean %	3	7	7	7	4	—	9	24	14	26	—	—	—	100
Others														
Count	6	6	1	1	2	—	1	5	5	8	1	4	1	39
%	15	15	3	3	5	—	3	13	13	21	—	10	—	100
Weight gm	57	21	3	9	13	—	3	46	31	62	22	17	—	262
%	22	8	1	3	5	—	1	18	12	24	—	6	—	100
EVEs*100	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	22	4	—	16
%	13	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	63	—	25	—	100
Mean %	17	8	1	2	3	—	1	10	8	36	—	14	—	100

Medieval Sandy wares (fig 5.22)

Nearly 600 sherds from the site could be divided into those of the grey/brown sandy ware tradition, which is very common in 12th and 13th century contexts across Surrey; cream to buff white-ware which began to supersede them across western and northern Surrey from c 1250, and a few rare sherds of red-firing sandy ware of 13th or 14th century type. No late medieval-type redwares were present.

Grey/brown sandy ware tradition: Q2 and FQ2 fabrics

As elsewhere in Surrey, sherds of this tradition could be divided into coarse, standard, and finer-tempered fabric variants. If the 62 sherds of GQ2A type are included (see above), then there are 550 sherds in all (c 4.8kg, 3.21 EVEs), representing c 29% of all pottery from the site.

Q2B GODALMING-TYPE STANDARD GREY/BROWN SANDY FABRIC

304 sherds (c 2.9kg, 2.3 EVEs) including the rims of up to 34 cp/jars. Most were relatively large, with everted rims of between 18 and 26cm diameter, and beaded or club-beaded terminations (eg nos 88, 91–96). Four of these were finger-impressed on the rim (eg no 95). There are also the rims of four smaller cp/jars with simple everted rims at between 13 and 15cm diameter (eg nos 86, 97, 101), including one that is finger-impressed (not illustrated). Another three club-beaded rims from vessels with diameters over 28cm, may more properly be called storage jars (eg no 90), and a similar rim fragment with a diameter of over 35cm is burnt on the top and may have been from a fire cover (not illustrated). Twenty-two scratch-marked sherds and another four with vertically-applied finger-impressed ribbon strips, were probably from cp/jars.

Few other forms are represented, but they include a dish or frying-pan with green glaze over the interior of the base and incised decoration along the rim top (no 89), the rim from possibly another bowl (not illustrated), the rim of an unglazed jug (no 87), and a simple everted rimsherd of an indeterminate vessel type (not illustrated). Only one other glazed sherd was found in addition to the frying-pan or dish.

FQ2 GODALMING-TYPE FINER GREY/BROWN SANDY FABRICS

Two types could be separated: fine sandy FQ2B (115 sherds, 0.91kg, 0.36 EVEs), and very fine sandy FQ2C (69 sherds, 0.42kg, 0.08 EVEs). Twelve sherds of the fine fabric and twelve of the very fine type are glazed, but unglazed cp/jars form a significant proportion of the vessels of both fabrics, with seven or eight represented by rimsherds in FQ2B (including nos 96 and 97), and two in FQ2C (including no 100). Two of the fine sandy cp/jars were finger-impressed along the rim top (not illustrated), and another has a dribble of glaze on its exterior (no 98). Although there is only one rimsherd that may have been from a jug, and that is unglazed

(not illustrated), most of the glazed sherds were probably from vessels of that type. They include, in the FQ2B fabric, two sherds with white slip under glaze; and in FQ2C, a sherd with a diagonally-applied raised strip, another with diagonally-combed bands, and one with raised and impressed strips (none illustrated). Some decorated sherds that are not glazed include one that is scratch-marked and another with incised decoration in FQ2B fabric; and a horizontally-applied finger-impressed strip in FQ2C. There are also three fragments of finger-impressed pie-crust bases in FQ2B fabric. The only other form is represented by a sherd from a very large pancheon-type bowl in FQ2B (not illustrated).

WW Whiteware: fabrics WW1–3

Relatively few sherds of medieval whiteware were recovered, amounting to only c 5% of all pottery from the site. Most are of the coarse type WW1B, and there are only four sherds of WW1B and 10 sherds of WW2 type fabrics that are more likely to have been 14th century or later medieval variants of the tradition.

WW1A COARSE SANDY WHITEWARE

75 sherds (0.75kg, 0.56 EVEs), including two cp/jar rims with everted and beaded terminals (not illustrated), three flanged-rim sherds from cp/bowls of 14th century type (Pearce & Vince 1988, 85) (not illustrated), a bowl with a flanged rim (no 102), the rims of two smaller vessels with internally splashed green glaze that may have been skillets (nos 103, 104), the rim of an unusual open and handled form with internal green glaze that may have been from a dripping-dish (not illustrated), and a fragment from the handle of a skillet or frying-pan (not illustrated).

WW2 MEDIUM SANDY WHITEWARE

One sherd of note amongst the 10 sherds of this variant is the pierced top of a watering-can that had been wire-cut from the wheel-head (no 105). It is unglazed.

RQ Red sandy ware(s)

Two sherds, both green-glazed and with parts of a horizontal cord round the body, were recovered from group 3 contexts. They are unlike the late medieval or transitional redwares of Surrey, and similar sherds from jugs recently excavated at Guildford Castle would suggest that they are probably of 13th or 14th century date.

Transitional and post-medieval (fig 5.22)

Only 96 sherds were recovered, although it should be noted that sherds that were thought by the excavation team to have been of 18th century or later types were not collected. Most are of local or regionally-traded whitewares, buff wares, and redwares, and the only other types are represented by two sherds each, of tin-glazed wares and stoneware, and four sherds of 19th century 'china'.

RWW Red/white sandy hybrid type

Three sherds could not satisfactorily be classified as being of either redware or whiteware. Two sherds from a group 3 context include a stabbed and unglazed handle fragment (no 106), and a body sherd was found in a group 4 context.

LMBUFF Late-medieval/transitional buff sandy ware

Twenty sherds including four each from group 3 and group 4 contexts, and the others from those of group 5. Recognisable forms include a large jar (no 107), another jar with a strap handle that sprang from the rim termination (not illustrated), and a jug (no 108), all unglazed. There is also a foot from a tripod vessel, part of a pie-crust base, and two body sherds with white-slipped lines around the body (none illustrated). Some of the sherds, and especially those from group 4 and group 5 contexts, could be of 16th century date, and there is a broad similarity with those that have been classified as being of Tudor Brown type redware (see below).

RW and TB post-medieval redware

38 sherds, of which seven were from group 3 contexts, one from those of group 4, and 27 from group 5. Three sherds in the assemblages of groups 1 and 2 are considered to have been intrusive.

Fifteen sherds conform to the characteristics of Tudor Brown types of the early 16th century, with brown or dull red bodies and, sparsely applied glaze, if any at all. Recognizable forms include the rim of a jar and a base angle with the scar of a foot (none illustrated).

Two sherds of very hard-fired redware have a thick

treacly brown glaze and may be from 18th century Staffordshire-type butter pots. One was from group 5 context 209, and the other from group 2 context 369 where it was almost certainly intrusive (the feature was found during the preliminary cleaning to define the outlines of gully E).

The other 21 sherds are of standard post-medieval red/brown sandy fabrics of 17th to 19th century date (none illustrated).

WW3 Post-medieval Border whiteware

27 sherds, of which four were from group 3 contexts, and all but one of the others were from group 5 contexts. A rimsherd from a jug with internal yellow glaze from a group 2 pit (no 110) is almost certainly intrusive, since it was found during the initial definition of the area of the feature before it had been excavated. Other forms that are represented with a yellow or a bright green glaze, include the rims of various late 16th and 17th century jar and dish forms (not illustrated). There is also a small mug with internal and external mottled brown glaze (no 109).

Other post-medieval types

Two sherds of tin-glazed ware were recovered from group 5 contexts. One from context 212 has under-glaze cobalt blue linear banding (not illustrated), and the other from context 370 is the rim of a dish with pink/brown under-glaze decoration (no 111). Two small sherds of mottled brown stoneware were recovered from group 5 contexts 344 and 370, and four sherds of 19th century white-bodied 'china' were of the same group (none illustrated).

THE BUILDING MATERIALS, by Suzanne Huson (M176–M179)

There is a mixed collection of building material of varying quantities from the site, but the biggest single group is the medieval/post-medieval tile, 2660g of which was peg roof tile and 206g of floor tile. Very little of this material came from group 1 contexts.

Of the walling material, only 258g of post-medieval brick was recovered along with 157g of mortar and 9g of plaster. However, unlike the other Godalming sites where none was present, 234g of daub was found, a large proportion of it from group 1 contexts. This included pieces with corners or smoothed surfaces and one with wattle impressions remaining; two pieces also had plastered surfaces.

There is a variety of stone from the site including 16g of chalk, 10g of Upper Greensand, 2380g of shelly Bargate, a locally occurring material, none of which was discarded on site, and 291g of other stone. Much of the Bargate stone was recovered from group 1 contexts, but there is no evidence as to its use.

THE OTHER FINDS, by Suzanne Huson

There were few finds (in materials other than flint) recovered from this site. The main objects of interest have been illustrated (fig 5.23). Only three copper alloy objects were found: a coin of ?1860, a stud and a vessel fragment. Amongst the iron were parts of a hinge arm, a latch and three knives, one of which is decorated with inlaid ?silver wire and dates to the early-mid 11th century. Other finds included part of a baked clay loomweight, a fragment of lava quernstone, four sherds of green bottle glass and a few clay pipes. The worked flints are of most interest, 227 being recovered from the site. These are in a mixture of gravel-derived flint (of particular note are those from context 700) and chalk flint. There is a limited number of tools to aid in dating the assemblage. However, the burin, microburin, and the numerous small blades, put the emphasis on a Mesolithic date, although a Neolithic component is present, represented in particular by the broken transverse arrowhead (context 350). A full list of finds with their contexts can be seen in microfiche (M180-M184).

I would like to thank Jon Cotton for his comments on the flints, which have been incorporated above.

THE ANIMAL BONE

The material is highly fragmented and occurs in small quantities in many contexts (M185-M186). It is just possible that the material in the group 1 contexts might repay study as part of some wider research, but it should be remembered that these contexts have much residual mid-late Saxon pottery in them, and the bone may, therefore, belong to anywhere in the period dating from *c* AD 800 to *c* 1200.

Discussion

The excavations at the Bridge Street site produced a range of archaeological discoveries whose quality and importance was quite unexpected. The site was found to divide into two areas on topographic and geological grounds. The higher ground represented a gravel terrace, and the evidence for ancient settlement was concentrated in that area, while the lower floodplain produced only a limited amount of material indicating activity in the Saxo-Norman period.

PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN EVIDENCE

Over the site as a whole there are no features which certainly belong to the period before the 11th/12th century. The character and quantity of worked flint recovered from the site is nevertheless consistent with there having been an occupation site in the near vicinity in the Mesolithic period, and, less definitely in the Neolithic. Two sherds of calcined flint-gritted pottery could be of Neolithic or any later prehistoric date but their significance is uncertain. On the other hand 34 sherds of Roman pottery is a greater quantity than could be expected from, for example, manuring of fields and may therefore be taken to indicate occupation close by.

THE MID-SAXON PERIOD

Over the site as a whole in excess of 300 sherds of mid-Saxon date were recovered, almost all of these from the area between trenches 5 and 8 (fig 5.17). Although a few features contained only one or two sherds of such pottery this cannot be relied on as a true indication of their date as there is so much mid-Saxon material found as a residual element in later features. The complete or near complete absence of features associated with the finds is the more surprising in view of the fact that this collection is the largest of such material yet found in Surrey. This is a problem that requires careful consideration of the possible explanations.

Truncation and removal of the below ground evidence is the first possibility which needs to be considered. It is clear that the formation of the agricultural layer (group 3) must have led to loss of

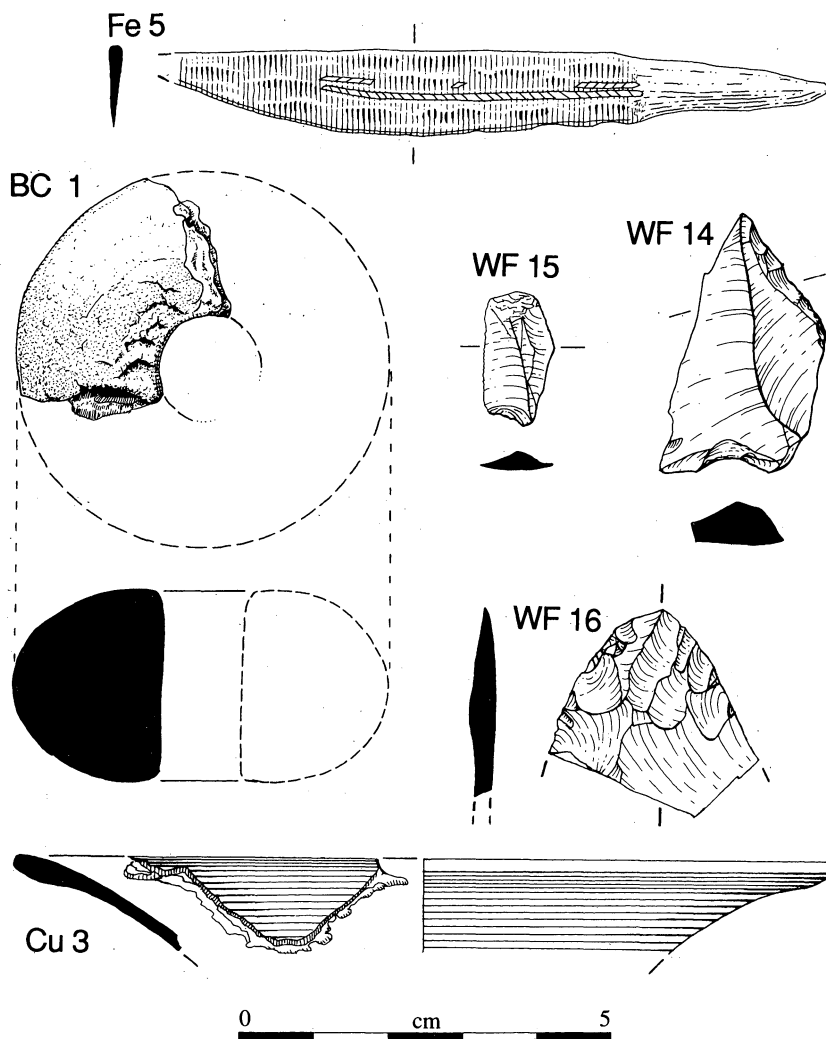


Fig 5.23 CWS site, Godalming: selected small finds (see M180–M184 for details of the others). They are: Fe 5, knife of 11th century date; BC 1, part of a bun-shaped, baked clay loomweight; WF 14, Neolithic burin; WF 15, Mesolithic microburin; WF 16 Neolithic transverse arrowhead; Cu 3, copper vessel of early medieval date. Scale 1:1

some features and a reduction of the depth (by up to 0.5m) of many of those which survived (see also below). In view, however, of the survival of Saxo-Norman and later features two other explanations need to be considered. Firstly, the focus of mid-Saxon occupation may have lain beyond the area in which excavation was concentrated. Finds of mid-Saxon material were rare or non-existent in the south-western part of the site (trenches 1 and 2), towards the south-eastern end of trenches 3 and 4 and to the north-east of trench 5 (trenches 6A, 6B, 7A, 7B, 9 and 10). The mid-Saxon material was concentrated to a greater degree on the north-west side of the main area of excavation, at the north-west end of trench 5 and in trenches 5A and 8. If the centre of mid-Saxon occupation lay outside the excavations then the area to the north-west (towards Bridge Street) is the only possible location; unfortunately this lay either beyond the area of proposed development or had already been disturbed too deeply in modern times to allow anything to survive. Secondly,

the possibility that neither the buildings nor other activities associated with mid-Saxon settlement resulted in ground disturbance to any significant depth needs to be considered. Timber-framed buildings could be and were constructed in which the uprights were supported on sillbeams or padstones at ground level, and it may eventually be possible to demonstrate that this was frequently the case in the mid-Saxon period: certainly it seems that a number of other sites in England share with Godalming an absence of features and a concentration of finds (Phil Jones pers comm, based on discussion at a meeting on mid-Saxon pottery at Northampton in March 1992).

Although the various explanations have been rehearsed at some length it is not possible to decide between them. They are not mutually exclusive and a situation may be envisaged, for example, in which the main area of mid-Saxon occupation lay beyond the excavated site and that part which was within lacked or had only shallow earth-cut features which were removed in the later agricultural processes.

SAXO-NORMAN OCCUPATION

Over 35% of the pottery recovered from the site belonged to this period and an even greater proportion of the datable features (fig 5.18). The effects of truncation by agriculture have been mentioned above, and, it is this which probably accounts for the absence of any discernible pattern in the numerous pits and postholes which were excavated. A few more substantial pits (306, 310, 448, 484, 503, 513) were excavated but even these offered no clue to the purpose for which they were originally dug. Three parallel gullies were found, A, B and C, the last of which is dated to the 13th/14th century. Although shallow and relatively insubstantial as found, the gentle slope of their sides (eg fig 5.20, no 34) suggests that they were formerly quite wide features, which would have intersected at their original surfaces. This points to the probability that they are to be regarded as boundary features, which were periodically re-cut. There does seem to be a distinction between the area west of this line with a clear predominance of Saxo-Norman features, and the area to the east where 13th/14th century features are more common.

THE EARLY MEDIEVAL PERIOD

Features of this period call for little further comment, as they obviously continue the pattern of settlement in the Saxo-Norman period, and the problems and possibilities noted above also apply. One distinction is that there do not appear to be any large pits of this date. The date at which regular settlement ceased is of some interest. Whitewares, which are the dominant pottery in assemblages of the later 13th and 14th century in Surrey, form only 5% of the pottery from this site. Even amongst the medieval sandy wares they form a small proportion (c 15% — see the pottery report) and only a few pieces need belong to the 14th rather than the 13th century. These features of the pottery assemblage would indicate that regular occupation ceased not long after the middle of the 13th century. One or two features might belong to the 14th century, just as one or two belong to the 15th/16th centuries (fig 5.18), but they are too few to provide an argument for regular settlement on site rather than for activities peripheral to the established medieval town (see below).

THE SITE AND THE TOWN

An aspect of particular interest is the relationship between the occupation at the present site and the medieval town of Godalming. Discussion of this would be aided considerably if the character of the present site could be precisely defined. Unfortunately the site does not appear to be recorded in documents (although as this seems surprising it may be that future research, in the light of the recent discoveries, will alter this) and the archaeological evidence gives no clear evidence of its status (whether for example, part of a town, manorial site, industrial site or

farmstead) or form (whether for, example, residential, outbuildings, backlands or farmyard). The absence of positive indications of status may, however, itself suggest which is most probable; a town or a manor would be unlikely to escape documentation and archaeological evidence of status might be expected for a manor (such as imported pottery) or an industrial site (characteristic artefacts, waste material, or features), which leaves a farmstead or small hamlet as the most likely settlement type to produce the excavated remains.

General discussion

ROB POULTON

The three excavations have identified a number of strands of evidence relating, especially, to the early development of Godalming. The starting point for discussion of this must be O'Connell's (1977, 25–28) survey of the evidence. His review saw the possibility of an earlier Saxon hillside settlement at Tuesley (about 1.5km south of Godalming) being replaced by a later Saxon settlement in the Wey valley at Godalming, centred around the parish church. The primary focus of settlement shifted, perhaps around 1300 when the earliest grant of a market is recorded, to the area centred around the market place at the junction of High Street, Church Street, and Mill Lane. Although he does not specifically say so, this implies that the town expanded and developed, especially to the east along the High Street, during the late medieval period, with the growing prosperity of the woollen industry.

It is at once apparent that the mid-Saxon and later settlement at the Co-operative site forms a new element in this postulated development. It may be that it is best seen as part of a dispersed pattern of settlement in the mid to late Saxon period, with small settlements or farmsteads there, around the parish church at Godalming and at Tuesley. The latter (Blair 1991, 97–9) was originally the most important and the site of the minster church was superseded as the minster by Godalming in the 11th century, perhaps in conjunction with the creation of a new planned settlement (Blair 1991, 56).

The Godalming church was evidently in existence by the 9th century, since sculpture fragments of that date have been found in the churchyard (Tweddle 1983, 35–6). The virtual absence of mid–late Saxon material from the Mint Street site suggests that settlement at that date may have been quite tightly confined to the area around the parish church, with expansion along Church Street only occurring in the Saxo-Norman period, in parallel with the rise in status to a minster church. The grant of a market in 1300 may have involved further planned growth and/or reflect earlier gradual development: certainly by the end of the 13th century occupation extended as far as the lower part of Holloway Hill, and shortly after the Mint Street frontage was probably built over.

When and how the town developed along the eastern end of the High Street is difficult to prove, in the absence of excavation. The demise of the Co-operative site at the end of the 13th century might reflect such an event, but it is equally likely it was simply part of a more general pattern in which nucleated settlement tended to replace dispersed settlement, during the late Saxon and early medieval periods (Blair 1991, 35–65).

Appendix: summary of other work in Godalming

JOHN and SUSAN JANAWAY

A number of small-scale excavations have been undertaken by the Godalming Group of Surrey Archaeological Society. The following is a precis of the findings.

The Mint (SU 9671 4382)

This site was excavated in 1975 and 1976 and revealed a number of features. These included foundation walls and cellars from a variety of buildings which had occupied the site until their demolition during the 1930s. One small section of foundation wall consisted of large pieces of Bargate stone bonded with yellow clay. Finds from beneath this feature included 13th–15th century pottery and six glass beads. A number of pits were excavated, including three of possible medieval date, and others from the 17th–19th century which contained a variety of artefacts including pottery and clay pipes.

On the south side of the site the surviving two courses of an 18th century brick wall and associated brick floor sealed a layer of brown sandy loam containing 13th–14th century pottery. Beneath this loam were the robbed out remnants of the foundations of the corner of a building. This feature consisted of a few pieces of Bargate stone which were probably originally bonded with yellow and orange clay. One posthole and a second possible posthole may have been associated with this structure.

A shallow ditch on the east side of site contained 17th century pottery and a clay pipe of 1670–90 in its primary fill. The ditch had been back-filled with brick and tile rubble which contained an interesting assemblage of 17th century Borderware and a clay pipe of c 1680–1700.

A large number of pins were found on the site and these may have been dropped by women out-workers who seamed up knitted garments. The production of hosiery and knitwear was a major industry in Godalming from the 17th century until very recently. (Janaway 1975, 1976)

77 High Street (rear of) (SU 9695 4386)

Excavations in 1976 located a feature, possibly a cesspit, of 17th century date. A scatter of 13th–19th century pottery was also found. (Janaway 1976)

Old Jaeger Factory (SU 9689 4370)

Small-scale investigation in 1976 confirmed that the site had been levelled in modern times. Only a thin layer of brown loam, which was probably plough soil, remained on the north side of the site; only a few small sherds of medieval to 19th century pottery were recovered from this layer. The earlier sherds were much abraded. The site is now buried beneath Flambard Way. (Janaway 1976)

Rose and Crown, Mill Lane (SU 9675 4383)

Excavation in the garden undertaken in 1976 revealed the remains of the 19th century cottages which had fronted Mint Street and a complex of pits dating from the 17th to the 19th century. One pit contained a few sherds of 17th century pottery, a badly corroded coin, possibly a groat of Charles I, and a single clay pipe bowl of 1640–50. A thin layer of brown loam, which rested on the natural gravelly sand, was present throughout the site. This layer also occurred in isolated patches, where it had not been destroyed by the pits and foundation trenches, and contained sherds of medieval pottery and a number of struck flint flakes. (Janaway 1976)

Angel Court (SU 9691 4390)

Excavation in the garden at the rear of the Angel in 1976 and 1977 located a group of 17th and 18th century pits. These contained a variety of artefacts including a 'mulberry' pattern clay pipe of c 1690 and part of a 16th century green-glazed stove tile with relief decoration. The pits cut a layer of brown loam which contained sherds of medieval pottery and fragments of tile. On the north side of the site this loam sealed a spread of Bargate stone fragments and pieces of ironstone resting in brownish grey silt. This was probably a riverine deposit but it did contain some flint flakes, a flint scraper and a few sherds of medieval pottery in its upper part. The flints, which are probably Neolithic, were fresh and unabraded. Most of the site is now covered by a large shop. (Janaway 1977)

Waverley Borough Council offices car park (rear of Bridge Street) (SU 9721 4397)

Small-scale excavation in 1978 revealed a waterlogged silt deposit of 17th century date sealed beneath a rubble build-up dating to the mid-19th century. The sandy silt contained a quantity of wood and sherds of 13th–17th century pottery. The wood consisted mainly of natural twigs and small branches but there were also some worked pieces including two stakes preserved *in situ*. Because of the very limited amount of space available for excavation it was not possible to determine their purpose.

Site watching in 1980, during the construction of the Waverley Council Offices and car park on the site, proved that Bridge Street to the east and Bury Fields to the west lie either side of a narrow valley. This valley possibly marks the course of a stream, which ran down from the direction of Brighton Road to enter the river Wey a short distance upstream of the present site of Godalming Library. It must have been an obvious feature until the middle of the 19th century.

Vicarage Garden (SU 9677 4407)

Two small evaluation trenches excavated in 1981 revealed 19th century rubble and four unstratified medieval sherds. (Bird *et al* 1983, 192)