

1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The following report summarises the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by AOC Archaeology from the 28th June to 4th July 2005 at the site of 7-9 The Hundred, Romsey, Hampshire, on behalf of Le Sage Associates Chartered Architects.

Three trenches were excavated which showed that although there had been some modern disturbance, especially immediately south of the property, a sequence of medieval and post medieval archaeology had been preserved. Several boundary features were observed that shed light on the nature and scale of occupation of the site during these periods. Also recorded were a number of structural features, that preceded the existing structure, whose positions to the south of the shop front indicated that the Hundred may have been wider or lay on a different alignment than at present.

2 INTRODUCTION

Site location (Fig. 1)

- 2.1 The proposed development consisted of a sub-rectangular parcel of land on the southern side of The Hundred, 405m² in size and centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SU 35300 21154. It was occupied by a commercial property whose northern face lay on The Hundred with associated yardage to the south. Access to the site was via an entrance at the south east which bordered a service road. To the east and west, the site was bounded by other commercial properties fronting The Hundred.

Development Proposals

- 2.2 The proposed scheme involved the demolition of the rear and sides of the building and the erection of a two storey rear extension and single storey side extension. The work also included alterations to the shop front and entrance doors to form one retail unit.

Planning Background

- 2.3 Planning permission was granted for the redevelopment of the site (Planning Application TVS.03592/5). An archaeological condition, Condition 4, was imposed on the planning consent requiring that:

“No development take place within the area indicated until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work.”

- 2.4 AOC Archaeology Group Ltd were commissioned by Le Sage Associates to conduct an archaeological evaluation that would define the character, extent and survival of any archaeological remains on the site. Subsequently a *Written Scheme of Investigation* was prepared (AOC 2005) which detailed a scheme of works that would fulfil these criteria.
- 2.5 The archaeological programme of work also involved recording the Standing building. The results of this work are presented in ‘7-9 The Hundred, Romsey, Hampshire: Historic Building Recording Report (AOC 2005)

3 GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Geology

- 3.1 No geotechnical investigations have been conducted within the proposed development area. However the Extensive Urban Survey of small towns of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, commissioned by English Heritage, indicates that the surrounding geology principally consists of Bracklesham Beds and Bagshot Sands. The town of Romsey lies on the flood plain of the River Test at a little below 20m OD on valley and river gravels and brick-earth. The sides of the valley in which the town sits rise sharply to over 60m OD 1 km to the west of the town whilst to the east the land rises gently over a greater distance.

4 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A great number of excavations, assessments and watching-briefs having been undertaken in Romsey, making it one of the most intensively studied small market towns in Hampshire (English Heritage 2004). This has resulted in a large amount of archaeological data being amassed.
- 4.2 The Extensive Urban Survey of small towns of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, commissioned by English Heritage (English Heritage 2004), collated much of the published data from these investigations and the results of that study are summarised by period below.

Prehistoric (before c.AD 43)

- 4.3 There have been numerous pieces of evidence found in and around Romsey which indicate prehistoric activity in the area. These include a Palaeolithic axe recovered from the town centre and Palaeolithic material found at Latimer Street approximately 100m to the north.
- 4.4 Palaeolithic flint tools have also been recovered from several sites to the east and north-east of the town centre. During the construction of a sewage works to the south-west of the town a decorated horn tine was found, initially believed to be of Palaeolithic date, but has been the subject of review and may be as late as the Neolithic: it is now in the British Museum. A Neolithic mace-head, and Bronze-Age and Iron-Age material have also been recovered from within stream channels around Romsey.
- 4.5 There is evidence for Iron Age smelting in the vicinity of the town in the form of a late Iron Age tuyère (nozzle, used for blowing air into a forge) discovered during excavation of a settlement site approximately 200m to the west of the proposed development. Other evidence of Iron Age occupation exists to the east of the town

- centre, in the Orchard Lane car park area, and to a more limited extent, to the south-west of Romsey where a ditch and several post-holes of Iron Age date have been excavated.
- 4.6 On the basis of the evidence there has been a prehistoric presence in the Romsey area, but the chance of finding much in the way of prehistoric material on the site itself is relatively low. The adjacent site (11, The Hundred) was fully excavated by the Test Valley Archaeological Trust and no significant prehistoric material was collected.
- 4.7 At 11 the Hundred, excavations in 1988 revealed an early medieval ditch and a medieval pit and post-holes. The post-medieval features were typical of back garden plots, including a boundary, a pit and a yard area. Similar features may be expected on site. The Saxon settlement is considered to be closer to the Abbey.

Roman (c. AD 43 - 450)

- 4.8 There is little evidence for any substantial Roman settlement in Romsey. Small quantities of pottery have been recovered from the town and it is possible that a small settlement, such as a farmstead, lay to the west of the development area but no evidence of structures were found on that site. Romano-British building materials are also incorporated into the structure of the later medieval Abbey (See para. 4.10 below); however it is likely that these were imported in from the surrounding landscape.
- 4.9 Based on the available evidence, the potential for Roman evidence existing upon the site is considered to be low.

Anglo-Saxon (c.1451-1065)

- 4.10 There have been numerous finds from the Anglo-Saxon period within the town. This includes industrial activity, in the form of iron smelting and smithying, concentrated in an area approximately 150m to the west of the proposed development. Deposits of iron smelting waste that appear to predate the abbey have also been found beneath the later medieval abbey enclosure associated with mid-Saxon animal bone assemblages. The abbey's origins can in fact be traced back to 907 AD, when it was known as the Abbey Church of St Mary and St Ethelflaeda, and settled by nuns under the charge of King Edward the Elder's daughter Elflaeda. Later Saxon pottery has also been recovered from many sites in the town, particularly in the area to the west of the Holbrook, a watercourse that ran north-south through the town approximately 200m west of The Hundred.
- 4.11 On the basis of the evidence there has been a distinct Anglo-Saxon presence in the Romsey area and the potential for finding remains from this period upon the site is moderate to high.

Medieval (c.1066 - 1485)

- 4.12 There is a great deal of archaeological material dating to the medieval period from the town, especially from the area to the west of the Holbrook. This area includes the Abbey. Construction of the present building began c. 1120-1140 and continued through to 1150-1180. The addition of three arcades, in the Early English style, to the west end of the Nave in 1230-1240, completed the last phase of major construction.
- 4.13 The Abbey lay in an enclosure which extended from Mill Lane to the north to Newton Lane in the south. The eastern limit of the enclosure appears to have been defined by a second watercourse, Shitlake, which ran along the western edge of Church St. A third watercourse, Abbey Water, ran through the enclosure, joining Shitlake opposite the Market.
- 4.14 The town was granted a Sunday market in the early twelfth century, which may be interpreted three ways: the town was flourishing, the pre-existing system was being formalised, or it may reflect the need of the Abbess to raise additional revenue. The market lay between Shitlake and Holbrook approximately 200m west of The Hundred. Much of Romsey's economic strength was probably the result of it being a centre for the cloth-making and finishing industry.
- 4.15 The evidence obtained from previous archaeological investigations and historical sources means that the likelihood of finding remains from the medieval period upon the site is high.

Post-Medieval (c.1485 - modern)

- 4.16 The abbey was dissolved in 1539 and the abbey estates were divided up and sold. Several leases which relate to parts of the abbey's properties within the precinct still exist. The extent to which the dissolution of the abbey had an economic impact on the town is unknown; the Abbey must however have been a significant employer in the town.
- 4.17 No *in situ* archaeological evidence has been found that accurately dates the development of the southern side of The Hundred though it is likely that by the twelfth or thirteenth century there was settlement there and that the street alignment may have been altered in the sixteenth century.
- 4.18 Documentary sources from the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century record properties along this stretch, including a shop. The building known as the Manor House of Romsey Extra is an early seventeenth century building, but was probably not the manor house, however, but a merchant's or steward's house. The adjacent building dates to the late fifteenth or early sixteenth century.

- 4.19 These records suggest that Palmerston Street, which joins The Hundred 50m to the west, was in existence at that date. The creation of the street may have its origins in the need to divert Southampton Road from Banning Street (200m to the southwest of the development area) in the sixteenth century, to avoid the parkland at Broadlands, which was formerly abbey farmland. It was the northern boundary of the park of Broadlands which encroached on some areas of the medieval town and thus limited the post-medieval growth of the settlement to the south.
- 4.20 From the evidence the possibility for discovering Post-medieval remains upon the site are considered to be high.

5 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

- 5.1 The general and specific aims of the evaluation were laid out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by AOC. They were defined as being:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To determine the presence of any prehistoric artefacts or deposits
 - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
 - To establish the extent of any surviving post-medieval buildings on the site likely to be damaged during construction.
 - To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.
 - To enable the Archaeological Advisor to the Test Valley Borough Council to make an informed decision on the status of Condition 4, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that Condition.

6 STRATEGY

Research Design

- 6.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by AOC Archaeology and agreed with Test Valley Council. This involved the excavation of three evaluation trenches (Fig 2).
- 6.2 Site procedures followed were defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (AOC 2005) which was subsequently approved by English Heritage. All practices were carried out in accordance with local and national guidelines (English Heritage 1998 & IFA 1994). Provision was made for a report as defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation.

Methodology

- 6.3 Prior to commencing work a unique accession code for the project (A2005.29) was obtained from Hampshire County Museum.
- 6.4 Upon commencement of the works it was necessary to make some alterations the proposed trench layout. The shape of trench 1, in plan, had to be altered to avoid existing tree stumps. This resulted in it being lengthened in order to compensate for the reduced width necessitated by these intrusions. Trench 2 was moved slightly to the east in order facilitate machine access and deposition of spoil but its shape and dimensions remained consistent with the original trench plan. Trench 3 was moved westwards in order to avoid internal walls and services within the building, it was also necessary to alter the size of the trench, as a result of internal structural elements; it was therefore adjusted accordingly to 4.5m x 4.2m.
- 6.5 The revised trenches positions were recorded accurately (Figure 2) by taking measurements from existing parts of the structure, this enabled their exact locations to be plotted during post excavation. All machining was carried out under the constant supervision and observation of AOC Archaeology Group.
- 6.6 Standard AOC Archaeology techniques were employed throughout, involving the completion of written context records for each deposit with scale plans and/or section drawings recorded where appropriate and a photographic record produced. Levels for each context were established relative to Ordnance Datum by transferring a bench mark on Bell Street to the site and establishing a temporary Benchmark there.
- 6.7 The evaluation was conducted by the author, the project was managed by Les Capon of AOC Archaeology Group and the site was monitored by Frank Green, Heritage Officer for Test Valley Borough Council.

7 RESULTS

Trench 1 (Figure 5)

- 7.1 Trench 1 was situated in the western end of the site, orientated east-west, adjacent to the site boundary.
- 7.2 The lowest deposit in Trench 1 was a layer of naturally deposited sandy gravel (119), at 16.23m OD. The earliest feature to cut this was a shallow ditch [126], with a rounded base whose primary fill (125) contained sherds of hand-built Saxo Norman pottery dating from 1050-1250. This feature was aligned northeast-southwest; its long axis continued across the entire width of the trench. It is possible that the ditch represented a pre-existing boundary which deviated from the alignment later imposed by the construction of The Hundred. A secondary fill of the ditch (110) was light brown silty clay with no cultural inclusions, suggesting this fill was a rapid event.
- 7.3 The filled ditch was cut by two post-holes [107] and [109], neither of which contained datable finds. One of the post-holes had quite irregular sides [107], the other totally straight-sided and round [109]. Both post-holes contained fragments of medieval peg-tile, indicating they date to a period by which Romsey had masonry structures.
- 7.4 Overlying these features was a layer of compact sandy clay resembling brick earth, 0.14m thick, which was possibly a floor surface: it seemed to be too flat to be a simple levelling layer (105).
- 7.5 Three postholes were associated with this surface. One of these was towards the centre of the trench, [124], and its fill (123) contained a single piece of Saxo-Norman pottery, again dating to 1050-1250. The other two postholes both had vertical sides and rounded bases. One [122] had a single, charcoal rich, fill (121) and another sherd of pottery of the same type. The third post hole [104] was undated, but its stratigraphic position indicated it was contemporary. Although the pottery assemblage was limited to two sherds, the lack of any later material strongly suggests the building represented by these post-holes and the floor surface was of medieval date.
- 7.6 The next event apparent within trench 1 was the construction of a post-medieval wall running north-south (113) within a shallow foundation trench 0.22m deep [114]. Little more than the foundation courses survived, the wall was built of red bricks bonded with brittle lime mortar. This wall ran parallel to the street front, and also parallel to the rear of the standing building at 7-9 The Hundred.
- 7.6 The foundation was abutted on its east side by a sequence of layers topped by a brick floor, a total of 0.34m thick. The lowest of these (118) was sandy silt with

some brick rubble, thought to be a levelling layer. This was sealed by a layer of compacted chalk rubble (117); suitable as bedding material for a yard surface or similar. The uppermost deposit (116) was soft yellow sand upon which a brick yard surface (115) had been laid.

- 7.7 To the west of the wall, the early floor surface was sealed by a dump of sandy silt (102) up to 0.50m thick.
- 7.8 The location of this wall and its post-medieval date suggests that it is the remnant of a boundary wall to 7-9 The Hundred that was demolished when the yard area was extended westwards.
- 7.8 The trench was sealed by a layer of topsoil (101) between 0.10m and 0.25m thick.

Trench 2 (Figure 5)

- 7.9 Trench 2 was excavated west of the centre of the development area. The level of disturbance in this trench was much higher than that encountered in either of the other two trenches, and most archaeological deposits were severely truncated. This truncation may have occurred during the construction of the building as a result of terracing to level the ground, which rose towards the rear of the property.
- 7.10 The lowest deposit in the trench was natural gravel (203), sealed by a layer of siltier gravel (202) which had undergone some reworking, as attested by the presence of a sherd of 13th century South Hampshire Redware and a sherd Verwood type ware from the 17th or 18th centuries.
- 7.11 Cut into the interface deposit was the remains of a post medieval two chambered latrine pit (204). The above ground structure had been demolished prior to any site investigation. A modern soakaway was also uncovered in the northeast corner of the trench and had been backfilled with mixed deposits of sand and gravel (206) that included 18th century pottery from Staffordshire and an undiagnostic fragment of clay tobacco pipe.
- 7.12 The two brick structures were sealed by a layer of made ground up to 0.36m thick, that contained frequent building debris including, concrete, brick mortar and sand lenses (201). Part of the building material is likely to have derived from the latrine. The trench was sealed by a layer of topsoil (200) up to 0.20m thick.

Trench 3 (Figures 3 and 4)

- 7.13 This trench was located within a modern extension to the standing building, and contained the most complicated archaeological sequence encountered during the evaluation.

- 7.14 The naturally deposited gravel (339) was cut by the earliest feature in Trench 3; a ditch that ran along the western edge of the trench before curving eastwards [338] and becoming obscured by later features. Only a single fill was recorded (337), it contained 15th century post-medieval redware and building material including peg tile. Other finds included two heavily corroded knife blades and bones from domestic food animals. This shows show that the ditch was part-filled with domestic waste. This feature may be medieval in date, a property boundary that was infilled in the post-medieval period when it became redundant.
- 7.15 Stratigraphically similar was a small oval pit [345], filled with gravelly grey silty sand. The top of the feature contained post-medieval peg-tile, which may have become incorporated into the top of the fill, or may be evidence of a consolidation event.
- 7.16 Two post holes were the next features cut [341 and 343]. The lack of finds meant that there was no direct dating evidence. However, the stratigraphy suggests that these are either medieval early post-medieval in date.
- 7.17 The ditch, pit and post-holes were sealed by a thin layer of gravel which was similar to the natural gravel, and is therefore considered to be evidence of reworking of the tops of the deposits below. Part of a small cup manufactured in Surrey, dating to 1270-1500 and a piece of 18th century bottle glass were collected, the glass indicating that this action dates to the 18th century, potentially in preparation for the erection of 7-9 The Hundred.
- 7.18 The corner of a post-medieval masonry foundation was recorded in the southwest portion of the trench. It was of brick construction with a mixture of flint and brickearth bedding (334). The corner piece for the wall was a large block of masonry identified as Bembridge limestone (336). Upon removal one corner of the stone was revealed to have a partially chamfered edge with two of the faces displaying some shaping and being fairly smooth.
- 7.19 Bembridge Limestone was used in Hampshire during the Roman and Early Post Medieval period; the stones location, in context with post medieval bricks, suggests that it originated as a piece of masonry during the latter period. A north-south aligned section of wall (316), sitting in construction cut [324], of brick construction with flint and brickearth bedding (317), was recorded that extended northwards to be parallel with end of the east-west aligned portion defined by masonry block (336). The wall included a George II halfpenny, which may have been deliberately deposited rather than lost. The gap between these two features (c.0.80m) may have formed an entrance. In the space formed between the two foundations a layer of brickearth, very similar to that used for bonding and bedding the stones, was recorded that may have formed the basis for a floor surface. If this was the north eastern corner of a structure preceding 7-9 The

Hundred, then its location south of the current street front may be significant: it suggests the possibility that at one time the Hundred was either wider than at present or in fact lay on a slightly different alignment. Alternately, it may be part of an ancillary building.

- 7.20 Two parallel foundations were recorded running north northwest – south southeast. The construction of the westernmost of these features was very similar to the others described above. One incorporated a smaller piece of stone similar in composition to (336). The remnant of the second foundation consisted entirely of the foundation cut [321] and brick earth and clay/gravel bedding fills (309) & (312) the remainder of it having been truncated. On the north facing section of the trench an ash pit was recorded which seemed to be aligned with these features. This sat within a foundation layer comprised of re-deposited clay and brickearth (315) which contained a sherd of 12th century South Hampshire Redware.
- 7.21 A series of deposits sealing the foundations was present. These varied from dumps of redeposited natural gravel including 18th century glass and pottery from Surrey (308 and 310) to sandy silt with building materials (303 and 304).
- 7.22 The upper levels of the trench all related to the floor of the most recent phase of the shop at number 7, The Hundred. The lowest of these was a deposit of hardcore which acted as a levelling layer (302) and is thought to represent local stratigraphy that was redeposited. This was 0.10m thick, and was composed of brick and crushed mortar: the finds included 18th century clay pipes and a horseshoe. This clearly dated to the post-medieval period. A very substantial piece of slag was recovered from this layer that was believed to be of Saxon provenance. Also within this layer was a piece of moulded limestone masonry with numerous tool marks on the shaped faces (347, Figures 6 and 7). This piece had a series of incised grooves on one face that appeared to be for bonding purposes. When *in situ* the block would have been one of many similar stones forming part of an ornate window arch for a high status building, in this case probably Romsey Abbey.
- 7.23 Atop the hardcore was a layer of reinforced concrete 0.16m thick (301), and this was sealed by tiles forming the floor of the commercial premises.

8 FINDS

Pottery

- 8.1 The assemblage was comprised of Saxo Norman, later medieval and post-medieval pottery. The medieval pottery was highly fragmented, with no complete profiles or vessels recovered, the largest sherds found were from better-made, and subsequently more durable, post-medieval wares.
- 8.2 There was a marked difference in spatial distribution between the pottery recovered from different periods; Trench 1 yielded only earlier Saxo-Norman pottery whilst most of the later material was found in Trench 3.
- 8.3 Within Trench 1 contexts (121), (123) and (125) revealed four sherds of medieval pottery (from four vessels). These were identified as hand-built Saxo-Norman coarsewares, typical of those produced throughout south-east England during that period. The pot sherds contained no distinctive fabric inclusions which might point to the exact geographical location of their production, and so their exact source remains unknown. However, as they were the only finds recovered from these features it was possible to securely date the deposits themselves to the medieval period.
- 8.4 From Trench 3 the finds recovered enabled a number of the contexts to be dated to the later medieval period. These included a sherd of coarse border ware, produced by the medieval Surrey whiteware industry, from context (310), and several sherds from contexts (313) and (315) of 'South Hampshire redware', dated between 1250 and 1350, which has previously been observed in Romsey.
- 8.5 The remaining pottery finds from Trench 3 came from context (302) and comprised 11 sherds of post-medieval pottery. These included regional products such as Verwood-type ware. Also found were examples of transitional red earthenware fabrics; a common type of pottery generally found in later 15th and 16th century deposits. These were similar to the descriptions given to types of pottery found in Winchester (Jefferies, Appendix B).
- 8.6 The pottery recovered from the site helped to characterise and date the deposits it was recovered from and enabled a broad chronological sequence for the site to be established. It also suggested a clear pattern of Saxo-Norman and later land-use on the site. Furthermore it added to a body of evidence that can be used to provide a meaningful insight into the types of pottery used by the inhabitants of Romsey over an 800-year period.

Building Material

- 8.7 Peg tile fragments comprised the bulk of the recovered building material. This was found in contexts (103), (106), (108), (312), (313), (337), and (344). It was not possible to identify the sources from which these different fabrics came.
- 8.8 Unfortunately peg and ridge tiles do not lend themselves to easy dating and the assemblage gathered from the site offers few clues. The material was very fragmentary with no full tiles preserved. There were however some distinctive features observed such as a sunken margin on one fragment from context (108), which was common on early bricks as a result of the manufacturing method, and it is possible that a thin line made with a finger tip across the upper face of one fragment from context (337), may have been a batch mark used at the yard of origin. Unfortunately none of these features were particularly valuable diagnostic markers for dating or indicating provenance.
- 8.9 It should also be noted that whilst the presence of a square peg/nail hole and complete absence of glaze from any of the fragments, *may* indicate a post-medieval rather than a medieval date, this conclusion is by no means certain and cannot be presumed to be adequate evidence for securely dating either the artefacts or deposits from whence they came.
- 8.9 Whilst the building material is of little local, regional or national significance, the peg tile and ridge tile fragment do indicate the use of roofing materials, and thereby the presence of a structure of probable post-medieval date, in the vicinity.

Animal Bone

- 8.10 A total of 17 well preserved fragments of bird and mammal bone were recovered from contexts (302), (313) and (337). This assemblage included ox, sheep, goat, with single fragments of chicken and cat from (302) and (337) and sheep, goat and pig from (313). Those from contexts (302) and (337) were interpreted as post-medieval.
- 8.11 The overwhelming majority of the recovered fragments were from adult specimens and the ox bones showed definite signs of butchery. The sheep and goat bones were all derived from the upper limb and foot. There was no evidence for pathological change, gnawing or burning, or of working or bone.
- 8.12 The assemblage allowed a limited insight into local dietary preference, particularly for chicken, beef, mutton and pork, and also the nature of carcass-part and age selection, and butchery techniques.

- 8.13 Unfortunately since no evidence of small wild species, such as fish, amphibian, bird or small mammal remains were recovered, it was impossible to draw any conclusions about the nature of the local habitat.

Clay Pipe

- 8.14 No complete pipes were recovered and the assemblage consisted of 17 fragments. From context (302) two of the plain pipe bowls were collected, both of which had been smoked, one was dated to c1690-1750, the other to c1750-1820. They were probably manufactured at Romsey, Winchester or Southampton though bore a striking similarity to a type from Salisbury.
- 8.15 Of the remaining fifteen pipe stems, fourteen were found within context (302) which could not be dated. The last fragment came from context (206) and its date could not be more accurately defined than having been made and smoked between c1580-1910.
- 8.16 The pipes were not of the highest quality, none exhibited signs of burnishing and only the earlier pipe bowl had partial milling. However, the assemblage was useful in that it provided a reasonably secure date for levelling layer (302).

Metalwork Glass and Slag

- 8.17 The state of preservation of metals on site was generally poor. However, eight pieces of heavily corroded and encrusted iron were collected. These included, from levelling layer (312), an undated fragment of nail stem and a complete post medieval horseshoe with countersunk nail holes and the appearance of a slightly wavy or plain edge. From (313) a piece of knife blade with attached gravel was recovered whilst (337), the fill of ditch [338], produced five heavily corroded fragments of ironwork; two could be identified as fragments of blade or strapping.
- 8.18 A heavily corroded copper alloy object was recovered from context (330) which may have been a piece of post medieval strapping or a strap end. A George II halfpenny, dated from 1746 to 1754, was found in Context (316).
- 8.19 Part of the base of a 17th to 18th century wine bottle, dark olive green in colour, was recovered from context 310. Also, the rim, neck and part of the body of an 18th century glass bottle was collected from levelling layer 302.
- 8.20 Two large lumps of slag were recovered from (123). This was not enough to suggest metalworking was carried out on site and it is quite likely that it was brought in and dumped there from elsewhere.
- 8.21 The assemblage was of a domestic nature and provided a useful insight into the nature of the site itself.

9 ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH AIMS

- 9.1 The excavation and recording of the evaluation trenches established the presence of archaeological remains in two of the three trenches and allowed an assessment to be made of the potential for finding further archaeological remains, within the area of the proposed development. Furthermore the results from this programme of works will enable the Local Planning Authority to make a judgement on the nature and scale of any further works that might be required.
- 9.2 The methodology imposed to fulfil the research aims for the investigation, set out in paragraph 5.3, can therefore be deemed to have been sufficient for the scale of the investigation.

10 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The level of modern disturbance within the floor space of the existing structure had clearly not significantly truncated the archaeological deposits located there. This had led to the preservation of a fairly comprehensive archaeological sequence spanning the medieval and post medieval period within trench 3. A number of the features were of particular interest, especially ditch [337], the cornerstone (336) and its associated walls remnants, as they indicated the presence of pre-existing structures that might shed light on both the history and layout of The Hundred and any routeways that preceded it. The postholes observed in the north of the trench, [341] and [343], were also of interest as they shed light on the possible original nature of the existing building on the site.
- 10.2 Trench 1 revealed a ditch which seems unlikely to be the same feature as that in trench 3: the alignments do not match unless very irregular. When this fell out of use, a building with a brick earth floor and associated postholes was established: its date could not be firmly established. This seems to have been taken down when the rear wall of the 7-9 The Hundred properties was built, and brick surface established.
- 10.3 No archaeological features were observed within trench 2. This is likely to be the result of modern disturbance during the various phases of construction and demolition on the site. It is also possible that terracing, in order to level the ground severely truncated this area, removing any archaeological deposits.
- 10.4 In the light of the discoveries made on this site it is the recommendation of AOC Archaeology Group that any further work be concentrated on the area within the existing building as the area immediately to the south of the property has undergone significant truncation as a result of human activity. Further monitoring works would be particularly useful for determining the extent of the boundary features recorded in trenches 1 and 3 as these have great potential for enhancing

our understanding of the origins and history of the immediate locality and the course of development for this part of Romsey.

11 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX A – Context Register

Abbreviations: N.F.E = Not Fully Excavated

L.O.E = Limit Of Excavation

Context No.	Trench No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
101	1	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.1-0.3m
102	1	Subsoil (mixed with demo. Debris)	Trench (to 3.3m)	Trench	0.5m
103	1	Fill of rubbish pit [104]	0.5m	Trench	0.46m
104	1	Cut of rubbish pit	0.5m at top	Trench	0.46m
105	1	Re-deposited brick earth (Levelling layer)	Trench (to 2.6m)	Trench	0.12m
106	1	Fill of rubbish pit [107]	0.7m (at top)	Trench	0.4m
107	1	Cut of rubbish pit	0.7m (at top)	Trench	0.4m
108	1	Fill of rubbish pit [109]	0.46m	Trench	0.36m
109	1	Cut of rubbish pit	0.46m	Trench	0.36m
110	1	Secondary fill of ditch [126]	0.1-0.46 m	Trench	0.34m
111	1	Brick earth/ gravel horizon	2.8m	Trench	0.3m
112	1	Fill of wall foundation [114]	0.22m	Trench	0.8m
113	1	Foundation wall	0.22m	Trench	0.64m
114	1	Wall foundation trench	0.8m	Trench	0.22m
115	1	External surface-yard?	3.6m	Trench	0.1m
116	1	Bedding layer for brick surface	3.6m	Trench	0.05m
117	1	Levelling layer	2.5m	Trench	0.1m
118	1	Demolition layer	1.8m	Trench	0.12-0.2m
119	1	Natural gravel/ subsoil interaction	Trench	4m	0.4-0.5m
120	1	Levelling layer	1.2m	Trench	0.1m
121	1	Fill of rubbish pit [122]	0.5m	Trench	0.5m
122	1	Rubbish pit cut	0.5m	Trench	0.5m
123	1	Fill of pit [124]	0.3m	Trench	0.2m
124	1	Cut of pit- smelting debris	0.3m	Trench	0.2m
125	1	Re-deposited natural gravel-primary fill of [126]	1.9m	0.5m	0.1m
126	1	Truncated ditch	1.9m	0.8m	0.1m
200	2	Topsoil	Trench	Trench	0.15m
201	2	Made ground	Trench	Trench	0.25m

Context No.	Trench No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
202	2	Mixed silty gravel interface	Trench	Trench	0.6m
203	2	Natural deposit	Trench	Trench	N.F.E
204	2	Latrine pit?	2.2m	1.5m	0.44m
205	2	Fill of latrine pit [204]	1.0m	1.0m	N.F.E
206	2	Fill of modern soak away	2.1m	0.8m	N.F.E
207	2	Cut of soak away [206]	2.1m	0.8m	N.F.E
301	3	Concrete floor	Trench	Trench	0.20m
302	3	Brickearth and crushed mortar demolition layer	Trench	Trench	0.22m
303	3	Levelling layer	3.20m	Trench	0.14m
304	3	Levelling layer	4.50m	1.35m	0.30m
305	3	Dumped silt, ash and mortar fragments	0.60m	0.50m	0.06m
306	3	Levelling layer	0.60m	Trench	0.05m
307	3	Levelling layer	0.60m	Trench	0.05m
308	3	Re-deposited Natural Gravel	1.35m	Trench	0.24m
309	3	Secondary fill of foundation cut [321]	-	1.10m	0.40m
310	3	Re-deposited mixed gravel and subsoil	0.95m	0.20m	0.30m
311	3	Natural Gravels	0.70m	0.65m	0.26m
312	3	Fill of foundation cut [321]	-	0.60m	0.20m
314	3	Ash pit (brick built)	-	0.80m	0.18m
315	3	Foundation bedding (Brickearth)	0.50m	0.40m	0.32m
316	3	Foundation wall	-	0.82m	0.14m
317	3	Wall foundation, brickearth bonded, fill of cut [324]	-	0.60m	0.24m
318	3	Foundation Deposit	-	0.60m	0.30m
319	3	Mixed brickearth and brick foundation	-	0.50m	0.15m
320	3	Subsoil	-	0.50m	0.14m
321	3	Foundation cut	-	1.60m	0.44m
322	3	Cut of boundary ditch	0.70m	0.50m	0.16m
323	3	Cut of ash pit	-	0.80m	0.20m
324	3	Foundation cut	-	0.60m	0.30m
325	3	Possible surface	2.60m	-	0.05m
326	3				
327	3	Fill of foundation cut [328]	-	0.50m	0.50m
328	3	Foundation cut	-	0.40m	0.50m
329	3	Surface, same as (325)	0.90m	-	0.08m

Context No.	Trench No.	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
330	3	Re-deposited mixed gravel and subsoil	1.60m	-	0.20m
331	3	Piece of masonry	0.40m	0.20m	0.08m
332	3	Basal fill of foundation	0.70m	0.50m	0.06m
333	3	Possible floor surface	N.F.E	N.F.E	0.80m
334	3		N.F.E	N.F.E	0.40m
335	3	Re-deposited mixed gravel and subsoil	-	-	0.90m
336	3	Masonry block	0.60m	0.37m	0.40m
337	3	Fill of ditch [338]	N.F.E	N.F.E	0.49m
338	3	Cut of ditch	N.F.E	N.F.E	0.49m
339	3	Natural gravel deposits	Trench	Trench	L.O.E
340	3	Fill of posthole [341]	0.62m	0.62m	0.35m
341	3	Cut of posthole	0.62m	0.62m	0.35m
342	3	Fill of posthole [343]	0.58m	0.58m	0.41m
343	3	Cut of posthole	0.58m	0.58m	0.41m
344	3	Fill of pit [345]	1.28m	1.28m	0.39m
345	3	Cut of pit	1.28m	1.28m	0.39m
346	3	Post Medieval foundations	-	-	-
347	3	Shaped masonry block, probably from Romsey Abbey	0.26m	0.21m	0.18m

APPENDIX B: Finds Reports

POTTERY

Nigel Jeffries

Quantification

Introduction and methodology

The post-Roman pottery was excavated under archaeological conditions, and comprises 21 sherds from up to 18 vessels and weighs 403 grams. The assemblage was recovered from up to 11 contexts that yielded only small-sized groups (less than five sherds each) and fills one box. The pottery was recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, in accordance with standard MoLSS procedure by employing fabric, form and decoration codes in current use, with minimum quantification by sherd count, Estimated Number of Vessels (ENV) and weight (average weight per sherd of 19.1 grams). The codes used in the recording of this assemblage are an amalgam of those used in Duncan Brown's *Pottery in Medieval Southampton* publication (Brown 2002) and the Museum of London's classifications. It is regrettable that a more consistent terminology could not be applied.

The assemblage contains a mixture of Saxo Norman, later medieval and post-medieval pottery. No complete profiles or vessels were found and the medieval pottery is highly fragmented, with few joining sherds, whereas larger-sized sherds are present among the better-made post-medieval pottery reflects its durability. Much of this later material was found in Trench 3, whereas Trench 1 yielded only earlier Saxo-Norman pottery. For the purposes of this assessment the spot date given is based on the latest material found.

The medieval pottery

The four sherds of medieval pottery (from four vessels) were found from contexts [121] [123] and [125] in Trench 1 and the absence of any earlier residual or later intrusive material means these deposits can be soundly dated to the medieval period. The pottery recovered can be identified within the reduced, hand-built, coarseware traditions of the Saxo-Norman period, and are of a type produced throughout south-east England. The small-size of these sherds and the lack of any distinctive fabric inclusions (only quartz sand was noted) means it is difficult to attribute them to a known source and consequently they have been recorded as Anglo-Norman coarsewares (ANCW: Brown 2002, 10). A few contexts from Trench 3 can be dated to the later medieval period. These include the sherd of coarse border ware (SRWW; a product of the medieval Surrey whiteware industry) found from context [310], with a number of sherds from contexts [202], [313] and [315] closely resembling what Brown terms 'South Hampshire redware' (SHR: *ibid*, 14). This type has been observed from Romsey, and is dated between 1250 and 1350.

The post-medieval pottery

The remaining 11 sherds of pottery are post-medieval in date. Much of these were found in context [302] in Trench 3 and include regional products such as Verwood-type ware (Verwood is located just inside Dorset). Another common type of pottery found has been recorded as PMR (*ibid*, 21) yet is used here to describe the transitional red earthenware fabrics and forms that one might expect to find in later 15th and 16th century deposits.

These sherds are similar to the descriptions given to types of pottery found from Winchester (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 457).

Analysis of Potential

The pottery recovered from the site is small-sized only and its use lay in establishing a broad chronological sequence for the site and for characterising the deposits it was recovered from; the work undertaken for this assessment is therefore sufficient for this assemblage.

Significance of the data

The pottery has local significance in that it suggests a very clear pattern of Saxo-Norman and later land-use on the site. Such an assemblage also aids in our understanding of the pottery used by the inhabitants of Romsey over an 800-year period and this significance is further amplified if a more synthetic synopsis of the pottery found from the area is one day considered.

Revised Research Aims

The pottery sample is too small to support further analysis.

Bibliography

Duncan Brown 2002: *Pottery in Medieval Southampton c 1066-1510*, CBA Research Report 133

Michael M McCarthy and Catherine M Brooks 1988: *Medieval Pottery in Britain AD 900-1600*, Leicester University Press

Table of pottery

Context	FABRIC DATE	Type	Size	Fabric	Form	Shds	Env	State	Wt	Comments
121	1050-1250	Med	S	ANCW	JAR	1	1	B	1	
123	1050-1250	Med	S	ANCW	JAR	1	1		6	
125	1050-1250	Med	S	ANCW	JAR	1	1		14	Base shd - poss Roman?
125	1050-1250	Med	S	ANCW	JAR	1	1	BS	6	
202	1250-1350	Med	S	SHR	BOWL/DISH	1	1		23	Base
202	1600-1800	P-Med	S	VER	DISH	1	1		14	
206	1740-1780	P-Med	S	SWSG SCRB	SAUC	1	1		9	Profile
302	1600-1800	P-Med	S	VER	BOWL DEEP	2	2		89	Body shd and rim
302	1600-1800	P-Med	S	VER	JUG	2	1		121	Rim and handle
302	1720-1780	P-Med	S	WEST	CHP	1	1		83	Base
310	1270-1500	Med	S	SRWW	CUP	2	2		5	Small cup or drinking jug
312	1480-1600	P-Med	S	PMR	DISH	1	1		13	Base from early 16th/17th century redware
313	1250-1350	Med	S	SHR	PIP	1	1		11	Rim
315	1250-1350	Med	S	SHR	BOWL	2	1		8	
337	1480-1600	P-Med	S	PMR	DISH	1	1		19	
337	1480-1600	P-Med	S	PMR	JUG	2	1		45	
Totals						21	18		403	

BUILDING MATERIALS*Terence Paul Smith***Quantification****Table 1 Ceramic building material**

Material	Wt (gm)	No.
Med./Post-med. CBM	3,328	52

Introduction

Ceramic building material from a total of eight contexts was recorded. All is of medieval or post-medieval date. Quantities (by weight and number) are shown in Table 1 above. Fabric numbers have been assigned: fabric descriptions are given in Table 2 below.

Methodology

Materials, from a total of eight numbered contexts, were examined microscopically (x10) and recorded using standard MoL recording sheets; fabric types have been distinguished and fabric numbers assigned. Data have been entered into an Excel database. As requested, all material has been retained after recording. A sample of the bricks from 9, The Hundred, the 18th century building on site, was taken for comparison with structures or building material present within the excavated trenches.

Description

Six fabric types, sometimes quite similar to one another were distinguished. Fabric descriptions are given in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Ceramic building material fabrics

No.	Description
1	Orange-red; fairly fine with some black iron oxides and calcium carbonate specks and a little mica
2	Orange; coarse sandy, occasional mica; some reduced or with reduced core
3	Orange or light orange; coarse sandy, occasional mica with prominent light yellow silty streaks
4	Red; fine with few inclusions, occasional mica
5	Red; moderately sandy, occasional mica
6	Red; moderately sandy, occasional mica and some light yellow silty inclusions

Details of forms present are given in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Ceramic building material forms

Form	Wt (gm)	% wt	No.	% no.
Brick	108	3.2	1	1.9
Peg tile	3,020	90.7	50	96.2
Ridge tile	200	6.0	1	1.9
Total	3,328	99.9	52	100.0

The bulk of the material comprises peg tile fragments, from contexts 103, 106, 108, 312, 313, 337, and 344. They are in fabrics 2–6, fragments in different fabrics sometimes occurring in the same context. More than half the fragments are in fabric 2, just under a third are in fabric 3, and the other fabrics are present in much more meagre quantities. At present it is not possible to identify the sources from which these different fabrics came.

No full lengths or breadths are preserved, the material all being very fragmentary. Some fragments are quite thick – between 14 and 17 mm. A piece of varying thickness up to 20 mm is probably a faulty product which was nevertheless sufficiently well made to be used.

One fragment from context 108 has a sunken margin: these are common enough on early bricks, where they reflect the manufacturing method, but it is difficult to see how this could apply to peg tiles, and this feature may be accidental. So too may be a thin line made with a finger tip across the upper face of one fragment from context 337, although this may possibly be a batch mark used at the yard.

Few peg/nail holes are preserved. Most that are, are circular and incomplete, although one from context 337 is 12 mm in diameter at the upper face tapering to 9 mm diameter. One fragment from context 106 has an incomplete square peg/nail hole. This tile is unusual in having slightly bevelled edges.

From context 344 comes a fragment of curved ridge tile in fabric 2. Almost certainly it was made along with the fabric 2 peg tiles.

Peg tiles (and ridge tiles) are extremely difficult to date and these fragments offer few clues. The presence of a square peg/nail hole and the complete absence of glaze from any of the fragments *may* indicate a post-medieval rather than a medieval date, as may the thickness of some of the fragments. This possibility, however, must be treated with a degree of caution.

The brick bat from 9, The Hundred, is in orange-red fabric 1 and has sharp arrises. Its length is not preserved but it has a breadth of 108 mm (4¼ in) and a thickness of 60 mm (2⅜ in). It is almost certainly of late eighteenth or of nineteenth century date.

Analysis of Potential

The peg tile fragments and ridge tile fragment presumably indicate the use of those roofing materials at the site, unless they have been dumped from elsewhere. They probably date from the post-medieval period, although this cannot be absolutely certain.

Significance of data

The building material has little local significance and no regional or national significance.

Revised Research Aims

The building material does not suggest any revised research aims.

ANIMAL BONE

Alan Pipe

Quantification

Introduction

This report quantifies, describes and interprets the assemblage of hand-collected animal bone recovered from contexts [302], [313] and [337] at 7-9 The Hundred, Romsey, Hampshire (A2005.29). It then assesses the potential of the bones for further post-assessment study, and identifies the resources required to carry out such work.

A total of 0.380 kg, estimated 17 fragments, of bird and mammal bone were recovered by hand-collection from contexts [302], [313] and [337] (Table 1). At the time of writing, contexts [302] and [337] are interpreted as probably post-medieval, with context [313] unspecified. As a whole, the assemblage was in a 'good' state of preservation with insufficient surface damage to prevent identification of taxon, skeletal element or modification. Fragment size was generally in the 25->75mm range in terms of greatest length. The bone assemblage included ox *Bos taurus* from [302] and [337], sheep/goat *Ovis aries/Capra hircus* from [302], [313] and [337]; with single fragments of chicken *Gallus gallus* from [337], pig *Sus scrofa* from [313] and cat *Felis catus* from [337]. There were no wild 'game' or scavenger species, fish, amphibians or small mammals.

In terms of carcase-part recovery, ox was represented by elements of the foot, areas of poor meat-bearing quality; no horncores were recovered. Sheep/goat were represented by bones from the upper limb and foot, no horn cores were recovered; chicken, pig and cat were represented only by fragments from the lower limb. With the exception of a sub-adult sheep/goat femur ('thigh bone') from [302], the bones probably derived from adults, with no recovery of foetal, neonate or infant animals. There was definite evidence for butchery on ox bones from [302] and [337]; there was no evidence for pathological change, gnawing or burning, or of working of horn or bone. Evidence for age at death was provided by ten epiphyses from [302] and [337], although there were no mandibular tooth rows. There were three measurable bones including a single complete sub-adult sheep/goat femur from [302] (Table 2).

Methodology

Each context group was described directly onto an Excel table in terms of weight (kg), estimated fragment count, preservation, fragment size, species-composition, carcase-part representation, modification, and the recovery of epiphyses, mandibular tooth rows, measurable bones, complete longbones, and sub-adult age-groups. All identifications of species and skeletal element were made using the MoLSS Environmental Archaeology Section animal bone reference collection.

Analysis of potential

This very small but well-preserved assemblage has very limited potential for study of the local use and disposal of chicken, ox, sheep/goat and pig in terms of carcase-part selection, age-at-death and butchery. There is no potential for interpretation on a wider scale. The lack of small wild species, including fish, amphibians, birds and small mammals, prevents any interpretation of local habitats.

Significance of the data

Interpretation of the stratified animal bone assemblage will allow limited comment on local meat consumption, particularly of chicken, beef, mutton and pork, in terms of carcass-part and age selection, and butchery technique. This will then allow some limited comment on local dietary preference and economic status. The assemblage has no wider significance, and there is no potential for interpretation of local habitat characteristics.

Table 1: Summary of the Animal Bone

<i>Context</i>	<i>Wt (kg)</i>	<i>Frag</i>	<i>Pres</i>	<i>L.Mam</i>	<i>Bird</i>	<i>Meas</i>	<i>Epiphyses</i>	<i>Complete</i>
302	0.15	>75mm	good	3	0	2	5	1
313	0.005	25-75mm	good	2	0	0	0	0
337	0.225	>75mm	good	11	1	1	5	0
Total	0.38			16	1	3	10	1

Table 2: Detailed summary of the Animal Bone

Context	Species	Part	Age	Modification
302	ox	foot	mature	chopped
302	sheep/goat	upper limb	young adult	nil
302	sheep/goat	foot	sub-adult	nil
313	pig	lower limb		nil
313	sheep/goat	rib		nil
337	chicken	lower limb	adult	nil
337	ox	foot	adult	chopped
337	sheep/goat	rib		
337	cat	lower limb	adult	

Revised research aims

Limited interpretation of the local meat diet is possible from such a small sample.

CLAY PIPES**Tony Grey****Quantification****Introduction**

A total of seventeen clay pipe fragments were submitted for assessment. These included two bowls and fifteen stems. A detailed breakdown of the assemblage is given in Table 1. The pipes were recovered from two contexts. The assemblage did not include any decorated or marked pipes. There were no mouthpieces or kiln fragments. The two pipe bowls were identifiable by form based on the typology of Oswald's General Typology, central southern England (Oswald 1975, 54).

The two plain pipe bowls, both from context 302, were dateable from Oswald 1975, fig. 8:13 to c1690-1750 and comparable in form to a type from Salisbury and *ibid* fig. 8:16 to c1750-1820 and also comparable in form to a Salisbury type. However, these pipes were probably manufactured closer to home at Romsey, Winchester or Southampton.

There were fifteen undiagnostic pipe stems, fourteen from context 302 and one from context 206 which cannot be dated more accurately than from within the broad range c1580-1910.

There were no complete pipes. Both of the pipe bowls showed signs of having been smoked. None of the pipe fragments exhibited signs of burnishing and only the earlier pipe bowl had partial milling so the pipes were not of the highest quality.

Table 1: Clay tobacco pipe quantification

Total no. of fragments	17
No. of bowl fragments	2
No. of stem fragments	15
No. of mouthpieces	0
Accessioned pipes	0
Marked pipes	0
Decorated pipes	0
Imported pipes	0
Complete pipes	0
Wasters	0
Kiln material fragments	0

Table 2: Clay tobacco pipe dates by context (B – bowl; M – mouthpiece; S – stem)

Context	TPQ	TAQ	B	S	M	Total
206	1580	1910		1		1
302	1750	1820	2	14		16
Total			2	15		17

Methodology

The clay tobacco pipe assemblage was recorded in accordance with current MoLSS practice and entered onto an Excel file. . Reference was made to the General Typology and the Southern England Typology (Oswald 1975, 54-5). The suffix S was used in the Excel file Oswald fig number to indicate southern England typology. Quantification and recording follow guidelines set out by Higgins and Davey (1994; Davey 1997).

Analysis of Potential

The assemblage is very small and residual within levelling layers and thus has limited potential for further research. However, searching for published dated parallels from nearby pipe making towns like Winchester and Southampton could be useful.

Significance of data

The assemblage helps to provide dating for the levelling layer 302 which seals 304 and 307 over foundation layer 315 in Trench 3.

Bibliography

Davey, P., 1997, *Clay pipes from Bolsover church*, unpublished archive rep.

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Oswald, A., 1975, *Clay pipes for the archaeologist*, BAR 14, Oxford

Oswald, A., 1960, The archaeology and economic history of English clay tobacco pipes, *Journal of Brit. Archaeol. Assoc.* 23

METALWORK, GLASS AND SLAG*Nicola Powell***Quantification****Introduction**

This report assesses the metalwork or small finds, bulk glass and slag hand-collected from the excavation carried out at 7-9 The Hundred, Romsey, Hampshire.

Methodology

The finds have been examined briefly for the assessment and the initial identifications confirmed or revised, aided where appropriate by x-radiography. The finds have also been examined in the light of the available stratigraphic and dating evidence. A summary of the material is given below, and its significance and potential discussed in terms of understanding the function and development of the site itself.

The finds are quantified and discussed below

Material	Number	Weight (g)
Iron	8	222
Copper alloy	1	4
Glass	2	17
Slag	2	1179

Iron

Eight pieces of heavily corroded and encrusted iron were examined with the help of x-rays. A complete horseshoe was recovered from levelling layer (312). It has countersunk nail holes and what appears to be an either slightly wavy or plain edge. It is post medieval in date. Context 312 produced an undated fragment of nail stem. A piece of knife blade from context 313 is heavily corroded with attached gravel. It tapers from 30mm to 20mm, with a curve underneath. The fill (337) of ditch [338] produced five heavily corroded fragments of ironwork. Only two can be tentatively identified, and appear to be fragments of blade or strapping.

Copper alloy

The soil was similarly unfriendly to objects of copper alloy. One was recovered from context (330) and is fragmentary and in poor condition. It is 23mm wide and 13mm long and appears to have the remains of a nail or rivet hole along, suggesting it may be a piece of strapping or a strap end. It is probably post medieval in date. Context (316) produced a George II halfpenny. The coin is very worn with the date obscured, however it appears to feature the old bust as well as the legend GEORGIVS II REX, suggesting it dates from 1746 to 1754.

Glass

Part of the base and kick-up of a wine bottle was recovered from context 310. It is dark olive green in colour and the kick-up appears deep. It is 17th to 18th century in date. Levelling layer 302 produced the rim, neck and part of the body of a second glass bottle. The glass is colourless, with iridescence covering most of the surface, inside and out. The neck is short and the rim flattened. It is dated to the 18th century.

Slag

Two large lumps of slag were recovered from 123.

Analysis of Potential

The assemblage is small, particularly when the material is separately considered by type, and mostly recovered from layers. The poor condition of the metalwork and the broad post medieval date that can be applied to it renders it unhelpful when assessing the potential of the assemblage. Similarly, the glass is residual, but does help to date the levelling layer 302. The small amount of slag alone does not suggest metalworking has been carried out on site and it may have been brought in and dumped from elsewhere. It may be useful to examine it to determine what type of slag it is.

Significance of data

The assemblage is mainly domestic in its nature and is significant when considering the site itself. It may also be significant in comparison when looking at assemblages from surrounding sites and the finds from other town sites.

Revised Research Aims

There are no revised research aims.

APPENDIX C – OASIS Data Collection Form**OASIS ID: aocarcha1-9549****Project details**

Project name	7-9 The Hundred, Romsey
Short description of the project	Three trenches were excavated which showed that although there had been some modern disturbance, especially immediately south of the property, a sequence of medieval and post medieval archaeology had been preserved. Several boundary features were observed that shed light on the nature and scale of occupation of the site during these periods.
Project dates	Start: 28-06-2005 End: 04-07-2005
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	A2005.29 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	MASONARY Medieval
Significant Finds	SLAG Early Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE TEST VALLEY ROMSEY 7-9 The Hundred
Postcode	SO51
Study area	405.00 Square metres
National grid reference	SU 35300 21154 Point
Height OD	Min: 15.50m Max: 16.76m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	AOC Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	AOC Archaeology
Project director/manager	Mark Beasley
Project supervisor	Chris Thatcher
Sponsor or funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	AOC Archaeology
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Metal'
Digital Archive recipient	AOC Archaeology
Digital Contents	'Ceramics','Metal'
Digital Media available	'Text'
Paper Archive recipient	AOC Archaeology

Paper Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Metal'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Miscellaneous Material','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	7-9 The Hundred, Ramsey, Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Thatcher, C
Date	2005
Issuer or publisher	AOC Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	Bound text and Illustrations

Entered by	Chris Thatcher (christhatcher@aocarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	5 August 2005