

Sept 4344

INSECT REMAINS FROM THE CHURCH STREET PITS, (SITE A) by M.A. Robinson

Insect fragments, preserved by calcium phosphate mineralization, were recovered from two of the post-medieval samples examined ~~for~~^{for} plant remains.

Table 1 . Minimum Number of Insects

	A F41	A F57
Coleoptera (beetles)		
<u>Cercyon</u> sp.	-	1
<u>Hister</u> sp.	-	1
<u>Philonthus</u> sp.	-	1
<u>Trox scaber</u> (L.)	-	2
Diptera (fly) puparia		
<u>Fannia</u> cf. <u>scalaris</u> (F.)	-	16
Sphaeroceridae gen. et sp. indet.	9	9
Diptera gen. et sp. indet.	3	10

The insects confirm the other lines of evidence that indicated these contexts to be cess pits. F. scalaris is the latrine fly while the unidentified Sphaeroceridae were probably sewage flies. The Coleoptera from A F57 comprise a typical cess pit assemblage, with both carnivores, such as Hister sp., which would have fed on the fly larvae, and coprophagous species, including Cercyon adults.