

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2011

compiled by ANDREW BROWN, EDWARD MARTIN *and* JUDITH PLOUVIEZ
object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL

THIS IS A selection of the new discoveries reported in 2011. Information on these has been incorporated into the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (formerly the Sites and Monuments Record), which is maintained by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council at Bury St Edmunds. Where available, the Record number is quoted at the beginning of each entry. The Suffolk Historic Environment Record is now partially accessible online via the Heritage Gateway website (www.heritagegateway.org.uk) and many of the excavation/evaluation reports are now also available online via the Archaeological Data Service website (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/>).

A high proportion of the finds is now being recorded through the national Portable Antiquities Scheme, the Suffolk part of which is also based in the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council. Further details and images of many of the finds can be found on the Scheme's web-site (<http://finds.org.uk/database>) and for many of the finds listed here the PAS reference number is included in the text. During 2011 the PAS finds in Suffolk were recorded by Andrew Brown, Faye Minter and Jane Carr. Following requests from metal detector users, we have removed all grid references from entries concerning finds reported by them.

We continue to be grateful to all those who contribute information for this annual list.

Abbreviations:

- IDDC Ipswich and District Detector Club
 MDDC Mildenhall and District Detector Club
 Mdf Metal detector find
 PAS Portable Antiquities Scheme (see above).
 The Suffolk contact for this national scheme is Andrew Brown
 (tel. 01284 741236; e-mail andrew.brown2@suffolk.gov.uk)
 SCCAS Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, 9–10 The Churchyard,
 Shire Hall, Bury St. Edmunds IP33 1RX
 (tel. 01284 741230; e-mail archaeology@suffolk.gov.uk)
 SHER Suffolk Historic Environment Record (see above)

Pa	Palaeolithic	Ro	Roman
Me	Mesolithic	Sx	Saxon
Ne	Neolithic	Md	Medieval
BA	Bronze Age	PM	Post-Medieval
IA	Iron Age	Un	Period unknown
Pr	Prehistoric		

INDIVIDUAL FINDS AND DISCOVERIES

Akenham (AKE 024). Sx. A gold Merovingian *tremissis* of Dutta/Wicus, c. AD 650–660, as Lafaurie 1996: nos. 84–86 (SF-A6A601). (IDDC).

Bacton (BAC 032). IA, Ro, Sx, Md. A copper-alloy toggle fragment, probably later Iron Age (SF-921477); an amphora-shaped strap end of late Roman type (SF-AD2BF0) (Fig. 152, D); an ansate brooch of the 8th or 9th century (SF-EC74D0) and medieval and later objects including an heraldic harness pendant bearing 3 escallops on a red enamel background (i.e. gules 3 escallops) – probably the arms of the Dacre family, important barons in Cumberland, but with a Suffolk connection through the marriage, c. 1315, of Ranulph de Dacre (1266–1339) to Margaret de Multon, the heiress of Denham near Hoxne (SF-E986F3). All found during a rally. (Mdf).

Badley (BAD 024). BA. A copper-alloy miniature haft-flanged axe of late Early Bronze Age or early Middle Bronze Age date, c. 1500 BC. (SF-9398D2) (Fig. 151, C). (Mdf).

Barton Mills (BTM 051). IA. Bronze coin of Cunobelin, as Hobbs nos. 1991–1997. (SF-AF09E4). (MDDC).

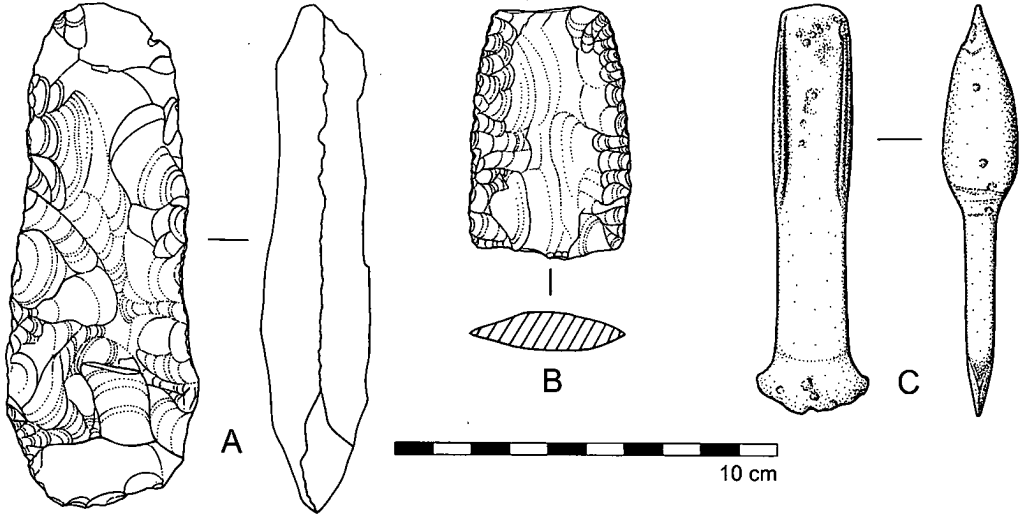


FIG. 151 – Mesolithic flint axe from Long Melford (A), late Neolithic flint dagger from Foxhall (B) and copper-alloy flanged axe from Badley (C).

Bedfield (BED 026). IA. Flat-backed copper-alloy ‘mini terret ring’, a type probably used to keep the linch pin in place on a chariot wheel. (SF-A74A71) (Fig. 152, B). (Mdf).

Benhall (BNL 031). Sx. Early Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy cruciform and small-long brooches, tweezers and a few pottery sherds. (IDDC).

Blaxhall (BLX 021). Md. An unusual copper-alloy buckle frame in the form of a person or animal (SF-E09EE0), (Fig. 154, A). Found during a rally. (Mdf).

Blythburgh (BLB 025). Md. A damaged lead pilgrim’s badge depicting Richard Caistor of Norwich standing in his pulpit; his tomb at St Stephen’s, Norwich, was venerated from his death in 1420 until the later 15th century (SF-640C85), (Fig. 154, C). (Mdf).

Bromeswell (BML 038). Md. A flat, circular, lead seal matrix with a slight rectangular lug at the top and a flat and undecorated back. A central fleur-de-lis motif within an inner circle

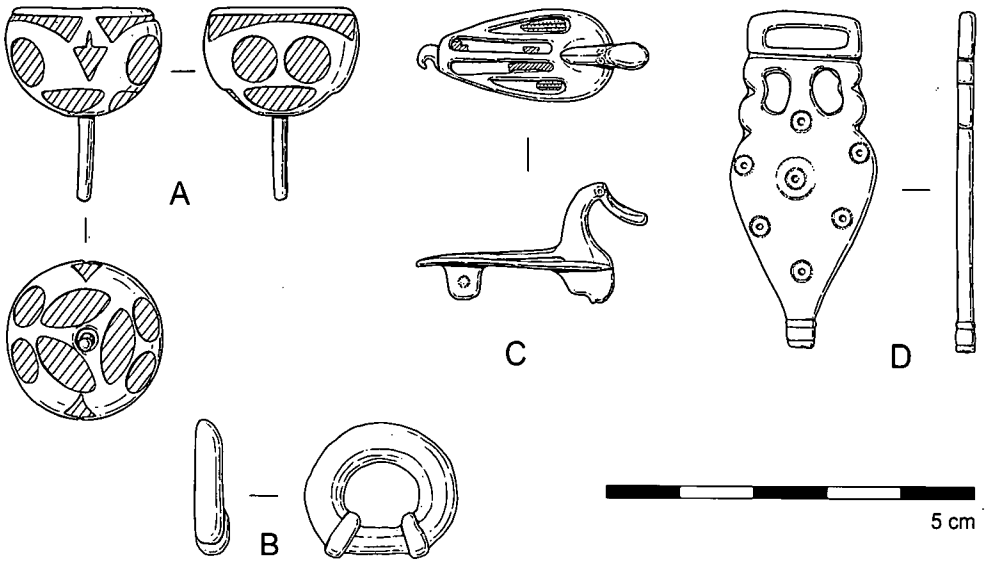


FIG. 152 – Iron Age copper-alloy stud from Great Barton (A) and miniature terret from Bedfield (B); Roman brooch from Freckenham (C) and strap-end from Bacton (D).

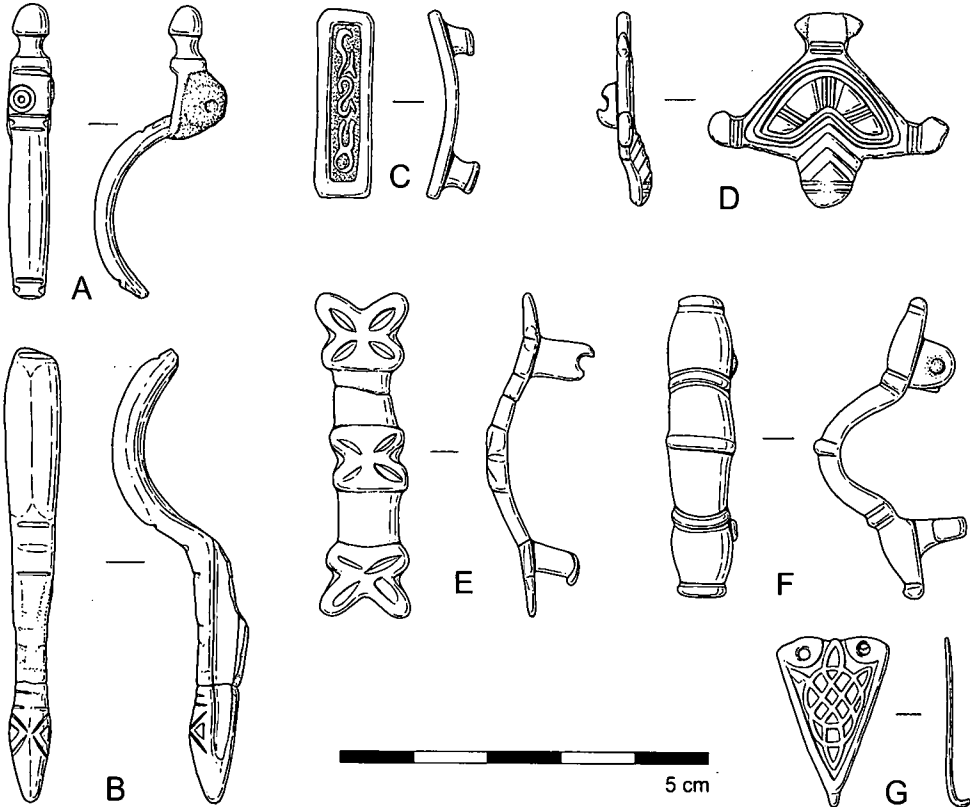


FIG. 153 – Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy brooches from Wickham Skeith (A, B), Friston (D), Great Barton (E, F); mount from Freckenham (C) and hooked tag from Great Barton (G).

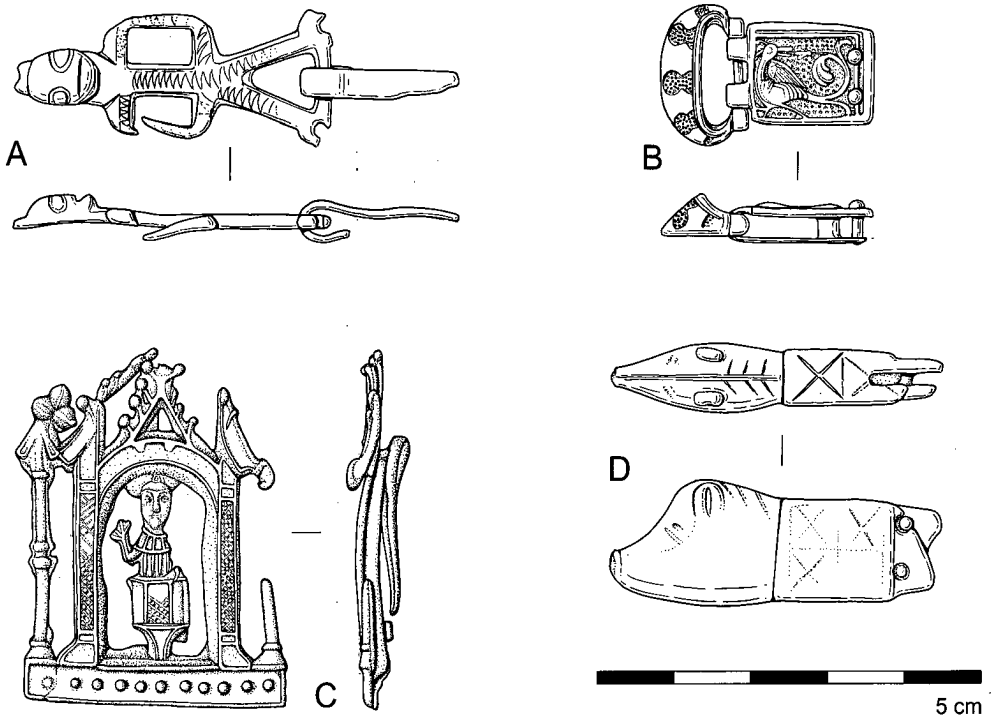


FIG. 154 – Medieval copper-alloy buckles from Blaxhall and Worlington (A, B), lead pilgrim badge from Blythburgh (C) and a copper-alloy strap-end from Market Weston (D) of uncertain date.

is surrounded by the legend possibly reading +SIGIL'ROF'R[[L]]ING, presumably a personal name (SF-14B367). (Mdf).

Claydon (CLY 032). Md. Half of an oval lead seal matrix inscribed: S I G I L L : S E . In the field are two 8-petalled flowers, a sword and an arm (SF-CAA5F7). This might indicate a *sigillum secretum*, a 'secret seal', where the owner's name was omitted, and allowed the seal to be passed down from one head of the family to the next. (Mdf).

Felixstowe (FEX 295). Ne, Sx. An unpatinated, pale grey, triangular flint arrowhead of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date (SF-816E22). A complete copper-alloy sword pommel of probable Anglo-Scandinavian origin, of *Petersen* (1919) L type VI, dating from the 10th or 11th century (SF-D241B4). Similar pommels have been found at Ely, Cambs., and Tostock, Suffolk. (IDDC).

Foxhall (FXL 062). IA. A gold stater of Norfolk Wolf (British J) type, mid 1st century BC (SF-A77C46). (Mdf).

Foxhall (FXL 063). Ne. Fragment of a bifacially worked pale grey flint, probably a flint dagger (SF-638A45) (Fig. 151, B). (C. Hall).

Freckenham (FRK 031). Ro. A copper-alloy plate brooch in the form of a swimming duck, with traces of red and of discoloured, now pale green, enamel (SF-9E1651) (Fig. 152, C). (MDDC).

Freckenham (FRK 072). Sx. A copper-alloy rectangular mount of early Anglo-Saxon date with integrally cast rivets and chip-carved decoration in Style I (SF-9123C5) (Fig. 153, C). (MDDC).

Friston (FRS 046). Sx. Headplate of a miniature radiate-headed copper-alloy brooch, a type found in SE England and possibly Frankish in origin (SF-73D4C6) (Fig. 153, D). (Mdf).



FIG. 155 – Mutford. Late Bronze Age socketed axe with, as found, two gold lock-rings in its socket.

Friston (FRS 059). Ro. A copper-alloy hinged strap fitting from *lorica segmentatum* armour (SF-379743). (Mdf).

Gisleham (GSE 014). Sx. A copper-alloy finger-ring with a narrow D-sectioned hoop and lozengiform bezel, decorated with an engraved animal in Trewhiddle style, now rather worn (NMS-A67AE8). (Mdf).

Great Barton (BRG 048). Sx. Two ansate brooches (SF-77DB14, SF-77B7A1) (Fig. 153, E, F), a strap end of *Thomas* Class A Type 1 (SF-772841), a hooked tag (SF-774F33) (Fig. 153, G), a silver penny of Offa, c. AD 787–792, reverse type as *North* 1975 no. 307 (SF-1DE6B3), an incomplete silver penny of Coenwulf, Group I substantive type, c. AD 796–805 as *North*, 1980: no. 342 (SF-662692) and an incomplete silver penny of Aethelweard, c. AD 850–855 of a new type (SF-793F43). (Mdf).

Great Barton (BRG 053). IA. Hollow hemispherical copper-alloy button or stud with red enamel decoration, similar to examples found in Norfolk (SF-D18A63Z) (Fig. 152, A). (Mdf).

Harkstead (HRK 003). Pa, Ne. An Upper Paleolithic flint long blade (SF-F67BA7) and a part-polished Neolithic greenstone axe (SF-0ACD16). (I. Saunders).

Kedington (KDG 008). IA. A silver Trinovantian unit of Cunobelin, c. AD 1–43, as *Hobbs* no. 1867A (SF-B26EE0). (Mdf).

Little Waldingfield (WFL 015). IA, Ro. Kentish copper-alloy unit, attributed to SEGO, c. 10 BC–AD 20, type as *Hobbs* no.1690 (SF-066C01). An incomplete copper-alloy Langton Down

brooch of the first half of the 1st century (SF-460C06), an Aucissa type brooch (SF-58F8B4) and a lion-headed stud (SF-434D85). (IDDC).

Long Melford (LMD 198). Me. Small flint tranchet axe (SF-537113) (Fig. 151, A), found in the spoil from a pipe trench. (R. Simpson).

Market Weston (MKW 016). Un. An incomplete cast copper-alloy strap end which has a rectangular plate with split attachment end and a zoomorphic terminal in the form of a boar's head (SF-4DD222) (Fig. 154, D). No comparable piece identified. (IDDC).

Mutford (MUD 018). BA. A small Late Bronze Age hoard comprising a single copper-alloy socketed axe with two gold lock-rings in the socket (Fig. 155). (Mdf).

Shadingfield (SDG 030). IA, Ro. Fragment of a copper-alloy terret ring (SF-EE5824). A Roman enamelled copper-alloy stud (SF-EE1DF4) and fragments of brooches of Colchester-derivative hinged type. (Mdf).

St Lawrence Ilketshall (ISL 012). BA. A complete, but slightly worn and heavily pitted, Middle Bronze Age unlooped palstave (SF-FD1164). (Mdf).

Sutton (SUT 219). Ne. A complete polished stone axe of a dense volcanic stone (SF-941624). (J. Andrews).

Tostock (TCK 021). Sx. A pale gold *thrymsa* of post-Crondall 'two emperors' type, c. AD 645–70 (*Metcalf*, 1993, 44–46, 52, no. 79) (SF-84A6C8). (MDDC).

West Stow (WSW 081). Ro. Cremation group comprising fragments of a sheet copper-alloy cauldron with iron fittings, three iron saw blades and a grey ware jar, missing the rim due to plough damage and containing cremated human bone. Much of the material was recorded *in situ* by SCCAS following the initial discovery of part of the cauldron. The cremated bone is probably that of a middle-aged or elderly female. The bone is radiocarbon dated to 1770 ± 30BP (calibrated to AD 130–350 at 95% probability). (Mdf).

Wickham Skeith (WKS 003). Ro, Sx. Fragmentary copper-alloy griffin-headed razor handle (SF-ED28B4), coins and brooches. Early Anglo-Saxon items include two fragments of early cruciform types (SF-ECD8E4 and SF-ECABB2) (Fig. 153, A, B). (IDDC).

Wissett (WSS 020, 021,). BA. Two contemporary Middle Bronze Age hoards were found close to each other:

WSS 020 comprised six palstaves that were found whilst metal detecting and appear to have been deposited in pairs within a small hole, with each pair placed so that the blade end of the top axe met the butt end of the lower (SF-D79F92). All were removed from the ground by the finders.

WSS 021 consisted of a further five palstaves, three spearheads and two rapier blade fragments (Fig. 156). Excavation demonstrated that the objects were deposited in a small oval-shaped pit cut into the natural clay to a depth of approximately 10cm, the upper levels of the deposit possibly disturbed by tree root activity. All the blade ends of the objects were oriented in the same direction, towards the W, and were carefully stacked (SF-13C7A2). (Mdf).

Worlington (WGN 023). Md. Copper-alloy gilded buckle, the plate decorated with a backwards facing creature in relief, probably 12th–13th century (SF-85B944) (Fig. 154, B) and an incomplete folding balance (SF-AD6136). (MDDC).



FIG. 156 – Wissett. Middle Bronze Age hoard consisting of five palstaves, three spearheads and two rapier blade fragments.

SURVEY

Hinderclay, Hinderclay Hall (TM/0377; HNY 034). Following on from the work on site HNY 033 in 2010, the cropmarks in the adjacent field (HNY 034) were investigated, firstly by a magnetometry survey by Tim Dennis in the summer and then by fieldwalking in October. The field was initially sampled using a grid of 50m transects, 20m apart. This identified an activity 'hot spot' which was then surveyed using a grid of 10x8 squares, each square measuring 10x10m. This more intensive survey produced approximately 100 worked flints, 800 pottery sherds, plus four metal-detected coins. Early analysis suggests that the flint is Neolithic and the pottery is late Roman (mainly 4th century), with a small quantity of Iron Age material.

Dave Griffiths, for the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group.

West Stow (TL/87, WSW 026). A magnetometer survey of an area which included the findspot of a religious hoard (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2010', 361–62) identified a possible ring ditch and a series of tracks and rectilinear enclosures similar to many later Iron Age and Roman rural settlements.

Woodhouse Consultancy Limited for SCCAS, report ref WC003-2011-ASRv1.1.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Bedfield, land adjacent to The Old Rectory, Long Green (TM/2166; BED 025). Evaluation trenching prior to a residential development was carried out in an area of rough pasture on the W side of what had been, until c. 1850, a moated site. This revealed two small undated pits and a small group of unstratified medieval pottery sherds from a trench in the area fronting onto the road to Monk Soham. The remaining trenches revealed no archaeological features and only one sherd of medieval pottery

John Newman Archaeological Services for Springfield Residential.

Bruisyard, Bruisyard Hall Farm, Hall Road (TM/3366; BUD 006). Monitoring of footing trenches for the conversion of a late 16th–19th century farm building group revealed evidence for original floor and yard surfaces within the complex.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Dennington Hall Farms Ltd.

Bury St Edmunds, 40 Peckham Street (TL/8564; BSE 353). An evaluation and excavation was carried out in advance of redevelopment on land that lay wholly within a single medieval burgage plot that was in existence from at least the 12th century, with boundaries that had remained largely fixed to the present day. The archaeological evidence points to a working yard where cottage-scale industry took place. Multiple ovens both for baking and the drying of grain for malting were found together with steeping pits and querns for malt grinding. Sunken troughs and tubs for the working and storage of lime putty, probably for the production of plasters, were found in conjunction with discarded processing waste from the working of cattle and goat horns and within the environmental samples, charred cereal grains and hammer-scale were ubiquitous. The density of features suggests that the site was at its busiest and most productive between the 12th and the 16th centuries, with activity tailing off from about 17th century and gone by the mid 18th.

David Gill, SCCAS, for MPM Properties; report no. 2012/52.

Bury St Edmunds, land behind 17 Whiting Street (TL/8564; BSE 361). An evaluation produced evidence of occupation from the early medieval period. The most significant early medieval feature was a large pit that had a sloping access channel cut through the natural chalk on the N side; it was up to 1m deep and there was a drop off into an irregularly shaped pit, which was at least 4m wide, 2m long and 2.2m deep. Although irregular in plan it is interpreted as a cellar, which was connected to the property on the corner of Churchgate Street. It was backfilled in a single episode in the 13th–14th centuries. A second pit located on the S side of the property was larger but shallower, and was backfilled with occupation and building debris in the 16th–17th centuries. It projected c. 1.5m into the site from the S boundary, but was at least 6m wide and 1.2m deep. It seems likely that the greater part of this feature lies beneath the property to the S. From the general shape and size its primary use was probably as a quarry pit. Various post-holes were identified in the middle of the site that suggests an insubstantial building phase, probably in the 18th–19th centuries. There was also a well, lined with limestone and 19th-century bricks, close to the street frontage and several pits that also date from the 19th century.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for Mothersole Builders; report no. 2011/180.

Bury St Edmunds, land behind 85 Guildhall Street (TL/8564; BSE 363). A N–S trench uncovered a chalk surface which is likely to be medieval in date, that was later buried by material dispersed when the town bank was levelled. There was a possible ditched property boundary at the S end of the trench, into which a flint wall that was either medieval or early post-medieval was built. A possible well may have been of similar date. Other pits including a brick-lined cesspit may date from the early 19th century.

An E–W trench close to St Andrew's Street exposed the edge of the town ditch and the continuation of the property boundary that marked the former course of the town wall. It also revealed a buried soil and some of the town bank which dated from the 12th century.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for the Guildhall Street Dental Practice; report no. 2011/043.

Bury St. Edmunds, former Shire Hall (TL/85639; BSE 365). An evaluation was carried out in advance of a new wing to the building. Documentary work showed that, although outside the precinct of the Abbey of St Edmund, the site is likely to lie within the area of the Sacrist's yard which would have included the hall, domestic buildings, offices, stables and workshops of his household. The evaluation revealed mainly pits and post-holes containing animal bone and small quantities of 12th–14th century coarseware pottery, while the remains of a structure may have been partially revealed at the northern edge of the trench. Three features contained struck flint indicative of prehistoric activity.

Matthew Adams, Gareth Barlow, G. and A. Dyson, Archaeological Solutions, for M and D Developments; report no. 3778.

Bury St Edmunds, land adjoining St Peter's House, Out Risbygate (TL/8465; BSE 367). Three trial trenches were excavated on the former Cecil and Larter site: a trench at the front of the property uncovered a medieval cesspit, a possible footing trench from an earlier building, and a sequence of surfaces including at least two of flint and stone, one of chalk and one of clay; unfortunately these could not be dated but were overlain by shallow footings that are likely to be 18th or 19th century in date. A second trench set back from the road contained a pit that was filled with fragments of architectural stone that are likely to come from the medieval leper hospital of St Peter's. A third trench to the rear of the plot contained evidence of pit excavations that were dated to the late medieval to post-medieval periods. Of these features the early footing trench, the cesspit and possibly the various floor surfaces may have been part of the medieval hospital.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for County Care Homes Ltd; report no. 2011/070.

Bury St Edmunds, Shire Hall and Weymed Centre car parks. (TL/8563 and TL/8563; BSE 375 and 376). An evaluation was carried out of the former Shire Hall car park and the Manor House car park alongside the Record Office, prior to the submission of redevelopment plans.

The evaluation of the Shire Hall car park showed that the landscape was an engineered one and the product of at least two campaigns to raise the ground level. The first of these occurred in the 15th century with the dumping of gravels over marshland and river silts, and was part of a wider scheme to create the fishponds, a mill-leaf within the Abbey complex and enhanced grazing meadows. The dumping of gravel and the creation of a narrower floodplain required the precinct wall to be extended, and this can be seen in the fabric of the wall. A trench excavated at the base of the original phase of the 12th-century wall discovered the remains of a hitherto unknown buttress with indications of possible render on the wall face. The second ground-raising occurred after the Reformation during the 18th century, when topsoil was brought in to create the garden for St Margaret's House, which later became incorporated into the County Council offices.

The Weymed Centre site lies within the historic urban core and within the area of the original Saxon settlement; this is reflected in the density and the long sequence of archaeology found there. The site was subject to an 'urban clearance' at the start of the 17th century to create a garden for the Marquis of Bristol, and the medieval properties that once occupied the site were demolished and buried beneath a substantial depth of imported topsoil. As a consequence, the archaeological levels are extraordinarily well preserved. Thetford- and St Neots-ware pottery found on the site suggests that it has been in continuous occupation since at least the 10th century. The intensity of activity increased during the high medieval period and the largest assemblage of finds is dated to 12th–14th centuries. Medieval features were recorded across the entire site and included rubbish pits, a ditch and most notably a possible cellared building. Late medieval occupation was evidenced by the remains of buildings which fronted onto Raingate Street, and the potential exists for complete building footprints to remain, along with evidence of post-built ancillary structures. Alongside and to the N of the building were two phases of a well-made cobbled surface, possibly a hitherto lost back lane running E–W dividing the block of properties and a sub-division of the town grid. The late medieval buildings were demolished in an apparent single event and there is a 16th century cut-off date for the finds.

David Gill, SCCAS, for AE Property Developments Ltd; report no. 2011/171.

Bury St Edmunds, grounds of Manson House (TL/8564; BSE 381). Evaluation trenching revealed archaeological deposits in two areas, both fronting onto Cotton Lane at its junction with Pump Lane. An E–W ditch was identified along Cotton Lane that contained animal bone but was otherwise undated; the lack of ceramic finds could be an indication that the area was not settled and therefore the ditch could be early medieval in date although this is speculation. The trench at the junction of Pump Lane and Cotton Lane included a spread of occupation debris that is dated to the 12th–13th centuries, which was sealed by layers of gravel and post-medieval deposits.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for Royal Agricultural Benevolent Fund; report no. 2011/188.

Bury St Edmunds, 4 Hatter Street (TL/8564; BSE 377). Monitoring to the rear of the property revealed a series of layers and cut features of late medieval/post-medieval date, some of which were possibly associated with the existing timber range which sat above them in section. A recording of the building's cellar recorded a complex layout, the construction of which had incorporated elements of reused Norman architectural material including a column.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for PictureHouse Cinemas; report no. 2011/172.

Bury St Edmunds, Thingoe House, Phase 1 Evaluation (TL/8564; BSE 378). An evaluation was carried out on land to the rear of Thingoe House in connection with a redevelopment proposal. The site spans one block of the town's medieval grid layout and would have encompassed several properties between Northgate Street, an axial road that leads to one of the town's five gates, and Cotton Lane, a back lane which borders the flood-plain of the River Lark. The earliest feature was a 5m-wide ditch which formed a substantial boundary on the floodplain edge. The ditch probably pre-dated the setting out of the town grid and had been filled in by the 12th/13th century but the boundary itself, later defined by a fence line, remained in existence until the recent past. Medieval pits, dated to the 12th–14th centuries were found within the floodplain and were probably excavated to extract the quality gravels which existed here. A layer of structural clay also indicated that some form of building or workshops existed in this area at this time. Above the flood-plain, post-built structures and extensive oven debris were found within what would have been an area of urban backyards. Overlying and cutting the medieval backyard deposits was a square flint-lined well and the remains of a dwarf wall of an associated outbuilding dating to the late 15th/early 16th century, and later post-built structures. There was an absence of post-medieval features below the flood plain suggesting that it had become the garden by about the 15th century.

David Gill, SCCAS, for CgMs Consultants and McCarthy and Stone; report no. 2011/193.

Bury St Edmunds, 29–31 Southgate Street (TL/8564; BSE 384). Work in advance of a residential development recorded a sequence of undisturbed late medieval to post-medieval deposits. A deep sequence of alluvial material was also recorded in boreholes, including 6m of peaty deposits. The site is located on the banks of the River Linnet, where consolidation deposits, in the form of metalled surfaces, formed a sequence of medieval to early post-medieval working surfaces or yard areas. The lowest deposits encountered exhibited evidence of localised processes involving heat, with ephemeral evidence for a deconstructed hearth and a shallow clay-lined hearth-pit. This may relate to industrial activity associated with fulling or dyeing processes that are known to have made use of the Linnet from the 12th–13th century into the post-medieval period.

A sequence of buildings was identified relating to the Southgate Street frontage, which date from around the 16th century. The flint and mortar foundations of the earliest building were associated with an internal mortar floor and a metalled yard surface to the rear of the property. The foundations for a 17th–18th century house/cottage that appears to have followed the same footprint, with the addition of a brick floor of reclaimed medieval brick and a possible sub-cellar wall, were recorded at the street frontage. The well-preserved brick and cobble floors of the subsequent 19th century rebuild were revealed below the modern make-up for the concrete slab. Noteworthy finds include a medieval to early post-medieval lead fishing weight and a 13th-century voided long cross cut-farthing.

Giles Emery, Norvic Archaeology, for Moore and Stone Ltd; report 19 (OASIS ID: norvicar1-118378).

Chediston, Test Pit Excavations (TM/3577). Eight pits were excavated in 2011, bringing the total since 2006 to forty-seven. Areas investigated for the first time included Grove Farm, on the W fringes of Chediston Green, and Upper Farm, located c. 1km W of Chediston on the N side of the stream valley at c. 35m OD.

Grove Farm produced seven sherds of high medieval date, but only a single tiny sherd (1g) of later medieval material, making it one of the few sites in the parish where late medieval contraction is indicated. Overall, the pattern of pottery retrieval suggests a pattern of

dispersed settlement, possibly predominantly characterised by farmsteads, in the late Anglo-Saxon period, with a greater degree of clustering of settlement apparent in the high medieval period, with activity focussing around the church and, most notably, at Chediston Green, which appears to come into existence at this time. Numerous outlying farms also yielded pottery for the first time in this period. In the later medieval period there is no evidence for reduction in activity in most of the outlying farms, and the area around the church produces significantly more pottery than in the preceding period. However, there is a discernible decline in the volume of pottery recovered from Chediston Green at this time, even more extreme if the finds from the three pits excavated in the area immediately around the late medieval kiln site are disregarded (on the grounds that these may be indicative of production rather than settlement).

Carenza Lewis, Access Cambridge Archaeology.

Clare, Test Pit Excavations (TL/7645; CLA 058). Thirty-three test pits were excavated over a four-day period of community excavations carried out as part of the Managing a Masterpiece scheme funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Clare today is centred on three streets: High Street, Church Street and Market Street, which together define a rectangular area which appears to be an infilled former market place. The imposing parish church of St Peter and St Paul lies within the N end of this area, while three other streets connect the market place with roads linking Clare with neighbouring villages and towns: Callis Street runs N from the church, Cavendish Road runs E from Church Street, and Nethergate Street extends SW from the southern end of the High Street. Callis Street and Nethergate Street are both noticeably wide and appear also to have been market areas. On the S of the town, immediately adjacent to the river, is Clare Castle, a major monument with a large Class 1 motte, two baileys and ponds all preserved as earthworks, and the remains of a medieval stone tower extant on top of the motte. The area enclosed by the baileys also included the lost church of St John the Baptist. The summit of the motte provides a commanding view of the town, overlooking the former market area and the church. The remains of an Augustinian priory lie *c.* 300m SW of the castle, on the other side of the River Stour. The multi-period prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval earthwork enclosure of Clare Camp (also known as Erbury) lies on the N edge of Clare, just W of Callis Street as it continues N into Bridewell Street.

Little prehistoric material was found in the test pitting, with just a single sherd of Bronze Age pottery recovered from CLA/11/27, N of Nethergate Street, although a flint scraper was also found in CLA/11/30, immediately N of Clare Camp. This pit also produced pottery of Romano-British date, which was also found in CLA/11/02, CLA/11/18 and CLA/11/34, all in the S of the present settlement. However, only four sherds were found in total, suggesting that the excavated sites are unlikely to have seen significant settlement in the Roman period. There is then a break in the sequence of recovered pottery until the mid 8th century, with two pits (CLA/11/13 and CLA/11/14) in the centre of the town each producing a small sherd of Ipswich Ware. Although only a limited volume of material was found, in both cases the sherds were recovered from well-stratified levels with no recent disturbance, and the additional fact that these pits are both in the same part of the town (near the present church on the W side of the infilled market), does suggest that this evidence is meaningful and that there is likely to have been some sort of activity here at this time, perhaps a small pre-village nucleus.

A much larger number of pits produced sherds of Thetford Ware, indicating that the settlement was either founded as, or evolved into, a nucleated settlement some time between the mid 9th and late 11th centuries. Domesday Book includes reference to a market, with forty-three burgesses (unusually, it also records the church), suggesting that the settlement

could be defined as a town by the mid 11th century. The distribution of Thetford Ware clearly shows that the settlement area defined by High Street, Church Street and Market Street was in existence at this time, and it seems probable that the settlement here was laid out with a large regularly-planned market place defined by these three streets. This replanning probably predates the Norman Conquest, although it is possible that it may have occurred in the last decades of the 11th century, after the Clare holding was granted to Richard Fitz Gilbert following the Norman Conquest. It is clear that this settlement also extended beyond the church/market area, as on two pits on Nethergate Street (CLA/11/17 and CLA/11/27) produced Thetford Ware, with the latter in particular yielding twenty-seven sherds weighing nearly 60g in total. It is interesting to note that the Scandinavian street name does seem to be reflected in the date of the pottery recovered.

The pottery evidence clearly indicates that the area covered by the settlement expanded in the high medieval period. This seems to have taken the form of a northerly planned extension to the town, with several test pits along Callis Street in particular producing pottery of this date, but little or no earlier material. Callis Street may have been deliberately laid out as a wide thoroughfare to facilitate market trading. This may also have been the period when the earlier market place around the parish church began to be infilled, as the volume of pottery from this area increases at this time. In addition, all three pits to the W end of Nethergate Street (another wide street characteristic of market sites) produced significant volumes of pottery dating to AD 1100–1300. However, it is interesting to note that the E end of Nethergate Street is the only part of the town to show a decline in both the volume of pottery and in the number of pits producing pottery at this time. It is inferred that this may be linked to the construction of the castle, first documented in 1090, as this area lies immediately W of the castle site: it is possible that in the late 11th century the area was cleared of pre-existing settlement in order to create an open area for, and/or immediately around, the castle.

Considerably less pottery of late 14th–mid 16th century date was recovered from the test pits at Clare, suggesting significant contraction in settlement and economic activity after the 14th century. In particular, the N (Callis Street) area seems to see considerable contraction, with this part of the town possibly abandoned. There is also tentative evidence for a southerly shift in the core area around the church/infilled market place, with several of the pits near the church producing little or no late medieval pottery, while most of those to the S, in the area W of the castle, produced more than in the earlier period. The decline appears clearly to be reversed in the post-medieval period, with nearly all pits producing copious amounts of material of this date.

Carenza Lewis and Catherine Ranson, Access Cambridge Archaeology for the Managing a Masterpiece Project (report available at: www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/excavationreports)

Clare, No 1 High Street (TL/7645; CLA 073). Monitoring revealed a well, largely constructed of flint and mortar, with some tile and modern repairs as well as a pump fitting. The structure was thought to be 15th-century, making it contemporary with the frontage of the property.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS; report no. 2011/119.

Coddenham, Test Pit Excavations (TM/1354). Ten more pits were excavated in 2011, bringing the total to date to fifty-nine. Most pits were sited to fill gaps in previous excavation sites, but three were located in Coddenham Green, c. 2km N of the existing nucleated village, where test pitting has previously focussed. Settlement in Coddenham Green today is very sparse, comprising an intermittent string of farms interspersed with occasional clusters of two or three cottages along a lane which climbs N out of a small E–W orientated tributary valley of the River Gipping to run along the top of a natural ridge. COD/11/07 was sited adjacent to a

cottage c. 200m from the stream valley, with COD/1108 and COD/11/09 sited well out of the valley, on high, dry land at c.62m OD. (This contrasts with the settlement around Coddenham church, which mostly lies adjacent to the stream valley at between 28 and 35m OD).

Two of the pits produced Bronze Age pottery, effectively doubling the number of pits from Coddenham to have produced material of this date. COD/11/06 produced two sherds, both from levels with no evidence of modern disturbance, and can be interpreted alongside evidence from previous years to infer, with increased confidence, activity near the stream at this time. COD/11/07 also produced one sherd of Bronze Age pottery: although this was very small (1g), it was found just above the natural, in a layer with no evidence of any more recent disturbance, and may indeed indicate settlement, or more probably some lower-intensity agricultural or funerary activity, in the area. This same pit also produced five sherds of pottery of Roman date, all from the same 10cm spit. Coddenham lies in an area of known Roman activity, with the small town of *Combretovium* about 3km SW of the present village, while the present A140 road just 0.5km west of Coddenham Green follows the line of a Roman road. It seems likely that COD/11/07 was located on or near the site of a farm or other small settlement of Roman date.

COD/11/07 produced no post-Roman ceramics, but COD/11/08, c. 1km to its N, produced a sherd of handmade Anglo-Saxon pottery (7g) dating to sometime between 450 and 700 AD. Although six pits in Coddenham itself have produced similar material, in general it is rare in excavations compared to later material, and has only occasionally turned up in test pit excavations in the eastern region, so its appearance at Coddenham Green must be considered significant, and likely to indicate contemporary activity, probably settlement, in the vicinity. This was a remarkable find from an area which, before excavation, was considered most likely to have originated in either the 12th–13th centuries or the post-medieval period. Although the site produced no evidence of middle Anglo-Saxon date, it did yield a reasonably-sized sherd of Thetford Ware (5g), suggesting it was in use in the period between the mid 9th and late 11th century, probably as settlement, as manuring is rarely carried out at this time. COD/11/08 also produced a total of fourteen sherds of 12th–14th century pottery, clear evidence for settlement in the vicinity at this time. A similar number of sherds of this date were found at COD/11/09, the other ridge-top pit dug at Coddenham Green in 2011, c. 1km N of COD/11/08. It seems that the Coddenham Green area, despite its superficially unattractive location, on high, dry land, was in fairly continuous use from the Roman period onwards, perhaps with arable fields sporadically punctuated by small settlements.

The origins of the present Coddenham Green road, along which all three pits excavated in 2011 were sited, is unknown, but it is notable that it is very deeply hollowed at its S end where it climbs out of the valley, and so it may well be of some antiquity, and a Roman or even prehistoric origin cannot be ruled out. Intermittent settlement along this road has been present since the late Anglo-Saxon period, when the village at Coddenham was growing and new sites appeared at Choppins, to its N. Settlement activity at Coddenham Green appears to have increased in the high medieval period, with a new settlement at COD/11/09. This would be contemporary with the first evidence for outlying settlement on more elevated land near Coddenham itself, at Ivy Farm and Hill Farm.

It seems likely that Coddenham Green declined in the late medieval period, as all three pits between them yielded just one small sherd (2g) of pottery dating to the late 14th–mid 16th century (from COD/11/08). This echoes the pattern noted at the other outlying farm sites (Choppins, Ivy Farm and Hill Farm), none of which produced any ceramic material of late 14th–late 16th century date. It seems that these outlying sites, even more than the village itself, struggled in the later medieval period. Unlike the village and the farms immediately on its edge, however, the settlements at Coddenham Green show no evidence for revival in the post-

medieval period: between them, the three pits at Coddenham Green produced just two sherds of pottery dating to the early 17th–late 18th century, one weighing 3g, the other just 1g.

Carenza Lewis, Access Cambridge Archaeology.

Coddenham, Valley Farm (TM/1354; CDD 079). Exploratory work was carried out to ascertain whether the low ridge running through pasture land belonging to Miss Helen Whyles was a remnant of the *agger* of the Roman road (Margary 34b). Test pitting at points on the ridge showed no Roman road material or finds, revealing instead residual medieval and later finds in the up-throw used to construct the ridge, taken from the soil on either side. A map of the 1790s shows the ridge as a trackway running from Blacksmiths Lane to join the old road to Needham Market; another calls it *Cogmans Lane* (i.e. a dealer in *cogware* or coarse cloth). A nearby pond was said to be a retting pond, if so, it may perhaps be related in some way. A site suggested by Miss Whyles as the site of the lost Dennys Manor revealed medieval finds of an early flat brick and greyware.

John Fulcher for the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group.

Coney Weston, Fen Meadow (TL/9778; CNW 017). Further excavation revealed the clay post-pad bases of a five-bay building 12 x 5m on an E–W axis with a large hearth towards the W end. Finds included 786 potsherds, large quantities of broken brick, burnt daub and animal bones and various needles, knife blades, buckles etc. Investigation and dating of finds is ongoing.

Robert Hogg for the Coney Weston Local History Group and the Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Debenham, Cherry Tree Inn (TM/1762; DBN 132). Monitoring during development work revealed eight cremation burials (some thought to be of Early Bronze Age date and others possibly Saxon), at least three hearth-debris pits and some potential structural deposits. A Saxon bead was recovered from one of the hearth-debris pits. A previous archaeological evaluation suggested that the site contained a dispersed cremation cemetery and the monitoring has confirmed this.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for Highland Ltd.

Dunwich, Maison Dieu and Greyfriars Precinct (TM/4770; DUN 006 and 003). An evaluation was carried out by Channel 4's 'Time Team' on two sites: on the site of the Hospital of the Holy Trinity, also known as the *Maison Dieu* (DUN 006), currently used as the Beach Car Park; and within the precinct of the Franciscan friary, commonly known as Greyfriars (DUN 003).

Two trenches and a test pit were excavated in the car park, thought to be the approximate location of the *Maison Dieu*. Although no medieval structures were located, the presence of medieval pottery, window glass and stone mouldings suggested the proximity of high status, probably ecclesiastical medieval buildings.

In the second area, a trench over the medieval town ditch confirmed previous archaeological fieldwork in locating a large ditch with an internal bank. Pottery from this feature, dating between the late 11th and 14th centuries, continues to support the idea that this section of ditch predates the friary complex. Although the height of the bank was substantially reduced, it was not clear whether this was deliberately levelled as was the conclusion drawn from earlier excavations.

Further information about the layout of the friary complex was mostly obtained from the geophysical survey, which indicates several possible structures to the S of the church. Medieval window glass and decorative stone mouldings were recovered from a trench situated on what

was believed to be the SE corner of the nave. A further trench within the precinct located a quarry pit which could not be conclusively dated. As this feature did not truncate any structural remains and contained no demolition material in its backfill, there is the possibility that the pit was concerned with construction rather than demolition on the site.

Lorraine Mepham, Wessex Archaeology, for Videotext Communications;
report no. 77505.

Eriswell, Windsor Circle, RAF Lakenheath (TL 7280; ERL 213). Excavation of 0.74ha within a former housing estate identified a spread of Late Iron Age pits and ditch systems, part of a wider spread across this part of the airbase. A small quantity of early Roman material suggests some continuity into the Roman period, but the site appears to lie outside of the known areas of Roman settlement to the W and N.

John Craven, SCCAS, for Defence Infrastructure Organisation
(DIO) Projects International.

Erwarton, land to the north of The Street (TM/2134; ARW 064). An evaluation and excavation in 2010 revealed three intercutting ditches and a pit of uncertain date, but possibly dating to the Bronze Age or, more likely, the later Iron Age. A line of post-holes of uncertain date (producing pottery of possible prehistoric or Saxon date) crossed the site on an alignment at odds with every other phase. Building activity, represented by structural slots and post-lines at the front of the plot, probably began in the Late Saxon period. Two small sherds of Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware found within the site are interpreted as residual finds in a later feature. Their presence suggests that there was continual occupation within close proximity to the site, even if definite observable activity was not present within the site itself.

More substantial buildings were constructed along the street front in the early medieval period, including a timber building containing a hearth. The rear of the site was divided by N–S aligned boundary ditches at this time. Later in the medieval period habitation at the street front probably continued, with some additions to the existing buildings. The rear of the site was further divided by the addition of E–W aligned boundary ditches. A well and an associated timber building were set back from the street. In the post-medieval period many of the property boundary ditches stayed in use, however the buildings within the excavation area appear to have gone out of use. A probable cesspit infilled at this time suggests that habitation was ongoing through the post-medieval period, even if the buildings were located elsewhere.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for Icen Homes Ltd.

Eye, Hartismere School, Castleton Way (TM/1374; EYE 094). A 0.7ha excavation in advance of development upon the school playing field identified sporadic evidence of prehistoric activity, predominantly in the form of residual finds within later features. This is assumed to relate to the phase of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age occupation, consisting of two roundhouses and associated features, that has previously been identified c. 100m–150m to the S at EYE 083.

The main evidence for activity consisted of a phase of agriculture and Roman occupation from the late 3rd century through to the end of the Roman period. Spread across the majority of the site was a rectilinear ditch system, which included a series of parallel ditches 5m–15m apart and, at one point, four small parallel gullies spaced 2m apart. This layout was superseded by a single large enclosure ditch, while to the NE of this ditch lay two shallow natural hollows which were the focus for a range of irregular pits of late Roman date.

A dense spread of gravel was then laid across both hollows and the top of the near infilled enclosure ditch, which appears to have been a deliberate dumping of hardcore to reclaim

marshy or waterlogged areas. Further clay/silt deposits with late Roman material then infilled the hollows completely. Although a few pits cut the gravel spread, and so therefore must be very late Roman in date, if not post-Roman, there was no datable evidence of any activity relating to the early Anglo-Saxon occupation at EYE 083, other than a single sherd of pottery, suggesting there was no continuity of settlement during the Roman/Anglo-Saxon transition.

Other Roman, or probable Roman, features consisted of a widespread scatter of a dozen small hearths or fire pits, together with the clay-built sub-structure for an oven or kiln.

John Craven, SCCAS, for Hartismere School.

Eye, Stayer House, Castle Street (TM/1473: EYWE102). An evaluation was carried on a proposed house site some 150m S of the Norman motte and bailey castle. The trenching revealed a high density of pits, with two periods represented: medieval (11th–13th/14th centuries) and post-medieval (late 15th–17th centuries) and each period was represented in each trench. The earliest of the features may be considered to be broadly contemporary with the flurry of activity that would have occurred during the construction of the castle, although the distance between the two sites suggests that there is not likely to be a direct relationship.

Gareth Barlow and P. Thompson, Archaeological Solutions, for the executors of Mrs Renshaw; report 3749.

Eye, Hartismere Hospital (TM/1474; EYE 111). Evaluation trenches were excavated revealing a phase of later medieval/post-medieval quarrying, and other activity was indicated by several large pits and a ditch, which mainly produced ceramic building material. Earlier occupation was characterised by small pits, ditches and a gravel spread, which are thought to probably be Roman and/or Early Anglo-Saxon, but may be of later prehistoric date. Finds from these periods include prehistoric flint and Iron Age pottery, Early Anglo-Saxon pottery and a brooch, and Roman pottery. Small quantities of animal bone were also present.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS for Suffolk Primary Care Trust; report no. 2012/001.

Flixton, Flixton Park Quarry (former Tarmac area) (TM/2986; FLN 009). The final 3,580sqm of the quarry formerly known as Hill Pit, adjacent to the area excavated in 2003, was stripped of its topsoil in 2011. In addition to a few pits of later Neolithic/earlier Bronze Age date, this revealed four-post structures of indeterminate Bronze Age or Iron Age date and two unurned cremations – one radiocarbon dated to the Late Neolithic and the other to the Middle to Late Bronze Age. A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from a possible four post-structure. A group of Early Anglo-Saxon features were thought to represent occupation deposits that may have been responsible for the generation of a broadly contemporary cemetery 250m to the SE.

The remaining part of a square ditched enclosure, partially excavated in 2003, was also recorded. No further dating evidence was recovered and its original interpretation as a possible folly structure associated with Flixton Hall and dating from sometime during the period spanning the 17th to early 19th century remains valid. Other post-medieval features related to the WWI training camps known to have taken place in Flixton Park, and to quarrying activities.

Stuart Boulter, SCCAS, for Cemex (UK) Materials Ltd.

Flixton, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086; FLN 090). A further 0.7ha was stripped of its topsoil, and with the exception of ditches and post-holes marking boundaries and the previous route of the Flixton to Homersfield road (all known from estate and early OS maps) and a number of post-medieval quarry pits, the remaining datable features were prehistoric. Two

ring-ditches, probably of Early Bronze Age date, were recorded, although there were no associated burials or definitive dating evidence. The first, previously recorded from aerial photographs as FLN 012, comprised a single continuous feature describing a circle 18m in diameter. The second ring-ditch, located immediately to the SW of FLN 012, was 20m in diameter and had a double ditch. The excavated sections suggested that an initial ditch had been re-cut at a later date, rather than the two features being open at the same time.

Other features of note clearly represented the continuation of the later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age occupation deposits recorded in the adjacent quarry areas to the N. In addition to pits, the features included four-post structures, probably granaries, and a part of a circular building, 7.5m in diameter with a six-posted porch on its SE side. Associated artefactual evidence included pottery, worked flint, a fired clay spindle whorl and fragments of triangular loom weights.

A NE-SW orientated ditch that was cut by NW-SE aligned ditches of post-medieval date, appeared to line up with a ditch recorded in the FLN 069 quarry area to the SW which has tentatively been interpreted as part of a late Iron Age/Early Roman field system.

Stuart Boulter, SCCAS, for Cemex (UK) Materials Ltd.

Fornham St Genevieve, N Extension to Ingham Quarry (TL/8469; FSG 024). Monitoring of topsoil stripping recorded Neolithic and Bronze Age activity, as well as Iron Age storage pits, many of which are organised into distinct groups. The layout of features during the prehistoric period suggests that the wetland area associated with the adjacent Timworth Carr had some influence over their distribution.

Gareth Barlow, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Tarmac; report no. 3277.

Framlingham, 42 Double Street (TM/2863; FML 055). Monitoring for a rear extension revealed possible evidence for the remnant of the bank associated with the town ditch on the E side of Double Street which, with its curving alignment, is probably the intramural street. Two sherds of early medieval and nine sherds of 12th-16th-century pottery were recovered from the top of the possible bank deposit.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr S. Sykes & Ms C. Barker.

Hacheston, land at 1-2 Beulah Cottages, Ashe Road (TM/3156; HCH 034). Evaluation trenching did not reveal any features, though a very worn Roman coin and a small number of Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds were recovered.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Bridge and Ivy Farms Ltd.

Hacheston, Sace House, 17 Main Road, Lower Hacheston (TM/3156; HCH 033). Monitoring for a large extension within the general area of the small Roman town did not reveal any archaeological features, though a number of Roman pottery sherds were recovered from the substantial subsoil deposits.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr and Mrs A. Clarke.

Hadleigh, land off Lady Lane (TM/0343; HAD 089). An excavation on land between Lady Lane and Tower Mill Lane, on the NE edge of the town, located an area of early Iron Age occupation, with several post structures and a probable small track-way. Hearth debris pits and domestic artefacts such as loom weights and spindle whorls suggested that the larger post structures could well have been dwellings. A single pit was positively identified as being of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date, and a small amount of disassociated 'stray' finds were identified in the hill wash deposit to the S of the site. In addition, elements of late post-

medieval/modern field boundaries were found across the site.

The Iron Age occupation may be part of dispersed or widely scattered activity along the hill crest N and NW of the town, which may extend from this site to the site excavated in 2001 at Red Hill Road (HAD 061).

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Plc.

Haughley, Haughley Castle. (TM/0262; HGH 046). Scheduled Monument consent was given to excavate excess silts from the castle's moat and to remove trees and vegetation from the motte and bailey banks as part of a scheme to bring the monument back into positive management. The castle had become overgrown with scrub and self-seeded deciduous trees which were causing damage to the earthworks and obscuring the monument. The intention of the project was to remove only the latest deposits and avoid disturbing those which were potentially related to the early medieval construction and occupation of the castle.

Survey results show that the moat ditch was, in general, about 5m deep from the current ground surface but is greater on the W side; the absolute level at the base of the moat varies from 51.40mOD on the W side to 53.17mOD at the E. The fills comprise organic layers made up mainly of leaf mould and organic matter from the overhanging trees. C14 dating of samples from the bottom of this deposit showed that it had been laid down within the last 150 years. At the bottom of the ditch was a primary infill of grey fine clay silts 0.75m deep. These contained no organic material, suggesting that they eroded off the castle motte before it became enveloped in vegetation. Barnack stone, the remains of the castle keep's fabric was found in the moat at the top of the silt, but only in a small area on the north side, suggesting that the keep itself had been dismantled in a controlled manner.

The flat platform at the top of the motte measures 26m in diameter and is 555 sqm in area. It is 9.2m above the surrounding fields and 14.5m higher than the bottom of the ditch (as revealed in an excavated section). Remains of the keep's outer wall was exposed in locations on the S and W sides and consisted of low stubs of bonded flint-work, up to 2m thick, which were truncated flush with the current ground level. The bonded material was situated on the very edge of the platform suggesting that the keep enclosed the entire area. Fragments all lay on a circle 27m in diameter and with a circumference of 85m. A total length of 11.5m of bonded fabric was visible – about 13.5 per cent of the potential wall circuit.

David Gill, SCCAS, for Plashwood Estates; report no. 2012/127.

Hemingstone (TM/1454; HMG 007). With the cooperation of both the owner and the farmer, Mr R. Miles, cropmarks indicating foundations and post-holes of a Roman building, confirmed by a magnetometry survey, were examined. Areas over the post-holes and across the line of an enclosure ditch were stripped, revealing the footing of a back wall with a short return, plus one line of three post-holes. The shallow footings contained much chalk and wall plaster throughout, with the junction angle of the footings being of dumped large flints, broken tile, *imbrices* and occasional box tile (one of which had unusual vertical combing), with coarse wall plaster scattered in with traces of *opus signinum*. I had mistakenly assumed that a badly laid brick *tesserae* floor previously found would be here, but this was finally relocated inside the enclosure ditch, in an area of heavily magnetised deposits on the geophysical survey. The finds associated with the small area opened indicated that this was the rubble spread from the house preceding the aisled building, and the source of the ceramic building material in the latter's footings. The long footings ended in a clean, deliberate end and, as there was no sign in our stripped area of a return wall at that end, it looks oddly as if there was an open end to the building. The platform on which the building was situated has been much eroded at its down-slope side, causing those features to be either truncated or

missing. We are not sure whether it was ever completed; the sectioned post-hole showed a post-pipe backfilled with the same fill mix as covered the floor area; the post having been cleanly removed. The flooring layer itself had late 4th-century bowls and part of a hard chalk chiselled 'brick', presumed to be from the former building's internal partition walling. The enclosure ditch section downhill was rich in finds, the base having cordoned and decorated pottery typical of the mid 1st to the early 2nd century, along with prehistoric flint-tempered pottery; finds becoming later at the top (late 2nd century at provisional dating). Some excellent fine glass, and a turned jet bead came from the top, plus part of a grey ware coarse beaker with '(N?)IO' scratched on the base, while a blue glass bead of a type popular in the Iron Age came from a part-excavated linear feature nearby.

John Fulcher, for the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group.

Hepworth, Church Lane (TL/9874; HEP 025). An excavation of 222sqm discovered part of the ground-plan of a Late Saxon building, made up of sixteen post-holes laid out in two cells: the main building itself, and a small lean-to type structure attached to its W end. The building was 5.14m wide, but its length was bisected by the modern plot boundary and only the W (gable) end (1.5m of a probable 7–8m length) fell within the limits of the excavations. Thetford and St Neots Ware pottery was collected from several of the post-holes. The building had undergone repairs, which involved several of the posts, including one whole wall, being replaced. A sealed horizon of worked soil over the area of the building shows that it had gone out of existence as a 'house site' before the 13th century, but the presence of early medieval pottery within cut features and the construction, in the later medieval period, of a clay-floored building indicates that the plot continued in domestic occupation and probably remained so until about the 15th century, after which date there is a complete absence of material until the construction of the cottage that formerly occupied the site in the mid 19th century. The plot's current W boundary has been in existence since at least the early medieval period when it was defined by a ditch, but this followed a pre-existing post alignment of possible Saxon date, suggesting that the line of Church Lane and some of the land boundaries may be relics of the settlement's Saxon past. The site is located within 150m of the church, the probable successor of the one mentioned in Domesday Book.

David Gill, SCCAS, for Cannon Star Ltd; report no. 2011/212.

Ipswich, Maidenhall Test Pit Excavations (TM/1642). Seven test pits were excavated in an area of allotment gardens as part of a programme of community excavations supervised by ACA and funded by the Arts Council as part of the 'Artists Taking the Lead' element of the Cultural Olympiad accompanying the London 2012 Olympic Games. The location was chosen by the arts company responsible for devising and delivering 'On Landguard Point', the 'Artists Taking the Lead' project for the eastern region of England.

Maidenhall lies on the S side of Ipswich, W of the River Orwell, in an area now divided by a railway line and dominated by wharfs and container parks. It lay within the medieval parish of Stoke, but the medieval church of St Mary at Stoke lies more than 1km to the N. The location of a second medieval church, dedicated to St Augustine, is not known [site located in the Great Whip Street area in 2012, *ed.*], but no medieval settlement is known in the Maidenhall area. With the exception of the former isolated Maiden Hall residence, the Maidenhall area is depicted as devoid of settlement on 19th-century OS maps, when it is shown as an area of fields traversed by the Colchester stretch of the Great Eastern Railway line. The first known housing in the Maidenhall area dates to the post-WWII era, when a council estate was built and the present street pattern established. A Baptist church was founded in 1955 on Halifax Road. Although Maidenhall is close to the important Anglo-

Saxon settlement of Ipswich, archaeological finds from the area are predominantly of Palaeolithic date, mostly derived from the Stoke Bone Bed, where excavations have produced faunal remains including mammoth, along with a small number of worked flints (IPS 072 and 163). The only archaeological evidence of medieval date from the area is a man's bronze finger ring dating to the 13th–14th century, from a garden on Maidenhall Approach (IPS Misc).

The excavation of a small number of pits in an area with little evidence for historic settlement might have been expected to produce little of interest, but this was not in fact the outcome, and a number of observations can be made of the retrieved data. Other than a single sherd of Iron Age pottery (found in pit IPS/11/06), the earliest ceramic material was Thetford Ware, dating to the mid 9th to late 11th century, four sherds of which were recovered from the lowest excavated spits of IPS/11/02. Thetford Ware was made in Ipswich from c. 850 AD, so it might be expected to turn up in larger quantities than on sites further from the place of manufacture, but nonetheless the discovery of this number of sherds from an apparently undisturbed deposit does hint at the presence of settlement, or at least some fairly intensive activity, in the vicinity at this time. Even more notable was the discovery of pottery of 12th–14th century date, which was found in all of the excavated test pits, with a significant quantity derived from layers with no evidence of recent disturbance. None of the pits produced very large amounts of pottery of this date, but IPS/11/03 and IPS/11/06 produced slightly more than others (seven and four sherds respectively), possibly hinting at an increase in intensity towards the W of the excavated area. Overall, it is difficult to dismiss this volume of pottery as likely to derive simply from medieval manuring, and so it is deemed likely to indicate some more intensive activity, possibly settlement, at this date in the vicinity. It is possible this relates to the area around an antecedent of the now destroyed Maiden Hall, which lay less than 500m to the NW of the excavated area.

As in the case with many of the sites where test pitting has been carried out in the eastern region, the Maidenhall pits display a sharp decline in the volume of post-14th century pottery recovered – sharper indeed, than most: just one sherd of this date was recovered from the allotment pits, from IPS/11/04, on the E side of the allotments. Whatever activity was causing pottery to be discarded on this site in the 12th–14th centuries seems to cease, probably entirely, in the later period. Although the sherd count picks up a little in the late 16th–18th centuries, it remains low, with very little glazed red ware and just a few sherds of fine wares, suggesting the area is not in intensive use at this time. Only in the 19th century does the picture begin to change, with larger numbers of sherds recovered. These are doubtless a consequence of the rapid expansion of the area once the nearby railway depot was established.

Carenza Lewis, Access Cambridge Archaeology.

Ipswich, St Clement's Hospital, Foxhall Road (TM/1943; IPS 595). An area of 4.5ha was evaluated on a plateau top on the N bank of the River Orwell. Truncation was observed over much of the site and several large extraction pits were encountered along the N and NE sides of the site. These are likely to be Victorian and might be associated with the construction of the hospital in the late 19th century.

Prehistoric features were encountered near the W edge of the site, including a pit containing Early–Middle Bronze Age pottery and a ditch with fragments of Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age pottery. Nearby pits containing charcoal-rich fills could also be of prehistoric date. Undated ditches near the SW corner of the site were on a variety of different alignments and are therefore likely to belong to different periods. Two undated ditches were also recorded towards the NE corner of the site in an area that had escaped severe truncation.

Jezz Meredith, SCCAS, for Suffolk Mental Health Partnership, NHS Trust; report no. 2012/009.

Ipswich, Eastern Triangle site (TM/1644; IPS 605). An excavation was carried out on this site between Key Street and Star Lane from December 2011 to March 2012. This was the third phase of archaeological work there – monitoring of ground work was carried out by Keith Wade and Tom Loader in 1982, and a trial trench evaluation was conducted by the writer in 2008. The site is located on sloping ground close to the former N bank of the River Orwell and just to the E of the Wash, a former tributary stream that flowed along the line of what is now Lower Orwell Street.

The earliest significant use of the site occurred in the Late Anglo-Saxon period (AD 850–1066), as shown by several pits containing Thetford Ware pottery. A probable Anglo-Saxon grave contained the poorly preserved skeleton of an adult, laid supine with the head to the W. There is possible evidence for trepanation of the skull. A major change of land use occurred in the 13th or 14th century, when timber buildings (houses or workshops) were built in the S part of the site. They had sunken clay floors and walls of post-and-clay construction. Localised areas of scorching probably indicate the positions of internal hearths, while more extensive scorched areas might demonstrate destruction by fire of one of the buildings. No complete ground plans were found but wall lines, where seen, were perpendicular to Key Street; documentary evidence indicates that the street was not laid out until the 14th century, suggesting that these clay and timber buildings were some of the first to be constructed along the new highway.

In the late medieval period the first masonry buildings were constructed on the site. A long, cellared building with substantial foundations of flint and septaria at the W end of the site became known, from at least 1708, as the Gun Inn. In the 19th century it was rebuilt as the Gun public house, although part of the late medieval cellar was retained and refurbished. The building eventually became the Gun Café, which was not demolished until the 1980s. The cellar of a late medieval merchant's house, at the east end of the site, was particularly well preserved; its stone walls survived to a depth of over 2m. This building had a particularly long and complicated history of modification and refurbishment, and survived until the early 20th century. In its later years it was used as a beer-house, then finally as a shop and office.

During the post-medieval period the Key Street frontage of the site saw continued development, while areas to the rear were retained as yards and gardens where cesspits and wells were dug. Buildings from the early post-medieval period were largely destroyed by the construction of cellars in the 19th and 20th centuries. Notable survivals from the Tudor period included a brick-built cellar in the N part of the site; the east wall of a building with chalk and flint foundations; and an associated cesspit with a brick-built barrel-vaulted roof.

Kieron Heard, SCCAS, for Reef Estates; report no. 2012/063 (in preparation).

Ipswich, Duke Street (TM/1743; IPS 634). An excavation in advance of the construction of a hotel on a site fronting Duke Street entailed the removal of a former carpark surface and its sub-base to reveal the remains of a series of brick-built structures and associated surfaces. From map regression these have been identified as parts of a Sunday School and a terrace of housing which fronted onto a former street named Siloam Place that dated from the mid 19th century. The remains consisted of the lower portions of walls built of soft red brick, concrete yard surfaces, cesspits and parts of at least two cellars with brick and flagstone floors. Following recording the site was lowered to the level of the natural subsoil, revealing a number of post-medieval cesspits and three late medieval pits, all probably associated with occupation on the N end of Duke Street. Two groups of medieval ditches were also recorded. As these yielded very few artefacts, it suggests an area of open fields with no actual occupation within the excavation area until the later medieval period. Single sherds of Anglo-Saxon and Roman pottery were recovered as residual finds.

A series of subterranean concrete air-raid shelters dating from WWII were also exposed during the excavation. Two complete shelters and a substantial portion of a third were present within the excavation area and a further three shelters were encountered during the construction of a perimeter retaining wall, located partially under the neighbouring site to the NE. All six of the air-raid shelters were of a similar, probably standard, design and were probably built by the local authority for use by the general public. Following completion of the archaeological work, the air-raid shelters within the excavation area were entirely removed and the site lowered to the formation level. Substantial portions of the three shelters encountered during construction of the retaining wall were left *in situ*.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for Investec Property (London Road Croydon) Ltd.

Ipswich, Student Village site (TM/1644; IPS 639). Evaluation trenching was followed by an area excavation in the NW part of the site. Prehistoric occupation was represented principally by a pit containing Neolithic/earlier Bronze Age worked flints and a ditch containing decorated pottery of a similar date. There was little evidence for the use of the site in the Roman period. Several large pits or wells produced Thetford Ware pottery and demonstrate occupation of the site in the late Anglo-Saxon period (AD 850–1066).

During the medieval period much of the site was used as a cemetery, thought to have been that of the ‘lost’ church or chapel known (from a single medieval reference) as *Ostirbolt*. Approximately twenty burials were found in the SW, N and E parts of the site. Other significant evidence for medieval activity included dumping for land reclamation along the S edge of the site, in what must have previously been the inter-tidal zone of the river, and the subsequent construction of a waterfront building, represented by a flint and septaria foundation.

The cellars of at least two Tudor buildings (one of which was a malt-house) were found along the S frontage of the site. The area excavation revealed the footings of 19th-century cottages known as the Jewry, located next to Ipswich’s Jewish cemetery. Next to the Jewish cemetery was a walled garden belonging to Charles Henry Cowell (mayor of Ipswich 1877–78) and part of the garden wall and tree planting pits were identified.

Kieron Heard, SCCAS, for Investec Bank plc; report no. 2011/075.

Ipswich, Stoke Quay, Great Whip Street (TM/1643; IPS 643). An evaluation in advance of development located an apparently unrecorded graveyard, thought to be related to the missing St Augustine’s/St Austin’s church, in the N part of the site. Nearby pits and ditches apparently date to the Middle and Late Saxon periods. These incised features appear to occupy much of the middle and E portion of the site, while the S part of the site appears to have a less dense concentration of archaeological features, although an inhumation identified in this area could possibly be an outlier of another unrecorded graveyard – possibly a pauper’s graveyard connected to the workhouse or the medieval hospital that occupied land to the S of the development site.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for Genesis Housing Group.

Ipswich, land adjacent to 12 Duke Street (TM/1744; IPS 653). An evaluation trench was excavated on the proposed site of an office block within the Neptune Marina development. The site was located in the former intertidal zone of the River Orwell, to the S of the medieval quay. This area of the waterfront was not developed until the 17th century, when the quay was extended and the St Clement’s shipyards were built.

Natural sand and gravel deposits were not seen, confirming that the site was entirely within the river channel and that the bank must lie further to the E, below Duke Street. The earliest

deposits recorded were undated layers of clay/silt alluvium, presumably representing former mudflats, and an overlying sand layer thought to have been a foreshore deposit. Subsequent horizontal deposits containing post-medieval building material were probably the result of dumping for land reclamation when the waterfront was extended and the shipyards were built. Much of this post-medieval dumping, and presumably any associated or later buildings and structures, were removed when the site was truncated in 2002–3, prior to the construction of the Neptune Marina.

Kieron Heard, SCCAS, for Neptune Marina Properties Ltd; report no. 2011/163.

Ipswich, former Crane Ltd factory site, Nacton Road (TM/1942; IPS 658). An evaluation in advance of redevelopment revealed a single pit with a charcoal-rich fill. Subsequently an area of 600sqm was stripped around this exposing two further pits with charcoal-rich fills. Radiocarbon dating of charcoal from the fills suggests they date from the Early Anglo-Saxon period, although a late Roman date for one of the samples is possible.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for CgMs Consulting.

Kersey, Park Place, Church Hill (TM/0044; KSY 027). Monitoring of a side extension revealed evidence for a major later medieval masonry building, with two substantial flint and mortar walls forming the corner of what can be interpreted as a cellar. These walls were left *in situ* below the recently formed foundations.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr M. Pertwee.

Lavenham, land E of 5 Prospect View, The Common (TL/9149; LVM 060). Monitoring of ground works for an outbuilding on the N edge of The Common recorded two large pits which can be dated to the late medieval and late medieval/early post-medieval periods respectively on the pottery evidence.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr and Mrs G. Deacon.

Long Melford, Test Pit Excavations (TL/8645). Thirty-seven test pits were excavated during a community excavation project undertaken as part of the BBC TV documentary 'The Great British Story' (broadcast summer 2012), a follow-up to 'Story of England' broadcast in 2010, during which ACA supervised test pit excavations in Kibworth Harcourt (C. Lewis, 'Test pit excavation within currently occupied rural settlements: results of the HFA CORS project in 2009', *Medieval Settlement Research* 24 (2009), 51–53).

Long Melford lives up to its name, as it is indeed a very long settlement: today extending as a linear row for nearly 2 miles from one end to the other, it is one of the longest villages in England. It is located mostly on the E bank of the River Stour, the county boundary between Suffolk and Essex. The parish church lies at the very N end of the present settlement, in an area somewhat cut off from the rest of the village by open land around Melford Hall and a large triangular village green. The church is nearly 1km from the River Stour, and this part of the settlement does not sit within the valley, rather it occupies a spur of higher land between two smaller valleys to its N. Settlement in this area is today predominantly arranged along Westgate Street (running in a westerly direction S of the church) and around the W side of the green. S of Melford Hall the pre-20th-century settlement is arranged as a double row either side of a N–S orientated street which is notably wide for most of its length, for around c. 750m S from the point at which it meets Bull Lane (which runs out of the village in an easterly direction S of Melford Hall).

The vast majority of the pottery recovered in 2011 was of Romano-British date, providing clear evidence for a major settlement of urban status. Romano-British pottery was found

throughout the present settlement, but was particularly concentrated in the area S of Melford Hall. No pottery of identifiably 2nd–4th century date was found N of Bull Lane. In the S of the present village, pit LME/11/36 revealed the metallised surface of a road dated by pottery to 1st–3rd century AD.

This large Romano-British settlement does not seem to have survived the end of the Roman period: not a single sherd dating to AD 400–850 was recovered from any of the pits. This picture seems to change in the later Anglo-Saxon period, as three pits (LME/11/01, LME/11/05 and LME/11/03) produced sherds of Thetford Ware. However, in only one case did this amount to more than one small sherd. It is nonetheless interesting to note that these three pits are all located in the same part of the landscape, just south of the midpoint of the present settlement, and it seems likely that they do represent some slightly more intensive activity in this area in the late Anglo-Saxon period, most likely to be settlement. No material of this date was recovered from any of the pits in the N part of the village around the church and green.

The volume of pottery recovered increases significantly in the post-Conquest period, although it is by no means consistently high: pits LME/11/36, LME/11/37 and LME/11/39 produced volumes indicative of settlement in the southernmost part of the present village, with little evidence for intensive activity until LME/11/01, LME/11/05 and LME/11/08, clustered together *c.* 500m to the N, produced copious quantities of 12th–14th century ceramics. N of this, two distinct *foci* are apparent, one S of the church (LME/11/19) and the other nearly 0.5km N of the church along the northern extent of the High Street (LME/11/23 and LME/11/24). Although the number of excavated pits is still small, given the vast extent of the village footprint, it is nonetheless worth noting that the evidence to date does not point incontestably to the presence of a large nucleated village in this area at this time, rather, perhaps to a succession of smaller settlements strung out along the river valley road.

The most notable pattern observable in the data from Long Melford, however, is that of the 15th and 16th centuries: the volume of pottery of this period recovered is extremely high, from all parts of the present village. All but eight of the excavated pits produced material of this date, many more than of the 12th–14th century, and in nearly all of the pits considerable quantities of pottery were recovered. This is in stark contrast to nearly all other University of Cambridge Currently Occupied Rural Settlement (CORS) test pitting projects in the eastern region, where the pattern is more commonly of a considerable drop in the volume of pottery recovered. In the later medieval period, Long Melford really does seem to have been as long as it is today. It is well known that Long Melford derived considerable wealth from the cloth-making industry in the later medieval period, but to see this prosperity reflected so very strongly in the excavated data, which reveals a vibrantly thriving and expanding settlement, is striking – especially as this trajectory appears to be so very different to most other rural communities in the eastern region of England. Certainly, no similar late medieval surge is evident in Long Melford's nearest neighbour in the University of Cambridge test pitting project, the nearby small town of Clare (see above).

Carenza Lewis, Access Cambridge Archaeology.

Long Melford, Primary School (TL/8645; LMD 192). An evaluation revealed evidence of later Iron Age/early Roman occupation on the site in the form of ditches, pits, a structural feature and a buried mixed soil layer. Redeposited earlier Iron Age pottery and later prehistoric flint were also recovered as well as Roman pottery dating to the 2nd century or later.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for County Council Properties; report no. 2011/184.

Lowestoft, land off Clifton Road (TM/5492; LWT 176). An evaluation in advance of a medical and residential development took place on the S side of Lake Lothing, a possible medieval turbarry (LWT 154). It revealed three early modern ditches and one undated ditch associated with site drainage and boundaries, as well as several large modern pits. A layer of desiccated peat and 'iron panning' podsolisation in the E half of the site suggests an area of prolonged groundwater saturation which was probably drained through the digging of the early modern ditches.

Matthew Adams, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for the Great Yarmouth and Waveney Primary Care Trust, report no. 3755.

Melton, land adjacent to the former Melton Park Church, Calder Road (TM/2851; MTN 059). An evaluation was carried out in advance of two new dwellings in the E part of the former church grounds. The history of the site is dominated by the Melton House of Industry (the workhouse) founded in 1765, which was bought in 1827 and converted into St Audry's Hospital (the Suffolk County Lunatic Asylum). The N half of the site contained a burial ground that served these institutions from at least the early 19th century until the early 20th century. A church was constructed in the SE corner of the site between 1904 and 1924, and this building is to be retained. A site inspection and GPR survey observed twenty-eight gravestones and ground disturbance that may be related to unmarked graves. The trenched evaluation identified thirty grave cuts of which ten were excavated, revealing a series of well preserved inhumations within a formal burial ground.

Lisa Smith, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Hopkins Homes Ltd; report no. 3724.

Mendlesham, 32 Front Street (TM/1065; MDS 158). Monitoring for a rear extension in an area that has been interpreted as an in-filled market place revealed a short length of ditch which contained a single medieval pottery sherd,

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr M. Dann.

Mildenhall, Lincoln Road East (TL/6877; MNL 672). Monitoring of stripping for a new road revealed evidence of one feature, thought to be a post-medieval chalk quarry pit similar to those found to the W. No finds were recovered.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for MoD Defence Infrastructure Organisation; report no. 2011/199.

Newmarket, King Charles II's Palace and Stables, Palace Street (TL/6463; NKT 005 and 035). An evaluation was carried out by Channel 4's 'Time Team' on the site of the royal palace and what are believed to have been his racing stables. The current Palace House Mansion and entrance steps are Grade II* listed and the Palace House Stables are Grade II. The Palace was thought to have been constructed in 1671 by Charles II, although the royal connection with the town dates back to the time of James I, who appears to have built a palace in 1608 within the near vicinity, the exact location of which is now lost, and a second residence in 1614. Previous archaeological work on the site had found brick culverts associated with Palace House and at least two or three late medieval or post-medieval buildings.

The 'Time Team' evaluation, comprising four trenches, found evidence of at least two phases of stables associated with Charles II's palace. The main trench was targeted on the stable block. Here, the earliest construction phase largely conformed to a map of the stables dating to the 1740s, and included part of the external, front wall (SW) facing the stable yard, the central NW-SE wall which divided the stable block in two and which formed the facing for the individual stalls in both blocks, the entrance corridor and stairwell to the upper floor. The stable walls were clunch-built, and the external wall had a red brick facade. The floors were also of red brick. Not shown on the 1740s map, however, was an additional wall

foundation, clunch-built and fairly substantial, running parallel to the entrance corridor, within the building. This wall never seems to have progressed beyond foundation level and seems to have been abandoned before the building was completed. The stables were later internally renovated with the addition of another internal clunch wall, and a resurfacing of the stable floor in yellow brick; this renovation phase possibly took place sometime in the 19th century.

The Public Health Map of 1850 confirms the presence of the stable blocks at that date, but by the time of the 1886 Ordnance Survey map the stable block had been replaced by a trainers' house, a date confirmed by the presence of a fireplace on the first floor of the building which is a Thomas Jekyll design produced by Barnard, Bishop and Barnard of Norwich *c.* 1870. A number of upstanding remains of the stables were integrated into the later house, although most have since been covered up by later renovations. Large parts of the northern wall of the stable block, for example, were incorporated into the central spine wall of the later house.

Three other trenches were sited across the Palace House complex, although only one of these revealed archaeological deposits. In this trench, located within the east wing of the Palace, were found two, possibly three brick walls. This area is marked on a map of the Palace in 1816 as the kitchen, and the 1816 room layout conforms to that on the 1740s map. No dating evidence was, however, recovered.

Lorraine Mephram, Wessex Archaeology, for Videotext Communications; report no. 77506.

Norton, Haymills Site, Heath Road (TL/9565; NRN 023). An evaluation conducted in advance of a residential development revealed eight post-medieval or modern features associated with buildings fronting Heath Road and the recently-demolished modern building.
Matthew Adams, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, report no. 3745.

Preston St Mary, Manor Farm, Lavenham Road (TL/9250; PSM 001). Monitoring of ground works for two extensions recorded a ditch of uncertain date, a clay-built oven of probable medieval date and a 19th-century well within the area of the moated island. While all the finds were unstratified, the moderately large pottery group hints at an Iron Age presence (a single rim sherd) before medieval activity commenced in the 11th/12th century. The ceramic sequence is then continuous to the present with a typical S Suffolk group for the medieval period and some evidence of moderate to high status in the 16th/17th centuries, and it is noteworthy that the house is dated to the mid 17th century.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr and Mrs T. Coxon.

Reydon, land SE of Nightingale Avenue/Wangford Road (TM/4977; REY 065). An evaluation in advance of a residential development revealed post-medieval and modern ditches. Undated pits, undated gullies and an undated ditch were also recorded.

Matthew Adams, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Hopkins Homes Ltd; report no. 3789

Risby, land S of School Road (TL/8066; RBY 042). An evaluation in advance of a residential development revealed a distinct concentration of seventeen features in the N area of the site adjacent to School Road. Five large pits and several smaller pits were located within an area defined by a ditch and gullies. Three features were located in the SW area of the site, comprising a large post-medieval boundary ditch and two undated pig burials. The features in the N area were predominantly medieval (12th – 14th centuries).

Matthew Adams, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Pigeon (Risby) Ltd; report no. 3939.

Rushmere, Rushmere Hall (TM/4887; RMR 014) An evaluation of a proposed agricultural reservoir close to a recorded scatter of Roman pottery sherds recorded two small ditches of similar date and one or two quarry pits of uncertain date.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr H Budgen.

Rushmere St Andrew, land off Broadlands Way (TM/2044; RMA 030). An evaluation and small-scale excavation of an area of former heath revealed very little beyond a shallow pit containing two sherds of early Neolithic pottery.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Chater Homes Ltd.

Saxmundham, land N of Church Hill (TM/3863; SXM 022). An excavation followed an evaluation which revealed a concentration of Early Bronze Age pits in the S sector of the site. The excavation was located within the access road adjacent to the concentration of pits and revealed forty-two pits, three stakeholes and a post-hole. One of the evaluation trenches (partially revealed in the excavation area) contained a further concentration of sixteen pits. Two Early Bronze Age layers sealed all of the cut features, and subsequent monitoring revealed an additional Early Bronze Age pit. This site adds to the small group of known Beaker pit groups in Suffolk.

Matthew Adams, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, Hopkins Homes Ltd; report no. 3879.

South Elmham St Mary alias Homersfield, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/2985; SEY 035). An evaluation for a proposed 4.5 hectares extension to the existing quarry on land that sloped relatively steeply down from SW to NE from 26mOD down to 17mOD. The underlying drift geology was predominantly sand and gravel with clay till encountered in a small area towards the SW corner of the site. Except in the clay till area, an intervening colluvial layer was recorded between the topsoil/ploughsoil and the underlying sand and gravel. Generally, the archaeology was sealed by the colluvial layer, although features were seen to cut the basal 10cm of weathered material at the interface with the clean sand and gravel.

The earliest features recorded may be earlier Neolithic, although most of the pottery was not particularly diagnostic. Early Bronze Age pottery was recovered from a single feature interpreted as a tree-hole. In addition, unstratified worked flints of later prehistoric (Neolithic and Bronze Age) date were recovered. Later Iron Age and earlier Roman features, comprising a low to medium concentration of pits, post-holes and occasional ditches, were recorded over the eastern two-thirds of the site. This was similar in character to the archaeology previously recorded at the quarry in areas FLN 056, 057 and 059 that occupied a similar topographic position to the NE of the proposed extension. Five blue glass beads were recovered from a pit that also contained Iron Age pottery. A significant concentration of medieval features was identified central to the S edge of the site. These included substantial ditches which possibly formed an enclosure surrounding a post-holed structure/building. While the limited nature of the trenches meant that the form and function of the building could not be ascertained, the substantial size of some of the post-holes suggests a significant structure. A N-S orientated double-ditched boundary that is shown on early OS maps is known to have become redundant in the second half of the 20th century.

Stuart Boulter, SCCAS, for Cemex (UK) Materials Ltd.

Stowmarket, Abbot's Hall, Museum of East Anglian Life (TM/0458; SKT 056). Monitoring during the renovation and development of Abbot's Hall revealed a quantity of post-medieval artefacts as well as some of earlier date. A significant wall foundation was encountered both to the front and rear of the present building, suggesting that a previous version of Abbot's Hall

may still survive in part below the ground to the front and rear of the present building.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for The Museum of East Anglian Life.

Sudbury, 10 Garden Place (TL/8641; SUY 004). Monitoring for front and rear extensions to a house built c. 1830 as an outworks factory for the local silk industry revealed two post-medieval phases of dumping of material to raise ground levels above the adjacent Mill Stream; the initial phase apparently being for this small factory structure.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Lord Phillips.

Wangford with Henham, Wangford Quarry Covert Extension (TM/4777; WNF 023). A further area (140m x 50m) was monitored adjacent to the previously excavated medieval enclosure ditches and structures. The SW corner of the medieval rectangular enclosure was revealed and three separate phases of ditch were recorded. One of the ditches cut a small sunken structure positioned within the corner of the enclosure. This building contained the base of a large bread oven 2.2m in diameter, consisting of flint cobbles set in clay below a slightly domed fired clay surface representing the baked floor of the oven. The oven was positioned within the W half of a shallow rectangular cut measuring 5m x 4m and 0.2m in depth. It is likely that this cut represents a revetment possibly containing a sill beam to support a roof. A single prehistoric pit was recorded in this area and probably represents an outlier of the extensive group of pits and cremations encircling the ring-ditch and Early Bronze Age burials excavated previously and located c. 50m to the N of the new area.

Jezz Meredith, SCCAS, for CEMEX (UK) Materials Ltd.

Wilby, adjacent to The Nest, Brundish Road (TM/2471; WBY 022). Evaluation of a proposed house plot site within the curtilage of a late medieval and 16th-century building revealed a large feature which can probably be interpreted as a small pond with 15/16th century pottery in its basal fill and a small ditch of 17/18th century date.

Documentary work showed that this was small tenanted farm of 16 acres called *Plumptions*.

John Newman Archaeological Services for T.W. Gaze and Wolfson College, Oxford.

Woodbridge, land at 1 and 2 St Anne's School House, Crown Place (TM/2748; WBG 079). Monitoring for a new house revealed a single pit of 16th century date.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Michael Howard Homes.

Worlington, Worlington Quarry (TL/6927 and TL/6971; WGN 038). Two phases of monitoring were carried out during topsoil stripping. The first stage revealed two pits and one hearth, believed to be of later prehistoric date, containing two struck flints, several heated flints and charcoal. The second stage revealed an undated ditch and two possible pits/hearths.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Frimstone Ltd.; report no. 2011/068 and 2012/011.

Worlington, land to the north of Freckenham Road (TL/6873; WGN 041). An evaluation revealed medieval ditches, pits and a large buried deposit; these produced pottery, animal bone, ceramic building material, marine shells and lava quern. Some unstratified worked flint was also recovered. There appeared to be at least two or more phases of occupation, from the 10th to the 14th centuries.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Icen Homes; report no. 2011/152.

BUILDING AND STRUCTURE RECORDING

Dalham, 5 Church Lane (TL/7262). Historic building recording was carried out to inform the repair and restoration of a fire-damaged building. Originally a modest 17th-century timber-framed lobby-entry house, it was extended and remodelled in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Tansy Collins, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for the Dalham Estate; report no. 3822.

Dalham, The Old School House, Denham Road (TL/7261). An historic building appraisal was carried out in connection with a demolition proposal. The building was constructed as a National School in 1879 in a characteristic mid to late Victorian style. In common with many schools of the period, the classrooms were attached to a small domestic wing for the schoolmaster.

Lisa Smith, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for the Dalham Estate; report no. 3970.

Eriswell, Air Raid Shelters, RAF Lakenheath. (TL/7280; ERL 213). Two WWII, or late pre-war air raid shelters were recorded within the Windsor Circle development area. The shelters shared the same ground plan and are thought to be of the Stanton type. They were constructed of reinforced concrete that was laid in precast slabs, rather than poured into trenches *in situ*. The tops of both shelters had been removed during earlier groundworks.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS for Mansells; report no. 2011/185.

Hargrave, Methodist Chapel and Boys Brigade Hall (TL/7759; HRG 010). The chapel was a brick structure of 1926 with concrete rendering and was largely unaltered except for the addition of some 20th-century facilities. The Hall was a large, reused WWII Nissen hut built of brick, with a metal superstructure, including a corrugated metal roof. It was largely intact, despite the addition of central heating and a small extension.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for GS Property Projects; report no. 2011/149.

Martlesham, Martlesham Airfield, WWII Defences (TM/2444 and TM2544; MRM 140). Recording was undertaken of three structures that were part of the airfield's defensive network: a Type-22 pillbox (sitting on a Bronze Age barrow mound and surrounded by revetment walls and a gun emplacement); a generator hut; and an octagonal structure that may have been a Type-27 pillbox design with a modified entrance and no roof, although an earlier building report describes it as a protective structure for a radar tower. The three buildings were in various states of repair, although the Type-22 was the best preserved and still contained wartime graffiti.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS for Andy Josephs Associates; report no. 2012/002.

CHURCH RECORDING

Bacton, Church of St Mary the Virgin (TM/0567; BAC 014). Works for a new gallery at the W end of the nave were monitored. Ground reduction revealed a redundant modern brick heating duct in the centre of the nave, but no archaeological features or finds.

Adam Dyson, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for the Whitworth Co-Partnership on behalf of Bacton Parochial Church Council, report no. 3804.

Harkstead, Church of St Mary (TM/1935; HRK 041). Works for a new floor in the S aisle involved the removal of the existing floor and the reduction of the underlying soil to the new formation level. At the E end of the S aisle two ledger stones were revealed bedded directly on

the earth with no evidence for underlying formal tombs. One of the stones, that commemorating Richard Tyler junior who died in 1696, was already broken, but its component parts were laid in their correct positions. The second, which commemorated another Richard Tyler who died in 1674, was intact. Both stones were made of a hard, very dark grey limestone.

Stuart Boulter, SCCAS, for Cubitt Theobald Ltd.

Kedington, Church of St Peter and St Paul (KDG 036; TL/7047). An evaluation was conducted in advance of the construction of a toilet and a servery beneath the 18th-century musicians' gallery at the W end of the nave. Three test pits were excavated along the proposed drainage runs to a depth of 0.3m. Two of the test pits were located beneath the musicians' gallery and the third was located at the W end of the S aisle. The existing tiled floor surface was lifted, but no archaeological features or burials were revealed. 'Made ground' contained a fragment of post-medieval floor tile and a human phalange (the latter was reinterred during the backfilling).

Adam Dyson, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Kedington Parochial Church Council;
report no. 3723.

Sudbury, Church of St Gregory (SUY 097; TL/8741). An evaluation was conducted prior to the lowering of the floors within the tower and the S chapel. There was no evidence within the tower to suggest the existence of vaults, but a former floor was revealed that included some floor tiles *in situ*. Within the S chapel a brick structure may be associated with a vault, although it could represent a sleeper wall supporting a timber floor (the area exposed during the test pitting was too small to define the feature). A test pit also exposed an earlier tiled floor within the S chapel. No earlier floor was uncovered below. No medieval material was found.

Adam Dyson, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Sudbury St Gregory Parochial Church
Council; report no. 3826.

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