

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 1998

compiled by EDWARD MARTIN, COLIN PENDLETON and JUDITH PLOUVIEZ
object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL and EDWARD MARTIN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

This is a selection of the new discoveries reported in 1998. Information on all these has been incorporated into the county's Sites and Monuments Record, which is maintained by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council at Bury St Edmunds; the Record number is quoted at the beginning of each entry. 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:

E.C.C.	Aerial reconnaissance funded by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England and carried out by D. Strachen, Essex County Council
H.D.A.G.	Haverhill and District Archaeological Group
I.D.D.C.	Ipswich and District Detector Club
L.A.L.H.S.	Lowestoft Archaeological and Local History Society
M.D.D.C.	Mildenhall and District Detector Club
M.d.f.	Metal detector find
NWHCM	Castle Museum, Norwich
S.C.C.A.S.	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR (tel. 01284 352443; e-mail archaeology@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk)

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		

Akenham (AKE006). **IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Iron Age bronze coin, corroded, probably a Trinovantian issue of Cunobelinus (as *Van Arsdell* 2103-1). Roman pottery, bronze brooch fragments (Colchester-derivative rear-hook and hinged types); 3rd-4th-century coins. Early Saxon bronze disc, decorated with four interlaced beasts, divided by a cruciform setting of raised ribs, the central area is gilded and has an eccentric perforation and two rivets (Fig. 95, C); bronze shield-shaped harness-pendant bearing a lion rampant on a background with traces of gilding (probably representing the arms of the Bigod family, earls of Norfolk), late 13th/early 14th-century. (I.D.D.C.).

Akenham (AKE016). **Ro, Sx.** 2nd-century Roman coins, bronze brooches (Nauheim-derivative and Colchester-derivative (Harlow) types). Late Saxon bronze disc brooch. (M.d.f.).

Alderton (ADT003). **Ro.** 3rd-4th-century Roman coins, bronze brooches (Colchester-derivative (hinged, Harlow and rear-hook variants), Hod Hill, Langton Down, fantail and rosette types). (I.D.D.C.).

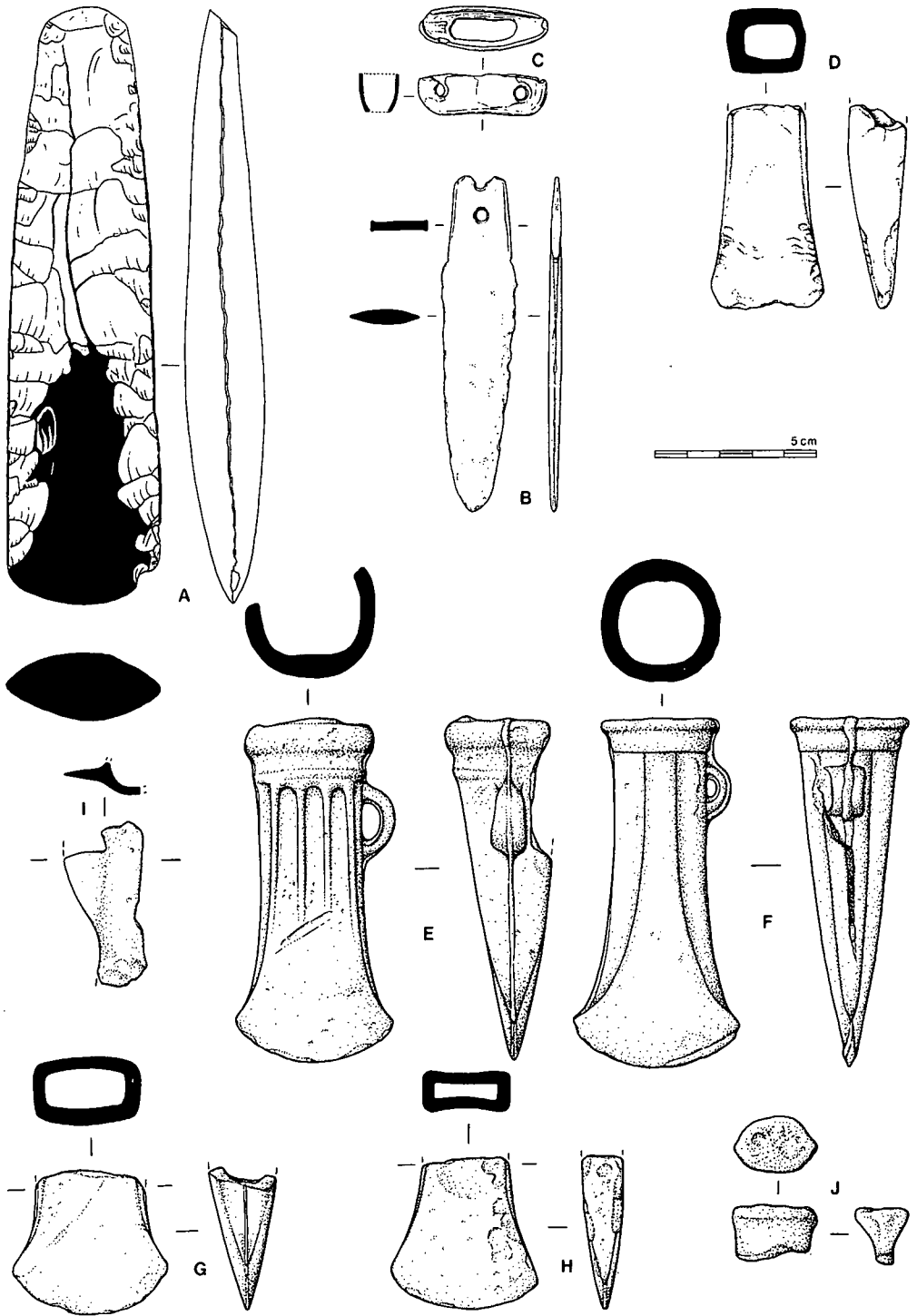


FIG. 93 – Prehistoric objects: (A) Neolithic flint axe from Huntingfield; (B–D) probable late Bronze Age hoard from South Elmham St Mary – knife, hilt binding and axe fragment; (E–J) probably Late Bronze Age hoard from Great Bealings – axes, axe fragments, spearhead fragment and casting waste.

Alderton (ADT011). **Ro, Sx.** 4th-century Roman coins. Early Saxon bronze brooch – small-long type with three-lobed head and fluted bow. (I.D.D.C.).

Alderton (ADT020). **Ro, Md.** Bronze Colchester-derivative brooch (rear-hook type). Silver *denier* of Gaucher of Châtillon, 1303–29, Yves mint. (I.D.D.C.).

Alderton (ADT024): **Sx, Md.** Saxon bronze pin fragment with a faceted cuboid head. Medieval lead *ampulla* with a lily pot and a letter R, probably a Walsingham type (R for Richelda) or possibly Our Lady of Reepham (*Spencer* 1980, no. 39). Bronze strap-end made of three separate sheets, a central arched cut-out contains a separately-made human figure possibly holding a pig (Fig. 96, A). If the animal is a pig, the figure probably represents St Anthony. (I.D.D.C.).

Alderton (ADT035). **PM.** Lead cloth seal from Haarlem, Netherlands, 17th-century (*Egan* 1995, no. 321). (I.D.D.C.).

Alderton (ADT038). **BA, IA, Ro, Sx.** Barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead. Fragment of a silver coin, possibly a Trinovantian issue of Cunobelinus related to *Van Arsdell* no. 1947-1. Roman bronze probe terminal; brooch fragments (Colchester, Colchester-derivative (Harlow, Polden Hill and rear-hook variants), Hod Hill, Langton Down types, fantail type with enamelled settings and relief-moulded curvilinear decoration (Fig. 94, J), and enamelled disc type); bronze cosmetic-grinder (mortar) with beaked heads at either end; bronze bracelet fragment; and 1st–4th-century coins. Early Saxon bronze wrist-clasp. Late Saxon bronze dress hook. (I.D.D.C.).

Badingham (BDG002). **Ro, Md.** Bronze ring with blue *nicolo* paste *intaglio* (too worn to interpret), pottery, coins. Medieval gilded bronze horse-harness pendant, two-piece type with a cruciform inner part within a quadrilobed outer frame with projecting knobs at the cusps. Medieval pottery. (I.D.D.C.).

Barking (BRK088). **Ro.** Bronze brooches – Colchester-derivative (Harlow variant) and Hod Hill types, also an enamelled disk type with a red triskele on a blue background; 3rd–4th-century coins. (I.D.D.C.).

Barking (BRK102). **Ne, BA.** Neolithic tanged and partly-polished flint chisel or small axe (98mm long, blade 36mm wide, butt 16mm wide, weight 61g). Early Bronze Age barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead. (I.D.D.C.).

Great Barton (TL/8766; BRG022 & 023). **Un.** Cropmarks of two ring-ditches. (E.C.C.).

Bawdsey (BAW053). **Sx.** Gold coin found in a cliff fall. Merovingian *tremissis* of Bishop Aditus II, c.674–89, Clermont-Ferrand mint – had been reused as a pendant, part of the suspension loop survives on the reverse. (I.D.D.C.).

Great Bealings (BEG017). **BA.** Items from a probable dispersed founder's hoard of the Late Bronze Age: 1) socketed axe, ribbed type, 10.2cm long, 177gm, half of the upper body is missing on one side, but the blade has been sharpened (Fig. 93, E); 2) socketed axe, octagonal faceted type 10.4cm long, 204gm, despite two longitudinal fractures near the loop, probably caused by flaws in the casting, the axe was finished off and sharpened (Fig. 93, F); 3) blade fragment from a socketed axe (Fig. 93, G); 4) blade fragment from a socketed axe with hammer marks (Fig. 93, H); 5) part of the socket and lower blade of a spearhead (Fig. 93, I); and 6) bronze sprue-cap waste (Fig. 93, J). (I.D.D.C.).

Little Bealings (BEL015). **Ro.** 4th-century coins; bronze enamelled (red and pale green) disc brooch. (I.D.D.C.).

Benhall (BNL027). **Sx.** Flat bronze object with tapering sides, with a relief design on the top surface – possibly a die for foil work (Fig. 95, E). (I.D.D.C.).

Boxted (TL/8350; BXT024). **Un.** Probable medieval mill mound in Nine Acre plantation. (C. Pandleton, S.C.C.A.S.).

Bures St Mary (BSM035). **Ro, Sx.** Roman coins, 3rd–4th centuries. Fragment of a Saxon bronze 'caterpillar' brooch. (I.D.D.C.).

Bures St Mary (BSM036). **BA, Ro.** Fragment of a Late Bronze Age sword, possibly deliberately broken. Roman coin, 3rd century. (I.D.D.C.).

Bury St Edmunds (BSE151). **Md, PM.** Bronze seal matrix, round die with a quatrefoil containing a 6-petalled flower within a circle, inscribed S:Fn:./DES./nES/MOn; probably 14th-century. Lead token, 22mm diameter and 2mm thick, *obv.* has a letter E with an arrow vertically through it, *rev.* has the letters Ro; probably a Bury issue of the 16th century. Lead token, 24mm diameter and 2mm thick, *obv.* has a man on horseback to right, *rev.* has the W near the top and indistinct letters near the right edge; ? 16th/17th century. Lead token, 15mm diameter and 1.5mm thick, *obv.* has 6 pellets in a circle and one in the centre, *rev.* blank. (M.D.D.C.).

Campsey Ash (CAA017). **Sx.** Silver *sceat*, series D, type 8 (Frisian), c.710 A.D. (M.d.f.).

Carlton Colville (CAC019). **Sx.** Bronze brooch consisting of four conjoined concentric rings, with four small circular settings containing pieces of garnet in the cusps between the rings, probably 7th-century (Fig. 95, D). (Mr Dowson).

Chillesford (CHF005). **Sx.** Side knob from an Early Saxon cruciform brooch, bronze inlaid with silver wire. (I.D.D.C.).

Coddenham (CDD036). **Ro.** Bronze hinged strap-end (as Bishop and Coulston, *Roman Military Equipment* 1993, 175 no. 9). (I.D.D.C.).

Coddenham (CDD054). **BA.** Fragment of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe. (I.D.D.C.).

Coddenham (CDD055). **BA.** Fragment of a Late Bronze Age knife (?) with an oval-sectioned socketed handle. (I.D.D.C.).

Coney Weston (CNW014). **BA, IA/Ro, Sx.** Tip of a bronze spearhead. La Tène III brooch (Nauheim derivative). Middle Saxon bronze pin with a faceted head. (M.d.f. *per* Thetford Museum).

Little Cornard (COL009). **Me, Ne, IA/Ro.** Patinated Mesolithic flint burin; Late Neolithic transverse-derivative flint arrowhead; ? Late Iron Age/Early Roman bronze ring and stud object (ring 24mm diameter attached by 5mm shaft to a 11mm plain disc). (M. Matthews).

Covehithe (TM/5381; COV Misc.). **Sx.** Wooden dugout boat, 16ft long, 'landed while fishing off Covehithe' by R. Collett, a Dunwich fisherman. Radiocarbon dating places the age of the boat as A.D. 775–892. (S. Bacon, Suffolk Underwater Studies Group).

Flowton (FLW011). **Sx.** Silver *sceat*, series C (East Anglian runic type), c.A.D. 710. (I.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK013). **Ro.** Bronze brooches (penannular (*Fowler* type C), rosette and Langton Down types); 3rd–4th-century Roman coins. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK031). **BA, IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Fragment of a Bronze Age knife/rapier blade. Silver Icenian coin, Pattern-Horse type, ECEN/ED series, similar to *Allen* 1970 nos. 151–2. Bronze Trinovantian coin of Cunobelinus, similar to *Van Arsdell* 2081–1. Probable Late Iron Age bronze mount, racket-shaped with a central perforation and traces of incised decoration on the round 'head', and incised triangles infilled with dot stippling on the shaft (Fig. 94, A). Bow of a bronze brooch of La Tène I type – steeply humped profile with a broad central groove containing a decayed pale pink substance, possibly coral or enamel (Fig. 94, B). Possible Iron Age bronze brooch fragment – humped 'bow' with incised decoration, pierced lug (with iron corrosion) at one end and, above it, a projecting 'shaft' (Fig. 94, C). Possible Iron Age bronze toggle, circular-section bar, 32mm long and 3.5mm diameter, with a central pierced loop (Fig. 94, D). Bronze brooches (*Aesica*, *Aucissa*/Bagendon, Colchester, Colchester-derivative (Harlow variant) and enamelled disc types), bronze ring, 3rd–4th-century coins. Silver cut half-penny of Edward the Confessor, variant of the Radiate/Small Cross type, A.D. 1044–46 (*North* 816) with *obv.* legend . . . RECX and a moneyer called WINE, not listed in *North*. Continental silver *denier* of Ferry IV of Lorraine, 1312–28. Lead token, 19.5mm diameter and 1mm thick, *obv.* a shield bearing three chevrons with two uncertain objects (? inverted crescent and lozenge) in the top corners, *rev.* a shield with a plain cross, the letters A and C in the top two quarters, pellets in the bottom ones, ? 15th/16th-century. (M.D.D.C.).

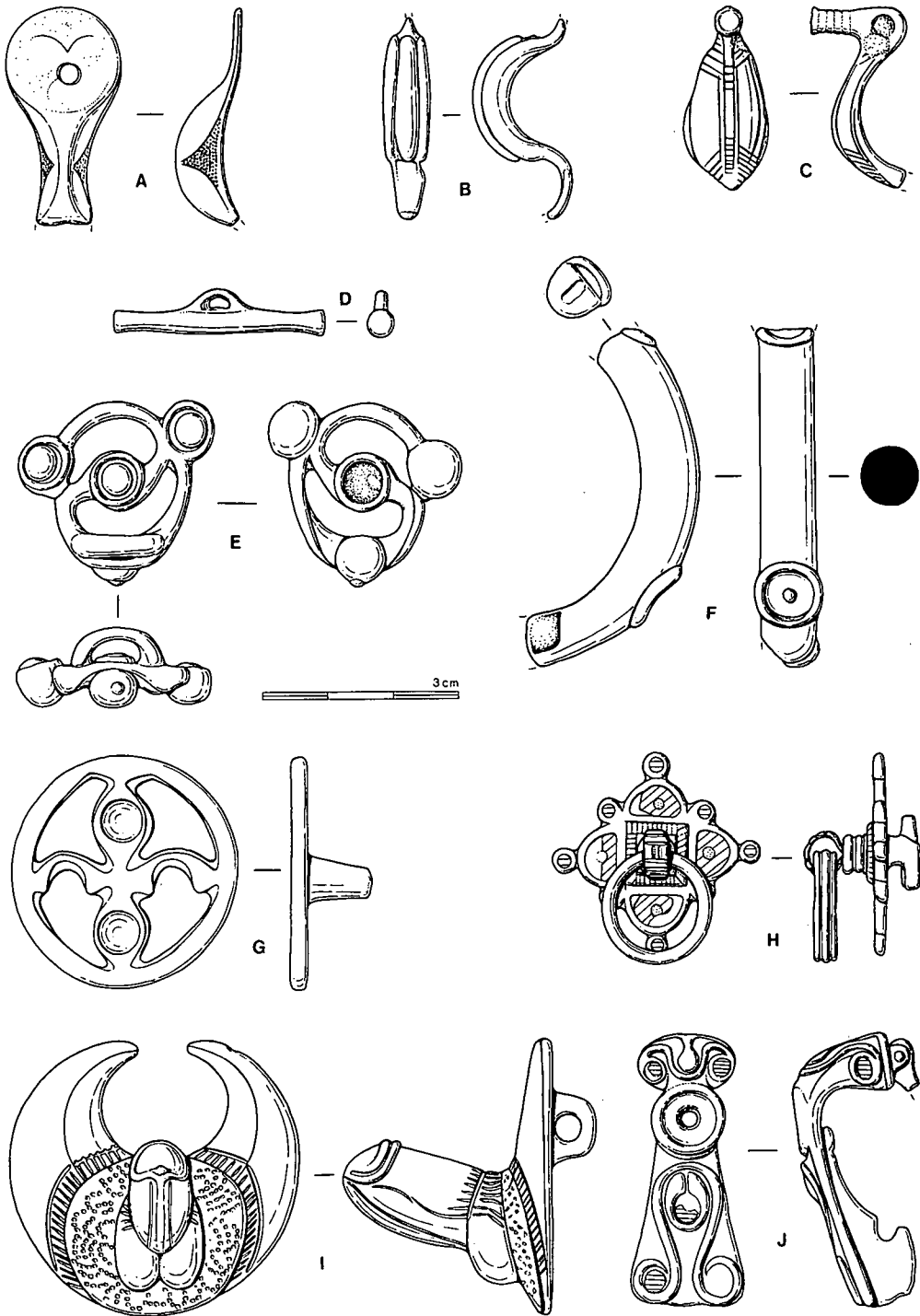


Fig 94 - Iron Age and Roman objects: (A-E) mounts, brooches and toggle from Freckenham; (F-I) terret fragment, mounts and phallic pendant from Little Waldingfield; (J) enamelled brooch from Alderton. (All bronze.)

Freckenham (FRK032). **IA, Ro, Md.** Silver Icenian coin, Boar-Horse type C. S-shaped bronze object with one central and three peripheral knobs (central one has a recess, possibly for an enamel inlay), rear (?) has an oval loop, possibly Late Iron Age (Fig. 94, E). Roman brooches (Colchester, Colchester-derivative (Harlow variant), Hod Hill and rosette types); 4th-century bronze bracelet fragment; 1st–4th-century coins. Medieval seal matrix, bronze, shield-shaped, die has a forearm holding a vertical rod, a star and crescent above, and the inscription *S'ROB'TILECHAPLAN 'the seal of Robert le Chaplan'; 14th-century. Half of a bronze mirror case with traces of a white deposit on the interior, punched decoration on the exterior. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK038). **Ro, Sx.** Roman brooches (Langton Down and enamelled umbonate disc types). Early Saxon gilded bronze fragment from a large cruciform brooch. Saxon bronze pin with an excised interlace design, traces of gilding (Fig. 95, B). Three silver *sceatta*: 1) standard series with degraded bust (as *North* 48); 2) *obv.* debased head and name of the moneyer EPA, as Series C (*North* 157), *rev.* not closely paralleled, but may be related to *North* 112, 'London copies – bird and branch'; 3) related to runic EPA series (*North* 157–166). Middle Saxon bronze pin fragment with a spherical head. Late Saxon (or possibly post-medieval) gilded silver bead with filigree beading around the ends (Fig. 95, I). (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK052). **PM.** Lead token: 1) 22mm diameter and 1.5mm thick, *obv.* a crude fleur-de-lys and a scattering of pellets, *rev.* a letter I on the right edge; 2) 18mm diameter and 1mm thick, stamped letters Ib on one side. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK063). **Md.** Bronze stirrup mount, trapezoidal with a central projecting head (*Williams* Group B), 11th–12th-century. Bronze seal matrix, circular, die has a plant with 3 flowers and the inscription + CREDE MICHI 'Believe me', 14th-century. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK064). **IA.** Bronze coin of Cunobelinus (*Van Arsdell* 2107–1). (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK066). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Roman bronze disc brooch with a cruciform pattern inlaid with red enamel. Fragments of four Early Saxon brooches: two cruciform type and two small-long type. Bronze openwork pyramidal 'cage' made up of four 'arms' with head-like terminal, a suspension loop at the top and a circular hole in the base, ? mid–late Saxon (Fig. 95, F). Bronze horse-harness pendant, shield-shaped bearing the royal arms of England – three lions passant on a red enamelled background. 13th-century bronze mirror case, circular two-leaf hinged type with punched dot decoration, this example is unusual in that it still contains a piece of glass (fairly roughly broken to shape) in each half, very discoloured with a white paste around the edges. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK067). **IA, Ro.** Silver Icenian coin, Pattern-Horse type, ATD on *rev.*, very similar to *Allen* 1970 no. 131. Silver *siliqua* of Julian II, A.D. 360–63. (M.D.D.C.).

Gisleham (GSE004). **Sx.** Late Saxon bronze stirrup mount (*Williams* Class A, type 4) and a 9th-century bronze strap-end with an animal head terminal. (M.d.f. per NWHCM).

Gisleham (GSE036). **IA/Ro, Ro, Sx.** Bronze terret ring fragment; Roman bronze fleur-de-lys key handle with part of the iron shank; cast bronze slide-lock key; and a small bronze human foot, with six toes, from a statuette. Two bronze strap-ends – one 9th-century with an animal-head terminal inlaid with silver wire, the other 10th/11th-century with an openwork foliage (?) motif. (M.d.f. per NWHCM).

Gosbeck (GOS013). **Ro.** Three Republican *denarii* and one of Tiberius, also bronze brooches (Colchester-derivative and Hod Hill types) and samian pottery. (M.d.f.).

Gosbeck (GOS015). **BA.** Tip of a bronze spearhead with a lozenge-sectioned midrib. (M.d.f.).

Gosbeck (GOS016). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Roman coin and pottery, 4th-century. Saxon dress hooks, one silver, one bronze. Medieval bronze shield-shaped stud bearing a simplified version (a bend cotised between two lions rampant) of the arms of the de Bohun family. Limestone spindle whorl with incised radiating lines and crosshatching. (M.d.f.).

Gosbeck (GOS017). **Md.** Lead seal matrix, circular, with a central 9-rayed star and the inscription +S'REHWLFI:FL:IOHOH '? the seal of Renwulf the son of John', 13th-century.

Bronze steelyard weight (596.9g) bearing three shields in relief, bearing 1) a fleur-de-lys, 2) two inverted chevrons, 3) a cross with a blob in each quarter. Shield 2 is probably a corrupt version of the de Clare arms, which occur on steelyards of the late 13th/early 14th century. Two lead Boy Bishop/St Nicholas tokens. (M.d.f.).

Haverhill (HVH038). **BA, IA, Ro.** Bronze axe fragment, possible Iron Age pottery sherd and scatter of Roman pottery and coins. (M.d.f.).

Hawkedon (HWN018). **Un.** Cropmark of a ring-ditch. (E.C.C.).

Hemingstone (HMG018). **Ro, Sx.** Two bronze Nauheim-derivative brooches and Colchester-derivative brooch (Harlow variant), 1st century A.D. Early Saxon bronze cruciform brooch and annular brooch. (I.D.D.C.).

Hepworth (HEP009). **Ro.** Bronze umbonate disc brooch with red and blue enamel. (M.d.f.).

Hepworth (HEP020). **BA, Ro.** Tip of a Late Bronze Age spearhead. Roman Republican *denarius*, 4th-century coin, and a fragment of a crossbow brooch. (M.d.f.).

Hintlesham (HNS022). **BA.** Blade end of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe. (I.D.D.C.).

Hitcham (HTC053). **Sx.** Bronze object consisting of a central trapezoidal plate bearing the corroded remains of partially openwork decoration, on each side there are three pierced lugs with wire rings through them, and at the narrow end of the plate there is a rectangular hole. Possibly an Anglo-Scandinavian harness breastplate of the 11th century (Fig. 95, H). (M.d.f.).

Holbrook (TM/1636; HBK019). **BA.** Flint barbed-and-tanged arrowhead found c.1988. (N.B. Hall).

Huntingfield (HFD015). **Ne.** Part-polished axe, 17.3cm long, 201gm, brownish-grey unpatinated flint, finely worked (Fig. 93, A). (I.D.D.C.).

Ilketshall St John (ISJ006). **Ro, Sx.** 3rd–4th-century coins, 2nd–4th-century pottery. Fragment of an Early Saxon bronze cruciform brooch (*Åberg* Group I, 5th century). (M.d.f.).

Ipswich (IPS290). **BA.** Bronze blade fragment from a sword or rapier. (I.D.D.C.).

Kessingland (KSG011). **Ro, Md.** Silver finger ring (*Henig* Class III) with a silver *intaglio* bearing the head of a young man. 4th-century coins. Medieval horse-harness pendant, 'star' form with six shell-like projections around a central human face on a blue enamel background (Fig. 96, B).

Mendlesham (MDS006). **Md.** Bronze seal matrix, circular die with a curled-up lion within a 6-petalled flower, inscribed *S'IOh'IS:DETEMPLO: 'the seal of John of the Temple', 14th-century. (M.d.f.).

Mildenhall (MNL113). **Ne, BA.** Flint implements – 4 leaf-shaped arrowheads, 5 barbed-and-tanged arrowheads, a hollow-based arrowhead and a tanged knife with slight blade gloss. (M.D.D.C.).

Monewden (MWN004). **Ro.** 4th-century pottery and coin; Colchester-derivative brooch fragment. (W. Todd).

Monewden (MWN005). **Ro.** 2nd–4th-century pottery; 4th-century coin; bracelet fragment. (W. Todd).

Monewden (MWN007/8). **Ro, Md.** 4th-century Roman pottery; 11th–14th-century medieval pottery. (W. Todd).

Mutford (MUT Misc). **Ro.** Bronze circular centre-boss brooch; gilded *Tutulus* disc brooch. M.d.f. per NWHCM).

Newbourne (NBN Misc.). **Pr.** Leaf-shaped biface, 111mm long, 47mm wide and 8mm thick, finely worked on both sides, unpatinated black flint, sharp condition. Although leaf-shaped points similar to this were produced in the Upper Palaeolithic, the condition of this piece suggests that it is a large Neolithic laurel-leaf point. (Mr Christman *per* Ipswich Museum).

Preston St Mary (PSM010). **Ro.** Silver finger ring, 'gem' setting only contains traces of a whiteish paste; two bronze lock pins with moulded terminals, Colchester-derivative brooch (rear-hook variant); bronze bracelet fragment and 2nd–4th-century coins. (M.d.f.).

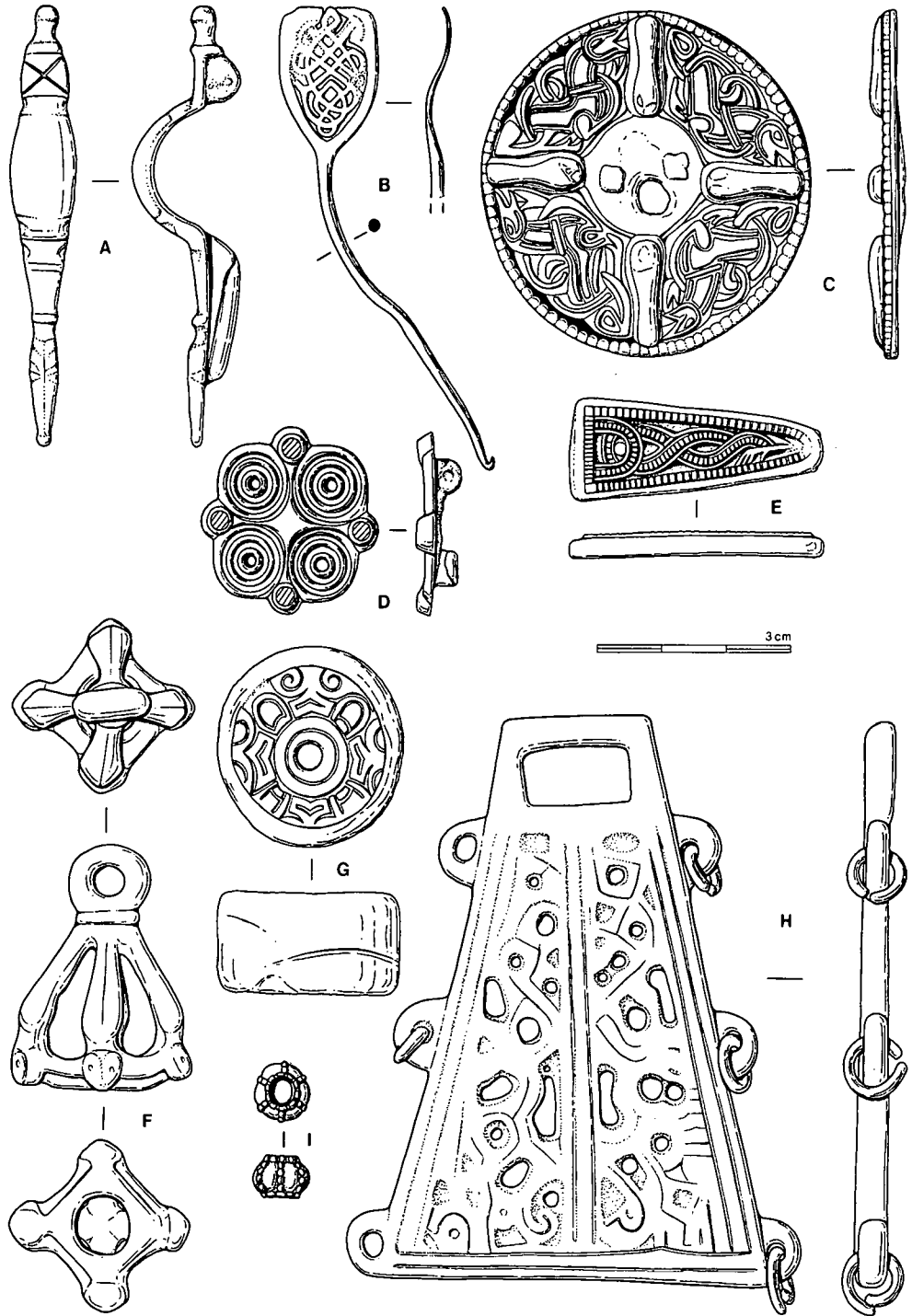


FIG. 95 – Anglo-Saxon objects: (A) brooch from Tuddenham St Martin; (B) pin from Freckenham; (C) circular ornament from Akenham; (D) brooch from Carlton Colville; (E) probable die from Benhall; (F) pyramidal object from Freckenham; (G) lead and bronze weight from Yaxley; (H) possible harness piece from Hitcham; (I) gilded silver bead from Freckenham. (All bronze except G and I).

Preston St Mary (PSM014). **Ro.** Roman Republican *denarius* and other 1st–4th-century coins. (M.d.f.).

Ramsholt (RMS011). **IA, Ro.** Icenian silver coin, Pattern-Horse type, ANTED series (similar to *Allen* 1970, no. 122). Colchester-derivative brooches (Polden Hill and hinged variants), 3rd–4th-century coins, bronze spoon fragment. (I.D.D.C.).

Ramsholt (RMS015). **IA, Ro.** Trinovantian bronze coin, possibly of Rues (*Van Arsdell* 1892–1). Colchester-derivative brooch (hinged type), 3rd-century coins. (I.D.D.C.).

Rushmere (RMR008). **Sx.** Bronze openwork relief-decorated strap-end, 10th/11th-century. (M.d.f. per NWHCM).

Shotley (SLY031). **Ro.** Bronze Colchester-derivative brooch (Polden Hill variant), pottery. (M.d.f.).

Shottisham (STT028). **Me, Ne.** Flaked flint axe, roughly made, 165mm long, 463gm, slight patination on one side, probably Mesolithic. Neolithic polished flint axe with a tapered butt, 160mm long, 454gm. (W. King).

South Elmham St Cross (SEC046). **Ro.** Pottery, tile and 1st/2nd-century coins. (M.d.f.).

South Elmham St Mary (SEY017). **IA, Ro, Sx.** Silver Icenian coins: 1) Pattern-Horse type, inscribed ECEN, *obv.* similar to *Allen* 1970 nos. 141 etc., *rev.* similar to *Allen* nos. 138, 142; 2) Pattern-Horse type, *obv.* similar to *Allen* no. 149, *rev.* very similar to *Allen* no. 148; 3) Pattern-Horse type, *obv.* very worn, *rev.* unclear but probably related to *Allen* no. 174; 4) Pattern-Horse type, ANTED series, very similar to *Allen* no. 126. Roman coins, 1st–4th-centuries, bronze Colchester-derivative brooch (Polden Hill variant) and a bronze ring. Fragment of an Early Saxon bronze small-long brooch. (M.d.f.).

South Elmham St Mary (SEY018). **BA.** Possible Late Bronze Age hoard consisting of 1) a tanged and riveted knife 97mm long (Fig. 93, B); 2) a cast binding piece for the lower part of the knife hilt (Fig. 93, C); and 3) the blade end of a socketed axe (Fig. 93, D). (M.d.f.).

South Elmham St Michael (SEL021). **Md.** Hoard of 18 silver pennies and a farthing of Edward I and II (1280–c.1314) and a penny of Alexander III of Scotland (c.1280). (M.d.f.).

Stoke-by-Nayland (TL/9834; SBN082). **Un.** Cropmark of a small ring-ditch. (E.C.C.).

Stowmarket (TM/0458; SKT026 & 027). **PM.** Earthworks of hop-growing beds (of c.1790) in meadows beside the Rattlesden River. (E. Martin, S.C.C.A.S.).

Sudbury (SUY048). **PM.** Water meadow earthworks on North Meadow, probably c.1800. (A. Walters).

Sutton (SUT022). **BA, Ro, Sx.** Bronze fragment, probably from the butt of Early Bronze Age thin-butted small axe or chisel. Blade fragment, probably from a Late Bronze Age sword. Roman brooches: humped equal-ended type with stripes of white metal and *?niello* on the bow; Colchester type, Colchester-derivative type (hinged variant). Two Roman Republican *denarii*, 68–66 and 40s B.C., other coins 2nd–4th-century A.D. Fragments of Early Saxon brooches: one probable small-long type, two cruciform type. Middle Saxon bronze pin faceted cuboid head. (I.D.D.C.).

Thelmetham (THE023). **Sx, Md/PM.** Pottery scatter containing a few Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware sherds, but mainly Late Medieval and Transitional sherds (some green-glazed) including overfired and underfired fragments, suggesting a pottery production site. (I.D.D.C.).

Great Thurlow (TUG014). **IA.** Bronze terminal of a Late Iron Age linchpin, decorated with a curvilinear pattern. (M.d.f.).

Tuddenham St Martin (TDM006). **Sx.** Early Saxon cruciform brooch, early type, 5th-century (Fig. 95, A). (I.D.D.C.).

Great Waldingfield (WFG028). **Ro.** Fragment of an horse-and-rider brooch; 1st–2nd-century coins. (M.d.f.).

Little Waldingfield (WFL015). **IA, Ro, Md.** Silver Icenian coin, Pattern-Horse type, very worn. Two corroded bronze coins with traces of gilding, possibly contemporary forgeries of gold *stater*s: perhaps one of a Gallo-Belgic C type and the other of a Trinovantian issue of

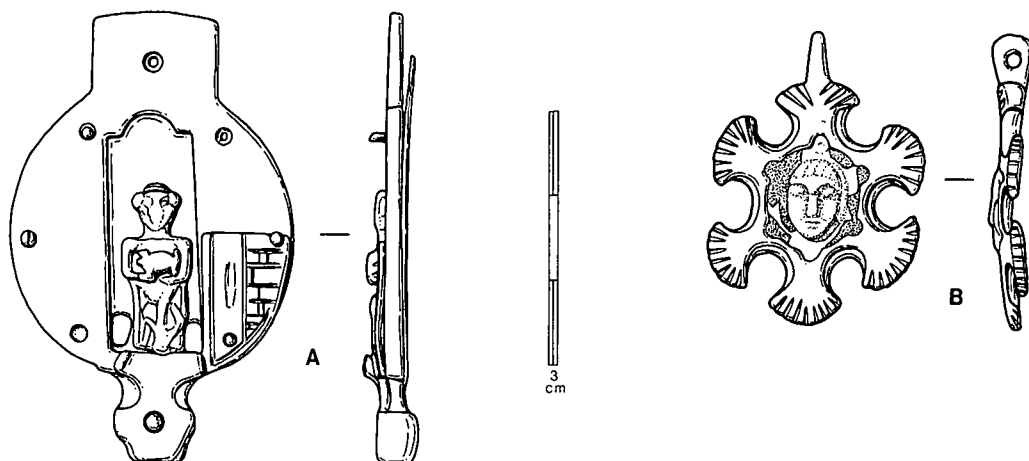


FIG. 96 – Medieval objects: (A) strap-end from Alderton; and (B) enamelled harness mount from Kessingland. (Both bronze.)

Addeddomaros (as *Van Arsdell* 1620–01 or –03). Four corroded bronze coins: three Trinovantian issues of Cunobelinus (one as *Van Arsdell* 2085–1, two as 2101–1) and an unidentifiable issue. Late Iron Age bronze terret ring fragment, with round, dished, settings on its outside, one of which has a small hole in it, probably for securing an inlay of coral or enamel (Fig. 94, F). Late Iron Age/Roman circular bronze mount, wheel-like, with circular depressions (? for coloured enamel) on two of the curved ‘spokes’ (Fig. 94, G). Roman bronze mount decorated with red, yellow and light blue enamel, with a central swivelable attachment holding a cast ring (Fig. 94, H). Roman phallic mount on a crescentic base (? representing the horns of a bull) – probably a good luck/virility symbol, of a type often associated with the Roman army (Fig. 94, I). Brooches of rosette/thistle, bow-and-fantail, Colchester-derivative (Harlow and rear-hook variants), enamelled disc, ‘Lion bow’ devolved, Hod Hill, headstud and plate types, also *Riha* 1979 type 7.1.1, rings, lock-bolt terminal, lion-head stud with an iron shaft at the back (of a type often found on cremation caskets), glass fragments (vessel and window), 1st–4th-century coins and pottery (including samian, *amphora*, Black-Burnished Ware I and shell-tempered). Medieval bronze mirror case, 13th-century. (M.d.f.)

Wenhaston (WMH005). **IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Silver Icenian coin, *Allen’s* early Pattern-Horse A group, nos. 107–8, *Van Arsdell* no. 679–1. Roman bronze brooches: Colchester-derivative (hinged, Harlow, Polden Hill and rear-hook variants), crossbow, divided bow, enamelled conical disc, enamelled flat disc, enamelled plate, running dog, enamelled umbonate disc, equal-ended plate with zoomorphic terminals, headstud, Hod Hill, horse-and-rider, rabbit and babies, running dog, sitting duck, and trumpet types. Fragment of a bronze scabbard slide, strap-end with central loop (military type), terminals of lock pins, key, tweezers, small solid cast goat, enamelled seal box lid, miniature axe, and 1st–4th-century coins. Bronze side knob from an Early Saxon cruciform brooch; wrist-clasp fragment. Bronze pyramidal mount. Fragment of a silver penny of Æthelstan, A.D. 924–39, crowned bust type (*North* nos. 673/5), moneyer E[. . .]. Medieval eight-pointed harness pendant with blue enamel; seal matrix, circular die with a smiling cat’s face (frontal view) and *LELAMIAVET ‘you have a loyal friend’, 14th-century. (M.d.f.)

Wherstead (WHR030). **Ro.** Coins, 1st, 3rd and 4th centuries; bronze key handle (?) terminal with two dolphin shapes; Colchester-derivative brooches (Harlow variant); 2nd–4th-century pottery. (I.D.D.C.).

Wherstead (TM/1740; WHR053). **Un.** Line of wooden posts on foreshore at Redgate Hard, between high and low tide lines. Possibly the remains of a jetty. (J. Newman, S.C.C.A.S.).

Whitton (WHI009). **Sx.** Fragment of a silver penny, St Edmund Memorial type (? post Cuerdale), 10th-century. (M.d.f.).

Winston (WNT020). **Ro.** 2nd–3rd-century pottery; bronze brooch, equal-armed plate type inlaid with orange and blue enamel, Continental in style and probably 2nd-century.

Withersfield (WTH004). **Ro.** 3rd–4th-century coins; bronze brooch, Hod Hill type; bronze spoon fragment; bronze bracelet fragment; samian pottery. (H.D.A.G.).

Withersfield (WTH011). **Sx.** Silver penny of Coenwulf of Mercia, A.D. 796–821, moneyer Duda of Canterbury (*North* no. 342). (H.D.A.G.).

Withersfield (WTH023). **Me.** Flint tranchet axe, 118mm long and 42mm wide, lightly patinated. (H.D.A.G.).

Withersfield (WTH025). **Sx.** Bronze strap-end decorated with a stylised animal in low-relief, probably Late Saxon. (M.d.f.).

Withersfield (WTH026). **Sx, Md.** Bronze strap-end with an animal-head terminal, probably Middle Saxon. Medieval gilded bronze buckle plate with a walking lion and an inscription (?) on the border.

Yaxley (YAX002). **Sx.** Bronze ‘caterpillar’ brooch. Late Saxon (? Viking) cylindrical lead weight with a piece of decorated gilded bronze (probably from a saucer brooch) set into the top (Fig. 95, G). (I.D.D.C.).

FIELD SURVEYS

Ashby (TM/4899, 4899 and 4999; ASY006–008): Fieldwalking has revealed three sites with a material ranging from prehistoric worked flint through to Roman and medieval pottery. (Paul Durbidge for the L.A.L.H.S.).

Debenham (TM/16 S.E.): Fieldwalking has continued. (Edward Savery).

Lowestoft, Pakefield Cliffs (TM/ 5388): Work continues on the recording of cliff erosion in this area. Roman and medieval features have been identified and fully reported in the *Annual Reports* of the L.A.L.H.S.). (Paul Durbidge, L.A.L.H.S.).

Rapid Identification Survey on Proposed Destump Sites within Forestry Commission Land in Suffolk and Norfolk: This was undertaken in response to the threat posed to earthworks by the destumping of felled areas (to reduce fungal contamination of new trees). Sixteen previously unrecorded probable round barrows, an area of possible Neolithic flint mining and numerous banks, ditches and pits/quarries were located. (Colin Pendleton and Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Forest Enterprise).

Redgrave (TM/07 NE and NW): Fieldwalking has continued. (Redgrave Fieldwalking Group).

Sudbourne (TM/45 SW): Fieldwalking has produced new evidence for sites of prehistoric, Roman, Middle Saxon and medieval date. These include extensive areas of debris of ‘red hill’ type, resulting from salt works of probable Roman date. (A.J. Greenacre).

Thetford Forest Surface-Collection Survey (BRD148–153, WSW045–46, WRW024; ELV Misc, plus Norfolk sites 32349, 33324–6, 33522–4, 34052): Survey work was carried out in thirty-two forest compartments, 1997–99. Furrows cut through the turf for the planting of new trees were searched in transects 40m apart, giving a very small sample (around 3%) of the surface in each surveyed area. Reconnaissance and metal-detector surveys were also occasionally carried out. The aims of the project include a fresh study of lithic scatters and their characteristics across the afforested areas of Breckland.

Most of the new sites were lithic scatters and preliminary analysis suggests that these are probably of late prehistoric date. Broad, squat flakes predominate and hinge fractures and areas of cortex are common, suggesting a low standard of workmanship, with thermal and old patinated flakes occasionally being utilised. Flint densities appear to be stronger on the slopes, and weakest in dry valleys and on podsol soils. Although the higher flint densities tend to be within 3km of a water source, some flake scatters are located 5km or more from a river or mere. A Brandon compartment has produced the highest lithic density so far, at 17 flakes per 100sq m.

Sites with pottery were less common, but light scatters of abraded Roman and medieval sherds were frequently found, even on the uplands, possibly indicating manuring on former arable land. Small sherds of prehistoric pottery occasionally occurred, even on the interfluvies. An interesting find was a cluster of sherds from Early Medieval Ware 'ginger jars' in a compartment in Brandon. A compartment on Thetford Warren produced a 3ha Roman site, with *tegulae*, box-flue tiles and mostly late pottery.

Earthwork surveys revealed a number of new sites, including an irregular-shaped 'pound' enclosure on Thetford Warren. The project will continue for one more season. (Paul Brooker).

Winston, (TM/16 S.E.): Fieldwalking has continued. (Edward Savery).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Badingham (TM/3068; BDG040): Following a chance discovery, a small-scale excavation revealed parts of two human burials (adult male and ?female), orientated S.W.–N.E., in a garden adjacent to the churchyard. While definite dating is, at present, impossible, the orientation of the graves and the presence of caries could suggest a Roman date, however the church also has a very noticeable S.W.–N.E. alignment and a medieval date is probably more likely. Stray finds from the site include small quantities of Roman and Early to Late Saxon pottery, including Ipswich Ware. (John Newman and Sue Anderson, S.C.C.A.S.).

Badwell Ash, Shackerland Hall Quarry (TL/9868; BAA013): An evaluation was undertaken in advance of Phase 7 of the quarry. Trenching uncovered the edge of an ancient mere or watercourse, which ran roughly parallel to the modern Ashfield Road, with evidence of prehistoric and Roman settlement alongside it. Of special interest were two wooden artefacts recovered from waterlogged peat in trenches *c.*20m apart. The first appeared to be a crude paddle, but may just be a damaged plank; the second appears to be a large trough (Fig. 97). The trough was carved from a quarter segment of a large, straight-grained oak and measured 1.30m long x 0.57m wide, with a 'draught' of 0.19m and a capacity of between 40 and 50 litres. The wood had been skilfully shaped with few tool marks; horizontal lugs across the underside of the trough at either end were for ease of handling. The quality of the timber and woodworking suggests that this was an object of some status, possibly ritual, although its

function remains a mystery. It is likely that the severe wear to the bottom of the trough and crude notches cut at one end were caused by its secondary use as a sledge, which may account for its abandonment in wet ground. Both objects are as yet undated but the stratigraphy suggests that they may be Roman or Iron Age.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. and Richard Darrah for Lafarge Redland Aggregates Ltd).

Barningham, Church Road (TL/9676; BNG010): A large pit filled with burnt daub and a field boundary ditch were revealed during the monitoring of a housing-development access road. Five sherds of early medieval pottery were recovered from machine spoil.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Land Charter Ltd. Report no.98/90).

Great Blakenham, Tollgate Farm (TM/1150; BLG013): Groundworks for a housing development were monitored after an evaluation. A low-density scatter of medieval pottery and isolated ditch features were consistent with its position on the periphery of a medieval green.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Wimpey Homes. Report no. 98/19).

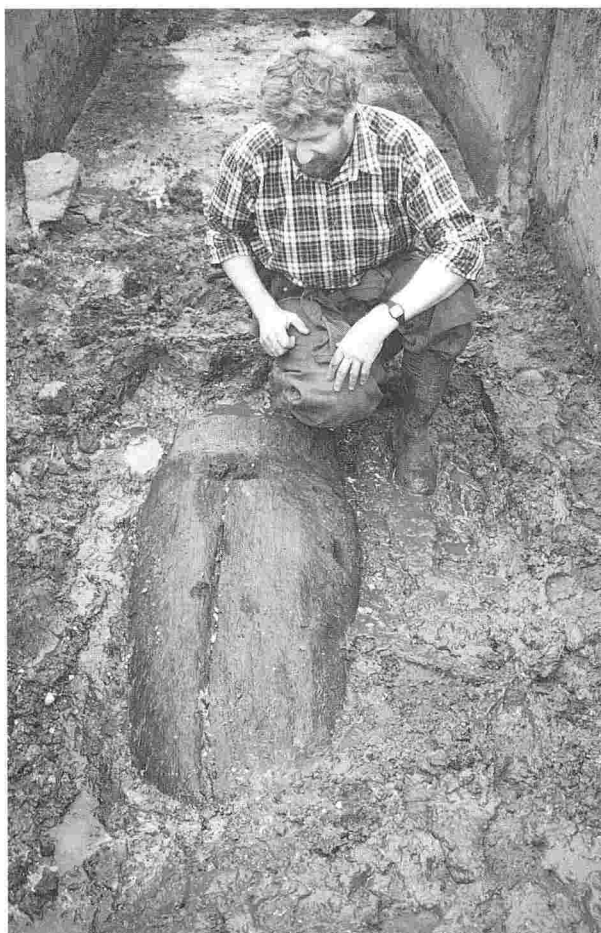


FIG. 97 – The Iron Age or Roman wooden trough discovered at Badwell Ash.

Bromeswell, Low Farm (TM/3051; BML019): Examination of spoil from the construction of an agricultural building revealed evidence for activity of 11th- to 14th-century date. (John Newman, S.C.C.A.S. for Thurlow Nunn Standen).

Brundish, Brundish Manor (TM/2671; BUH020): An evaluation within a standing barn identified at least two phases of flooring. An underlying pit-like feature in one trench contained mid-13th- to mid-14th-century pottery and is probably associated with the early occupation of the moated site. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr and Mrs N. Hopewell-Smith. Report no. 98/59).

Bungay, Eastern Counties Bus Depot, Priory Lane (TM/3588; BUN040): An evaluation uncovered a high density of archaeological features. These ranged from possible Middle or Late Saxon pits representing occupation pre-dating the construction of the castle, to medieval pits and ditches contemporary with the castle and a late medieval or early post-medieval wall built from limestone blocks which may have been scavenged from a religious building immediately after the Dissolution. (Joanna Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Oldman and Routledge. Report no. 98/64).

Bury St Edmunds, Priory Hotel (TL/8565; BSE014). An evaluation was carried out in connection with an extension to the hotel, within the precinct of the medieval Franciscan Friary at Babwell. A large feature, which was aligned with an existing portion of the precinct wall, probably represented the robbing trench (? 20th-century) of a demolished stretch of the wall. (Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr Edward Cobbold).

Bury St Edmunds, Priory Hotel (TL/8566; BSE154): A small evaluation in the grounds of the hotel, outside the south wall of the medieval Franciscan Friary precinct at Babwell, revealed a large ditch running parallel to the Friary wall and an undated, but possibly medieval building. The building was of post-hole construction and only the southern corner survived; its minimum dimensions were 4m x 5.5m, but estimated from the wall line components at *c.* 8.5m x *c.* 6m. The south wall was roughly aligned with the present Fornham road line and it lay *c.* 1m north of the road edge. (Joanna Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr Edward Cobbold. Report no. 98/20).

Bury St Edmunds, 7–11 Westgate Street (TL/8563; BSE 155): An evaluation behind nos. 7–11 revealed medieval and post-medieval occupation covering the northern 50m of the investigation area. The features consisted mainly of pits, wells and ditches; the N.E. corner of a probable enclosure and a small fragment of a flint-and-mortar wall were also identified. As well as cooking-pots and jugs, the pottery assemblage included medieval and post-medieval glazed wares and some imports. The presence of these wares may indicate occupation of mid to high status in the vicinity, although by the 16th century there is also some evidence for industrial activity, perhaps representing a decline in the area. (Sue Anderson and Joanna Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Greene King plc. Report no. 98/21).

Bury St Edmunds, St Botolphs Lane (TL/8663; BSE159): An evaluation in connection with the building of a house recovered some artefacts of late medieval date, but all the positively dated features, mainly pits, appeared to belong to the 16th–20th centuries. There was no evidence for any structures on the St Botolphs Lane frontage that would help establish a foundation date for the lane itself. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Greene King plc. Report no. 98/30).

Bury St Edmunds, Tollgate Public House (TL/8565; BSE164): Trial-trenching on land near the site of the medieval Babwell Mill revealed evidence for the water management system serving

the mill. Documentary and physical evidence was found for the siting of the dam and mill pond, and for the changing course of the river, both natural and man-made. In the rear garden, between the house and the River Lark, were silty soil layers consistent with deposits from standing water but without the underlying peat deposits that suggest long-standing or natural water channels. These lie upstream from the site of the mill dam, as suggested by documentary evidence, and therefore appear to indicate water collecting behind the dam. A trench in the meadow west of the house, and therefore downstream of the dam, cut through deep peat layers indicating a once waterlogged/underwater site. A gravel surface, the origins of which may have been medieval, was found lying on this peat indicating that the area had dried out, possibly as a consequence of the presence of the dam.

Possible Early Saxon features were also found. These were sealed by suspected medieval deposits and may indicate settlement activity contemporary with a probable Early Saxon cemetery identified last century on Tollgate Lane. (Joanna Caruth and Anthony Breen, S.C.C.A.S. for Greene King plc. Report no. 98/87).

Bury St Edmunds, Sexton's Water Meadows (TL/8563; BSE165): Evaluation trenches were dug along the course of the proposed relief road. The lie of the fields suggests that the natural course of the River Linnet should have flowed through the middle of the meadows. Its present course appears to have been straightened and held against the northern edge of the meadows by a raised bank. There is no direct evidence when this took place, but the river is shown in its present position on a map of 1741. There is evidence, however, of fullers living in Westgate Street from the 15th century and one of the river's uses, and a reason to alter its course, may well have been to provide easy access to water or even to drive fulling mills.

Where excavated, the bank retaining the river was made up of modern debris, indicating this section had been reinstated since the War. The soil levels below the bank and over the eastern end of the meadows had been raised with the addition of 18th-century building rubble.

The bank beneath Friars Lane was built up to form a raised causeway c.50cm above the natural ground level, although the raising of ground level over the meadow means that the top of the causeway is no longer above the meadow. There were no finds from the sampled area to date the construction of the causeway bank. The route of Friars Lane, which turns north to cross the river is the same as that marked on all of the early maps. In the field at the west end of the meadows, however, a double bank which follows the extended east-west line of Friars Lane suggests that the causeway bank once continued to 'The Butts' (now the north end of Cullum Road). This extended line of the bank forms a substantial portion of an arc running between the west and south gates and although unproved is suggestive of a physical boundary linking the two town gates.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S for Greene King plc. Report no. 98/41).

Carlton Colville, Bloodmoor Hill (TM/5290; CAC016): Approximately two hectares of an Anglo-Saxon settlement and cemetery were excavated between January and July 1998 (Fig. 98). The site produced material of two main periods: 1st–2nd-century Roman, associated with a ditched field and track system; and 6th–8th-century Anglo-Saxon occupation associated with dense settlement remains including sunken-featured buildings (SFBs), post-built structures, pits, surface deposits and an associated cemetery. The Anglo-Saxon features both overlie, and are in parts contained by, the Roman system. The total extent of the settlement remains undefined. To the south and east Anglo-Saxon features end, seemingly bounded by the Roman field system. The western limit of the settlement is at present undefined but the northern part had been previously destroyed by a housing development.

Significant quantities of Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon pottery have been recovered (approximately 6,000 and 4,000 sherds respectively) and large quantities of metal-working debris (over 100kg of slag) were found in both surface and sub-surface deposits. The faunal

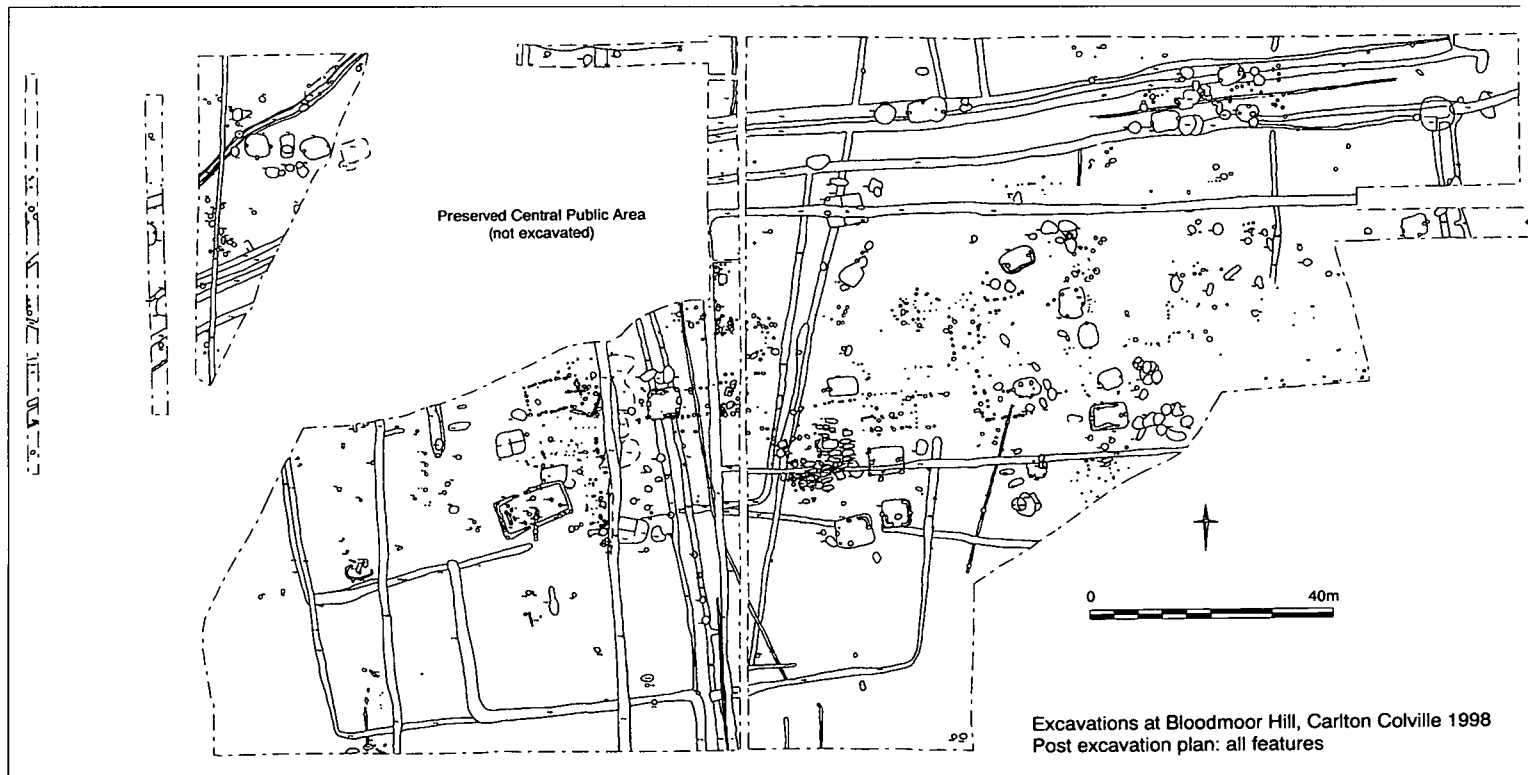


FIG. 98 – Bloodmoor Hill, Carlton Colville: plan of the excavations, showing the Anglo-Saxon settlement and cemetery.

assemblage, though large, has suffered in the soil microclimate, although there are great differences in preservation across the site. The assemblage includes several large pieces of whale vertebrae.

The Romano-British settlement and field system: An extensive and multi-phased Roman field system underlay the Anglo-Saxon settlement. This consisted of small enclosures set out along both sides of a ditched and banked trackway. While the ditches were virtually devoid of finds, a large and varied Roman assemblage was recovered from the site. Both the quantity and make-up of the assemblage suggest close proximity to a settlement. Much of the Roman material is residual within later features but a significant proportion came from *in situ* deposits. These contexts were principally truncated waste heaps and spreads of dark, finds-rich material, often over and adjacent to the ditches.

Anglo-Saxon settlement and cemetery: The settlement at Bloodmoor Hill appears to have been well organised, with zoning for post-built structures, SFBs, midden heaps and activity areas, which is indicated by the differential spatial deposition of artefact types. Five post-hole buildings were defined, located within a well-defined and discrete area of the settlement. The complete plan of one post-in-trench building, a type of construction normally considered to be a Middle Saxon form, has been defined and was shown to cut an earlier SFB. Twenty-three SFBs were identified, along with six smaller hollows, which appear to be an SFB sub-type. There is great variation in both size and structural type, and it is clear that there is no standard Bloodmoor Hill 'type'. The number of posts in the SFBs varies from none to six with some showing clear evidence of pit-linings in the form of slots or shallow trenches around the base of the pit. No hearths or trampled surfaces on the base of the pits were discovered and all are interpreted as having suspended floors (comparable with West Stow).

The settlement also possessed a considerable number of pits (approximately 250), a number of which have a close spatial proximity to the SFBs and may be linked to different activities within them. Four hearths or oven bases have been identified and the function of these, whether industrial or domestic, has yet to be determined. There is a high degree of preservation along the northern side of the site, which has resulted in the survival of midden heaps and surface spreads within the hollow of the Roman trackway. Five concentrations have been defined, each apparently different in character and these areas have great potential for the study of disposal practices and depositional behaviour across the site.

Initial indications suggest that the Anglo-Saxon settlement and cemetery span the 6th to early 8th centuries. However, the material assemblage from the site has yet to be fully assessed and at present there is no attempt at finite dating. The pottery assemblage consists of handmade sherds, a small component of which has stamped and incised decoration. The upper date range of the site is not yet clear, although no Ipswich Ware pottery has been identified. One coin was recovered from a stratified context, with a production date of A.D. 690–710.

A cemetery of twenty-four west–east aligned graves lay within the area of the settlement, with two further outlying graves (one a double burial) 50m to the east but still within the settlement zone. Seven graves were furnished and finds include a keystone garnet disc brooch, girdle hangers, bead-in-wire pendants, bead necklaces and the remains of a casket. The positioning and layout of the group, and their probable 7th-century date, suggest a Conversion Period cemetery, away from the earlier pagan burial ground on the crest of the ridge. The investigation of the cemetery gives us an opportunity to investigate questions not only relating to change in social structure but also to changing beliefs.

(Richard Mortimer and Jess Tipper, Cambridge Archaeological Unit for Bovis Homes Ltd).

Carlton Colville, Beccles Road (TM/5090; CAC017 and 018): A 14ha site was evaluated in advance of a housing development. Indications of an extensive Neolithic and Early Bronze Age site and two areas of medieval occupation were found. The prehistory was buried below a

metre or more of colluvium and consisted of a number of small ditches and pits. The amount of artefacts was small but handmade flint- and grog-tempered pottery and flintwork indicate that the site was occupied during the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods.

The two medieval sites were unrelated; one was based around a large boundary ditch which is thought to be the western edge of Whitton Green. The archaeology is indicative of a domestic site with a degree of 'cottage scale' industrial activity. The lack of any glazed wares in the assemblages, together with some early medieval ware, may suggest that occupation of the site occurred in the first half of the medieval period. The position of the features suggested encroachment on to the green itself rather than confinement to around its borders as might be expected. The other medieval site was an isolated post-built structure only loosely dated by a single sherd of medieval pottery.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Persimmon Homes and Warnes Ltd. Report no. 98/83).

Cavenham, Black Ditches (TL/7671; CAM039): The excavation of a cable trench across the Scheduled Ancient Monument was recorded. This was located where an existing trackway crossed the monument and 'build up' associated with the track accounted for the major part of the spoil removed from the 0.7m-deep excavation. None of the material removed could be positively identified as either bank make-up or pre-bank topsoil. Furthermore, the spoil removed from the ditch was relatively modern, as recent organic matter was incorporated within it. However, one piece of archaeologically significant information was recorded; the weathered character of the gently sloping natural sand surface on the eastern side of the ditch suggested that a berm had originally been present between the bank and ditch. No dating evidence was recovered from the trench.

(Stuart Boulter, S.S.C.A.S. for Eastern Electricity. Report. no. 98/3).

Cavenham, Quarry Extension (TL/7672; CAM040): An evaluation in connection with this extension revealed pits and shallow hollows which produced an extensive assemblage of prehistoric flintwork and sherds of handmade flint-gritted pottery. The site was perched above the edge of the flood plain of the River Lark and the density and nature of the features suggests a domestic settlement of the late Neolithic period (c.2,000–3,000 B.C.). Finds collected from the spoil of the current quarrying show a Mesolithic presence also in the area.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Allen Newport Ltd. Report no. 98/17).

Little Cornard (TL/9138; COL009): An excavation was undertaken following the identification, through fieldwalking, of an area of Roman tile and burnt clay fragments. This revealed a rectangular kiln or furnace with clay walls up to 30cm thick. The chamber measures 3.5m long x 1m wide x 0.4m deep, and the flue is 2.5m long and 0.95m wide. The walls of the kiln have been exposed to high temperatures and are hard and black, with parts that have peeled away in strips. The likelihood is that this is either a corn-drying kiln or a tile kiln.

(Mick Matthews).

Cotton, Land off Station Road (TM/0668; COT019): An evaluation for a housing development on the supposed site of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery, discovered during 19th-century railway construction, failed to find any significant archaeology. A pit in Finningham now appears to be the more likely site of the cemetery.

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Mrs E.M. Stewart).

Dallinghoo, Moat Farm (TM/2854; DLL001): Monitoring of groundworks, for a swimming pool etc. on the moated platform, revealed a pit containing 12th–13th-century pottery and a scatter of medieval sherds elsewhere. A 19th-century well was found adjacent to the house.

(John Newman, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr and Mrs I. Hudson).

Debenham, Land adjacent to Cross Green (TM/1763; DBN103): An evaluation recorded medieval pottery from a 0.4m-thick layer of clay on top of the subsoil, possibly indicating a building platform on the edge of the medieval green. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Ash Homes Ltd. Report no. 98/12).

Elveden, Brickyard Pit (TL/8080; ELV006): Excavation of the Lower Palaeolithic site continued during August (Fig. 99). Four seasons of work (see also 'Archaeology in Suffolk' 1995, 1996 and 1997) have established that the geological sequence at the site consists of Lowestoft Till at the base, attributable to the Anglian cold stage (probably 474,000-427,000 years ago). The surface of the till forms a depression, which is infilled with deposits from the following interglacial (probably 427,000-364,000 years ago). These deposits consist of 6m of grey and black lacustrine clays (containing pollen and shells), overlain by fluvial sediments, which at the edge of the channel consist of a thin, but coarse lag gravel. These sediments are overlain by a distinct dark brown clay (probably a palaeosol), marking the drying out of the channel, which in turn is capped by up to 4m of colluvially deposited brown sandy clays or 'brickearths'. Flint artefacts have been found principally at the base of the dark brown clay (Areas I and III) and within the underlying lag gravel (Areas I, II and IV), although a thinner distribution has been recorded from the overlying 'brickearth'.

The work this season aimed: (1) to complete the geological work within and around the pit; (2) to continue to search for calcareous deposits that might yield a vertebrate fauna; (3) to complete the excavation of Area I; (4) to expand Area III to continue excavation of the *in situ* knapping floor; and (5) to examine through augering and section-cutting the area between Barnham and Elveden, testing the hypothesis of whether both sites lie on the same relict river-channel.

Geological and palaeoenvironmental work. A new section (Section 8) was cut in between Section 7 and Area III. This convincingly showed that the lag gravel in Area I and Section 7 peters out towards Area III, but is stratigraphically equivalent to the base of the palaeosol in that area.

In addition, seven auger holes were drilled in the area to the north and south of the pit. These suggest that the lowest sediments are contained within an enclosed basin (some 6m in depth), and hence are probably of lacustrine origin. They also demonstrate that the overlying deposits are the infill of a fluvial channel, that runs on a N.W.-S.E. axis, bordered by chalk to the north-east and the south-west.

A further section was cut to the north-east of Section 2 (Section 9) and calcareous grey clays were identified, which were sampled for faunal remains. Further samples were also taken from similar clays in Section 2. Initial work has revealed fish and occasional small mammal bones and teeth, with the tentative suggestion of a similar change in fauna to Barnham, particularly the predominance of fish at the base.

Archaeological work. In Area I excavation was completed down to the top of the lag gravel, and in a 2 x 3m area, down through the lag gravel. In total 339 artefacts were recovered. Potential raw material was kept from the surface of the lag gravel, and will subsequently be measured and used for the experimental knapping programme.

A new 9 x 2m area was selected in Area III to the south of the 1997 excavation, and after initial machining, was excavated by hand down through 2m of colluvium. An initial artefact horizon, associated with a light grey clay, was encountered after 20-30cm, yielding 198 artefacts. Although they were in fresh condition, their association with a steeply-dipping colluvial deposit, and the lack of distinct scatters, suggests that they have moved at least a small distance down-slope. Apart from a thin distribution of artefacts in the underlying colluvium (122 pieces), there were no distinct artefact horizons, until the base of the palaeosol was reached at a depth of c.1.5m. Here, lying on a broadly horizontal, fluvial silty-clay were 799 artefacts, all *in situ* and in very fresh condition, forming distinct knapping scatters. Post-excavation work has found over sixty refits, with one group consisting of eight flakes and a

core. As with the other areas the artefacts consist of flakes and cores, together with biface manufacturing debitage and one biface roughout. The absence of flake tools and finished bifaces suggests that this was purely a manufacturing area, and that the completed tools were taken away for use elsewhere. Initial examination of the artefacts suggests that both flint from the lag gravel in Area I, and fresh chalk flint, were used as a raw material source. As with Area I, raw material was retained for the experimental knapping programme.

Elveden-Barnham field survey. In the area between the sites of Elveden and Barnham (7km to the east) a total of 11 pits was examined, with geological sections cut in each. All the pits revealed a chalky diamicton, interpreted as Lowestoft Till, and attributable to the Anglian cold stage. Augering failed to reveal any convincing evidence of the channel that may have linked the two sites, although the low altitude suggests that most of the sediments from the channel fill would have been eroded away in this area. Further work is required convincingly to demonstrate a link between the two sites, although the remarkable similarity of their stratigraphies is strongly suggestive that they were indeed part of the same river valley.

Summary. This season has consolidated the geological and environmental framework for Elveden, and has added to the array of human industries recovered from the site. In particular, Area III has yielded a rare *in situ* assemblage, that promises to answer many questions about the human activities around the ancient channel. Continued work between Elveden and Barnham and comparisons between their geological sequences, is adding to the recreation of

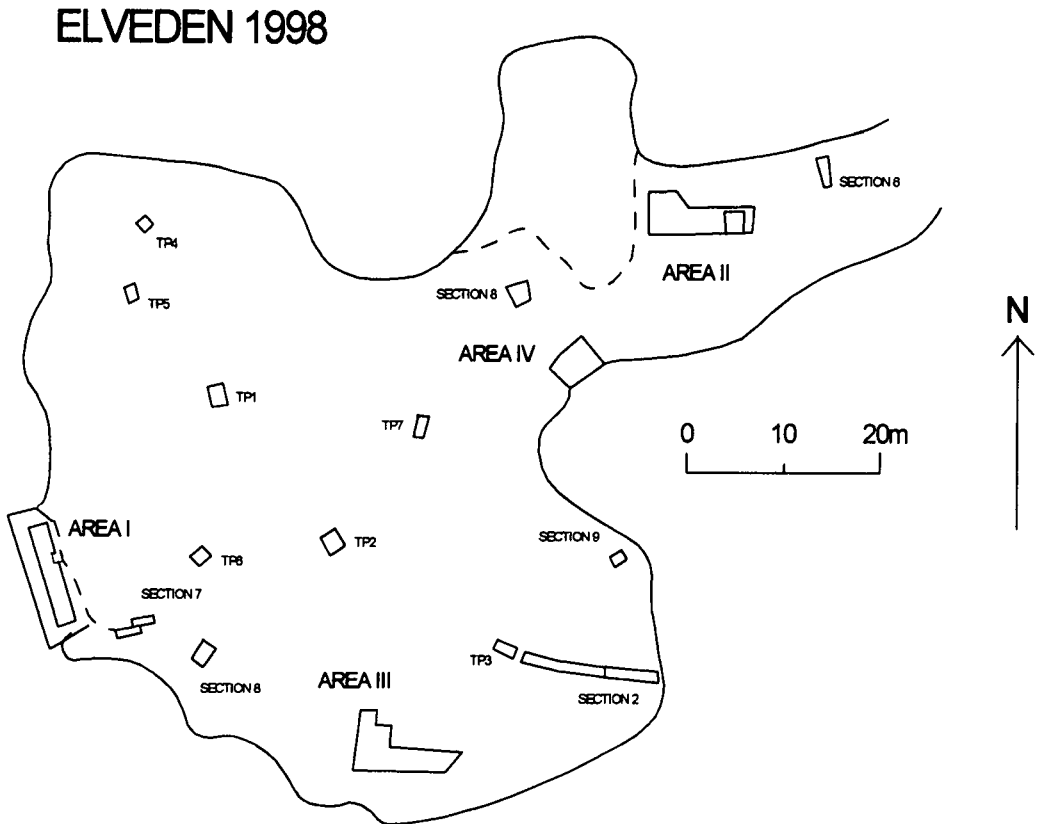


FIG. 99 – Brickyard Pit, Elveden: plan of the 1998 excavations.

a palaeo-landscape, and a much better understanding of the resources it supported, in particular their influence on the stone tools assemblages.

Acknowledgements. Thanks are due to the British Museum, the British Academy and the Society of Antiquaries for funding the project. We are very grateful to Center Parcs, in particular Johan Bolling, the General Manager, for allowing access to the land and for fully supporting the project. We also thank Jim Rudderham, Forestry and Conservation Manager, Elveden Farms Ltd, for access to pits on the Elveden Estate. Finally, we are very grateful to the Heading family for providing camping facilities.

(Nick Ashton, Dept. Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities, British Museum, Simon Lewis, Dept. Geography, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education).

Elveden, Canada Farm (TL/7776; ELV025): A watching brief was undertaken during the construction of a reservoir. A dense patch of burnt flint and charcoal, c.10m in diameter and c.0.15m deep, was recorded. Two flint flakes and two blades were recovered within the immediate vicinity. Two fragments of prehistoric pottery were also recovered but at some distance from the area of burnt flint and charcoal.

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S.).

Eriswell, R.A.F. Lakenheath (TL/7380; ERL101): The monitoring of the construction of a carpark extension uncovered the remains of two Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured buildings and a network of ditches. The site lies close to three Anglo-Saxon cemeteries, with the largest (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1997') c.300m to the south-west. Domestic waste was recovered from the buildings, including animal bones, handmade pottery, lava quern fragments, two iron knives, a fragment of a glass 'melon' bead and a bone comb. Of particular interest is a large collection of fish scales, provisionally identified as carp, from one of the buildings. At least one of the ditches was Anglo-Saxon, with most of the others stratigraphically earlier, probably Late Iron Age or Roman. A sizeable collection of largely patinated struck flint was recovered both from the 'natural' sand and from ditch fills, including blades and cores, suggesting occupation in the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for DEO (USF) and the Ministry of Defence).

Flixton, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086; FLN 053): Continued monitoring of soil-stripping for extensions to the quarry revealed further features of 1st-century (Late Iron Age/Roman) date, including pits, trough-like features and an astonishing perfect circle, c.25m in diameter, made up of closely-spaced post-holes, with very little in the way of features within it to suggest its purpose (Fig. 100). A totally new and previously unsuspected phase of activity was identified in the south-east corner of the stripped area, in the form of forty-three Early Saxon inhumation burials. These appear to date from the 6th century and have a typical Anglian assemblage of grave-goods. The focus of these burials is thought to be a ring-ditch (FLN010), immediately to the south of the stripped area. Further work will be carried out when the quarry extends to the south and east.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for RMC Atlas Aggregates Ltd. Report no. 98/82).

Framlingham, Framlingham Mere (TM/2863; FML021): Archaeological monitoring of Phase I of the silt removal was completed in July. Five timbers were recovered from the silt, together with a relatively large fragment of a pierced wooden board, and lines of *in situ* posts/stumps that had already been partially recorded (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1997').

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for M. Harding, on behalf of the Environment Agency and the Suffolk Wildlife Trust).

Framlingham, Framlingham Mere (TM/2863; FML021): Stratigraphic investigations were carried out with the aim of establishing the depth and date of the mere sediments. From

stratigraphic and chronological evidence it was hoped that it would be possible to establish: (1) to what extent the mere is a natural lake, as opposed to an artificial excavation associated with the castle; and (2) what depth of sediments could be removed during the programme of works by the Environment Agency without destroying unique deposits of archaeological or palaeoecological significance.

The coring programme, undertaken in collaboration with Drs Martin Bates and Andrew Haggart, established that the mere is infilled with a sequence of mainly minerogenic sediments, with basal and intercalated organic muds. A maximum sequence of 5.12m. was proved in the boreholes sunk: the depth of sediment could well be more elsewhere in the basin. The basal organic mud (overlying presumed Pleistocene sediments) in Borehole 1 was submitted for radiocarbon dating to the Glasgow Laboratory, with the following result:

GU-7824. Sample of organic mud at 268-279cm. 2620 ± 60 BP. (at 1 *sigma* = cal BC 829-793; at 2 *sigma* = cal BC 900-607).

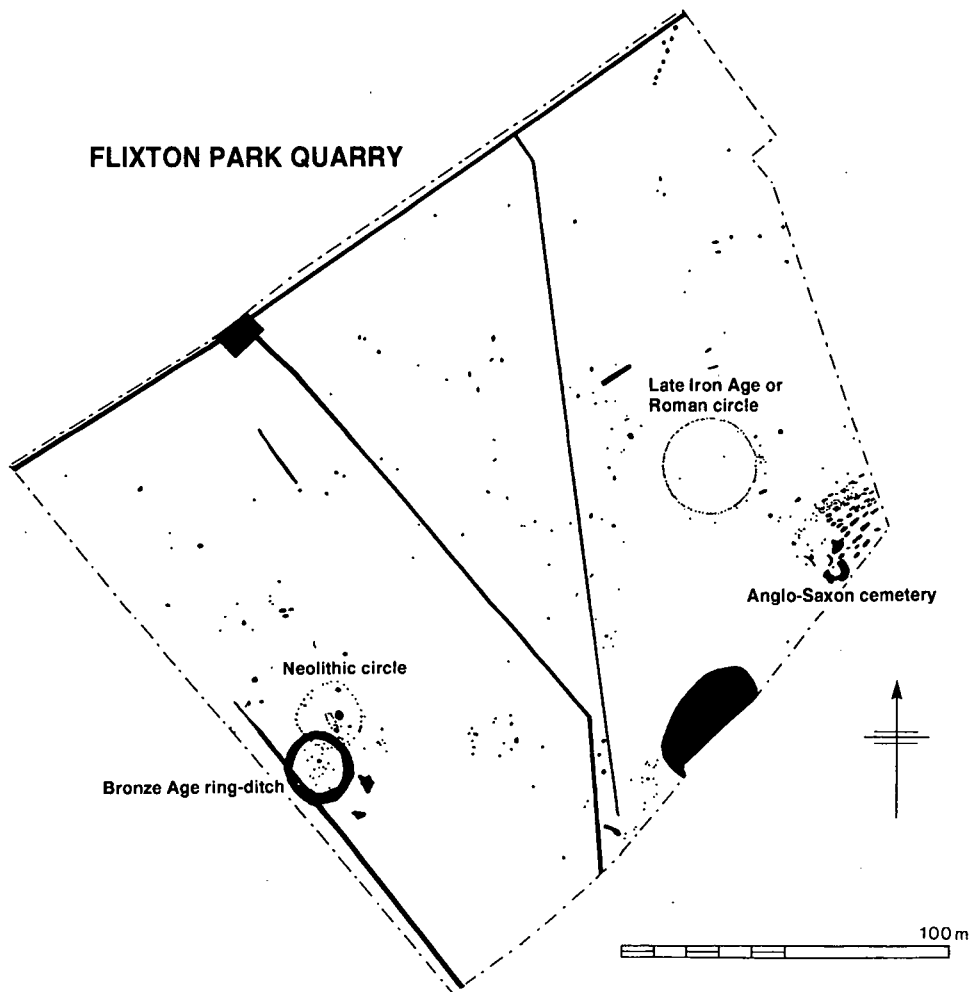


FIG. 100 – Flixton Park Quarry, Flixton: plan of the excavations, showing the Neolithic post-hole circle, the Bronze Age ring-ditch, the late Iron Age/Roman post hole circle and the Anglo-Saxon cemetery.

This determination establishes that, (at least at the location cored), sedimentation began in the early 1st millennium B.C., so the mere is evidently a 'natural' lake in origin (though it was evidently 'landscaped' in the Middle Ages). Nevertheless, it could well have developed originally as an indirect result of prehistoric human activity: woodland clearance and the expansion of cultivation at this time could have resulted in increased freshwater run-off, resulting in higher groundwater levels in valley locations initially, then the development of bodies of open water.

Within the sequence of minerogenic muds in Borehole 3, an intercalated organic mud gave the following determination:

GU-7825. Sample of organic mud at 135–150cm. 320 ± 60 BP. (1 *sigma* cal AD 1474–1648; 2 *sigma* cal AD 1440–1670).

The result suggests that removal of the top 1–2m of sediment near the middle of the mere will result in destruction of sediments relating to the last 500 years or so, which plainly could relate to the Late and Post-Medieval landscape at the site. However, these top sediments will still be preserved over large areas around the margins of the mere, which are not to be excavated. Consequently, the proposed area of extraction will not totally destroy sediment units unrepresented elsewhere at the site. However, a 5m long core has been retained from the central part of the mere, for future analysis.

(Peter Murphy, University of East Anglia for M. Harding, on behalf of the Environment Agency and the Suffolk Wildlife Trust).

Framlingham, Land off New Road (TM/2863; FML025): An evaluation in advance of a housing development suggested that a known medieval hermitage, previously thought to lie immediately west of the evaluation area, was actually located on the west side of College Road. Only one medieval feature was recorded in the trial-trenches, a N.–S. orientated ditch with a small quantity of 12th–14th-century pottery in its fill. Stray finds included a possible Mesolithic flint arrowhead and a single sherd of Roman pottery.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Wimpey Homes. Report no. 98/31).

Halesworth, former Prime and Cowles Garage (TM/3877; HWT018): Trial-trenches revealed that the potential for surviving archaeology on the market place frontage was negligible. In the larger area which had been occupied by garage workshops and earlier by the Halesworth Brewery, the natural clay subsoil was found to survive relatively undisturbed at a shallow depth and, while a large pond-like feature occupied a large portion of the trench, there was potential for the survival of earlier deposits elsewhere on the site. The pond itself coincided with a feature shown on maps reconstructed from 16th-century information.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Anglia Secure Homes (South East) Ltd. Report no. 98/51).

Haverhill, Burton End and Puddlebrook (TL/6545; HVH035, 036, 037 and 038): An excavation was carried out in advance of a large housing development. Five separate areas, pinpointed by an earlier evaluation, were excavated. Two areas, immediately adjacent to Burton End Road (HVH035), revealed evidence of a medieval industry that existed behind what were probably dwellings fronting on to the road. Large amounts of horse bone were recovered from many pits and ditches, indicating that the processing of horse carcasses was carried out on the site. A number of worked bone fragments were also recovered indicating a possible secondary industry. An area further to the south, adjacent to the bypass, contained a small group of pits and ditches, mostly Roman (HVH039). A post-medieval house site was investigated although little evidence, other than a single large pit and a possible cobbled yard, survived (HVH037). The fifth area yielded Iron Age ditches, pits and possible postholes indicating a small settlement site (HVH036).

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for J.S. Bloor (Services) Ltd).

Icklingham, Weatherhill Farm and Mitchell's Farm (TL/7772; IKL127 and 128): Evaluation excavations were undertaken during the summers of 1997 and 1998, with a small group of students from the Universities of Cambridge and Durham. Three trenches were opened at Weatherhill Farm in order to characterise the nature of deposits and assess the level of preservation of features defined by an extensive magnetometer survey by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory. Features were shown to be severely truncated and no surface deposits survived, but a good assemblage of pottery and animal bone was obtained from sub-surface features. Material sealed within ditches and pits has enabled us preliminarily to phase the enclosure complex to the early Roman period (1st century A.D.).

Four trenches were excavated at Mitchell's Farm, the largest of which investigated a large linear magnetic anomaly, aligned N.W.–S.E., which was defined by the AML magnetometer survey. This appears to be the continuation of the road excavated by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit at Weatherhill Farm (*Britannia* 1978 vol. 9, p.448). A topographic survey of the earthworks, which form a series of enclosures perpendicular to this road, was undertaken by Paul White. The archaeological remains at Mitchell's Farm were well preserved and a sequence of successive metalled road surfaces was defined, the latest of which is late medieval in date (14th century), based on pottery contained within the associated bank. The roadside ditch was shown to cut earlier levels which contained Roman material. Further excavation will be undertaken in order to define the full sequence of activity.
(Dr Catherine Hills, University of Cambridge for the Lark Valley Research Project).

Ipswich, Whitehouse Road (TM/1347; IPS247): Construction of a new structure on the Hewlett-Packard site revealed a further length of the boundary ditch that surrounded the Middle Saxon settlement (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1995').
(Tom Loader, S.C.C.A.S. for Hewlett-Packard).

Ipswich, Lovetofts Drive, Whitehouse Estate (TM/1346; IPS283): An excavation was carried out in advance of a housing development (Fig 101). The site overlooks the Gipping valley and lies about half a mile south of the Middle and Late Saxon settlement excavated in 1995 (see above) and about a mile east of the Castle Hill Roman villa. The excavation revealed two Iron Age round houses, indicated by penannular ditches 11.3m and 9.5m in diameter, accompanied by a semi-circular structure, two possible four-post structures, the possible south-west corner of an enclosure, a pair of parallel ditches, and other ditches, postholes and pits. As well as the pottery assemblage, other finds included animal bones and an unusual Late Bronze Age/Iron Age cylindrical clay loomweight.
(Joanna Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Maclean Homes).

Ipswich, Land adjacent to Bluestem Road (TM/2041; IPS287): An evaluation in advance of an industrial development indicated that the area had been heathland and sheepwalk until the 18th century.
(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Ransomes plc. Report no. 98/35).

Ipswich (TM/1545; IPS289): A watching-brief on construction work at the junction of Norwich Road and Valley Road (some 1,500m from the core of medieval Ipswich) revealed evidence for a possible high-status site of 11th/12th- to 13th-century date. The recovery of various large fragments of Roman *tegula* and *imbrex* tiles in close association with a scatter of septaria rubble and medieval pottery sherds indicates re-use of the former material in a substantial structure. With this in mind, it is worth noting that this site lies just to the south-east of the recorded site of Brook Hall.
(John Newman, S.C.C.A.S.).

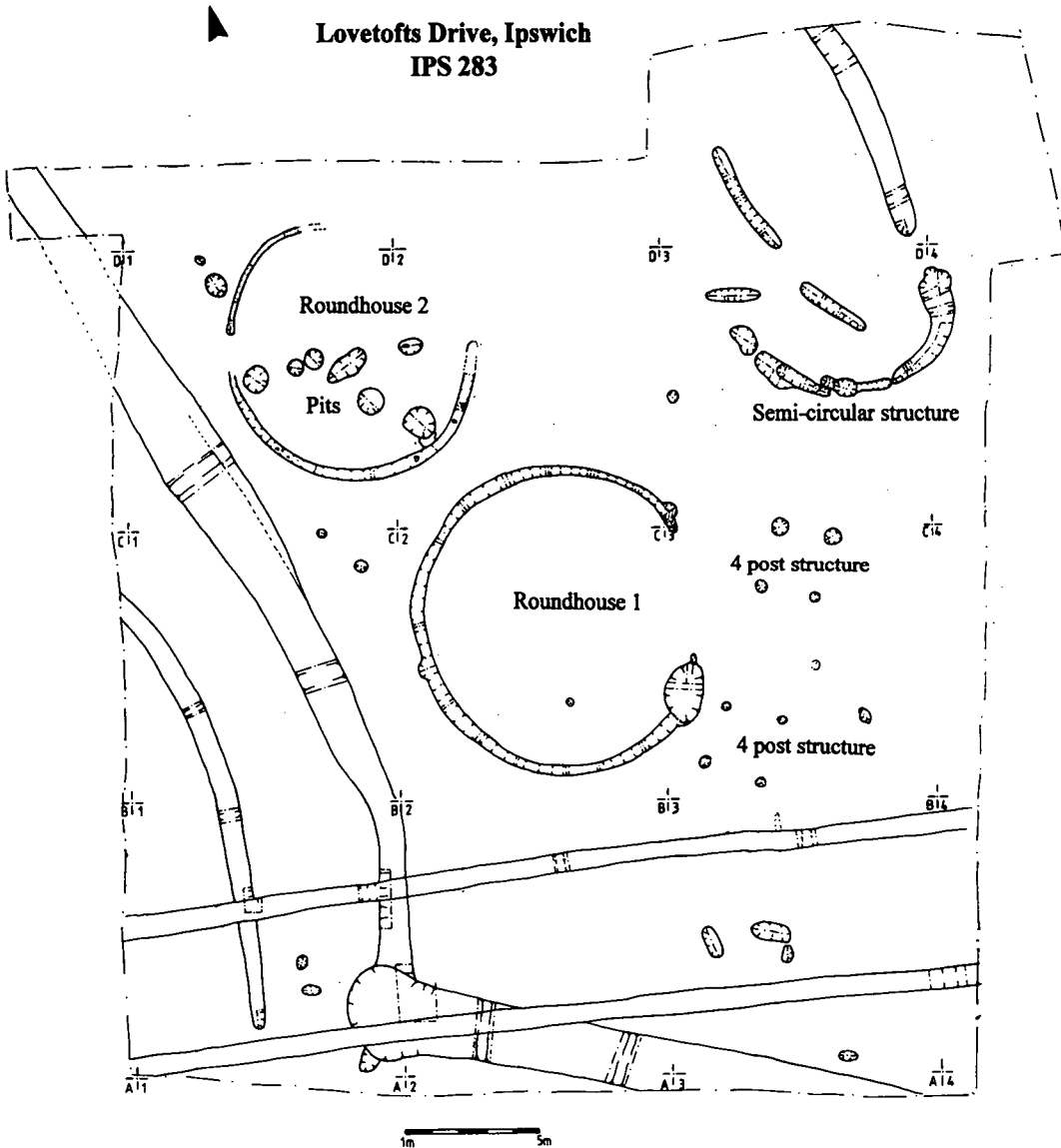


FIG. 101 – Lovetofts Drive, Ipswich: plan of the Iron Age settlement.

Ipswich, Neptune Quay (TM/1644; IAS6601): An evaluation was carried out prior to a residential development. Two trial-trenches were excavated within the footprint of the proposed buildings close to the Fore Street frontage. In addition, the excavation of eight engineering test-pits was monitored. Evidence was recorded in both trenches for cellars, rooms and passages associated with buildings fronting on to Fore Street. These were dated by their bricks as late-17th to 19th century.

A wall which was tentatively interpreted as the continuation of a quay wall identified in a small excavation in 1989, turned out to be part of a building fronting on Fore Street. This post-dated an extensive layer over the eastern end of the site which was dated from artefactual and

cartographic evidence to the 17th century, and represented a programme of enwharfment carried out between the production of Speed's map of 1610 and Ogilby's of 1674. Below this layer, on the riverward side of the quay wall, waterlogged deposits were recorded. These were similar to those seen in the 1989 excavation (dating from the mid-7th to the 16th centuries) and represented the natural accretion and deliberate dumping of material in the intertidal zone of the riverbank during this period. The sand and gravel of the original riverbank were only identified towards the north-west corner of the site in Trench 1.

The follow-up excavation recovered further evidence for the quay wall (now thought to be of late medieval date) seen in 1989 and identified an associated revetment and bank structure with a wooden base-plate for a small jetty. In addition, a single, probably early medieval, inhumation burial was recorded with the grave respecting the line of three early medieval strand-line ditches.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Bellway (Essex). Report no. 98/48).

Ipswich, former Half Moon and Star Public House, St Matthew's Street (TM/1544; IAS7013): Monitoring of ground works for a new building at the rear of the house produced evidence for a linear ditch, some 2m wide by 1m deep, of 16th/17th-century date. There was no discernible relationship between the ditch and any of the buildings fronting St Matthew's Street.

(Timothy K. Browne, S.C.C.A.S. for English Churches Housing Group and Ipswich Building Preservation Trust).

Ipswich, 37 St Peter's Street (TM/1644; IAS2902): An excavation was undertaken prior to the construction of a rotunda on the corner of St Peter's Street and Star Lane. The site lies close to St Peter's Church, which is believed to have been founded as a Saxon minster, and later became the church of the Priory of St Peter and St Paul, and later still of Wolsey's College. A group of seven burials of 12th/13th-century date imply that the site lay within the priory cemetery, although work conducted by Elizabeth Owles during the excavation of Star Lane in 1974 suggests that the eastern wall of the precinct lay further to the east. The burials overlay a number of pits of Late Saxon date, which in turn cut the backfilled trench of a possible 7th-century sunken-featured building.

(Tom Loader, S.C.C.A.S. for the Trustees of the Andrastar Pension Scheme).

Lakenheath, R.A.F. Lakenheath, Buildings 1157, 1159 and 1164 (TL/7381; LKH201): Three undated ditches were found during foundation monitoring.

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for the DEO(USF) and the Ministry of Defence).

Lavenham, The Grove (TL/9149; LVM036): An evaluation trench in the area of a proposed sunken garden revealed a late medieval property boundary and post-holes belonging to a possible timber-framed structure.

(Tom Loader, S.C.C.A.S. for Dr and Mrs N. Evans).

Levington, Home Farm (TM/2340; LVT036): Soil-stripping in connection with a farm reservoir was monitored. Two features were identified: a medieval ditch and an undated ditch, together with a significant quantity of pottery and worked flint, which was recovered from a silty-sand layer that occurred between the topsoil and the subsoil. Neolithic activity on the site was indicated by eight flint tools and two sherds of pottery, but the majority of the pottery was Iron Age in date, relatively unabraded and thought to represent recently plough-damaged occupation deposits of that period. Medieval pottery was also recovered, predominantly from the western side of the site, in the vicinity of known medieval ditches, along with a single sherd of Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for the Orwell Settlement Trustees. Report no. 98/15).

Lowestoft (TM/5594; LWT041): A section cut through the Gunton/Lowestoft parish boundary bank, in advance of road works for the A12 Lowestoft Northern Spine Road, exposed a bank c.1m in height, with a 2m-wide ditch on its southern edge. The bank contained finds consistent with its suggested construction date of c.1770. (Tom Loader, S.C.C.A.S.).

Martlesham, BT Research Laboratories, Martlesham Heath (TM/2545; MRM053): Evaluation trenching revealed one small area with evidence of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c.900–600 B.C.) activity, with two small pits containing ‘Darmsden style’ pottery close to the Early Bronze Age barrow sites excavated in 1974. (John Newman, S.C.C.A.S. for BT plc).

Mellis, Land adjacent to Little Laurels (TM/1074; MLS013): An evaluation was undertaken in advance of housing development adjacent to the medieval green. A medieval ditch and a small number of pits were identified. (Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Bowden Construction UK Ltd).

Mildenhall, Jude’s Ferry Bridge, West Row (TL/6774; MNL501): Large animal bones dredged out of peaty deposits in the centre of the River Lark, in advance of bridge reconstruction, were reported by the site engineer, Owen Wallis. The bones were identified as part of a large aurochs skull, including the complete right mandible (lower jaw) and the top of the cranial vault with horncores attached. The ends of the horncores were damaged, but the span across them was over a metre. The maximum length of the mandible was 57cm – more recent cow mandibles are about 36cm long.

Aurochs were prehistoric wild cattle and were considerably bigger than the domestic examples with which they were contemporary. The largest bulls had shoulder heights of about 180cm (5ft 9in) and if the horns are included they would have been around two metres in height. Some of the earliest British finds are from Mesolithic hunter-gatherer seasonal camps such as Star Carr, Yorks., and the latest known example in Britain is from Littleport, Cambs., dated to c.1400 bc (Shawcross and Higgs 1961). Several skeletons or skulls have been found in the fens around Isleham and Mildenhall, usually in the wet peaty deposits close to rivers.

Compared with other aurochs skulls from the region, this example is the largest. The horncore base circumference, at 48cm, is considerably larger than the Littleport aurochs (34cm) and another Early Bronze Age example from County Farm, Mildenhall Fen (36cm). The maximum posterior curvature (curving length) of the horns can be estimated from the most complete, and would have been at least 90cm. The Littleport example has a measurement of 78cm and the County Farm horncore was 81cm long.

Based on the size of the animal, it is likely that this example was a male aurochs. The one surviving tooth, a third molar, showed only slight wear, perhaps suggesting an individual in the prime of life. Two small cut marks on the outer surface of the mandible suggest that the animal may have been butchered, although whether it died of natural causes or was hunted and killed is impossible to surmise from the available evidence.

(Sue Anderson, S.C.C.A.S. for Suffolk County Council Bridges and John Martin Construction, Felixstowe).

Mildenhall, Smoke House Inn, Beck Row (TL/6878; MNL502): An evaluation in advance of a housing development revealed a network of ditches and a series of natural, peat-filled hollows. The ditches probably constitute a number of field-boundary, or field-drainage networks which may have emptied into the hollows. The finds were limited but a tile fragment and a *sestertius* of the Emperor Trajan (A.D. 103–117) suggest a Roman date for this system.

Handmade flint-tempered pottery found below the peat suggests that the hollows were also a focus for activity in the Iron Age.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Persimmon Homes. Report no. 98/92).

Orford, Dunrovin, High Street (TM/4250; ORF028): Monitoring revealed a Roman ditch containing late-1st/2nd-century pottery, two medieval clay-lined bread ovens and a series of pits which contained 13th–15th-century pottery. Occupation continued on beyond the medieval period and a small earth-floored building, with a crag-block wall base surviving in one corner, appears to conform with the location of a cottage shown on a 16th/17th-century map.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr and Mrs J.A. Crane).

Polstead, Steps Farm (TL/9837; PLS031): A scatter of Late Saxon and medieval pottery was recorded during monitoring along the route of a new water main. All of the pottery (35 sherds) was recovered from a 20cm-thick layer between the topsoil and the underlying clay subsoil. The material was typical of medieval pottery from the Suffolk–Essex border, being more characteristic of Essex than Suffolk wares. Their unabraded condition suggested that they were in a primary context. The lane (Rectory Hill) immediately to the east of the finds scatter is likely to be of medieval origin and the artefacts may be associated with an occupation site fronting on to this road. However, if the layer from which the finds were recovered was a hillwash deposit, then they are more likely to have been generated from a site located further up the slope towards the north.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Anglian Water Services. Report no. 98/50).

Preston St Mary, Priory Farm (TL/9350 and 9450; PSM002 and 025): Two sites investigated as part of an 'Archaeology Open Day'. Both lay in the same pasture field to the east of the farmstead. The first site (PSM002) consisted of a series of earthworks, including a rectangular platform, while the second (PSM025) was the site of a 19th-century windmill.

Priory Farm is so-called because it was given, c.1200, to Holy Trinity Priory in Ipswich by Thomas de Mendham, one of the four constables of Bury Abbey. After the dissolution of the priory in 1537, the Priory Manor in Preston was granted to a succession of non-resident owners until 1580, when it was acquired by Robert Reyce, as an extension to his estate centred on Preston Hall. Although it was never the site of a priory, a map of 1830 names the field containing the platform as *The Priory*.

A contour survey of the whole field highlighted the complexity of the earthworks, and was supplemented by a geophysical (resistivity) survey. Two linear trenches were mechanically excavated across the rectangular platform and its flanking ditches. The north-to-south depression defining the eastern end of the platform was found to be caused by a large ditch-like feature which had been backfilled earlier this century. An east-to-west hollow marking the southern edge of the platform was more complex, comprising at least three separate linear features of medieval or early-post-medieval date. The relationship between these ditches and the larger north-to-south ditch did not fall within the confines of the excavated trenches. In addition, a cobbled surface was encountered immediately south of the southernmost of the three ditches, which was also thought to be medieval. The northern edge of the platform was flanked by an open ditch.

The surface of the platform sloped down from north to south, as the result of a variable thickness of silty clay dumped on to the otherwise relatively flat platform. Beneath this clay layer, a part of a circular structure was discovered. This had a diameter of about 8m, with a central, circular clay pad, c.4m in diameter, filling a c.0.4m deep pit-like depression. The visible portion of the clay pad was surrounded by thirteen closely spaced shallow post-holes with further, deeper post-holes around the outer edge of the structure. Pottery from the

feature suggests a 12th–13th-century date for the structure. Its function is not yet clear, but one possibility is that it is a dovecote.

The mill site (PSM025) was excavated manually because the remains were just beneath the turf. The geophysical survey identified the mill site, an area of hard-standing to the south, and a linear feature, aligned north–south, a few metres to the west of the mill. The area of the mill was divided into quadrants, centred on the middle of the circular slight depression visible in the field, and the opposing N.E. and S.W. quadrants were excavated. These revealed robbed out wall foundations enclosing a small octagonal area which undoubtedly represented the base of the mill. The robbed foundation was backfilled with broken bricks and mortar indicating that the mill stood on a brick base. A small ‘pad’ of four bricks was located within the mill, and probably supported wooden beams for the mill floor and machinery.

On the southern side of the mill site an area of cobbling was revealed. This was formed from smallish (2–5cm diameter) rounded and angular flints laid immediately on the subsoil and formed a smooth, level, hard surface. Traces of this surface were also located on the northern side of the mill although it did not appear to extend to the west. It was not possible to determine the existence of this surface to the east as the excavated quadrant did not extend beyond the mill. On the south side of the mill, facing the road, fragments of a mill stone were recorded. These appeared to have been laid as a surface, slightly higher than the cobbled surface, and may represent a doorstep; traditionally an old millstone is often set in the doorway of a mill. Overlaying the cobbled surface and forming a circular pattern around the robbed foundation trench was a quantity of black tarry pitch. This probably represents excess pitch that ran off the wooden cladding of the mill.

A large quantity of iron fittings was recovered during the excavation. Most were nails, bent as if removed from timbers by a claw-hammer. This suggests that the wooden mill was systematically dismantled. Many of the other iron fittings could be identified as being specific to a windmill and its associated machinery.

The linear feature identified by the geophysical survey to the west of the mill was seen to align with a small gate on the northern edge of the field, and a dip and a gate on the southern edge of the field. Upon investigation this feature was found to be a hard, compacted flint surface and was interpreted as a roadway. Its purpose may have been to enable carts to enter the mill site from the road, pass around the back of the mill and arrive at the front of the mill facing the road ready for departure.

The mill is marked on a map of 1824, but on the 1885 Ordnance Survey map it is marked as ‘disused’. It had disappeared by 1904. The windmill type was previously unknown, but evidence from the excavation suggests that it was a smock mill. These generally have octagonal brick bases and tapering timber-framed towers, clad with weatherboarding. Mills of this type are on occasion dismantled, sold, and re-erected elsewhere. It is unlikely that this mill was used again, but it is possible that it was second-hand when first erected in Preston. Some of the material recovered suggests late 18th-century rather than 19th-century technology, as would be expected if the mill was new (P. Dolman *pers. comm.*). Also there is documentary evidence for a smock mill being sold for re-use at Cockfield in the 1820s and it would seem unlikely that it would have travelled far.

(Stuart Boulter and Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. and the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group).

Stratton Hall, Suffolk Yacht Harbour (TM/2438; SNH013): An extension to the boat-storage facility was evaluated. A small gully containing two sherds of Early Medieval pottery, and three shallow, charcoal-filled pits, one of which contained a sherd of Middle Saxon pottery, were located.

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Suffolk Yacht Harbour Ltd).

Trimley St Martin, Trimley Marshes (TM/2536; TYN004, 007, 015, 072 and 073): An

evaluation was undertaken of a 46ha area bordering the River Orwell affected by a proposed 'inter-tidal habitat' and its immediate hinterland. Fieldwalking revealed a salt-working site of Late Iron Age or Early Roman date (TYN073), similar to one already known approximately a kilometre to the south-east (TYN018). A field on the lower south-west slopes of Sleighton Hill produced large quantities of artefacts, including a dense concentration of burnt flint of probable prehistoric date (TYN072) in the north-west corner. Close by there was a spread of post-medieval tile and slag related to iron-smithing. Much worked flint was spread across this field, including pieces of Mesolithic date (a small 'tranchet' axe and an end-scrapers), plus large Late Neolithic scrapers. Some of the knapped material and burnt flint probably relates to a ring-ditch (TYN015) recorded by aerial photography in the field's south-east corner.

The remaining finds comprised a low density of burnt and worked flint, tile, burnt clay, slag and pottery, indicating activity in the area during the later prehistoric period through to post-medieval times. Very little was recovered from the fields abutting the current sea-defences; however this is probably a reflection of their relatively modern surfaces. Indeed, as one moved inland and upland, moving away from what were originally marshes (and the area of proposed development), the number of finds increased as one approached the dense network of cropmarks recorded between Sleighton Hill and Thorpe Common, which probably represent traces of prehistoric and Roman settlement and burial.

(Tristan Carter, S.C.C.A.S. for Harwich Haven Authority. Report no. 99/2).

Trimley St Mary (TM/2835; TYY025): Prior to a large-scale development in connection with Felixstowe Docks, some 60ha was fieldwalked and the known site of Blofield Hall was evaluated by trial trenches. The fieldwalking located various large but diffuse scatters of worked and burnt flints, along with a few pottery sherds, all of which points to widespread prehistoric activity in the area. Blofield Hall is recorded as a minor manor in Trimley St Mary parish from at least the 14th century. However the trial-trenching only recovered evidence for post-medieval activity on the site, where the latest house was demolished in the early 1980s. The lack of medieval material was surprising and may be the product of major remodelling of the site in more recent centuries.

(Catherine Abbott and Anthony Breen, S.C.C.A.S. for Trinity College, Cambridge).

Tuddenham St Mary, Hill Farm Reservoir (TL/7469; TDD009): Monitoring, following an evaluation, revealed a group of subsoil features (some possibly natural) towards the top of the hill, containing struck flint flakes, blades and cores, and small amounts of flint-tempered pottery. The bulk of the flint and the pottery came from a single oval pit, with a dark charcoally fill, which produced 195 sherds of pottery from three (?) vessels thought to be Neolithic.

(John Newman and Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for F. Hiam Ltd).

Wangford, Wangford Quarry (TM/4777; WNF018): On-going monitoring of soil-stripping revealed several large fragments from a single Neolithic plain bowl in a c.1m x 1m area.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for RMC Atlas Aggregates Ltd. Report no. 98/80).

Wenhaston, Land adjacent to 14 Narrow Way (TM/4275; WMH019): An evaluation was carried out in advance of a small housing development. Documentary evidence showed that the area had been a common until about 1760 and then arable land. Two features, a pit and a ditch, were recorded in the trial-trench, both of Roman date. While not appearing to represent concentrated archaeological deposits, these features form a link between the known Roman sites to the north and south of Wenhaston (WMH 004 and WMH 005).

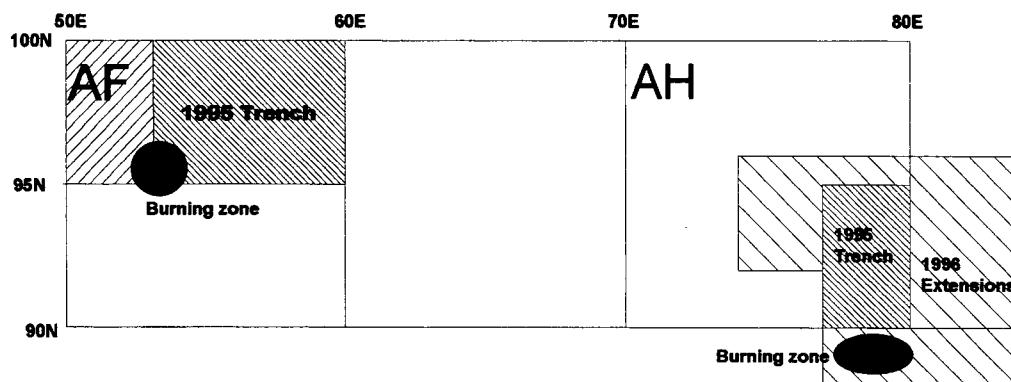
(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Hastoe Housing Association Ltd. Report no. 98/42).

West Stow, Beeches Pit (TL/7971; WSW009): Excavations and geological investigations continued in 1997 and 1998. The present investigations began as an interdisciplinary project by several researchers as reported previously (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1996'). Preliminary archaeological work in 1992–1994 led to an archaeological Phase 2 which could be launched in precise terms. In view of the likelihood that Neanderthals in Europe and modern humans in Africa had long separate ancestries, it was argued that it is very important to work towards (a) sampling numbers of sites, so as to investigate occupations of different ages; (b) establishing a comparative picture, in which we seek to build up a picture of basic human skills, especially those necessary for adapting to different environments – fire being of obvious importance; (c) improving the application of dating techniques and other analyses. This project contributes to research under all these headings. Beeches Pit is one of very few British sites which documents unequivocally the presence of early humans – probably archaic *Homo sapiens/heidelbergensis* – in horizons that belong to the fully temperate part of an interglacial sequence. The interglacial represented at Beeches Pit postdates the Anglian glaciation, which ended about 420,000 years ago.

Phase 2 at Beeches Pit began in 1996, when the trenches were opened up to a much larger area (Fig. 102). In 1996 a baked area or combustion zone was found in the western trench, Area AF, and this was lifted intact in 1997 during a long eight-week season. Trench AF revealed a cliff of tufaceous material which is interpreted as a channel bank. A series of clay layers built up over this bank, preserving stone artefact distributions through a depth of about 1.5m. A few bones are preserved in the lower levels. Near the centre of the trench is a concentration of burnt material, including a patch of reddened clay. This was lifted as a block (*c.* 1m cube).

The eastern trench, AH, extends to a maximum of 10 x 8m. It preserves a distribution of artefacts along a gentle slope, again probably at the edge of a channel. Finds are rare at the

Beeches Pit 1996-1998: extensions to excavations



**Beeches Pit: Extended trench outlines
seen against the 10m squares of the grid
(coordinates shown in metres).**

FIG. 102 – Beeches Pit, West Stow: plan of the excavations, 1995–98.

back of the trench, on tufaceous sediment, much commoner in a band extending from the north-west to the south-east corner of the trench. Here groups of refitting flakes give an indication of the trend of the surface. In the front of the trench is a second patch with burnt material, including burnt flints, and some bone fragments (unidentifiable). The largest set of refitting pieces amounts to 28 flakes from the attempted roughing out of a biface (Andresen *et al.* 1997; Gowlett *et al.* 1998).

The main objectives of the 1998 season were:

- (1) to complete excavation within the limits of the eastern excavation, AH, across approximately 75sq m;
- (2) to investigate the second combustion patch within this area, to sample from it, and to lift a selected block of the material;
- (3) to complete excavation in Area AF, where the combustion patch had been lifted in 1997, with the objective of recovering bones from the basal layer, and so as to recover material from the area surrounding the combustion patch.

All these tasks were achieved during the field season. In the course of geological trenching by David Bridgland and Simon Lewis a distinctive bone bed was found about 10m from Area AF, at a level which can be related to it stratigraphically. An area of about 0.5sq m of this was investigated, yielding bones of a small carnivore and rhinoceros. A block of material containing bones was taken for excavation in the laboratory.

In AH a satisfactory rate of excavation was maintained, yielding some 6,000 further finds. A further gradiometer survey confirmed that the second burning feature could be delimited independently of visual inspection. The AH excavation is now completed, with the exception of the need for a deepened geological section dug to archaeological precision. The excavation of Area AF was completed with the exception of 4sq m, which we had previously appreciated would need additional time.

The computer catalogue of finds from all seasons was completed in 1997, allowing full sorting and manipulation of data by packages including SPSS and Access. We are now adding in attributes from 1997 and 1998 finds. It is intended that the basic computer cataloguing should be up to date by the close of field operations in 1999.

(J.A.J. Gowlett, Department of Archaeology, University of Liverpool).

Willisham, Tye Lane (TM/0651; WLS005): Monitoring of groundworks for a small residential development to the south of Tye Lane revealed evidence for medieval activity of 11th–14th-century date, with a marked concentration of finds and features close to the tye edge, as indicated on late 18th-century maps. While most of the pottery finds were unstratified, two or three features were identified indicating the possible site of a tye-edge house or cottage plot.

(John Newman, S.C.C.A.S. for V.A. Marriott Ltd).

Withersfield, Land north of Withersfield Road (TL/6646; WTH011, 012 and 023): An evaluation was undertaken in connection with a road and housing development. Fieldwalking in 1992 had recovered Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and Roman pottery on part of the area (WTH011); metalwork was also found through metal-detecting by local enthusiasts (WTH023), including a Late Bronze Age hoard (WTH012), which could be associated with the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery in WTH011. Evaluation trenches in the immediate vicinity of the hoard revealed a small group of features containing Late Bronze Age pottery. These features consisted of small shallow pits or postholes. No other significant archaeological deposits or features were located.

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Wilcon Homes (East Anglia) Ltd).

Worlingham (TM/4489; WGM006, 007 and 008): An evaluation undertaken in advance of

housing development on the east edge of Worlingham revealed two medieval sites. Both were small roadside settlements with main periods of occupation in the 12th–14th centuries. The features uncovered were pits and ditches with a single oven in site WGM008. (Joanna Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Persimmon Homes. Report no. 98/75).

CHURCH RECORDING

Blyford, All Saints' Church (TM/4276; BLY006): The removal of a layer of cement render from the south nave and south and east chancel walls provided the opportunity to study the wall fabric and earlier surface treatments. The chancel walls were constructed from randomly-laid flints (with the occasional re-use of Norman masonry fragments) while the flints in the nave walls were well coursed, in the Norman tradition. All surface treatments were found to be relatively late in date (late medieval at the earliest), definitely post-dating the insertion of the Perpendicular windows in the south nave wall. The clay and straw packing on top of the wall (filling the gaps between the wall and the wooden wall plate above) was also found to post-date the inserted Perpendicular windows but pre-dated the earliest surface treatment, a yellow lime mortar, as in places it could be seen covering the clay.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Blyford Parochial Church Council).

Great Whelnetham, Church of St Thomas à Becket (TL/8759; WLG006): A measured drawing was made of the south face of the nave when the render was removed during restoration. The chancel is 13th-century with an inserted late Perpendicular east window and two Decorated single-light windows in the chancel. The nave was also thought to be 13th-century and had been remodelled. The most obvious alteration was the lifting of the height of the wall and the addition of a clerestory. Both of the large windows in the nave have probably been inserted, but there are no signs of blocked-in earlier windows, so the positions are probably original.

The facing on the west end of the nave is strikingly different from the central part and may be related to remedial work to the west after the collapse of the tower which was replaced by the present wooden belfry in 1749.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Great Whelnetham Parochial Church Council).

Worthingam, Church of St Mary the Virgin (TM/0878; WTM011): Recording work was carried out in connection with repairs, concentrating on the west nave wall, south of the round tower. This proved that the tower was contemporary with the west nave wall, both being 12th-century (Norman) in date. In addition, the original line of the south nave wall was identified, along with its probable height and the level of the Norman gable apex. A series of mid-14th-century alterations suggest that the nave roof was raised to its present height at this time; the later addition of a clerestory only altered the pitch of the roof, not its height. The clerestory is said to be early 15th-century, but has red brick in it which appears to be later.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Worthingam Parochial Church Council. Report. no. 98/8).

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