

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 1990

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object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

This is a selection of sites and finds discovered or reported in 1990. Information on all these has been incorporated into Suffolk County Council's Sites and Monuments Record, which is maintained by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit at Bury St Edmunds. The Record number follows the grid reference in 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:

G.M.D.C.	Gorleston Metal Detector Club
I.M.	Ipswich Museum
I.M.D.C.	Ipswich Metal Detector Club
M.d.f.	Metal detector find
M.H.	Moyses Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds
N.A.U.	Norfolk Archaeological Unit
S.A.U.	Suffolk Archaeological Unit, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds (tel. Bury St Edmunds 763141).

Pa	Palaeolithic	Ro	Roman
Me	Mesolithic	Sx	Saxon
Ne	Neolithic	Md	Medieval
BA	Bronze Age	PM	Post-Medieval
IA	Iron Age	UN	Period Unknown

Acton (TL/8945; ACT015). **Ro.** Scatter of pottery, *Aucissa* brooch, Colchester derivative brooch and coins (range Claudius II, 268–70, to Theodosius, 379–95). (J. Smith).

Alpheton (TL/8850; ALP004). **Ro.** Scatter of pottery in an area 10m square. (T.Rix).

Arwarton (ARW014). **Ro.** Small bronze figure of Mercury with large wings on his head, holding up a wand in his right hand; 5.2cm high. (I.M.D.C.).

Bardwell (BAR037). **Sx.** Silver *obole* or half-denier of the Emperor Charles the Bald, A.D. 843–77. (M.d.f.).

Barham (BRH024). **IA.** Gold quarter stater of Icenian type, obv. similar to Allen's no. 47 (*Britannia* 1970) rev. similar to Allen no. 46. (I.M.D.C.).

Bentley (BTY010). **IA/Ro.** Bronze mount in the shape of a stylised human head, stylistically 'Celtic'. (Fig. 42A). (I.M.D.C.).

Boxford (BXF009). **Sx.** Fragment of a bronze brooch of 5th-century type (K. Jarmin).

Boxted (TL/8250; BXT011). **Ne, BA, Ro.** Finds from farmland over a length of time: fragments of two polished and one part-polished flint axes; Early Bronze Age stone battle axe, convex outline, hour-glass perforation, Roe's 'Early' form (*C.B.A. Research Rep.* 23, 1979), light grey fine-grained stone, slightly micaceous, possibly a greywacke; Roman pottery, tile (roof and possibly box tile) and coins (range Nero, 54–68, to Valentinian, 364–78). (D. Laffin).

Boxted (TL/8349; BXT12). **Me, Ne.** Finds from farmland over a length of time: two flint

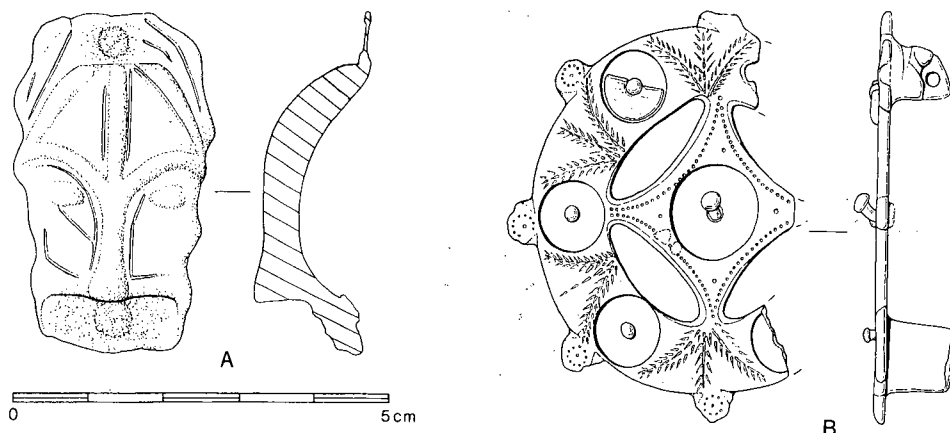


FIG. 42 - (A) Bronze mount in the form of a stylised human head, Iron Age or Roman, from Bentley; (B) unusual Roman bronze brooch with applied bone roundels, from Bramford.

tranchet axes and flint cores; two flaked flint axes, a partly-polished flint chisel or small axe, a flint laurel-leaf point and a Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age roughout for a flint shaft-hole macehead of Maesmore type, being a roughly squared block with a hole bored half-way through in the middle of one side. (D. Laffin).

Bramfield (BMF Misc). **Md.** Bronze seal matrix, pointed oval shape with a bird in flight, blundered inscription: * SIGILL'SERETI 'private seal'. Late 13th-14th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Bramford (BRF033). **Sx, Md.** Copper gilt disc-brooch with *cloisonné* enamel decoration, central four-petalled flower in light blue, on a dark blue background with four white spots. Seven lobes bearing glass spheres around the edge of the disc (three dark blue, four light blue). Traces of a catch and iron pin on the reverse. Late 10th-11th-century (see the similar brooch from Santon Downham in the 1989 list). Bronze seal matrix, pointed oval shape, figures of Virgin and child with inscription: + MAT' DEI. MEMTO MEI ('Mother of God remember me'), late 13th/14th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Bramford (BRF034). **Ro.** Part of a circular plate brooch with cut-outs and settings for applied bone roundels, an unusual, probably 1st-century, type. (Fig. 42B). (I.M.D.C.).

Bramford (BRF035). **Ro.** Coins (range A.D. 268-308) and 'mandolin-shaped' spoon fragment. (I.M.D.C.).

Burstall (TM/0945); BUS002). **Ro.** Pottery scatter, mainly 1st- and 2nd-century wares and an illegible coin found along a footpath. (M. and W. Birch).

Capel St Mary (TM/0838; CSM013). **Ro.** Cremation burial in a large yellowish fabric jar found during construction work on the north side of the church. (Rev. B.A. Toll).

Chediston (TM/3577; CHD054). **Me.** Flint tranchet axe. (G. Burroughes).

Coddenham (CDD017). **Ro.** Fragment of bronze sword scabbard slide - one of the few Roman military items so far identified from the area around the 1st-century fort. (I.M.D.C.).

Coddenham (CDD021). **Sx.** Silver coin of Edward the Martyr (A.D. 975-78), moneyer Baldric of Bedford. (I.M.D.C.).

Coddenham (CDD022). **IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Further finds have been made at this exceptionally rich but puzzling site. On a preliminary assessment there are now: 9 Iron Age coins (5 gold, 1 silver, 4 bronze), 34 Roman coins (2 silver, 32 bronze), 48 Anglo-Saxon coins (12 gold, 36 silver) and over two dozen medieval and later coins. The Anglo-Saxon coins

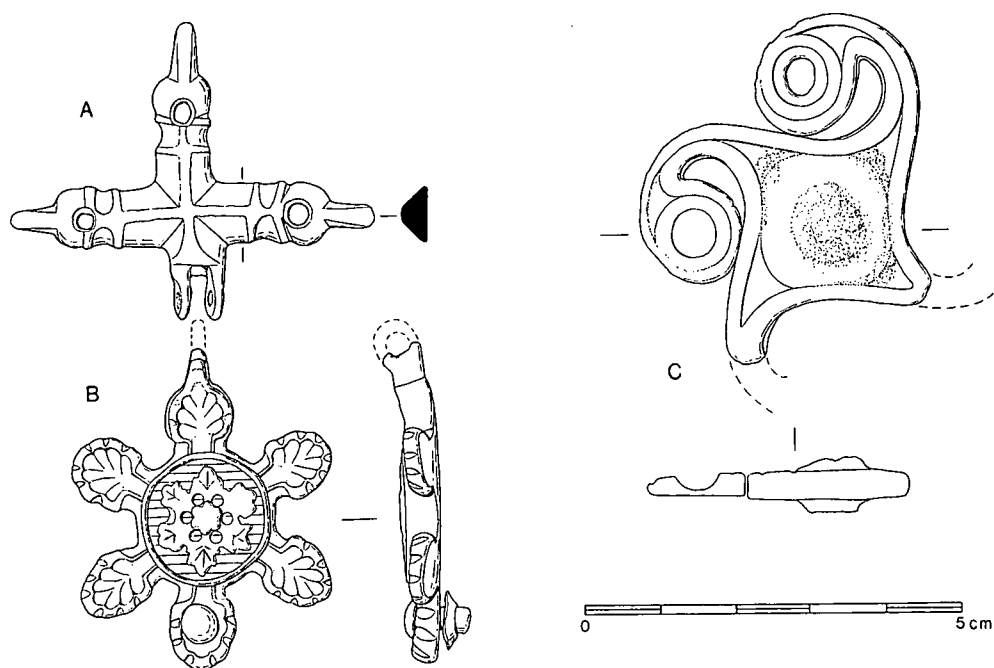


FIG. 43 – (A) Medieval gilt bronze mount for suspending harness pendants (as B), from Coddendam; (B) gilt bronze harness pendant decorated with blue enamel, probably 14th-century, from Mendlesham; (C) Celtic-style bronze object, possibly a cart mount, from Ramsholt – the pelta-shaped recesses on the arms were probably once filled with enamel.

are exciting great interest as the number of gold coins is higher than that from any other single site, with the exception of the major hoard found at Crondall in Hampshire in 1828. Most of the Anglo-Saxon coins date from *c.* 620–700, with one earlier coin – a Merovingian gold *tremissis* of *c.* 570–80 in worn condition, and one later coin – a penny of Eadwald King of E. Anglia, who ruled briefly between the death of Offa of Mercia in 796 and the reimposition of Mercian control in E. Anglia by Coenwulf *c.* 798. The Roman finds include 34 brooches of various types. The Saxon finds include three 7th-century gold fragments (a small square sheet with a *repoussé* boss in the centre; a ‘vandyke-shaped’ fragment with *repoussé* interlace decoration, probably a mount from a wooden cup or drinking horn; and a fragment that was originally inlaid with garnet *cloisonné* work, which may be an arm from a pendant cross like that from Ixworth), 7 bronze brooches (4 cruciform, 2 small-long and 1 bird), 38 buckles, and 4 hooked box-catches.

The great variety of dates and types of objects makes it very unlikely that this is a dispersed hoard, they could be from a cemetery, but no positive evidence of graves has yet been found, despite a trial excavation (see ‘Archaeology in Suffolk 1988’). The proportion of high value gold items is also much higher than that found at the suggested Anglo-Saxon market sites at Barham, outside Ipswich, and at Royston in Cambridgeshire. The far from insignificant Iron Age and Roman finds have also to be explained – altogether the site is still a major enigma. (I.M.D.C.).

Coddendam (CDD028). **Sx.** Bronze caterpillar brooch, *Hubener* Group 10. (I.M.D.C.).

Coddendam (CDD Misc). **Md.** Gilt bronze cruciform suspension mount for a shield-shaped horse harness pendant (Fig. 43A). A virtually identical piece is also known from Ramsholt. (I.M.D.C.).

Drinkstone (TL/9561; DRK008). **PM**. Ridge-and-furrow like earthworks in meadowland in the Black Bourn valley, between Park Road and Gedding Road. The ridges are straight, relatively short, and run from the edge of a slightly higher terrace down to the edge of the stream. The ridges are about half a metre high and have a wavelength of 6.6m. The short length of the ridges and their relationship with the stream makes it likely that they are some form of meadow drainage works. (E. Martin, S.A.U.).

Edwardstone (EDN010). **Ro**. Scatter of pottery and coins (late 2nd century to 330s). (I.M.D.C.).

Flowton (FLW004). **Sx**. Gilt bronze strap-end, shield-shaped, with five silvered bosses and symmetrical geometric decoration. Carolingian type of the 10th century. (M.d.f. per N.A.U.).

Fornham All Saints (FAS Misc). **PM**. Lead cloth seal with 'R' over four 'X's on the front, and '122' scratched on the reverse. (M.d.f.).

Friston (TM/4061; FRS003). **Md**. 13th to 14th century pottery and a fragment of a Rhenish lava millstone revealed in a builders' construction trench. (Mr Rawston).

Gedgrave (GED003). **Ro**. Scatter of pottery and metalwork (coin of Faustina and Colchester derivative, trumpet and Langton Down brooches). (I.M.D.C.).

Gisleham (GSE010). **Md**. Circular bronze seal matrix with profile head and grotesque body, inscribed: * PREVESUEPOICONV ('I am a private seal'). 14th century. (G.M.D.C.).

Gisleham (GSE Misc). **Md**. Circular bronze seal matrix, broken, with a lion rampant, inscribed: * S'ALAN . . . hALI. Probably 14th century. (G.M.D.C.).

Little Glemham (GLL002). **Ro**. Scatter of pottery and metalwork – 20 coins, mainly late 3rd century, up to Constantine, 307–24, and a Langton Down brooch. (I.M.D.C.).

Little Glemham (GLL Misc). **Md**. Circular lead seal matrix, central ?flower design, inscribed: + SIGILL AGNETIS FIL ROB ('the seal of Agnes the daughter of Robert'). 13th-century. (I.M.D.C.).

Glemsford (TL/8249; GFD008). **Ne**. Flaked flint axe with a broken butt. (D. Laffin).

Glemsford (TL/8348; GFD Misc). **Md**. Lead ampulla with a crown over a 'W', for the Marian shrine at Walsingham. (D. Laffin).

Gosbeck (GOS Misc). **Md**. Circular bronze seal matrix, a large octafoil fills most of the flan, within this is a boar to the right and probably letters in the lobes on either side. Around the edge, squeezed into the lobes of the octafoil is the inscription: ? S'IOhi EOCHAN ('the seal of John Eochan'). (A Walter Echonn appears as a taxpayer in Earl Soham and Kenton in 1327). Another circular bronze seal matrix has a bird with its beak and a wing raised, inscribed: * AQVLLA IOHIAME ('the eagle of [St] John the Beloved'). Both probably 14th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Groton (GRT Misc). **Md**. Circular bronze seal matrix, stag to left, inscribed: * ALAS BOWLELEIS. A similar stag seal from Redgrave has the inscription 'Alas Rowles'. 14th century. (K.W. Jarmin).

Hasketon (HSK006). **Sx**. Bronze disc brooch, cruciform design of four cells, three empty and one infilled with red glass or garnet, but all have a backing of cross-hatched gold foil. A central roundel is infilled with white glass. 6th–7th-century. (I.M.D.C.).

Hepworth (TL/9874; HEP015). **Ne**. Polished flint axe found in digging a grave in the churchyard in 1889. (K. Howard).

Hepworth (TL/9874; HEP Misc). **Pa**. Small flint hand-axe believed to have been found on the field to the east of the church c. 1889. Cordate form with twisted edge. The fresh and unpatinated condition suggests that this is in fact a find from a brick pit or gravel quarry. (K. Howard).

Hinderclay (HNY011). **Sx, Md**. Fragment of a silver penny of Athelstan I, King of East

Anglia A.D. 827–50, *North* no. 439. Also various medieval coins, Boy Bishop token and several Venetian *solidinos*. (I.M.D.C.).

Hinderclay (HNY017). **BA, IA, Ro, Sx**. Fragment of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe; a fragment of a Late Iron Age bronze terret ring with a straight bar and a coin of Tasciovanus (*Mack* 179, *Van Arsdell* 1713–1); 14 Roman coins, mainly 4th-century, 6 Roman brooches (Colchester 2, Colchester derivative 2, Hod Hill 1); 6 Anglo-Saxon brooch fragments (1 small-long), a girdle hanger fragment and 3 wrist-clasps (1 gilded). (I.M.D.C.).

Hinderclay (HNY020). **Ne, IA**. Scatter of struck flakes and a scraper, together with a scatter of flint-gritted pottery. (I.M.D.C.).

Hinderclay (HNY021). **Md**. Scatter of metalwork and pottery, including two seal matrices. One is lead, circular, with a pointed end and cast decoration in the shape of a fleur-de-lis on the reverse, the die has an engraved fleur-de-lis with the inscription: + SIGILL' WILELM . . . WN ('the seal of William . . . wn'); 13th century. The other matrix is bronze, circular, with a central 'S' with a surrounding nonsense inscription; 14th-century. (I.M.D.C.).

Ipswich (IPS235). **IA**. Fragment of an enamelled (red and yellow) bronze harness fitting, rectangular, with a loop on the back. Also a bronze coin – a Continental potin type attributed to the Sequani – this type has only occasionally been found in southern Britain. (I.M.D.C.).

Kirton (KIR013). **IA**. Icenian gold stater, 'Norfolk Wolf' type (as *Mack* 49b and *Van Arsdell* 610–3). (I.M.D.C.).

Lackford (TL/7969; LKD031). **IA**. Pottery recovered from the edge of a landfill site, probably 3rd to 1st century B.C. (D. Dodge).

Lakenheath (LKH139). **Ro**. Bronze cauldron found on ploughed land, rim uppermost. It has a diameter of 22.5cm and is 18.3cm deep. The carinated body is made of two very thin sheets of bronze rivetted together. There is an iron binding to the rim and fragments of two iron escutcheon plates. A detached iron carrying handle was also found. 1st century A.D.; similar cauldrons are known from Brandon and Icklingham. Now in Moyses Hall Museum. (M.d.f.).

Leiston (TM/4863; LCS008). **PM**. Remains of a barge brought up while dredging channel for inlet pipe to Sizewell B power station. 19th century or later; there are reports of a barge wrecked in this approximate position in 1908. (S. Bacon).

Great Livermere (LMG010). **Md**. Silver penny of William I, canopy type, 1070–72?, moneyer Godric of Thetford. (M.d.f.).

Mendlesham (TM/1063; MDS006). **Md**. Bronze seal matrix, pointed oval shape, depicting Christ's feet and part of his robe ascending into a cloud, a star and a crescent moon in the sky, 12 figures representing the Apostles below, inscribed: VT ASCENDIT ITA VENIET ('As he ascends so shall he come'); 14th-century. Also a gilt bronze horse-harness pendant in the shape of a sixfoil with a central roundel containing another sixfoil on a blue enamelled background; probably 14th century (Fig. 43B). Both from the site of Winchester's Manor. (D. Colchester).

Mendlesham (TM/1164; MDS127). **Md**. Bronze seal matrix, pointed oval shape, depicting a stag being attacked by a hound, surrounded by trefoil foliage, inscribed: + S'PETI. COH' CAPELL' ICISUINIESIS ('the seal of Peter Coh Chaplain of Icisuin (?Ixworth, Exning or Hoxne)'); 14th century. (R. Colchester).

Mendlesham (TM/1164; MDS138). **BA**. Bronze tanged knife, end of tang and point broken, edges very damaged and nicked, surviving length 18.4cm. Slight midrib with two shallow channels on either side, bevelled edges. Flat tang with the beginning of a rivet hole at the break point. Late Middle Bronze Age. (R. Colchester).

Mendlesham (TM/1164; MDS139). **Md.** Scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery and lava mill stone fragments. (R. Colchester).

Milden (TL/9445; MDN007). **Ro, Md.** Fragment of a puddingstone quern, also a scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery and a lava mill stone fragment at the end of green lane. (C. Hawkins).

Milden (TL/9446; MDN008). **Md.** 13th–14th-century pottery associated with a black layer on the edge of a pond. (C. Hawkins).

Milden (TL/9446 & TL/9445; MDN009 & 010). **Ro.** Fragments of puddingstone querns. (C. Hawkins).

Mildenhall (TL/7374; MNL319). **Pa.** Ovate flint hand-axe found on the surface at Warren Hill, 7.9 × 6.4 × 1.9cm. (T. West).

Mildenhall (MNL Misc.). **Md.** Lead seal matrix, circular with a long projecting handle, inscribed: + SIGILL hVFRIDI PISTOR ('the seal of Humphrey Pistor') around a central cross. 13th-century. (M.d.f.).

Monks Eleigh (MKE012). **BA.** Tip of a bronze spearhead. (M.d.f.).

Mutford (MUD Misc.). **Md.** Double sided lead seal matrix, circular, inscribed on one side S'ALANI DE WVLFALÉ ('the seal of Alan of Wulfale) around a central quatrefoil, and on the other side SIGIL hAWISIE LOTRICIS ('the seal of Hawise the laundress') around a central flower design. Double sided matrices are usually for husbands and wives. 13th century. (G.M.D.C.).

Oakley (OKY Misc.). **Md.** Bronze horse harness pendant in the form of an eagle displayed, with a pierced lug attached to the head. Cast in relief with some reworking with a drill. 3cm long. Probably 14th century. (M.d.f.).

Orford (ORF016). **Ne, Md.** Worked flints including two laurel leaf points, an oblique arrowhead and a unifacially worked point. Also various medieval items, including a bronze seal matrix, hexagonal, inscribed: * ChENOT: DEV (? for 'Christ est notre Dieu') around a cross, 14th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Orford (ORF Misc.). **Md.** Lead seal matrix, pointed oval shape, inscribed: + S ROBINI. CWIN. ('the seal of Robin Cwin or Quin') around an eight-pointed star. 13th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Olley (TM/2055; OTY016). **IA, Ro.** Scatter of pottery. (S. Podd).

Pellistree (PTR014). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Scatter of Roman pottery (2nd to 4th century) and metalwork, including coins (range Marcus Aurelius to Valentinian), a model shovel, a key, a finger-ring key, and fragments of Hod Hill and Langton Down brooches. A 6th-century bronze small-long brooch and some handmade pottery sherds. Also a medieval gilt bronze horse harness pendant. This is star shaped, with a central disc on which there is a similar star pattern on a dark blue enamel background. Each of the six arms of the star has an embossed shell pattern. A very similar pendant is recorded from Mendlesham. (M.d.f.).

Polstead (PLS006). **Ro.** Scatter of tile (roof and box) and metalwork found at the east end of an area of rectilinear cropmarks. (K. Jarmin).

Preston St Mary (TL/9451; PSM012). **Ne.** Part-polished flint axe, 12.8cm long, the polish confined to the blade. (A. Thorpe).

Preston St Mary (TL/9451; PSM013). **Md.** Scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery in field adjoining Rookwood Lane. (A. Thorpe).

Preston St Mary (TL/9450; PSM014). **Ro.** Scatter of pottery and a few floor tile fragments. (A. Thorpe).

Ramsholt (RMS002). **IA.** Bronze mount with central iron corrosion, four curvilinear projections with probable enamel settings. Probably a harness or cart fitting, stylistically Celtic, but no comparable example known (Fig. 43C). (M.d.f.).

Ramsholt (RMS011). **IA, Ro, Md.** A few Iron Age sherds amongst a much larger scatter of

Roman pottery and metalwork in the area of a rectangular, double-ditched, cropmark enclosure. The pottery is probably 2nd–4th century, the coin range is Trajan, 97–117, to Valentinian, 364–78, the brooches include Colchester derivative, head stud and enamelled hinged-bow types. Also found was a medieval gilt bronze cruciform suspension mount for a horse harness pendant, very similar to the one from Coddendam. (M.d.f.).

Ramsholt (RMS015). **IA, Ro.** Trinovantian bronze coin of Cunobelinus, obv. coiled animal with ram's head; rev. ?horse to left (as *Mack* 224). Also a scatter of Roman pottery and metalwork, the coin range from Trajan, 98–117, to the early 4th century, 307–14. Two Colchester derivative brooches. (M.d.f.).

Ramsholt (RMS016). **IA, Ro.** Small amount of probable Iron Age pottery amongst a larger Roman scatter. (M.d.f.).

Redgrave (RGV024). **Sx.** Side wing of a large bronze cruciform brooch. (I.M.D.C.).

Rickinghall Inferior (RKN023). **BA.** Two heavily corroded bronze flat axes and a probable spearhead fragment found in a pile of waste from commercial peat extraction. The objects were found separately, but in one area of the waste heap. Examination of the thick corrosion layer that surrounded all the objects suggests that all three were originally concreted together. The flat axes are 11.4cm and 13.2cm long, the ?spearhead fragment is now in two pieces but was 21cm long with a 9cm long tang. Early Bronze Age. (I.M.D.C.).

Rushmere St Andrew (RMA013). **Sx.** Fragments of two bronze small-long brooches. (I.M.D.C.).

Little Saxham (SXL008). **Sx.** Ornate silver gilt hook, 9th century. (M.d.f.).

Little Saxham (SXL009). **Ro.** Scatter of pottery and metalwork. The coins (over 100) range from Antoninus Pius, 138–61, to Honorius, 393–423. Also found were a bronze figurine bust, probably of Minerva (Fig. 44), two bronze spoons, a buckle fragment, probably Hawkes & Dunning Type IA with dolphin decoration, Colchester and Colchester derivative brooches. (M.d.f.).

Saxmundham (SXM Misc). **Md.** Lead seal matrix, circular, with cast decoration on the

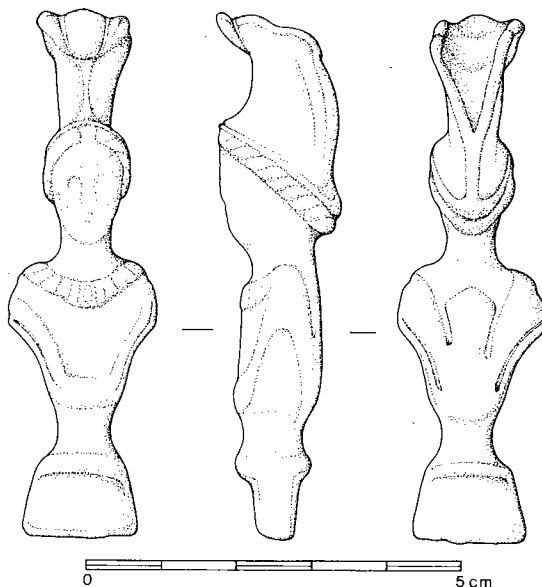


FIG. 44 – Roman bronze figurine, probably representing Minerva, from Little Saxham.

back, inscribed: S.MARGAR.hOCRE ('the seal of Margaret Hocre', though the first name is not certain). 13th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Shotley (SLY013). **Md.** Bronze seal matrix, circular, with a triple turreted tower, the initials FC above, S to one side and a cock's head erased on the other. Probably 15th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Shottisham (STT015). **IA.** Silver coin with ?eagle on obv. and horse to right on rev., type not identifiable but has some similarities to the Dubnovellaunus in Kent series. (M.d.f.).

Shottisham (TM/3143; STT017). **IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Small scatter of handmade sherds, Roman grey ware sherds and tile fragments, probable Early Saxon sherds and Middle Saxon Ipswich ware, an iron axehead (?7th century) and three lead disc weights, also a scatter of Medieval pottery. (J. Newman, S.A.U.).

Shottisham (STT018). **Ro, Sx.** Bronze coin of c. 388–402, a belt slide fragment from a late Roman/early Saxon ornate belt set and a rare 5th-century 'supporting arm' brooch. (M.d.f.).

Sibton (SBT Misc). **Md.** Bronze seal matrix, circular, IHC beneath a domed canopy surmounted by a cross, with surrounding inscription: EST AMOR MEV (i.e. 'Jesus Christ is my love'); 14th century. Also a shield-shaped horse harness pendant with a lion rampant on a red enamelled field – probably a version of the arms of the Bigod family, Earls of Norfolk, 13th–14th century. Both found in a field not far from Sibton Abbey. (I.M.D.C.).

Somerton (SMT003). **Ro.** Small scatter of pottery and a fragment of a speculum mirror. (M.d.f.).

South Elmham St Margaret (SEM009). **Sx.** Bronze cruciform brooch, early type of the 5th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Stanstead (STS002). **IA.** Very corroded bronze coin, possibly an issue of Cunobelinus similar to *Mack* 260, *Van Arsdell* 2109–1 (D. Laffin).

Stanstead (STS004). **IA, Ro.** Bronze coin of Cunobelinus, as *Mack* 230 and *Van Arsdell* 1977–5. Also Roman coins, range Trajan, 114–17, to Marcus Aurelius, 161–80, and a Langton Down brooch. (D. Laffin).

Stanton (SNT015). **Sx.** Silver coin of Athelstan I of E. Anglia, 827–c. 850, moneyer Eadgar (blundered), an early issue and unique. (M.d.f.).

Stoke-by-Nayland (TM/0234). **Md.** Concentration of pottery sherds, ?14th–15th century, and tile fragments. (J. & J. Wallace).

Stratford St Andrew (SSA001). **BA.** Blade end of bronze socketed axe. (I.M.D.C.).

Thrandeston (TDE004). **Ro.** Large group of Roman pottery and tile (roof and box types) indicating a relatively wealthy farmstead occupied from the mid 2nd to the mid 4th century. The pottery includes imported samian and Rhenish pieces, as well as products from the Nene Valley, Oxfordshire and Much Hadham in Hertfordshire. (P. Whiting).

Thwaite (TM/1166; THW007). **Ro.** Small scatter of pottery near a filled-in pond, approximately 200m from the cropmark of a possible rectangular enclosure. (R. Colchester).

Waldringfield (WLD012). **Sx.** Two fragments from a thin gilt bronze disc, or pair of discs, with excised interlace decoration within curved panels that may have formed part of a cruciform pattern. Possibly pin head(s) and 8th or 9th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Waldringfield (WLD015). **Ro.** Bronze brooch, 'sitting chicken' type with blue enamel, also a bronze trumpet brooch and four coins. (I.M.D.C.).

Wattisfield (WSF049). **Sx.** Bronze caterpillar brooch, *Hubener* group 10, and a bronze disc brooch, much corroded, with an equal-armed cross in low outline. (M.d.f.).

Wixoe (WIX003). **Ro.** Cremation burial found on the edge of an Anglian Water Authority pumping station. A large grey ware jar contained the cremated bone and this bore a samian bowl (form Drag. 42) as lid. An accessory vessel, a small grey ware carinated cup, was

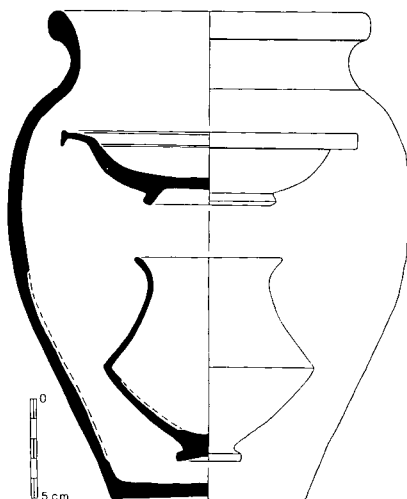


FIG. 45 – Roman pottery vessels from a cremation burial at Wixoe.

found adjacent to the neck of the large jar (Fig. 45). The cup is said to have contained a few bones, but these were emptied into the jar before it was seen by archaeologists. The pottery vessels date from the late 1st or early 2nd century. The group is now in Moyses Hall Museum. (T. Taylor, A.W.A.).

Woodbridge (WBG014). **BA**. Bronze leaf-shaped spearhead with a peg-hole, missing the point and one side of the socket, probably the result of a casting failure. Late Bronze Age. (M.d.f.).

Woodbridge (WBG Misc). **Md**. Lead seal matrix, circular, inscribed: + S'RICARDI * CLERICI ('the seal of Richard the Clerk') around central ?quail. 13th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Woolpit (WPT016). **BA**. Blade of a small bronze socketed axe, Late Bronze Age. (M.d.f.).

Woolverstone (WLV017). **Sx, Md**. Bronze disc brooch, probably enamelled, Maltese cross design; Late Saxon. Also a lead seal matrix, pointed oval shape, inscribed: S'ALICIE VX NICH ('the seal of Alice the wife of Nicholas') around a central leaf design, 13th century, and part of bronze purse frame bar with a niello inscription. (I.M.D.C.).

West Suffolk (CRN10985). **IA**. A dispersed scatter of Icenian coins: 5 gold staters (3 of *Allen's* 'Early Type' and 1 'Freckenham A'), a gold quarter stater and a fragment of a silver coin of Anted type. (M.d.f.).

West Suffolk (CRN01183). **IA**. 31 gold staters of Cunobelinus, minted at Camulodunum – 9 'Linear', 10 'Wild A', 3 'Wild B', 5 'Plastic A', 3 'Classic A', 1 'Classic B' (*Allen's* classification in *Britannia* VI, 1975). Said to have been very widely scattered over a level hill top. (M.d.f.).

FIELDWALKING SURVEYS

Bardwell and Stanton (TL/9671; BAR035, 036, 039–046; SNT013–018): Fieldwalking in the Wyken area of these parishes has revealed a history of settlement stretching back over at least 6,000 years. The earliest material is a small group of patinated flint blades, probably of Mesolithic date. The succeeding Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods are represented by seven scatters of worked flints (including items such as scrapers, knives, quern

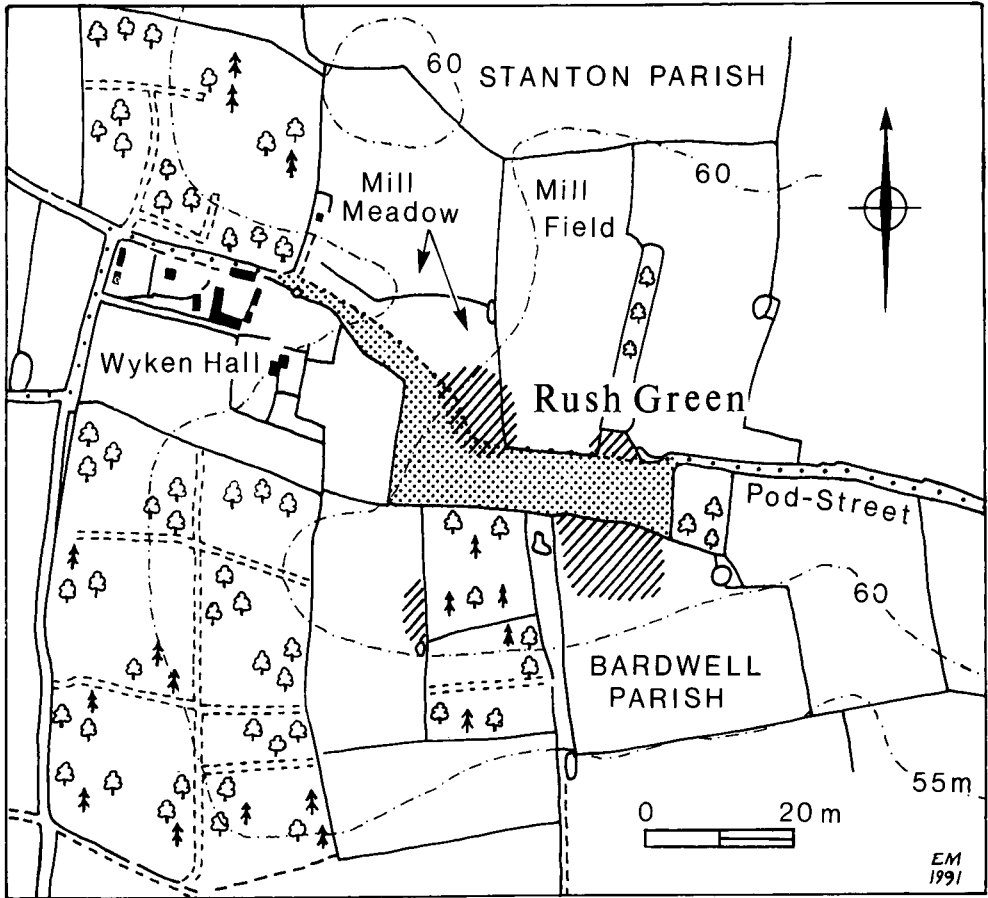


FIG. 46 – Deserted 13th–14th-century sites around the margin of the former Rush Green, on the boundary between Bardwell and Stanton.

fragments, and chisel and leaf-shaped arrowheads) together with stray finds of oblique and triangular arrowheads. The only pottery is a possible sherd of Beaker type.

For the Iron Age there is a remarkable chain of pottery scatters (some large, some small) that form a line some 850m long at the head of a small dry valley. The majority of the pottery is flint- or sand-tempered, but some grog-tempered wares are also present. An Icenian coin of ANTED type and a bronze potin coin (Class II) have also been found. Roman pottery scatters occur over part of the area of the Iron Age ones, with a more substantial group a few hundred metres to the north. This group consists predominantly of 4th-century material (the latest coin is one of Gratian, 375–78), but has some 1st- and 2nd-century material as well.

Most of the medieval sites were found around the margins of a small former green on the boundary between the two parishes (Fig. 46). Two substantial scatters of the 13th–14th century were found on the northern edge of Rush Green and another one was found on the southern edge. The latter also yielded some possible 12th-century sherds, a rim of St Neot's Ware (? 11th–12th century) and 4.75kg of lava millstone fragments. Lava millstone fragments were also recovered from the other two sites (one of which lay in *Mill Meadow* in 1839). A cut half-penny of King John (1199–1216) was found on one of the sites. A smaller

scatter of medieval pottery, virtually all 13th-century in date, was also found to the south of the green, adjacent to Ash Grove. (Edward Savery).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Barnham, East Farm Pit (TL/8778; BNH013): A preliminary two weeks fieldwork in the disused brick pit at East Farm, Barnham St Gregory concentrated on establishing the stratigraphic context of the Lower Palaeolithic Clactonian and handaxe industries known from past excavations (Paterson 1937; Wymer 1985, 116–23). The work involved (1) the excavation of a new 5m deep section adjacent to the pit, (2) extending and deepening Wymer's 1979 section, and (3) excavating a series of 15 test pits over an area of 30ha around the pit.

These sections confirm that at the base a till attributable to the Anglian glaciation underlies a sequence of sands and gravels indicative of glacio-fluvial activity. This is overlain by a brown diamict, possibly a weathered, redeposited till, which in turn is covered by several metres of colluvial 'brickearths'. Intermittent breaks in sedimentation may be indicated by darker bands in the 'brickearths', representing stable land surfaces. It is probable that the 'brickearths' date to the Hoxnian interglacial.

The series of test pits have indicated that the 'brickearths' and probably the underlying sands and gravels fill a channel at least 300m in length on a north-east to south-west orientation. The channel cuts through and is surrounded by the till.

Over 150 cores and flakes were excavated this season, principally from the base of the 'brickearths', but also from the top of the sands and gravels. These equate with Paterson's Clactonian industries. The flint from the 'brickearths' is generally in very fresh condition and together with exceptional refitting (Wymer 1985, 121) indicates very little movement of the artefacts. As yet no definitive trace has been found of the overlying handaxe material reported by Paterson (1937).

It is intended in future seasons to concentrate on the archaeology. In particular this will involve the excavation of the *in situ* artefacts at the base of the 'brickearths'.

We would like to thank the British Museum, the Geological Association and the Thomson Trust for grants to excavate, the Mildenhall Museum for generous help, and His Grace The Duke of Grafton and Mr David Heading for permission to excavate. (Nick Ashton, Quaternary Section, British Museum and Simon Lewis, Dept of Geography and Geology, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education).

Boxford, St Mary's Church (TL/9640; BXF008): A complete record of the south porch of the church was commissioned by English Heritage prior to its total restoration. The original brief, carried out in February, was to draw the parapet over the south door. This was on the point of collapse and, had this occurred during the rigours of restoration, it could then have been reassembled with reference to the drawings. Once the parapet was secure the remainder of the porch was completed during August. The drawings involved making a stone by stone record of each elevation, documenting the deterioration of the fabric of each stone and the efforts of previous restorers.

(R.D. Carr, David Gill and Donna Wreathall for Suffolk County Council and English Heritage).

Brandon, Staunch Meadow (TL/7786; BRD018): The realignment of electricity power lines necessitated the excavation of a series of small hand-dug trenches; two of these were

situated to the east of the site previously excavated (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk' 1982–1989), along the fence line of the Scheduled Ancient Monument. One contained a substantial crushed chalk surface below occupation debris with included Late Saxon Thetford type ware. This almost certainly indicates the position of a Saxon building later than any so far recovered from the site. A further two small trenches excavated within the scheduled area confirmed the continuation of the middle Saxon occupation layer. (Andrew Tester for Suffolk County Council and Eastern Electricity).

Bury St Edmunds, Babwell Friary (TL/8566; BSE014): In January 1990 one month's excavation was undertaken in the grounds of the Priory Hotel, funded by the owner, before work to extend the hotel was carried out.

The Priory Hotel stands within the precinct of a Franciscan Friary founded in the late 13th century just outside the medieval town walls. A resistivity survey conducted prior to excavation showed up possible wall lines and taking this into consideration the position of the new building was negotiated with the owner to cause the least damage to the archaeology.

The excavated area was restricted to the foundation trenches although the area between them was machined down to the top of the archaeological levels and cleaned to clarify the archaeology within the trenches. The interior of a medieval building covered most of the excavation, bounded to the west by the central portion of a north-south flint and mortar wall and to the east by a small (2.0m × 1.9m) square footing constructed of mortar, and by the bottom of a flint and mortar wall apparently forming the south-east corner of the building. Small fragments of floor evidence survived, the largest being an area consisting of 8 sq. m of tile-impressioned mortar with 12 *in situ* unglazed red tiles, each 11+cm square.

Twenty-three articulated skeletons were uncovered together with, at the south-east end of the site, a number of small heaps of disarticulated bone, presumably indicating burials disturbed by later landscaping. Two of the bodies inside the building were buried with gypsum, and one grave was lined with mortar (presumably a cheap imitation of a stone coffin). A more prestigious burial contained a priest interred in a stone coffin with his chalice and paten, confirming the impression that the building was a church.

The levelling for the car park revealed more flint and mortar wall lines on a similar alignment to the church. These showed evidence of several phases of construction. A building comprised of at least five small chambers was also noted.

(Joanna Caruth and David Gill for Suffolk County Council and Mr E. Cobbold).

Bury St Edmunds, No. 5 Honey Hill (TL/8563; BSE083): Excavation below the floor within the late-16th-century building revealed the floors of the hall and cross-passage of an earlier building. The hall floor was laid in 20cm square tiles and an area 4.5m × 3m survived; these were dated to about 1550 and were retained when the late-16th-century hall was constructed around them. The cross-passage floor was of clay.

Test holes excavated beneath these surfaces revealed indeterminate features from which medieval grey wares were recovered. A further testhole dug behind the Suffolk Record Office exposed a clay-lined possible footing trench and Thetford-type ware was found in an associated feature.

(Joanna Caruth and David Gill for Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury District Council).

Bury St Edmunds, Hospital of St Saviour (TL/8565; BSE013): Excavations, begun in 1989 (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1989'), continued on the medieval hospital prior to development. A fresh area immediately south of the chapel was exposed by machining. This

revealed a robbed foundation trench indicating the presence of a stone building, probably two-storeyed, which may have backed on to the hospital precinct wall. Post-dating the robbing trench was a wide quarry pit where flints, presumably for building work, had been mined. Work also continued on a section of the mill pond which included an extension where more occupation refuse was recovered.

(Andrew Tester for Suffolk County Council and Tesco Stores Ltd).

Coddenham, Valley Farm (TM/1512; CDD019): During 1990, the two shallow (70cm) ditches which were being excavated, have been extended and parts of the adjoining surfaces explored. A burial of an infant aged about 4 to 6 months had been inserted into one ditch; nearby but not associated was an inverted complete 1st-century bowl. Excavations to one side showed shallow pits with a charcoally fill of contemporary pottery, iron slag and poorly fired rough clay – presumably the remnants of iron working furnaces. The admittedly amateur pollen analysis of a soil sample has revealed a preponderance of pine with grass. Birch, alder and chestnut were also present, but no oak or the like, pointing to an open countryside of pines, birch and grassland. The pollen of cereals was interpreted as wheat (*Triticum sp.*) and barley (*Hordeum*).

(John Fulcher for Coddenham Village History Club).

Eye, the Castle Motte and Kerrison's Folly (TM/1473; EYE016, 023 & 031): Clearance of rubble and vegetation from the motte and from the interior of the building on its top was undertaken by the direct labour force of Mid Suffolk District Council, under the supervision of the Suffolk Archaeological Unit. Chiefly composed of flint and mortar, this rubble had derived from the 19th-century walls of the 'keep', known as Kerrison's Folly, and from the walls of buildings constructed within.

On the sloping sides of the motte, the clearance of vegetation revealed the remnant of a tower, linked by a curtain wall to the curtain wall already exposed (EYE023) along the northern edge of the bailey. Within the folly, the clearance of rubble exposed buildings abutting the inside faces of the east, west and south walls. Access to the folly is still obtained through an entrance from the north, leading into a courtyard that occupies the remainder of the interior. The buildings would appear to have been single-storeyed, except for a tower on the west side of the folly, which contained a spiral staircase, leading up to a further room, above the kitchen. Two living rooms, on the south side of the complex, led off an entrance lobby, floored in brick. The smaller room, to the west, also floored in brick, was connected with the kitchen, whilst the floor of the larger, eastern, room appears to have been boarded. The remaining structures to the east of this room were outhouses, the position of the drains suggesting that they probably constituted a toilet block and wash house.

A 1m square excavation (EYE031) against the inside face of the east wall of the folly was carried out to determine if any evidence of the medieval keep survived. A change in the composition of the wall, some 0.50m below the surface, indicated that the 19th-century folly may, at least in part, be founded on the original walls of the medieval keep.

Two exploratory trenches were also dug abutting the north wall of the cottages on the southernmost edge of the bailey, where the construction of an information centre is proposed by the District Council. These were cut to a depth of 1.30m, through sterile layers of clay and sand that sloped from the south towards the north. No bottom was found, although the direction of the slope of the layers of fill, in both trenches, suggests that they may have been located above a bank on the inside edge of the bailey ditch.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council).

Flixton, Flixton Park (FLN008; TM3020 8653): Aerial photography in 1976 revealed a number of ring-ditches on the gravel terrace of the River Waveney, in what was, until the 1950s, the park of Flixton Hall. An excavation was carried out on one of these in August 1990 in advance of its destruction by quarrying. At that stage the easternmost edge of the ring-ditch had been clipped by the quarry and the ditch could be clearly seen in the quarry face. A roughly circular mound, 0.66m high, was still visible in the adjacent ploughed field in the area of the ring-ditch.

A cross-shaped series of trenches was mechanically dug across the mound, and then excavated by hand. Despite the fact that the ditch could be clearly seen in the quarry face, it was not clearly visible on the surface. Subsequent sectioning showed it to be 4.7m wide and 1.69m deep (from the base of the plough soil): the broad top grading almost imperceptibly into the natural sub-soil on either side. Excavation also revealed that the centre of the 40m diameter ring-ditch was not at the centre of the visible mound, in fact the ring centre lay 10m to the south east.

A dispersed cremation burial, associated with sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery of collared urn type, was found approximately 8.5m S.S.W. of the ring-ditch centre. This confirms the identification of the ring-ditch as the ploughed-down remains of a Bronze Age round barrow. Later re-use of the barrow in the Anglo-Saxon period was indicated by the presence of an inhumation grave, orientated roughly east-west, 10.5m S.S.W. of the centre. Due to the acid soil conditions only a slight trace of bone in the area of the skull survived at the west end; the stony nature of the grave fill also meant that only a vague body-stain was identifiable. At a high level in the relatively shallow grave (15cm deep) was a plain pottery vessel; a sherd of a decorated urn found 0.5m to the north of the grave may also belong to this burial. Near the neck of the body were two bronze small-long brooches of the 6th century A.D. and beside the head were the crushed fragments of a very fine glass claw-beaker. The beaker is made of green glass, varying in intensity of colour depending on the thickness of the metal: the very thin body is pale and the eight claws are dark. It appears to belong to Evison's (1982) type 3C of the 6th century, which she suggests were made in England, perhaps north of the Thames. In 1982 only 59 complete and fragmentary claw-beakers were known from Britain – in Suffolk a substantial fragment was found in the Snape ship-burial and smaller fragments are recorded from Brandon and West Stow. The beaker therefore seems to be a surprisingly high status item in what is otherwise an unremarkable grave.

Other secondary burials may have existed on the northern side of the barrow for metal-detecting produced the head of a bronze cruciform brooch of *c.* 450–500, also a 6th-century bronze buckle. Two 4th-century Roman bronze coins with perforations were found in the south-west quadrant and may also have come from Anglo-Saxon graves.

At the centre of the visible mound was the cross-shaped foundation of a windmill of post-mill type. The foundation measured 5.3m east-west and 3.8m north-south and consisted of large flints and yellow puddled clay set into a trench up to 25cm deep and 40cm wide. The top of the foundation seems to have been capped with pieces of plain-tile, most of which had been disturbed by ploughing. In the western arm there was an inexplicable gap, 58cm long, in the foundation 80cm west of the central intersection. The presence of this mill foundation helps to explain why the existing mound is not concentric with the ring-ditch – the mound was obviously remade when the mill was set up on it. The foundation was made to support earth-fast timber crosstrees, which in turn supported the vertical wooden post about which the upper mill structure would revolve. Only general dating evidence is available for the windmill: the construction technique is essentially a medieval one and it is perhaps likely that the mill predates the construction of the deer-park in about 1610. The metal-detector find of a bronze sword chape of late

15th–16th-century type just to the north-east of the mill foundation, might have some relevance to the dating of the mill.

(Edward Martin for Suffolk County Council and the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group).

Framsden, Boundary Farm (TM/1860; FRD009): A day in November was spent recording several early garden features. The recent cleaning out of a long linear pond or canal, c. 6 × 54m long, had revealed the remains of shallow brick stairs (?early 18th century) at one end, with a later brick culvert to one side. The culvert contained a wooden water pipe with a bung to deflect the water into a vertical extension of the pipe, presumably to supply a fountain or perhaps a cascade down the stairs. Traces of mortar on the faces of the lower bricks perhaps indicate that the stairs were rendered over in imitation of stone. The pond is flanked on the south side by a long and broad prospect terrace with extensive views into the valley below.

The foundations of the 17th-century summer house or gazebo described by Claude Morley and Edmund Farrer (*E. Anglian Misc.* 1916, no. 4627 and 1920, no. 5779 etc.) were found against the front garden wall, but little now survives. This brick structure is recorded as having a pitched roof, doors on three sides and an ornate plaster ceiling. Still surviving in the farmyard is the wonderfully ornate 17th-century stable. This is a brick two-storeyed building of three bays, with decorative ‘Dutch’ gables with diaper work. There are pediments over the two ground floor windows and a straight entablature made of moulded bricks over the door (now partially blocked).

(C. and M. Bacon, T. Easton, E. Martin and T. Williamson).

Freckenham (TL6672; FRK024): A small scale rescue excavation was undertaken during the construction of some new houses. This revealed part of a complex of mainly late Iron Age pits and gulleys, with some Roman features.

(Colin Pendleton for Suffolk County Council).

Halesworth, Barclays Bank Site 2 (TM/3877): Another excavation was carried out in the car park at the rear of Barclays Bank in June and August. A 2 × 4m trench was dug near a medieval tenement boundary. A number of post-medieval features were uncovered, including a pit containing 17th–18th-century pottery and a large number of broken glass bottles. An assemblage of copper alloy items was also recovered, consisting of pins, needles, unfinished items and offcuts of sheet metal. These were found in association with large sherds of 16th-century stoneware and a German token of about 1580 and may be some confirmation of documentary evidence that a bronze-worker or ‘pynner’ was working in Halesworth in the 16th century.

An area of clay, possibly a hearth, and a compacted floor of sand, clay, chalk and charcoal were found, with sherds of 13th-century pottery nearby. At a lower level a number of stake holes and pits were located, dug into the natural clay. The pottery includes Thetford-type Ware and Early Medieval Ware, suggesting an 11th–12th-century date. One pit contained lead spillage and a piece of stained or painted glass.

(Michael Fordham and the Halesworth Museum Excavation Team).

Ipswich, Boss Hall Industrial Estate, Sproughton Road (TM/1445; IPS231): During a routine visit in May 1990 to inspect a building site on the Industrial Estate, a mixed inhumation and cremation cemetery of Early Anglo-Saxon date was discovered. Initially only the bases of 4 badly damaged cremation urns were visible, and these were lifted. The site was subsequently lowered mechanically by the contractors and on a later visit the outlines of inhumation graves could be clearly seen. With the full co-operation of the site

owners, the Ipswich Co-operative Society Ltd, and the contractors, Haymills Ltd, the Suffolk Archaeological Unit therefore carried out a rapid salvage excavation. Over a 3 day period 19 inhumation graves were excavated. Later building work on the site revealed 3 more inhumation graves in a pipe trench and these were also excavated. Only on one side was an apparent edge to the cemetery found. This is on the western side of the excavated area. To the north and south the graves appear to continue, while to the east the density of burials gets higher. In addition a fifth cremation urn, also badly damaged, was found in a cable trench 23m to the east of the main site. Five apparently non-funerary features were also excavated. These were 4 pits containing small to medium quantities of partially burnt flints, but no dateable finds, and a ditch remnant.

Due to the circumstances in which the cemetery was found and the speed with which the graves had to be excavated, some information was undoubtedly lost during the 3 days of work on the site. This loss, though, must be small when seen against the gain in data on the Anglo-Saxon period from a new cemetery site. The contractors had mechanically lowered the whole area to just above the point where objects were to be found in the graves when excavation began. In one case the machine bucket hit, and broke, a shield boss and a pot placed at the western end of a grave. A spearhead was also pulled out of this grave by the machine, but this was retrieved from the spoil heap with the aid of a metal detector. The other graves fortunately escaped mechanical damage. Because of the extremely acidic nature of the grave fill no bone survived in any of the inhumation graves. In a few cases a faint staining was seen from what were probably the arm or leg bones. It is possible that more extensive body staining could have been located if much more time had been available for the excavation. It should be noted, however, that the excavation team members were each excavating and recording up to 2 inhumation graves per day over this extremely hectic period. Any analysis of body position and orientation in the graves and sexing of individual graves relies, therefore, totally on grave goods.

As with many early Anglo-Saxon graves in East Anglia, no evidence was found for the use of coffins in the burial rite. One inhumation stands out as a large chamber grave. Evidence was found for timber planking around the edge of this chamber and it was nearly twice the width of any of the other graves. The way in which 4 cremation urns form a semi-circular arc around the eastern and northern edges of this chamber grave is of interest as it indicates the presence of a small mound or barrow; however no trace of any ring-ditch was found, though this could have been removed during the machining of the site. The 4 cremation urns undoubtedly respect a mound and therefore must be secondary to the chamber grave. Unfortunately all the urns were severely damaged. The urns appear to have been plain and decorated; some cremated bone was collected from them, but no grave goods.

Of the 22 inhumation graves excavated, 19 were found to contain grave goods. On the evidence of these grave goods 9 can be identified as female, 7 as male and 3 were not sexable. The date range for the bulk of the material recovered appears to be 6th and early 7th century. The assemblages from 8 of the female graves can be considered as fairly standard East Anglian examples for this period with small-long, annular and cruciform (including one florid type) brooches all being represented. Other female grave goods included girdle hangers and numerous beads. The ninth female grave proved to be extremely wealthy. This grave was found to contain a group of objects that were apparently buried in a bag, the only other objects in the grave being an iron knife and a bead. The contents of this bag include a composite brooch set with numerous small garnets, 4 gold (or gold alloy) pendants, a Merovingian coin (a *solidus* of Sigebert III, A.D. 634–56 that had been used as a pendant), a probable primary *sceatta*, a delicate silver toilet set and various beads. The primary *sceatta* (a silver coin), gives a date of *c.* A.D. 700 for this grave group. Among the

male graves, again one stands out from the others. Of the 7 graves with male goods, 4 have a spearhead and shield boss, one has a shield boss and may have lost its spearhead through machining (2 spearheads were recovered from the spoilheap), and one has a spearhead and no shield boss. The seventh male grave is the chamber grave, which has 3 spearheads and a shield boss.

The pairing of cemeteries and settlements is standard for Anglo-Saxon archaeology and a scatter of probable Early Anglo-Saxon pottery sherds was found on the industrial estate in 1976. This scatter was nearer the river, which would fit in with the needs of a rural settlement with livestock. In addition Middle Saxon Ipswich ware (produced c. A.D. 650–850) and a Late Saxon brooch have been found just over 500m to the north-east of the probable Early Anglo-Saxon settlement site. This could be evidence of a 7th-century settlement shift, a phenomenon noted at other sites in the region. Anglo-Saxon settlement patterns in the Gipping Valley are not yet particularly well understood and the Boss Hall finds should stimulate research in this area.

A preliminary documentary search has revealed that the area of the Boss Hall Industrial Estate is potentially of major importance for the study of the East Anglian Kingdom. On the Bramford Tithe Map of 1846 a strip of land along the Bramford road and an area to the east of the junction with the Sproughton road is shown as an outlying portion of Bramford parish. The map also notes field 595 as *Chapel Field*. The chapel indicated here appears to be Alburth's Chapel, which is mentioned in the will of John Squier 'Clerk of St Albright's Chapel near Ipswich', c. 1518 (S.R.O.I., IC/AA2/7/236). Wodderspoon located the chapel near Bordshaw (Boss) Hall, which stood in the fields on the south side of the lane leading from Bramford Road to Sproughton (Wodderspoon 1850, 235). The saint commemorated here is better known as St Athelbeorht, the East Anglian king who was killed in 794, and his chapel presumably lay in *Albrighteston*, a berewick or outlying part of Bramford that was given, together with Bramford church, by King William II to Battle Abbey (Kirby 1764; see also N. Scarfe's excursion notes on Bramford in the *Proceedings* for 1990, 173). In 1086 Bramford was one of the major royal manors in Suffolk, with a church with an above average endowment. This royal connection, plus the dedication to St Athelbeorht, strongly suggests that this land originally belonged to the East Anglian royal dynasty; the implications of all this for the Boss Hall Anglo-Saxon cemetery could be considerable. (John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

Ipswich, Franciscan Way/Wolsey Street (TM/1644; IAS5003): An area of 1,500 sq.m on the corner of Franciscan Way (formerly Friars Road) and Wolsey Street was excavated prior to its re-development, the work being funded by The Churchmanor Estates Company plc.

The site lies on the south-western edge of the Saxon and Medieval town and during the latter period it formed part of the Greyfriars precinct. The River Gipping, which at this point now runs underground, is very close and the low lying nature of the area must have made flooding a regular event in the past. Because of this danger this area has always been peripheral to the urban development of Ipswich and this characteristic is reflected in all of the phases of activity that can be recognised. Very little evidence was found for domestic occupation of the area in either the Saxon or Medieval periods and the amount of pottery and number of artefacts recovered from the site was relatively low compared with other Ipswich excavations of a similar size.

The first phase of activity on the site is represented by a Middle Saxon well lined with a hollowed out oak tree trunk. A slice from this was submitted to the Dendrochronology Laboratory at Sheffield University but, unfortunately, the tree-ring curve derived from it could not be dated; however a 7th- or 8th-century date is likely. After this well had gone out

of use, a second phase of Middle Saxon activity saw the construction of a north-south boundary line across the centre of the site. In its first phase this was in the form of a ditch and it is interesting to note that, once established, this land division remained in use until the early Medieval period. Moving slightly eastwards in each phase, a series of four slots for wooden fences were excavated and all four slots are parallel to the original Middle Saxon ditch. The later Middle Saxon phase also saw the construction of two more timber-lined wells. These were both barrel-lined wells and it is possible that all of these wells were used for watering cattle or horses on an area that may then have been riverside pasture. A Middle Saxon pit on the site contained the bottom of a barrel, the other parts of which may have been used to line a well. The only other evidence of Middle Saxon occupation was a few widely spaced pits.

The first major phase of activity came in the later 9th century when an extensive iron working industry was established in the area. This industry was associated with a cobbled area that may have been just a yard, or could be the remains of a north-south road. The area of cobbling covered the central, northern, part of the site and it lay over the Middle Saxon ditch noted above. However it is possible that the eastern edge of the cobbled area partly respects the line of one or more of the north-south fence slots. The evidence for iron working here is on a much larger scale than on any of the other excavations undertaken in Ipswich. The total amount of slag and general industrial waste recovered from later 9th-century contexts was 217kg, from Late Saxon contexts over 240kg and from Early Medieval contexts 148kg. The industry then declined rapidly and relatively little slag was recovered from later Medieval contexts. The industrial waste was mainly found in and around the cobbled area, the bulk of the material coming from over the cobbles and from pits in the vicinity. This material awaits specialist examination but it appears to represent smithing, rather than smelting, activity. A few postholes were found around the cobbled area indicating the possibility of a post-built structure that may have been associated with this industry; however no coherent building plans could be recognised. The single, most important artefact from the site also indicates its industrial nature. This is an antler brooch mould which came from a pit of late 9th- or 10th-century date. It would have been used for making base metal disc brooches and is a valuable addition to the study of Late Saxon metal working.

As mentioned above, this site was within the area of the Greyfriars precinct in the later Medieval period. No Friary buildings were found on the site but two large, rectangular pits dating to this period were located and partially excavated. These two pits would have been wet and possible suggestions for their function have ranged from fish stocking tanks to uses associated with the cloth, linen or leather industry. Another possible semi-industrial feature was made up of a shallow, circular pit with two wood-lined channels running opposite each other into small stoke pits. The function of this feature is not at all clear.

Finally, over the site as a whole 56 human burials were excavated. While some of these may date to the Friary phase, the majority of these burials appear to be Early Post-Medieval in date. This would be the immediate post-Dissolution period when monastic precincts were still thought of as consecrated ground of a sort and it may reflect use of one of the old Friary buildings as a hospital. None of the graves excavated had any evidence for the use of coffins and while some were laid out carefully, the majority were interred in a very casual way that indicates the quick burial of paupers or plague victims. A large number of the graves were concentrated in one relatively small area of the site and there was little sign of any respect for previous burials. The graves were mainly very shallow and often only just big enough for the body. Five double graves were excavated and in one of these both bodies were buried face down. Another group of four skeletons may represent a mass grave while one of the other burials contained a skeleton which still had iron

manacles around the wrists. A large amount of disturbed human bone was also recovered, indicating that the total number of burials in the area of the site must have been much higher. Hopefully the study of these skeletons will provide valuable information on the poorer sections of Ipswich's population in the Early Post-Medieval period. (John Newman for Suffolk County Council and The Churchmanor Estate Company plc).

Kersey, St Mary's Church (TM/0043; KSY010): Repairs to the roof of the north aisle chapel of Kersey Church allowed the investigation and recording of an otherwise concealed roof structure. This showed that the external roof, the suspended ceiling over the chapel and the decorative frieze adorning the top of the north aisle walls were all part of a single act of refurbishment in the 16th century. The frieze showed signs of deterioration consistent with the weathering of external limestone and it seems probable that this was salvaged from Kersey Friary at its dissolution. At some point repairs to the parapet wall, which supports the south edge of the roof, were completed and this was achieved without disturbing the ceiling. (Joanna Caruth and David Gill for Suffolk County Council).

Leiston, Leiston Abbey Guesten Hall (TM/4464; LCS001): Three weeks were spent in August excavating the east end of the Guesten Hall and drawing the standing walls (only the north and south walls survive) before redecoration and building work proceeded.

The Guesten Hall had been in use until the Dissolution and had at some later date, (possibly as early as the 17th century) been converted into a barn. The conversion involved the blocking in of windows and doorways and the modifying of the structure to accommodate three transverse pitched roofs. This was achieved on the north wall by cutting gables into the original fabric, but on the south wall the gables were set into the inner face of the wall and the exterior survived to its presumed full height and supported a lean-to byre (possibly also 17th-century), the framework of which still stands. Also visible in the interior of the north and south walls were sockets for medieval floor joists and, beneath those, sockets for bracing timbers.

To supplement an excavation carried out in 1985 (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1985') a small area at the east end of the Guesten Hall was opened up. The top layer was lightly scraped by machine, revealing an extensive cobbled surface probably associated with the barn conversion. Underneath this the north-east corner of the Guesten Hall had been robbed, but enough of the east wall survived to indicate that there was no central internal buttress opposed to that found in the west wall during the previous excavation.

A small room, with internal dimensions of 2.8 × 1.5m, was situated at the north-east corner of the Guesten Hall. The walls were partially robbed, but where they remained (at the west end) they were made of flint, stone and mortar with a limestone facing. Eight floor tiles, 20cm square, survived in the south-west corner of the room and were laid on a layer of bedding material, under which was a layer of roof tiles – possibly evidence of an earlier, perhaps unsatisfactory, surface.

The main occupation area of the Guesten Hall appeared to be on the upper floor as most of the windows and a door were made at this level. It may be that the small room was a garderobe with walls up to the first floor. (Joanna Caruth and David Gill for Suffolk County Council, English Heritage and Pro Corda).

Mildenhall, Warren Hill Gravel Pits (TL/7474; MNL001): In advance of the 1991 Easter Excursion of the Quaternary Research Association into East Anglia, some sections were cut through the sediments of two sites, both of which were known to have yielded

Palaeolithic artifacts: Warren Hill and Beeches Pit. The purpose was to obtain samples for lithological, pollen and faunal analyses and present the participants of the excursion with clean exposures for their examination and comment. Permissions were granted by the Forestry Commission and the Nature Conservancy. For Beeches Pit see below under West Stow. Funding for the work from the Curry Fund of the Geologists' Association is gratefully acknowledged.

Warren Hill has been very little studied in spite of it having produced more hand-axes than any other site in Britain. Roe records the existence of over 2,000 scattered in numerous museum and private collections in his 1968 C.B.A. Gazetteer of British Lower and Middle Palaeolithic Sites. There is a general account of the site in the British Museum's 1931 catalogue of the Sturge Collection, and a general survey in Wymer, 1985. The only recorded geological sections were published by Solomon and Marr. Solomon's geological paper (*Proc. Prehist. Soc. E. Anglia*, 1933) is brief but informative and useful. He drew attention to the apparently glacial outwash nature of the sediments and the probability of two different palaeolithic industries being present, on the basis of differing conditions and typology.

Recent work by Quaternary geologists has put forward radical new ideas on the ancient drainage pattern of the major rivers which flowed across the Midlands and East Anglia prior to the glaciation of the Anglian Stage, estimated as occurring between 472,000–440,000 years ago. Before the maximum southward advance of the ice sheet of this stage, which left the chalky boulder clay or till over most of Suffolk, the ancestral Thames flowed north east across the county towards Norwich. It is also now considered that an ancestral Trent at this time flowed across what is now the Fens and joined the Thames north of Bury St Edmunds. Such certainly explains the high content of quartzite pebbles derived from the Mercian Mud Stone of the Midlands that abound in most of the earlier river gravels in Norfolk and Suffolk. It also could explain the gravels capping the high ground north of Mildenhall that seem to mark the line of a north–south river from Lakenheath to Brandon, totally unassociated with any present drainage system, as commented on by Evans in his *Ancient Stone Implements* in 1872. He had also concluded that the Fens could not have existed before these gravels were deposited, but thought they represented a river flowing northwards, whereas the recent interpretation sees them as remaining from a river flowing southwards and originating in the Midlands. These gravels at Eriswell, Lakenheath and Brandon contain palaeolithic hand-axes and, if the geological interpretation is correct, they must pre-date the main glacial advance and are thus much older than previously thought. It seems very likely that Warren Hill may also date to this earlier period. It has already been established from a series of excavations conducted by the British Museum that the palaeolithic industry of finely made side-scrapers and other forms from the High Lodge site, nearer to Mildenhall and only a kilometre from Warren Hill, belong to an even earlier period. They are found within ancient lake or river sediments that were deposited under interglacial conditions, but picked up as a great raft by the glacier of the Anglian Stage. Thus, it would appear that the very earliest stages of human occupation in the British Isles are represented by these sites in Suffolk.

The new sections at Warren Hill will, together with others at Ingham and elsewhere, hopefully help unravel these ancient geological events and their connection with the palaeoliths. Some indication of the richness of the Warren Hill site can be judged by the finding of a small, broken hand-axe, a biconical core and a few flakes in the very sandy gravel exposed in the new, small (2m wide) sections that have been cut. (J.J. Wymer for Quaternary Research Association).

Santon Downham, Downham Hall Icehouse (TL8187; STN017): A brief excavation prior to building works was able to determine the extent and nature of the entrance into the former

icehouse of Downham Hall, together with part of the brick built Hall drainage (and latrine) system. The entrance passage would appear to have continued in use until about the 1930s. No dating evidence was found for its construction, but circumstantial evidence suggests *c.* 1790.

(Colin Pendleton for Suffolk County Council).

Snape (TM/4059; SNP007): The second phase of the English Heritage sponsored evaluation of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery was completed in August 1990. This involved the excavation of nine 2m wide trenches in the field south of the A1094 road which traverses the site. Only 2 trenches produced traces of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery, in the form of 2 inhumation graves and the segment of a ring ditch. Plough and subsoiler damage was more serious in this field than in other areas examined and it is probable that any cremation burials have been totally destroyed within the past 40 years. An indication of the rate of damage is given by the fact that a scheduled tumulus (Fig. 47, Suff 43a), recorded as standing 0.3m high in 1950, is now only 0.05m high.

With the completion of the evaluation, it can be seen that the Snape Anglo-Saxon cemetery is a mixed inhumation/cremation cemetery (Fig. 47). If the limits of the cemetery as established by the 2m wide trenches is correct, then it has dimensions of 200m (east-west) × 70m (north-south). It lies at an angle to the line of the modern road.

The barrows mentioned in 19th-century accounts of the site have been mostly identified and can be seen to cluster along the south and east edges of the cemetery, with the flat inhumation and cremation graves spreading out to the west and north. If the same grave density occurs throughout the cemetery, then it would have contained some 1,200 graves. Work on the cremation burials by Shirley Carnegie suggests, however, that this figure may be an underestimate.

In the opinion of Dr Stanley West, the earliest cremation urns are of 5th-century date, though the excavated inhumations all date to the second half of the 6th century or the early 7th century. The ship burial excavated in 1862, which has a *terminus post quem* of *c.* 550, may thus have initiated a phase of inhumation burials in an already existing cremation cemetery.

(William Filmer-Sankey for the Snape Historical Trust and English Heritage).

Sudbury, Walnut Tree Lane (TL/8741; SUY029): Following the promising results from small scale excavations in Gregory Street (SUY014, area 70sq.m) in 1977 and in the garden of Stour House in 1989 (SUY028, 140sq.m), it was expected that a much larger scale excavation immediately to the south of Walnut Tree Lane would reveal more evidence of Iron Age, Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Sudbury. This area had been the garden of Walnut Tree House and evidence seemed to point to an absence of any post-Medieval disturbance. As the site is only 125m south-west of St Gregory's Church, it could also be expected that the site would be within the main settlement area of Middle Saxon Sudbury. Therefore hopes were high that this excavation would yield much valuable information on the development of one of the more important small towns in the county. The work was funded by the West Suffolk Health Authority prior to residential development of the site.

Initially an area of 1,000sq.m fronting on to Walnut Tree Lane was mechanically stripped of topsoil. Once hand excavation began it soon became clear that the garden had suffered severe disturbance in the post-Medieval period. Large, deep, quarry pits were found over very nearly all of this area. The residual finds in these quarry pits indicated the phases of settlement activity that had been destroyed: these included pottery of Iron Age, Roman, Middle and Late Saxon and Medieval date. One Roman coin and one Medieval

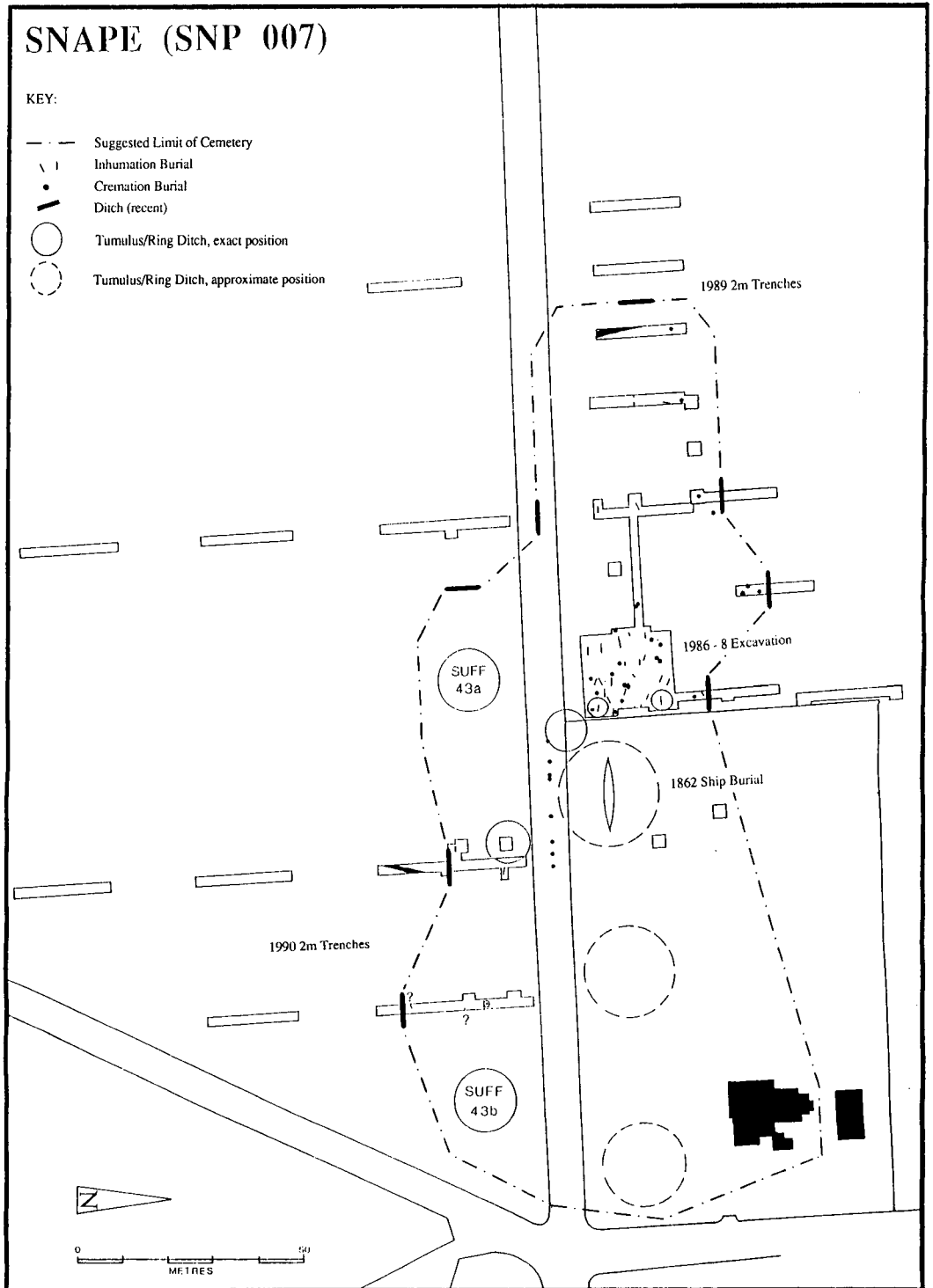


FIG. 47 – Snape Anglo-Saxon cemetery: excavation 1985–1990 and suggested limits of the cemetery.

coin were also recovered through the careful search of the spoil tips by a local enthusiast with a metal detector. It is likely that this quarrying took place in the early 19th century when road improvements were being undertaken in the town (B. Wall *pers. comm.*). One small area was found to be undisturbed in this initial area and this contained two large pits. The earlier of these was Middle Saxon in date and a few sherds of Ipswich ware were recovered from it, the first time this pottery type has been found in Sudbury. The later pit was Early Medieval in date (11/12th century). The total garden area was over 6,000sq.m and a rapid assessment of the archaeological deposits over the entire potential development site was then carried out. Through a combination of trial trenching and topographical observation it soon became clear that the only archaeologically intact area lay in the south-western corner. This area was therefore mechanically stripped and, at 250sq.m, it represented less than 5 per cent of the total site. In this area the majority of the features excavated were of Early Medieval date and consisted of eight pits, one ditch and one slot and post-hole boundary line. Two Iron Age pits were also excavated.

Though the Walnut Tree Lane site was a severe disappointment it does point to the archaeological potential of Sudbury. Evidence of Iron Age settlement has now been found at four points within an area of 20,000sq.m and we also have signs of Middle Saxon activity near St Gregory's Church. It is to be hoped that a large and intact site will be excavated in Sudbury in the future to realise the potential that this town has for the study of small urban centres in the region.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Health Authority).

Sutton, Sutton Hoo (TM/2848): During a 3 month season, the excavation of Mound 6 was completed and a large robber trench or antiquarian excavation was defined in Mound 7, similar to those already revealed in Mounds 2, 5 and 6. Work on Sector 4 was completed, and Sector 1, the last part of the excavation sample proposed in 1986, was opened up. Much of Sector 1 remains to be examined in 1991, which will be the final season of excavation by the Research Trust, but some interesting finds have already come to light at the western end of the sector towards the burial mounds. Two Anglo-Saxon graves were discovered close to the ring-ditch grave excavated in 1987. The graves lay side-by-side, and are unlike any others yet found at Sutton Hoo in that they contained grave goods, but were not underneath mounds. In one a sand-body lay in a coffin, with a bronze pin, a leather thong and a glass bead near the shoulder. An iron object lay near the hip, and also an area of decayed leather – possibly the remains of a purse. The other grave held the remains of a sand-body on a wooden 'tray', with two bronze buckles on a strip of leather and an iron object – possibly a knife in its sheath. It is thought that these may be the graves of adolescents.

A third burial was uncovered nearby in a quarry pit belonging to Mound 5. A sand-body, missing its head, was lying in a shallow cut at the bottom of the pit. The stratification indicates that the body had been placed in the pit during or immediately after the construction of Mound 5. In all, thirteen sand-bodies have been found scattered around the edge of Mound 5 and buried in its quarry pits. Many of the bodies show evidence of ritual killing, and all are interpreted as human sacrifices closely connected with the mound burial.

Apart from the three newly-discovered burials in the shadow of Mounds 5 and 6, no other graves or Anglo-Saxon remains of any kind have yet been seen along the length of Sector 1. The 1991 season will provide the last chance to discover a link between the distinct group of 16 burials in the field to the east of Sector 1, and the rest of the cemetery. (Jenny Glazebrook for Sutton Hoo Research Trust).

West Stow, Beeches Pit (TL/7971; WSW009): Sections were cut here in advance of the 1991 Easter Excursion of the Quaternary Research Association (see entry for Mildenhall above). The site was recorded briefly by Skertchly with a simple sketch section in the Geological Survey Memoir of 1891 for 'Parts of Cambridgeshire and of Suffolk'. He noted loams with carbonaceous seams, the lowest of which contained fragmentary mammalian bones. He also recorded freshwater shells, seeds of plants and a flint implement. The latter came from the same level as the bones, and had been found by Mr H. Prigg of Bury, who was alleged to have found some others since. Skertchly also recorded boulder clay both at the bottom and the top of the section; however the editor of the Memoir doubted that either were in their original place of deposition, but had been moved by natural agencies to their present position. The hand-axe in question is probably the pointed one in sharp condition ex Prigg now in the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology at Cambridge, although there is another pointed hand-axe in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford also ex Prigg, in a slightly rolled condition.

Some small cuttings were made by the British Museum in the 1960s but with no recorded result. More recently, samples of shells were obtained from tufaceous marls in the pit by Kerney and Preece (in *J. of Conchology* vol. 29 (1976) and vol. 31 (1983) respectively). It is a rich molluscan assemblage and demonstrates the interglacial nature of the sediments. Several of the species present are now extinct and others are only now found in such places as the Pyrenees and the Canary Islands (R. Preece, *pers. comm.*). Samples of tufa have been dated by the uranium-series method to >220,000 and >285,000 years.

Two 2m wide sections have been cut for the Q.R.A. Excursion and the most westerly one in the pit revealed dark, organic clays and silts as described by Skertchly. One hundred and thirty-two flint flakes were found *in situ*, in the tufaceous marls but mainly in the organic silts and clays. Other flakes were found in a spoil heap. None of the flakes is diagnostic of any particular flint industry, but several are large, primary flakes struck with hard hammers. Most are patinated but in very sharp if not mint condition. Numerous bones of large mammals have been found in the organic sediments, mainly very fragmentary and in a very poor state of preservation, exactly as described by Skertchly. Sieving has already produced numbers of micro-mammals. Samples have been taken for pollen, molluscan and lithological analyses. Several questions need to be answered, e.g.: are the boulder clays in their place of deposition or re-arranged; are they of Anglian age; what zone or zones of an interglacial are represented; is the archaeological material directly associated with interglacial sediments or has it been derived from eroded land surfaces; are the two known hand-axes to be associated with the flakes found in these new cuttings? If it should be demonstrated that the boulder clay is Anglian, that the interglacial sediments are of the Hoxnian Stage, and that an Acheulian Industry is *in situ* within these interglacial sediments, it will be one of the only sites where people with this industry were living under full interglacial conditions, as opposed to the more open landscapes at the beginnings and ends of interglacial periods. Although this seems most likely, it is proving very difficult to show conclusively.

(J.J. Wymer for Quaternary Research Association).

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