

# ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2012

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*object drawings by* DONNA WREATHALL

THIS IS A selection of the new discoveries reported in 2012. Information on these has been incorporated into the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (formerly the Sites and Monuments Record), which is maintained by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council at Bury St. Edmunds. Where available, the Record number is quoted at the beginning of each entry. The Suffolk Historic Environment Record is now partially accessible online via the Heritage Gateway website ([www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)) and many of the excavation/evaluation reports are now also available online via the Archaeological Data Service website (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/>).

A high proportion of the finds is now being recorded through the national Portable Antiquities Scheme, the Suffolk part of which is also based in the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council. Further details and images of many of the finds can be found on the Scheme's web-site (<http://finds.org.uk/database>) and for many of the finds listed here the PAS reference number is included in the text. During 2012 the PAS finds in Suffolk were recorded by Andrew Brown, Faye Minter, Justine Biddle and Jane Carr. Following requests from metal detector users, we have removed all grid references from entries concerning finds reported by them.

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

## *Abbreviations:*

- Mdf     Metal detector find
- PAS     Portable Antiquities Scheme (see above).  
The Suffolk contact for this national scheme is Andrew Brown  
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- SCCAS   Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service,  
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- SHER    Suffolk Historic Environment Record (see above)

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

## INDIVIDUAL FINDS AND DISCOVERIES

*Akenham* (AKE 037). IA, Ro, Sx. Copper-alloy 'mini terret' (SF-4ABC26), Roman coins and brooches including a disc brooch with blue enamel (SF-3C0125) (Fig. 36, F), and a fragment of an 8th-century copper-alloy strap end (SF-4B5C07). (Mdf.)

*Akenham* (AKE 038). Sx. Two 8th-century copper-alloy strap ends of *Thomas* Class A Type 1 (SF-4DFD88, SF-4E1B95). (Mdf.)

*Alderton* (ADT 003). IA, Sx. Copper-alloy coin probably a core from a plated stater of British Early Uninscribed J ('Norfolk Wolf') type, c. 1st century BC. Similar to *Hobbs* nos. 217-278. A gilded copper-alloy axe-shaped harness pendant of probable late 6th, or possibly very early 7th, century AD date (SF-552FD2) (Fig. 37, D). (Mdf.)

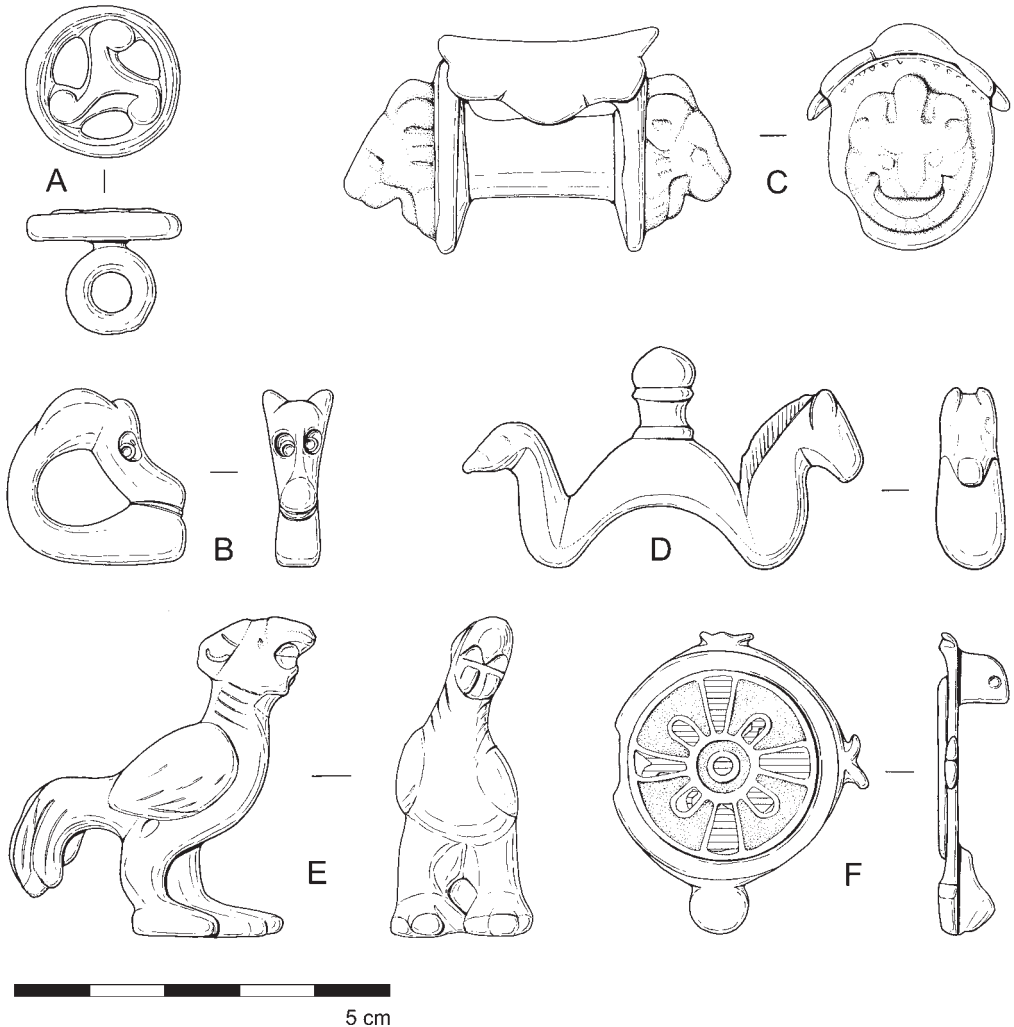


FIG. 36 – Iron Age copper-alloy fittings from Cavenham (A) and Lidgate (B); Roman copper-alloy fittings from Clare (C) and Copdock with Washbrook (D); figurine from Hesselst (E) and brooch from Akenham (F).

*Badingham*, (BDG 010). Ro, Md. Roman pottery, a few 3rd and 4th century coins and a copper-alloy seated figurine of uncertain date (SF-A1B634). Medieval pottery including single pieces of developed Stamford and Grimston glazed wares. (Mdf).

*Barking* (BRK Misc). Sx. Copper-alloy decorative strap mount of 10th century date. (SF-F06255) (Fig. 37, I). (Mdf).

*Barking* (BRK 129). Ro, Sx, Md. Roman 4th-century coins, an early Anglo-Saxon knob from a cruciform brooch and a copper-alloy buckle. Medieval and later finds include a lead

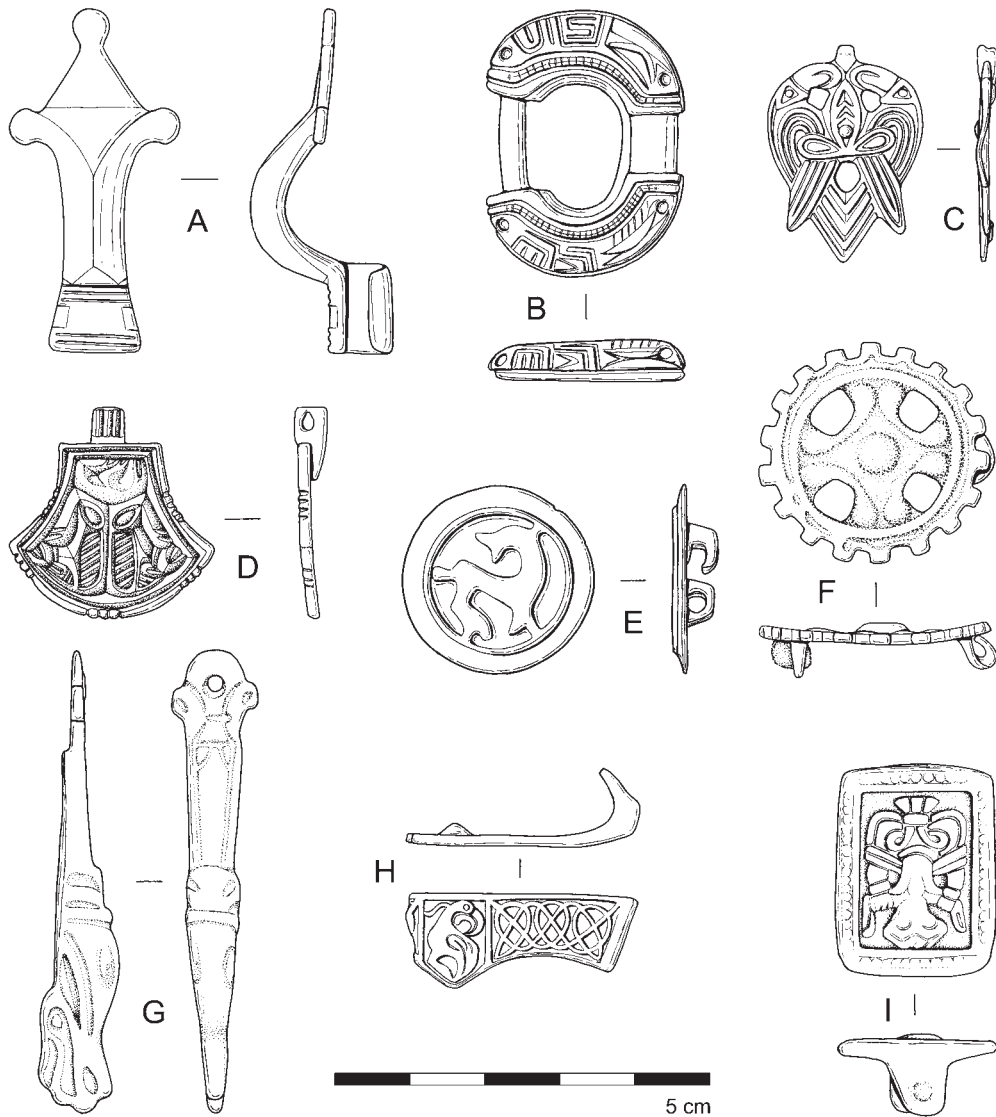


FIG. 37 – Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy brooches from Sutton (A), Lakenheath (E) and Cavenham (F); buckle from Bromeswell (b); pendants from Ousden (C) and Alderton (D); strap-end from Great Barton (G) and decorative fittings from Lidgate (H) and Barking (I).

pointed-oval-shaped seal matrix inscribed +S'ALICI[E?]:[I]YE: (the seal of Alice ?) (SF-C07CB2). (Mdf).

*Bramford* (BRF Misc). **Sx.** Silver coin, a continental series *sceat* from Domburg in Frisia. Series D Type 2c, c. AD 700–15 (SF-7808A5). (Mdf).

*Brettenham* (BTT Misc). **IA.** Gold coin, Trinovantian stater, 'British Early Uninscribed I' ('Late Whaddon Chase') type, c. 50–1 BC. As *Hobbs* 346. (Mdf).

*Brettenham* (BTT 004). **Md.** Copper-alloy pointed-oval-shaped seal matrix, with a central motif depicting a robed figure, probably a cleric, inscribed +S'hENRICI.D' GRAnTCVRT, (seal of Henry Grantcourt or Grandcourt) (SF-390438). (Mdf).

*Brettenham* (BTT Misc). **Md.** Lead pointed-oval-shaped seal matrix, a central foliate motif is surrounded by the legend +S'WATERI DE.INB'OST'E (with ligated WA), presumably a personal seal for an individual named Walter, the surname or place-name with two abbreviation marks remaining uncertain (SF-E697C0). (Mdf).

*Brockley* (BKY Misc). **Md.** Circular lead seal inscribed + S. ROG : FIL . RIC DE BENH (seal of Roger son of Richard de Benh). The place-name is not obviously local to Brockley, but Benhall in Suffolk would be a possibility (SF-E925F0). (Mdf.).

*Bromeswell* (BML Misc). **Sx.** Copper-alloy D-shaped buckle with zoomorphic decoration, perhaps copying Style 1, probably late 5th to early 6th century (SF-9434E3) (Fig. 37, B). (Mdf.).

*Bures St Mary* (BSM 029). **PMd.** A scattered purse-type hoard consisting of three silver shillings and three silver sixpences lost after c. 1567 (SF-2AC072, 2012 T724). (M.J. Matthews).

*Carlton Colville* (CAC 051). **Ro.** Coins, 2nd to mid 4th century, copper-alloy Trumpet brooch (NMS-380B35) and hairpins (NMS-385810). (Mdf).

*Cavenham* (CAM 059). **IA, Ro, Sx.** Copper-alloy circular openwork mount, probably 1st century BC or 1st century AD, (SF-495135) (Fig. 36, A). Copper-alloy 'cogwheel' disc brooch, 9th century (SF-497CD2) (Fig. 2, F). (Mdf).

*Clare* (CLA Misc). **Ro.** Copper-alloy strap fitting with lion head decoration, perhaps from harness (SF-4E4A90) (Fig. 36, C). (Mdf).

*Copdock and Washbrook* (COP Misc). **Ro.** Copper-alloy mount, probably from a vessel and of possibly Roman date (SF-9207E5) (Fig. 36, D). (Mdf).

*Creeping St Mary* (CRM 070). **Sx.** Copper-alloy ansate brooch, 8th or 9th century (SF-EED185), a polyhedral headed pin (SF-EE8AF1) and a very worn and damaged silver coin, possibly a Samanid *dirham* of late 9th or early 10th century date (SF-F03215). (Mdf).

*Fakenham Magna* (FKM 050). **Sx.** Copper-alloy early Anglo-Saxon small-long brooch (SF-BA4FE3). (Mdf).

*Felixstowe* (FEX 057). **Ne, IA, Ro.** Light grey polished flint axe (SF-E80288) and other worked flints. Sherds of hand-made pottery tempered with burnt flint, probably of Iron Age date and a cut quarter of a gold stater of Early Uninscribed British series, as *Hobbs* no 36 (SF-EE4EF3). Roman coins, mainly of 3rd and 4th century. (Mdf).

*Finningham* (FNN 021). **Sx.** Copper-alloy cruciform brooch of 5th-century type (SF-5B25C7). (Mdf).

*Finningham* (FNN Misc). **Md.** Circular lead seal matrix, inscribed ..]SIGILL' RICAR STEbIN[ (seal of Richard Stebbings) (NMS-DA0351). (Mdf).

*Fressingfield* (FSF 072). **IA, Ro.** Silver coin fragment of an Icenian area Bury type with right-facing bust and horse left on reverse (NMS-CEE682). Copper-alloy bird figure, probably a religious staff fitting (NMS-500F38). (Mdf).

*Frosteneden* (FOS Misc). **Ne.** Incomplete flint axe with traces of surface polishing (SF-084950). (K. Phillips).

*Great Ashfield* (ASG 022). **Ro, Sx, Un.** Copper-alloy brooch fragment of 1st-century Colchester derivative type (SF-4A7560); fragment of a later Anglo-Saxon strap-end of *Thomas* Class E (SF-4AE4D7). A simple male figurine of lead, with inlaid (possibly copper-alloy) oval eyes (SF-4B69B5) may be of Roman or later date. (Mdf).

*Great Barton* (BRG 039). **Sx.** Copper-alloy later Anglo-Saxon strap-end, *Thomas* Class G (SF-751A82). (Fig. 37, G). (Mdf).

*Haughley* (HGH 018). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Copper-alloy enamelled button and loop fastener of *Wild* Class Via (SF-C49132). Copper-alloy ‘cogwheel’ disc brooch, 9th century (SF-D7C4C5). Medieval coins, copper-alloy harness pendants and a circular seal matrix of 14th-century type with suspension handle, the inscription reading +S<sup>n</sup>ICOLE [?:] F:GODEF<sup>n</sup>DI (Nicholas, son of Godfrey) (SF-014730). (Mdf).

*Hemley* (HMY 025). **Md.** Copper-alloy seal matrix of pointed oval shape; a central motif of a ship with tall mast on water is surrounded by the inscription \*S<sup>n</sup>SEMAN CALERGE (seal of Seman Calerge) (SF-CB0A84); though the forename Seman is common in medieval Suffolk the surname suggests a possible Mediterranean origin. (Mdf).

*Hessett* (HTT 023). **Ro.** Copper-alloy objects including a figurine of a cockerel (SF-574723) (Fig. 36, E), an enamelled stud (SF-570A47), a lead miniature axe (SF-4E6D96) and a gold solidus of Constantius II (c. 350–55) (SF-8A2A34). (Mdf).

*Hessett* (HTT 024). **IA.** Gold Iron Age stater of Norfolk Wolf (British J) type, c. 1st century BC (SF-A8EFD2). (Mdf).

*Hitcham* (HTC 026). **Md.** Several joining pieces of the upper part of a glazed Grimston-type ware face jug, 13th or 14th century (SF-DB6480). (S. Marszal).

*Horham* (HRM 014). **IA.** Silver Icenic unit of Pattern-Horse type and a fragment of a half unit. (LEIC-85F452, LEIC-85A897). (Mdf).

*Lakenbeath* (LKH 178). **Sx.** Copper-alloy disc brooch showing a backward-looking animal (SF-2F7794) (Fig. 37, E) of mid to late Anglo-Saxon date. (Mdf).

*Lidgate* (LDG 016). **IA.** Copper-alloy harness fitting (SF-69C737) (Fig. 36, B). (Mdf).

*Lidgate* (LDG 017). **Ro, Sx.** Copper-alloy coins and brooch fragments; decorated gilded fragment, possibly part of a sword hilt collar (SF-918795) and 8th or 9th century (Fig. 37, H). (Mdf).

*Lidgate* (LDG Misc). **Ne.** Complete polished flint axe (SF-818138). (A. Pinnion).

*Little Cornard*. (COL 009). **Ro.** Copper-alloy brooch fragment (Rossette or Langton Down type) (SF-D9B877) and a lion-head stud (SF-D9DAE4). (M.J. Matthews).

*Mendlesham* (MDS Misc). **Me.** Grey flint axe (SF-C4F6E0). Perforated pebble hammer or macehead (SF-C279F3). (R. Colchester).

*Mildenhall* (MNL 450). **Sx.** Copper-alloy early Anglo-Saxon wrist clasp, *Hines* Form 12B (SF-60BBC4), two long brooch fragments, one burnt (SF-60EDE4, SF-61AB14) and a decorated fragment of a great square-headed brooch (SF-618C96). (Mdf).

*Monks Eleigh* (MKE Misc). **Ne.** Polished axe of a green-brown fine-grained stone. (SF-F3DB22). (L. Bonner).

*Orford* (ORF Misc). **Md.** Lead pointed-oval seal matrix, inscribed S<sup>n</sup>MARIOT NECOLE (seal of Mary Nichols) around a pattern of stars (SF-ED90A7). (Mdf).

*Ousden* (OUS Misc). **Sx.** Copper-alloy gilded pendant with two confronting birds and integral rivets as well as the damaged suspension loop (SF-92CD45), 6th or 7th century (Fig. 37, C). (Mdf).

*Pettistree* (PTR 030). **BA.** Complete decorated copper-alloy socketed axe (SF-81BDE1). (Mdf).

*Ringsfield* (RGD Misc). **IA.** Icenian silver coin, early (large flan) Face-Horse type in poor condition (NMS-33F5D2). (Mdf).

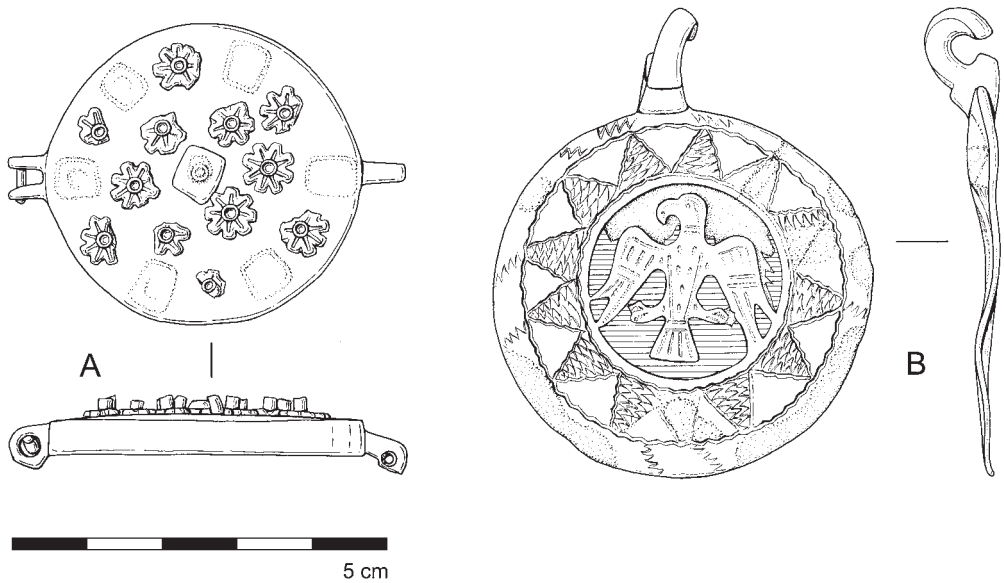


FIG. 38 – Medieval copper-alloy mirror case from Thelnetham and harness pendant from Risby.

*Risby* (RBY 035). **Sx, Md.** Copper-alloy strap-end, *Thomas* Class E Type 4, decorated in Borre style, late 9th or 10th century (SF-A6C567); silver penny of Æthelred II, (c. 997–1003), *North*, 1980, no. 774 (SF-A1BC93). Gilded copper-alloy harness pendant with light blue enamel (SF-A43EB4) (Fig. 38, B). (Mdf).

*Risby* (RBY 046). **Sx.** Copper-alloy ansate brooch, from a subgroup of *Thorle* Group XII A (SF-A61665), 8th or 9th century; silver penny of Cnut (c.1024–30), *North* 1980, no. 787 (SF-A1F098). (Mdf).

*Rushbrooke with Rougham* (RBK Misc). **BA.** Flint barbed and tanged arrowhead, with one tang missing (SF-576E33). (D. Jervis).

*Shadingfield* (SDG Misc). **Md.** Circular lead seal matrix, inscribed + S'ROBERT OLDMAN (seal of Robert Oldman) (NMS-392C57). (Mdf).

*Shottisham.* (STT Misc). **Sx.** Copper-alloy 11th-century, stirrup-strap mount, *Williams* Class A Type 12 (SF-556EC5). (Mdf).

*Sutton* (SUT 022). **Sx.** Copper-alloy bow brooch, similar to supporting-arm types, probably early 5th century (SF-104A04) (Fig. 37, A). (Mdf).

*Thelnetham* (THE 002). **Md.** Copper-alloy fragment of a cheekpiece of *Williams* Type 1, 11th century (SF-EA3725). Half of a copper-alloy mirror case (SF-EAC4D1) (Fig. 38, A). (Mdf).

*Tostock* (TCK 022). **Sx.** Copper-alloy buckle-plate with chip-carved decoration, probably 7th-century, (SF-7339C4). (Mdf).

*Walpole* (WLP Misc). **Md.** Circular lead seal matrix, inscribed +S'BENEDICTI DE EST (seal of Benedict East) (SF-F70124). (Mdf).

*Wattisham* (WAM 020). **BA.** Incomplete copper-alloy side-looped spearhead (ESS-9FF840). (Mdf).

*Westhall* (WHL 031). **Sx, Md.** Fragment of a lead nummular brooch, 10th or 11th century (SF-758F83). Silver medieval coins and a circular lead seal matrix inscribed +S'ADE FILI RADVLFI (seal of Adam, son of Ralph) (SF-746AA5). (Mdf).

*Wetheringsett cum Brockford* (WCB 071). **Sx.** Silver *sceat*, Continental series E, later type (710-765) (SF-BAFF04). (Mdf).

*Yaxley* (YAX 033). **BA.** Three fragments of copper-alloy socketed axes, one possibly a chisel, and two metal-working fragments, probably a Late Bronze Age hoard (SF-3849C0, 2012 T851). (Mdf).

## SURVEY

*Higham*, Fieldwalking (TM/0335; HGM 032). A two-day fieldwalking project was undertaken with 32 volunteers to walk a field NW of Stratford St Mary (in Higham parish) that has a number of undated cropmarks. The aim of the project was to try to provide dating evidence for the underlying archaeology. The most significant finds were a small number of Iron Age pottery sherds and a scattering of worked flints. Five sherds of Roman pottery, including one piece of a Samian plate, were found in four squares, and a small proportion of the ceramic building material (CBM – brick and tile) recovered was Roman. Medieval and post-medieval pottery was found across the site, reflecting the visible origins of Stratford St Mary and Higham, as was a large quantity of CBM, which may have come from earlier buildings in the SE corner of the site or from 17th-century buildings to the W and NE of the field.

The survey did not produce definitive dating results for the cropmarks, but the presence of twelve sherds of hand-made Iron Age pottery is significant as such fragile pottery rarely survives long in the ploughsoil and therefore it is likely to have been found close to the location of its original deposition; the flint assemblage also is more typical of Iron Age flint working than earlier periods. This supports a suggestion that some of these cropmarks represent Iron Age activity. The small Roman assemblage attests to Roman activity in the vicinity, but the absence of metal finds, and in particular coins, given the extensive metal detecting carried out may suggest that the Roman material had been brought onto the site from nearby rather than occupation on the site itself.

Jo Caruth, SCCAS, for the *Managing a Masterpiece* Heritage Lottery-funded Landscape Partnership Project for the Stour Valley.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

*Barham*, land north of Pesthouse Lane (TM/1251; BRH 054). An area of 2.9 hectares was evaluated because early Ordnance Survey maps indicate that this was the site of the burial ground of the Bosmere and Claydon Union Workhouse (built in 1766).

Trenching revealed that the majority of the site had been severely disturbed and truncated during the 20th century and this was probably due to this area being used as a compound for works being undertaken on the adjacent A45 trunk road. The area of the 18th- and 19th-century cemetery had been left mainly undisturbed however, and the locations of the burials were probably either marked or known about and were avoided during the modern earthmoving works. Part of a red-brick wall footing, believed to belong to the workhouse chapel, appeared to define the northern edge of the cemetery. Within the six trenches excavated to the S of the chapel the outlines of at least 76 graves were identified. Five of these burials were excavated to reveal either human remains and/or coffin stains and these examples indicated that the burials were located at least 1m below the present ground surface and that bone preservation was extremely good. No archaeological remains of earlier periods were identified.

Jezz Meredith, SCCAS, for Barham Parish Council; report no. 2012/142.

*Barnham*, Milford, Water Lane (TL/8779; BNH 075). An evaluation within a house plot revealed a possible property boundary ditch, perpendicular to Water Lane, containing 13th-century pottery and animal bone.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for Mr Alan Copeland.

*Bedfield*, land adjacent to The Old Rectory, Long Green (TM/2166; BED 025). Following an evaluation which recorded two shallow pits of probable medieval date on a 0.25ha area adjacent to a now largely filled-in moated site, an area 4.5m x 12m was excavated, revealing a further five similar small, shallow, pits; four of which contained small quantities of medieval pottery. Palaeo-environmental sampling indicated that these pits contained low-density concentrations of general domestic waste.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Springfield Residential.

*Bedfield*, land adjacent to Daisy Cottages, Long Green (TM/2166; BED 027). Monitoring of ground works for a new dwelling set a little way back from the W edge of Long Green recorded a small area of flint cobbles, interpreted as part of a yard surface, associated with a scatter of medieval pottery.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr A Harvey-Soanes.

*Blythburgh*, Blythburgh Priory (TM/4575; BLB 081). Trenching undertaken by Time Team archaeologists in 2009 was followed by two further, largely English Heritage funded, campaigns of investigation in 2010 and 2011. A fourth phase of work included the reopening and reassessment of some of the Time Team trenches along with the excavation of new targeted trenches (Fig. 39).

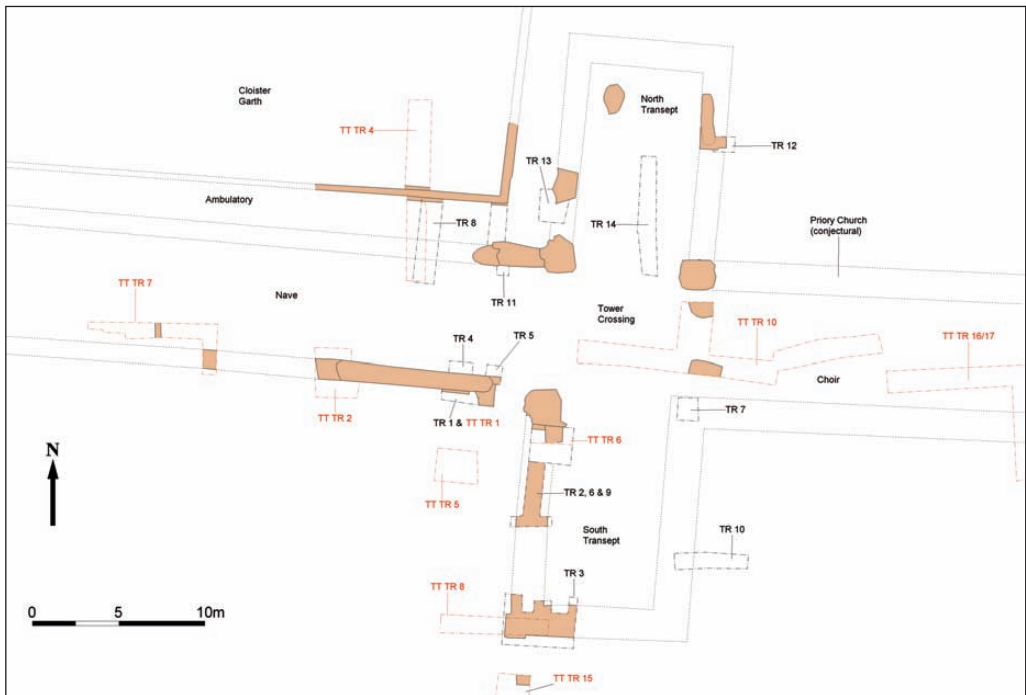


FIG. 39 – Blythburgh, Blythburgh Priory (BLB 192). Plan of the walls of the priory church and the excavation trenches.



The principal findings were as follows:

- a) The presence of a cloister to the N of the priory church was confirmed with the ambulatory floor surface at a lower level than that of the adjacent church. The link between the two was provided by steps down from the N transept and probably the nave.
- b) A small section of the pre-priory N nave wall had survived under a large ash tree stump removed as part of the project.
- c) The opening between the N nave wall and the NW tower drum pier had been blocked while the church was still in use. A similar opening to the S had the vestiges of steps leading up out of the nave.
- d) A bedding layer for a tile floor was identified in four separate trenches within the pre-priory phase nave. However, the layer post-dated plaster facing on the latest phase of building and was, therefore, not contemporary with, but later than the 11th- or 12th-century building.
- e) The SW corner of the S transept was found to be well preserved, but the E side had been completely robbed out as had the SE pier of the crossing tower.
- f) A clasping buttress recorded on the SW corner of the S transept suggested that there was no S cloister. However, it seems likely that a structure of some kind was present immediately to the S of the nave as an opening through the S transept wall immediately S of the tower did not appear to have accommodated a door frame.
- f) The floor level within the N transept appears to have been truncated and a series of steps constructed from reused limestone mouldings were inserted, probably during the robbing/quarrying of the priory complex to obtain aggregate for road building.

Stuart Boulter, SCCAS, for English Heritage and Nick Haward.

*Bramford*, village test-pitting (TM/1246). Bramford today is a small nucleated village on the W bank of the River Gipping just over 1km west of Ipswich and about 0.5km west of the A14. The village today is arranged either side of the A1067, named The Street, as it comes into the village from the N and Ship Lane after it turns E to cross the river. Most of the older housing in Bramford today lies along Ship Lane, which runs immediately N of the church. The settlement today forms a single block, but this is due largely to recent development. Most notably, with the exception of properties facing directly onto The Street, the area between The Street and the river is of almost entirely recent date. In the 19th century the 1st-edition Ordnance Survey map shows settlement to be limited to a cluster of houses at the E end of Ship Lane (N of the church, close to the river crossing) which extended for 70m or so to the N along Mill Lane. There was little housing along Ship Lane to the W of this cluster and none on its S side, although most of the land on its N side was occupied by small paddocks, mostly planted with trees. The Street (then called Bramford Street) was occupied by densely packed housing arranged on both sides. This terminated at the junction with Ship Lane, but c. 150m to the south three properties clustered around the junction with Vicarage Lane. The church of St Mary is recorded as a possible Domesday minster (Dymond and Martin 1999). A number of findspots in and around the village have produced medieval pottery ranging in date from Thetford Ware to the 16th century (eg SHER MSF12413; BRP 054; BRP 040; BRP 021; BRP 005).

Nine test pits were dug in 2012 ([www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/bramford.html](http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/bramford.html)): five in gardens along The Street, three in the area N of the church and one at the W end of Vicarage Lane. The earliest pottery dated to the Roman period, recovered from BRA/12/05, at the S end of The Street. There was only a single sherd found, so although this was of some size (32g), it is considered more likely to indicate low-intensity use such as arable rather than settlement. Two pits produced Thetford Ware, with BRA/12/06 yielding two sherds from contexts which had not suffered recent disturbance, hinting moderately strongly at the presence of settlement nearby. BRA/12/04 produced a single very small (3g) sherd of Thetford Ware, a less strong

indicator of settlement, although it is interesting to note that this came from the E end of Ship Lane, near the church. Two of the three pits in this area (BRA/12/03 and BRA/12/04) produced pottery of high medieval date, suggesting that settlement may have clustered in this area at this time. Neither pit produced very large amounts of his material, however (five sherds from BRA/12/04 and just two from BRA/12/03). Similarly small volumes of high medieval pottery were recovered from BRA/12/06, off Vicarage Lane, hinting at settlement in this area, while BRA/12/09, right at the N end of The Street, produced just a single sherd (albeit quite large at 11g) probably indicating that this area was in use as arable fields at this time.

The only pits to produce significant amounts of later medieval pottery were BRA/12/03 and BRA/12/04, indicating that habitation on these sites, both immediately N of the church, continued and even flourished as both pits produced more material of this date than for the high medieval period. Settlement along The Street, if it was indeed absent in the late medieval period, was clearly re-established later, in the post medieval period, along at least the southern half of its present extent.

Carenza Lewis, Access Cambridge Archaeology.

*Bures*, village test-pitting in Essex and Suffolk (TL/9033 and 9034). Bures sits on the B1508 at a crossing point of the River Stour, which is also the county boundary. The river divides the settlement into two halves: the village of Bures Hamlet is in Essex and Bures St Mary is in Suffolk. In 2012, test pits were excavated in both parts to complement community archaeological excavations being carried out at the same time by Access Cambridge Archaeology on common land in the Essex part of the village (Lewis and Ranson forthcoming 2013).

Bures Hamlet is the smaller of the two villages and is laid out along the main roads leading to Bridge Street and the crossing over the River Stour, namely Colchester Road and Station Hill, but the areas either side of the river crossing appear to be the main focal points for each village. The common is situated adjacent to the river and just S of Bridge Street and today it gives this village a more open aspect compared with Bures St Mary.

The church of St Mary lies on the N (Suffolk) side of the River Stour and is recorded in the Domesday Book; the current building dates to the 14th century, with additions continuing into the 16th century. The village of Bures St Mary is centred on its church and a 'Y' formation of roads: the E branch leads to the crossing of the River Stour on Bridge Street, the N branch leads out to Sudbury on the B1058 and the S branch follows the course of the river until the next crossing at the A134 by Nayland. The historic core of the village is centred around the church and High Street where the buildings often front the road, leaving no room for a pavement, often giving it a closed-in feeling. Around the church, along Church Square and leading onto Nayland Road, the road does widen out and the area may formerly have functioned as an informal market place. Wharf Lane, running alongside the river W of the church, was used for loading and unloading goods transported by river, which was navigable up to this point.

Seven test pits were excavated in private gardens in both villages and on the common ([www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/burescommon.html](http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/burescommon.html)). Excavations were undertaken by pupils at Thomas Gainsborough School. With such a small number of pits excavated it is impossible to make any but the most superficial observations. In particular, it is not possible to draw any conclusions based on negative evidence, such as the absence of any finds of pre 12th century date. Two pits produced pottery of high medieval date, although neither yielded more than three sherds. Even less pottery of later medieval date was recovered, although it is not possible to attach any significance to this as evidence of a decline from such a small number of pits. In contrast, most of the pits produced large amounts of post-medieval pottery, with glazed red earthenwares dominating the assemblages, although several pits also produced a range of less

utilitarian wares imported from Staffordshire and Germany.

Carenza Lewis, Access Cambridge Archaeology for the *Managing a Masterpiece* Heritage Lottery-funded Landscape Partnership Project for the Stour Valley.

*Bures St Mary*, land to the south of Friends Field (TL/9034; BSM 061). An excavation in advance of a residential development followed on from an evaluation that had identified a number of undated ditches and a single pit of possible prehistoric date. Five additional pits forming a linear group were recorded; three of these contained small fragments of medieval pottery, although a significant amount of medieval pottery was recovered from a subsoil layer, interpreted as hillwash, suggesting these may be residual finds in later features. Two medieval silver hammered coins were also recovered from the subsoil layer.

A small amount of medieval pottery was recovered from the fills of the ditches and they appeared to be partially sealed by the hillwash layer indicating a probable medieval date for these features. A ditch on the SE side of the development coincides with the existing edge of the development area, indicating that the medieval pattern of plot boundaries is partly preserved in the modern layout of the village. Three residual sherds of Roman pottery were also recovered from the ditch fills.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for CgMs Consulting.

*Bury St Edmunds*, 57–59 College Street (TL/8563; BSE 290). Excavations in advance of a housing development identified a large medieval cellar with flint-coursed walls of Norman type (Fig. 40). Its original depth was well over 2m and it was provided with a clay floor and a corridor appeared to descend into it from the W of the site. The foundations of a stone buttress are evidence of the stone building above the corridor. The cellar spanned 4.55m (15ft), though its width remains uncertain but was in excess of 1.32m (12ft). The corridor was 5–6ft wide and ran W towards Whiting Street for 17ft to the edge of the excavation. The cellar was set back from the street front and the remnants of a medieval yard surface of stone and chalk survived. The N wall of the cellar was demolished in the 16th–17th centuries and a wider cellar added made of flint and brick. This is likely to be contemporary with a series of gable-ended buildings of (early?) 17th century date that were converted into a workhouse in 1748, and which survived as footings in the excavation.

The early cellar is probably part of the College of Jesus founded in the 13th century to supply priests to celebrate mass within the Abbey chantries and the charnel house. These were shut down in 1549 and Thomas Warren's map of 1776 identifies this location as the site of 'the College'; however, he also marks the 'College of Jesus' on the opposite side of the street. From this we can suggest that there was more than one large building of stone associated with the site of the College and that these were on either side of College Street.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for Mr and Mrs Nick Mager.

*Bury St Edmunds*, land to the rear of Thingoe House, Northgate Street (TL/8564; BSE 378). An excavation and subsequent watching brief revealed a stratified sequence spanning the medieval to modern periods (Fig. 41). The evidence includes extensive quarry pits and a probable kitchen of medieval (12th–14th century) date, a number of late medieval and post-medieval buildings, with associated masonry cesspits, and a stone-lined well. Horticultural features, including planting beds, pits and paths, were also recorded across the site. They date from the early post-medieval to modern periods: some of them can be related to cartographic depictions of the Georgian and Victorian gardens associated with Mustow House and Thingoe House.

Rachel Clarke, Oxford Archaeology East; report no. 1436.





FIG. 41 – Bury St Edmunds, Thingoe House, Northgate Street (BSE 378).  
Photo of late medieval and post-medieval buildings with associated masonry cess pits and well.

*Bury St Edmunds*, Thingoe House (TL/8564; BSE 378). As part of an ongoing project of archaeological assessment, four engineering test pits were monitored, with potential archaeological remains identified in three of them.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for McCarthy and Stone.

*Bury St Edmunds*, land off Risbygate Street and Nelson Road, (TL/8544; BSE 390). An excavation in advance of development revealed a large number of wells, both medieval and post-medieval in date, as well as apparent structural remains (post-hole alignments and possible beam slots) of early/high medieval date likely to relate to outbuildings to the rear of properties adjacent to Risbygate Street, a significant entry/exit point for the medieval town. These properties would have been outside the town wall, and as such would likely have been for less affluent occupants, potentially involved with the cattle trade, as the land backed onto the Cattle Market area to the S.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for the Havebury Housing Partnership.

*Bury St Edmunds*, 24 Out Risbygate (TL/8464; BSE 392). The excavation of two footing trenches, a soakaway trench and a soakaway pit revealed five child skeletons within individual grave cuts. The skeletons were in relatively good condition and are thought to be part of the cemetery of St Peter's Hospital, which was in use from the 12th to the 17th centuries. No other

LEFT (page 98)

FIG. 40 – Bury St Edmunds, 57–59 College Street (BSE 290). Plan of the cellar thought to be a part of the medieval College of Jesus.

features or finds were recorded. None of the skeletons were old enough to be sexed and four of them had no clear skeletal evidence for disease or cause of death. However, the final individual had suffered symptoms of Klippel-Feil syndrome and may also have had its heart removed post-mortem, either for medical reasons or possibly as part of a superstitious practice.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for the property owner; report no. 2012/125.

*Bury St Edmunds*, Unit 36, Eastern Way (TL/8564; BSE 414). Monitoring on the Pro-Flat site revealed an undated pit, a boundary wall which is thought to be post-medieval, and terracing of the site. The terracing is possibly medieval or post-medieval, and relating to the site's use as gardens. However it may also relate to more recent groundworks such as the construction of the railway or the A14.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Pro Flat; report no. 2012/185.

*Carlton Colville*, Land west of Carlton Hall, (TM/5190; CAC 049). An area of 1.7ha was evaluated prior to development and several pits and ditches were revealed, some of which related to features identified during a prior geophysical survey. Where dating was possible, features were associated with Late Saxon and to a lesser extent, medieval finds and appear to represent elements of a field system with suggestions of settlement either on the site or nearby.

Linzi Everett, SCCAS, for CgMs Consulting; report no. 2012/139.

*Chelmondiston*, The Rectory, Collimer Close (TM/2037; CHL 058). An evaluation trench to the rear uncovered six features: a post-medieval or modern pit and a post, a gully and a pit with 12th–13th-century pottery, possibly residual, and an undated post-hole.

Ben Holloway and Howard Brooks, Colchester Archaeological Trust; report no. 633.

*Chilton*, land at County Farm, Church Field Road (TL/8842; CHT 021). Following on from an earlier evaluation, a small excavation was carried out to investigate the area around a pit that contained a fragment of a possible but unusual Early Anglo-Saxon crucible. Two additional pits were revealed, one dating from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and the other from the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age. A single undated small gully was identified in the SW part of the site, and the continuation of one of the previously recorded medieval/post-medieval ditches was recorded in the NW corner of the site.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for NHS Suffolk.

*Clare*, Clare Castle (TL/7745; CLA 008). A survey of the masonry remains of the shell keep and bailey wall of Clare Castle was undertaken during consolidation of the monument. The remains date from different phases of development of the castle: the bailey wall is a striking example of Norman wall building which is likely to date to the 11th century whilst the shell keep is later and exhibits none of the indicators of Norman architecture. The use of brick and tile fragments in the core confirms its post-Norman dating and the style of the buttresses suggests a later 13th century date; a period when the construction of this type of castle was coming to an end.

David Gill, SCCAS, for Suffolk County Council: report no 2012/186.

*Clare*, Clare Priory Church (TL/7645; CLA 037). Monitoring and building recording were carried out at Clare Priory during the excavations for an extension to the existing church – a 14th-century building that originally housed the infirmary, dormitory and reredorter of the Augustinian friary, but was converted into a church after 'The Priory' was restored to the

Augustinian Order in 1953. The monitoring recorded the buried foundations of the medieval infirmary and included the remains of a lost buttress and possible chimney which were all truncated at a depth of 350mm below the existing ground surface. The buttress and chimney footing were directly sealed by deposits associated with the post-Reformation remodelling of the building when the infirmary was converted to a barn. The priory is located on the floodplain of the River Stour and it was established that the ground levels had been raised by more than 1m with the importation of soil prior to the infirmary's construction. Within the building examples of 'daisy wheel' apotropaic marks were recorded on all of the few surviving fragments of plaster. These symbols which date from when the building was used as a barn were believed to avert evil and protect both animals and crops.

David Gill, SCCAS, for the Provincial of the Order of Hermit Friars of St. Augustine; report no 2013/039.

*Clare*, Richmond House, 20 Nethergate Street, Clare (TL/7645; CLA 071). An excavation in advance of a new swimming pool revealed several large medieval and post-medieval pit features and a number of smaller modern features which have been interpreted as garden/domestic waste pits. The animal bones from the historic contexts display a distinct pattern of horn and lower limb bone recovery, as opposed to axial skeletal remains, which suggests that some form of hide-working (possibly tanning) was taking place nearby. Although this may indicate the presence of a tannery nearby, none of the pits had a surviving lining and would not have been appropriate for the initial stages of the process. Similar features and artefacts have been seen to the rear of 22 Nethergate Street (CLA 054) and it appears that there may well have been a tannery site in the close vicinity the 12th–14th centuries.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for Professor and Dr Barwise.

*Claydon*, Burnside, Paper Mill Lane (TM/1249; CLY 031). Evaluation trenching across the site of a proposed barn on a sand and gravel terrace between Paper Mill Lane and the River Gipping revealed part of a large pit of Early Anglo-Saxon date which also contained residual Roman pottery. While only a small part of the feature was revealed, its character suggested that it was a part of a *Grubenhaus* or sunken-featured building. Early Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered from the feature in addition to a small number of animal bones and one red deer antler burr fragment that exhibited evidence for antler working.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr B. Cowan.

*Coddenham*, Manor Farm (TM/1354; CDD074). Further work was carried out to determine the relationship between the ridge across the meadow at Manor Farm, and the Roman Road (Margary34b) whose line it appeared to follow. Work in 2011 had established that there were sporadic underlying areas of packed flints but that the overlying ridge was a later construct. A new 20 x 1m trench revealed a flinted track at 0.3m deep, having Brown Glazed Coarse Earthenware (late 17th–19th centuries) at the base. To the W and lower down was found another track, on the downhill edge of which was a dump of building material: two large lumps of a fine building stone (identified as calcarenite), lime mortar and coarse brick from a demolished doorway or window of an unknown but high-class building. On the surface of this track were found several small fragments of Rhenish Incised Blue Ware (c. 1750–70). Further digging revealed a third track directly under the first, well built with oyster shell and a small sherd of probable 13th-century coarseware. At the base of the alluvium which forms the valley floor was found a layer of dense dirty gravel between 5.0 and 5.25m wide, sitting on natural hard gravel at 1.25m below present turf level. Its position and construction lead to the

conclusion that this is the base of the Roman road. This leaves the others as post-medieval constructs, built to counter the steady accumulation of flood deposits. Dating the three higher tracks, which are presumed to have connected to the old road to Needham Market prior to its rerouting to its present position, can only be broad, but all are after the 12th–13th century and none were in use after the building of the Rectory (now Coddendam House) in the 1790s, which led to the moving of the Needham road away from the site. Thanks are due to Miss Helen Whyles, the site owner.

John Fulcher for the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group.

*Coney Weston*, Fen Meadow (TL/9778; CNW 017). Previous investigations of a section of ruined flint wall had revealed the base of a small cell-like building approx 2.2m x 1.2m internally with a flint-walled well nearby. The cell was excavated and found to have a knapped-flint floor with traces of black rendering on the inner face of the walls and a coved junction with the floor. A block of Barnack stone in the NW corner with a 20mm hole drilled through at floor level suggested that this was some sort of tank to contain liquids, but its actual purpose is as yet unknown. Excavation of the well revealed alternate courses of flint and thin brick down to 1.7m deep with a collapsed wooden cage structure below this. The water level was approximately 300mm below the bottom of the brickwork and approximately equal to the water level in the nearby fen. Over 200 small animal bones and a very large flint weighing 21kg were found in the sludge at the bottom. After recording the well was backfilled. Further excavations adjoining the well and cell produced large quantities of mainly medieval potsherds (some early medieval, some late medieval).

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

*Culford*, new hockey pitch and tennis courts, Culford School (TL/8370; CUL 051).

An evaluation within a walled garden area to the S of the Sports Centre revealed several ditches and post-holes of various dates – prehistoric, Late Iron Age/Early Roman, Early Anglo-Saxon and post-medieval – as well as undated features. Hammerscale fragments recovered from environmental samples indicates that metalworking was occurring somewhere nearby, but is undated.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for Culford School.

*Drinkstone*, former Cherry Tree public house, Gedding Road (TL/9560; DRK 033). The evaluation of a 1.30ha site on a former part of Drinkstone Green revealed results consistent with low intensity past land use related to the grazing of livestock as only one small ditch of relatively recent date was found. The public house complex dates to the late 19th century and lies on the small part of this site which straddles part of the E green edge. However no features were revealed around the green edge.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Gipping Homes.

*Dunwich*, Marshside (TM/4871; DUN 106) Monitoring of groundworks revealed no incised features, however artefacts of medieval date were recovered from the upcast spoil.

Linzi Everett, SCCAS, for Mr S. Strickland; report no. 2012/59.

*Dunwich*, Dunwich Greyfriars (TM /4770; DUN 110). An English Heritage grant aided programme of rebuilding and consolidation work was targeted on areas of the extant precinct wall which had fallen into disrepair. During the associated archaeological monitoring, major phases of rebuilding were identified, along with frequent more piecemeal repairs.



Observations suggested that only the standing W gateways and a 48m length of the E wall are medieval survivals, the latter exhibiting a regular internal face constructed from locally derived crag limestone blocks and an external face dominated by septaria, another locally sourced stone. Other than a section of the E wall located to the N of the medieval fabric that was thought to have been constructed during the early 20th century, due to the presence of *graffiti*, probably executed by the builders, the remaining phases were considered to be of 18th or 19th century date.

Stuart Boulter, SCCAS, for Suffolk County Council and English Heritage.

*Earl Soham*, land north of The Street, (TM/2463; ESO 018). Various hillwash layers were identified in five trenches, as well as a raised, linear gravel spread believed to be the Roman road known to cut through the site. Roman finds were recovered from a series of post-holes adjacent to the road, as well as from a subsoil layer which sealed the road surface. Notable amongst these finds was a complete crossbow brooch of 4th century date, usually associated with male, particularly military, costume.

Linzi Everett, SCCAS, for Parsons and Whittleby Ltd; report no. 2012/43.

*Eriswell*, land off Lord's Walk (TL/7280; ERL 222). An evaluation and subsequent excavation in advance of the construction a Bio-fuel generation plant identified a later Iron Age horizon that included a pit cluster consisting of 25 large pits; 34 additional pits were recorded in a concentration across the E half of the development area. Three phases of ditch system were identified during the excavation, two of which possessed a notable eastwards curve towards their N extents. The systems appeared to be funnelling activity eastward and are likely to have been originally excavated as additions to the prehistoric droveway previously identified to the S. A flat flint quernstone and a sandstone saddle quern were recovered from a pit cluster adjacent to an entrance in the ditch system assigned to the second phase of activity.

Andy Beverton, SCCAS, for Pelorus; report no. 2012/103.

*Eriswell*, RAF Lakenheath Sewage Works (TL/7280; ERL 225). Excavations were carried out prior to the construction of new sewage filtration tanks on a site that lies on the edge of Caudle Head, where spring water surfaces from a buried watercourse which drains W into the Fens. These revealed 1.5m of deposits, with peat at the bottom and top of occupation soils that dated from the Late Bronze Age through to the post-Roman period. There are at least seven phases of Roman enclosures or droveway ditches and fence lines interspersed with dumps of occupation soil.

Two individual features stand out: a Roman cremation, which is stratigraphically early in the Roman occupation and the first to found on the airbase, and the 'ritual' burial of a horse's head (paralleling, perhaps, three 'placed' horses' heads in a pit from site LKH 190 that have been dated to the Iron Age). The site appears to be on the margins of occupation, due to the watercourse, wet environment and sloping ground. Occupation through the Late Iron Age and Roman period is recorded more intensely elsewhere on the airbase. This site displays a complex, vertical, stratigraphic sequence and it is intended that an integrated study involving micromorphology and pollen alongside macrofossils and other finds work will contribute to our understanding of the wider Roman settlement. The macrofossil assessment has identified crop plants such as oats, barley, rye and wheat, many of which have been charred, suggesting processing, possibly for malting; weed and wetland plants are also present. The pollen assessment also shows up weed and wetland plants, however crop remains are largely absent and it has been mooted that the large collection of stratified animal bone offers a pointer towards the economy of the site. Establishing the balance between pastoral and arable

farming will be a fundamental question to be asked of the analysis of the environmental evidence and particularly the animal bone assemblage. Two radiocarbon dates have been determined from the peat: 814 cal BC for the lowest peat formation and cal AD 661 where there is a hiatus in settlement. It is hoped that further dates from wet deposits will help refine the morphology and chronology of the site.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for Defence Infrastructure Organisation.

*Eriswell*, RAF Lakenheath Foul Drainage (TL/7280; ERL 228). Monitoring was carried out on a pipe trench that passed through areas of known Roman and prehistoric activity and very close to the Saxon cemeteries. This revealed evidence of undated ditches and a later prehistoric ditch, as well as a buried soil layer. A Roman grave containing the skeleton of a mature adult male was also excavated, with nails indicating the presence of a coffin.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Defence Infrastructure Organisation;  
report no. 2013/013.

*Euston*, Wash Pits Field (TL/9277; EUN 035). An evaluation in an advance of a reservoir revealed that the site had been used in the mid to late 17th and early 18th centuries for the quarrying of clay and the subsequent firing of bricks, with various quarry pits and two kilns being recorded, with the eponymous Wash Pits forming part of the clay purification process. Two field drainage systems may have been associated with this phase of activity. Several other post-medieval ditches and non-quarry pits, thought to be associated with the brick-making activity, were also recorded. Earlier features were found on the N and S edges of the site and consisted of Roman ditches, as well as two undated ditches and an undated pit, which are assumed to either be later prehistoric or Roman.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for the Euston Estate; report no. 2012/151.

*Felixstowe*, South Seafront and Martello Tower P (TM/2933; FEX 294). An evaluation was carried out on land between Langer Road and the seawall to the S of the town in advance of a residential development. Within this site is Martello Tower P, one of a chain of defensive towers built along the Essex and Suffolk coast in the early 1800s and now a Scheduled Monument. The tower lies within a 'military compound' that was originally marked by boundary stones and later by an iron railing fence. Towards the S end of the site a large ditch running parallel to the seawall was recorded, and within it was evidence for timber uprights which probably held a wire fence running along the bottom of the ditch. Elsewhere on the site a partially sunken 'bunker' formed from sand-filled metal boxes was probably associated with a short length of trench revetted by timber and a steel sheet. These features have been interpreted as World War II defences built by the Home Guard.

Three trenches excavated adjacent to the tower proved it had originally been surrounded by a modest ditch. In two of these trenches buried lengths of copper strip were also revealed, one of which was attached to a copper-coated earthing rod. These are related to the tower's use as a wireless telegraphy station in the early 20th century and would have formed a 'ground plane' for the antenna. Additionally, concrete blocks into which an iron ring had been set were found in two of the trenches adjacent the tower, which would have acted as tethers for guide wires supporting an antenna.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for J. S. Bloor (Sudbury) Ltd.

*Felixstowe*, land north of High Street, Walton (TM/2936; FEX 299). 91 trenches revealed evidence for activity that spanned the prehistoric to medieval periods, including elements of an Early/Middle Bronze Age ritual funerary landscape with a putative barrow and associated

features such as secondary cremations. Evidence for an agricultural landscape, along with possible beginnings of settlement in the form of post-holes and possible roundhouses, was also recovered. Occupation evidently continued into the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age with the presence of at least one settlement area with a good, well preserved assemblage of pottery and other finds. Subsequently it appears that low-level activity, predominantly agricultural in nature, continued on the site into the post-medieval period.

Jon House, Oxford Archaeology East; report no.1414.

*Flixton*, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086; FLN 090 and FLN 091). A further 1.5ha was stripped of topsoil and, with the exception of ditches and post-holes marking boundaries and the previous route of the Flixton to Homersfield road (all known from estate and early Ordnance Survey maps) and a post-medieval quarry pit, the remaining datable features were prehistoric.

A discrete group of pits excavated towards the S end of the FLN 091 area included a significant quantity of earlier Bronze Age domestic Beaker pottery and worked flint. Further structural evidence for circular post-built buildings and four-post structures of the later Bronze Age was recorded in the FLN 090 area and a circular post-built building associated with pits of Iron Age date was uncovered in the FLN 091 area. In addition, a number of ditches were identified that clearly predated the post-medieval field boundaries, but did not themselves include dating evidence. These have tentatively been interpreted as part of an earlier, Iron Age or Roman field system.

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

*Freckenham*, Cornerstones (TL/6463; FRK 101). An evaluation identified two medieval pits containing the skeletons of an articulated horse and a piglet. The horse is estimated to have been less than 18 months old at death, with no obvious pathological evidence. A sample of the skeleton was taken for radiocarbon dating by the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre for radiocarbon analysis and returned a 64.5% probability that it dated to between AD 1440 and 1525. It is unclear why the horse was buried rather than rendered for glue, but the proximity of two animal burials suggests that during the medieval occupation the area lent itself to the disposal of animals, perhaps the corner of a field or within a farm complex.

Andy Beverton, SCCAS, for Mill House Homes; report no. 2012/117.

*Hartest*, Meadowcroft, Poorhouse Hill (TL/8352; HRT 029). Monitoring of foundation trenches for an extension close to an area where evidence of Roman activity, including pottery production, was found in the 1950s did not record any archaeological features. However a small number of Roman pottery sherds were retrieved from the upcast top and subsoil.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr and Mrs M. Feather.

*Haughley*, Chilton Leys (TM/0359; HGH 052). Fieldwalking and a metal detector survey recorded material from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age through to the medieval period, including a barbed and tanged arrowhead and a silver Irish Long Cross coin, dated to 1280–1307. Subsequent trial trenching found prehistoric material in two main areas. The larger concentration comprised a series of flint finds including a large assemblage of burnt flint and blade/narrow flake knapping debris within deposits of either an alluvial or fluvial nature, and a similar assemblage within two features underlying these deposits. Poorly preserved wood was also found. Further evidence of prehistoric occupation included a pit containing a large assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery (potentially a cremation) and some

post-holes and features that could be indicative of Late Bronze Age occupation. Roman features included a probable post-built structure and a pottery kiln with an intact perforated floor. A second area of Roman material was located at the N end of the site. This probably represents the edge of an area of occupation with pits, post-holes and a watering hole or well. One large, shallow feature may have been a sunken-featured building of Early Saxon date. Early Saxon burials were also located, one of which contained grave goods including a large sheet metal bowl or cauldron, a spearhead and a *seax*.

Anthony Haskins, Oxford Archaeology East; report nos. 1375 and 1426.

*Henham*, Henham Hall (TM/4578; HAM 006 and 015). An evaluation was carried out by Channel 4's 'Time Team' on the site of the Tudor hall, demolished in the 18th century, and that of its 18th-century replacement, demolished in 1953, but no report has yet been received.

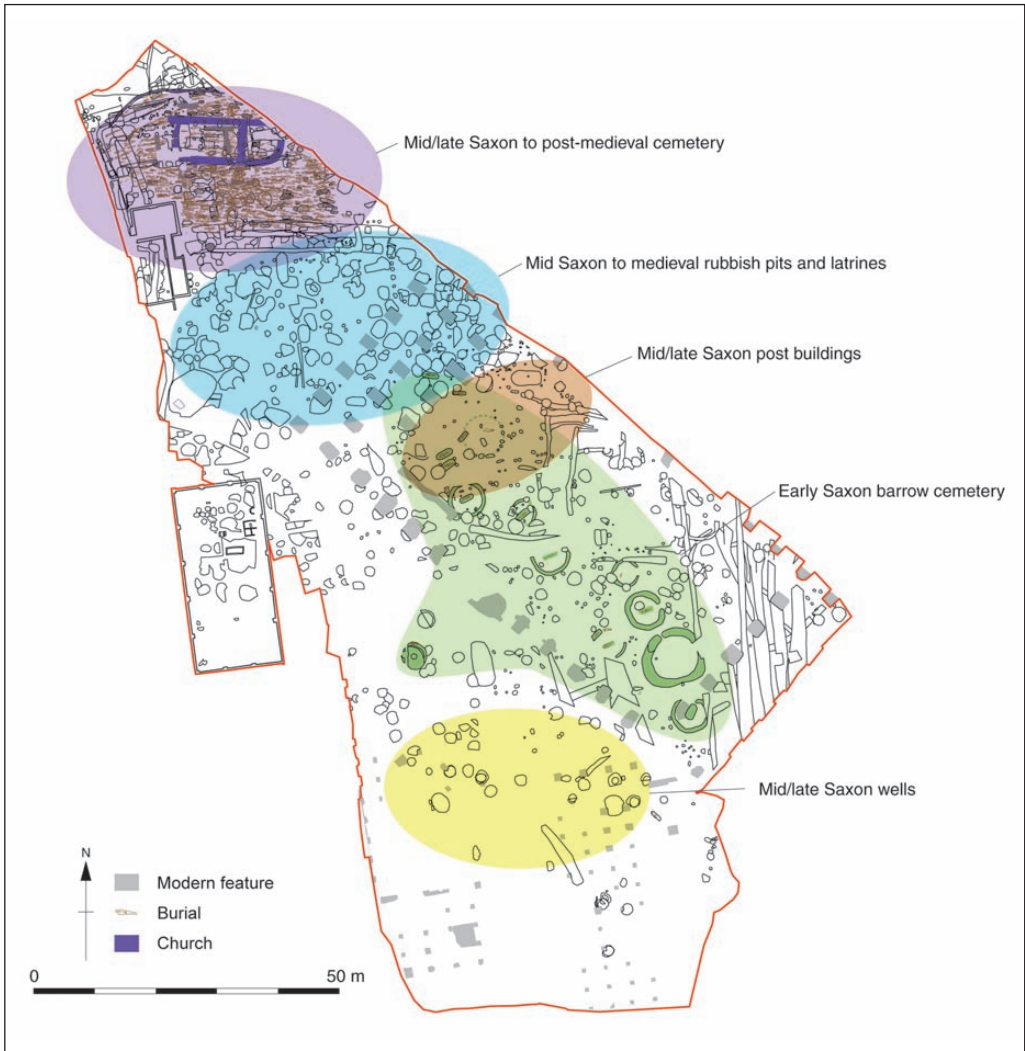


FIG. 42 – Ipswich, Stoke Quay (IPS 643). Site plan.

*Ipswich*, Stoke Quay, 7–11 Great Whip Street (TM/1643; IPS 643). Major excavations revealed two cemeteries close to the point where the town’s cardinal Saxon road crossed the River Orwell. One, that of the ‘lost’ church of St Augustine’s, was expected following earlier evaluation of the site by SCCAS. The second was a collection of Early Saxon graves at the foot of Stoke Hill. The latter included a number of inhumations inside barrow ditches and combined both furnished and unfurnished burials. In total, over 1000 burials were excavated (Figs 42–43).

References to St Augustine’s Church cease in the 1500s, and the excavations showed that it had been systematically robbed of its building materials during the post-medieval period. St Augustine’s cemetery may have started in the Middle Saxon period, but was long-lived – it appears to have remained open until the abandonment of the church. Thus, the excavations will provide a rare opportunity to examine continuity in burial practice from the 7th–8th centuries down to the Tudor period.

Occupation of the site was represented by numerous and often substantial post-holes, pits and wells across the site and largely dating from the 8th–11th centuries but also extending into the medieval and post-medieval periods. A well-preserved pottery kiln associated with Ipswich Ware was a notable feature of the site.

Richard Brown, Oxford Archaeology Ltd and Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.

*Ipswich*, former Thomas Wolsey School site (TM/1447; IPS 664). An evaluation in advance of a residential development revealed a small pit containing two sherds of Late Iron Age pottery. Elsewhere the remains of three subterranean concrete structures, interpreted as World War II air-raid shelters, were exposed.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for Persimmon Homes.



FIG. 43 – The site at Ipswich, Stoke Quay during excavation  
(photo: Oxford Archaeology Ltd/Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd).

*Ipswich*, former Cranes factory site (TM/1941; IPS 658). An excavation in a small area of the former factory site in advance of redevelopment revealed three pits. No datable artefacts were recovered from these features but radiocarbon dating of charcoal from the fills suggested dates from the Early Anglo-Saxon period, although a late Roman date for one of the samples is possible.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for CgMs Consulting.

*Ipswich*, Alderwood PRU Centre (TM/1742; IPS 699) The remains of a group of three underground air raid shelters were discovered during groundwork associated with the replacement of temporary accommodation at the site. They consisted of single, elongated chambers formed from pre-cast concrete panels. The roofs of all three had been collapsed and the internal spaces filled with sand and gravel. They are within the former playing fields of a group of three schools that were present in this area during World War II. All three of these schools have since been demolished and the playing fields redeveloped with modern housing and the PRU Centre. It is highly likely that the shelters identified are part of a much larger group or groups of shelters associated with the former school sites.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for Suffolk County Council Resource Management.

*Ipswich*, Grafton Way (TM/1643; IPS 707). An evaluation was carried out on land S of Grafton Way in advance of a mixed-use development. The trenches revealed extensive marsh deposits beneath mid 19th-century reclamation deposits. Remains of two 19th-century structures relating to a former railway goods station were recorded but no earlier features were noted. A single leather shoe, possibly 15th-century in date, was recovered from a peat layer 2m below the present ground level.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for Roscoe DM.

*Lakenheath*, Half Moon Pub (TL/7183; LKH 344). Phases of evaluation and excavation fieldwork were carried out at the site of the former pub, towards the N end of Lakenheath village, flanked by the High Street to the E and by drained fenland to the W. Small quantities of Neolithic flint were recovered from beneath peat and organic mud layers that ran across the site, overlying the natural sands. Underlying the peat was a series of small pits and possible post-holes that produced no datable material. Within the base of the peat matrix a small amount of Roman pottery was recovered. 11th/12th century pottery was recovered from the top of the peat, although the main phases of occupation appear to date from the later medieval and post-medieval periods. These phases produced pits, post-holes and ditches, as well as two wells, which were all cut into the upper layers of peat and organic mud. A corner of a clunch building recorded in the evaluation was not exposed any further during the excavation. The features produced medieval and post-medieval pottery, ceramic building material and animal bone, as well as three pieces of wood that were probably part of a fence line and a more significant timber structure.

Environmental sampling indicated that the site was a wet fenland during the Iron Age/Roman period before drying out from the 11th/12th century onwards and was then possibly used for arable farming, with evidence for nearby domestic activity provided by very small charcoal fragments recorded throughout the environmental record. Both types of sampling indicated that the soil profile did not form as a long-standing peat sequence, but was also made up of other alluvial events that had formed organic silty-sandy mud layers across the site.

The site appears to have been an occasionally utilised area on the edge of the later medieval and post-medieval village. It was probably still too wet for habitation at this point and may have instead been used for arable farming, as well as for deposition of domestic refuse. The presence of ditches may indicate attempts to drain the site although, along with the post-holes, they may

also represent field boundaries or stock enclosures.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Baker Nisbet; report no. 2013/002.

*Leiston*, former Coastguard Lookout Station, Sizewell Gap (TM/4762; LCS 166) English Heritage Level 2 building recording was undertaken on this single-storey, brick-built, rectangular structure with a slate roof dating from the 1820s. A small second storey extension has been added to the E end to create a watch tower. The structure was found to be in good condition with surviving internal fixtures such as cupboards and a musket rack.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for Maggi Hambling.

*Long Melford*, Primary School (TL/8645; LMD 192). Excavation and monitoring of a site in the centre of Long Melford, flanked by the medieval High Street to the W and by the school and a modern housing estate to the N, E and S, recovered small quantities of residual Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age flint with further redeposited Iron Age struck flints and pottery being present within later feature fills. The main phase of occupation, however, dated from the later Iron Age/Roman transition into the 2nd century AD and consisted of a small number of pits, aligned ditches and post-holes which produced early Roman pottery, animal bone, ceramic building material, metal-working debris and a possibly associated crucible, burnt flint, lava quern, fired clay and iron nails. The environmental residues also indicated the presence of crop cultivation and processing somewhere in the locality.

The more unusual features on the site were a cremation burial and three grave cuts containing the remains of four individuals, dating from the late 1st to late 2nd centuries (Fig. 44). The cremation was that of an adult with an urn and three vessels, probably forming a dining set. The latest grave produced two Samian dishes and a flagon and also contained a skull fragment of a child alongside the adult female buried therein. Another of the graves, for an adult man, produced a single jar and the presence of nails formed clear evidence for a coffin. These two inhumations were also buried within rectangular cuts, far larger than required for a coffin. The final grave only contained the partial remains of an adult and no grave goods, but it was aligned consistently with the female burial. Only occasional unstratified post-medieval finds post-dated the Roman occupation of the site.

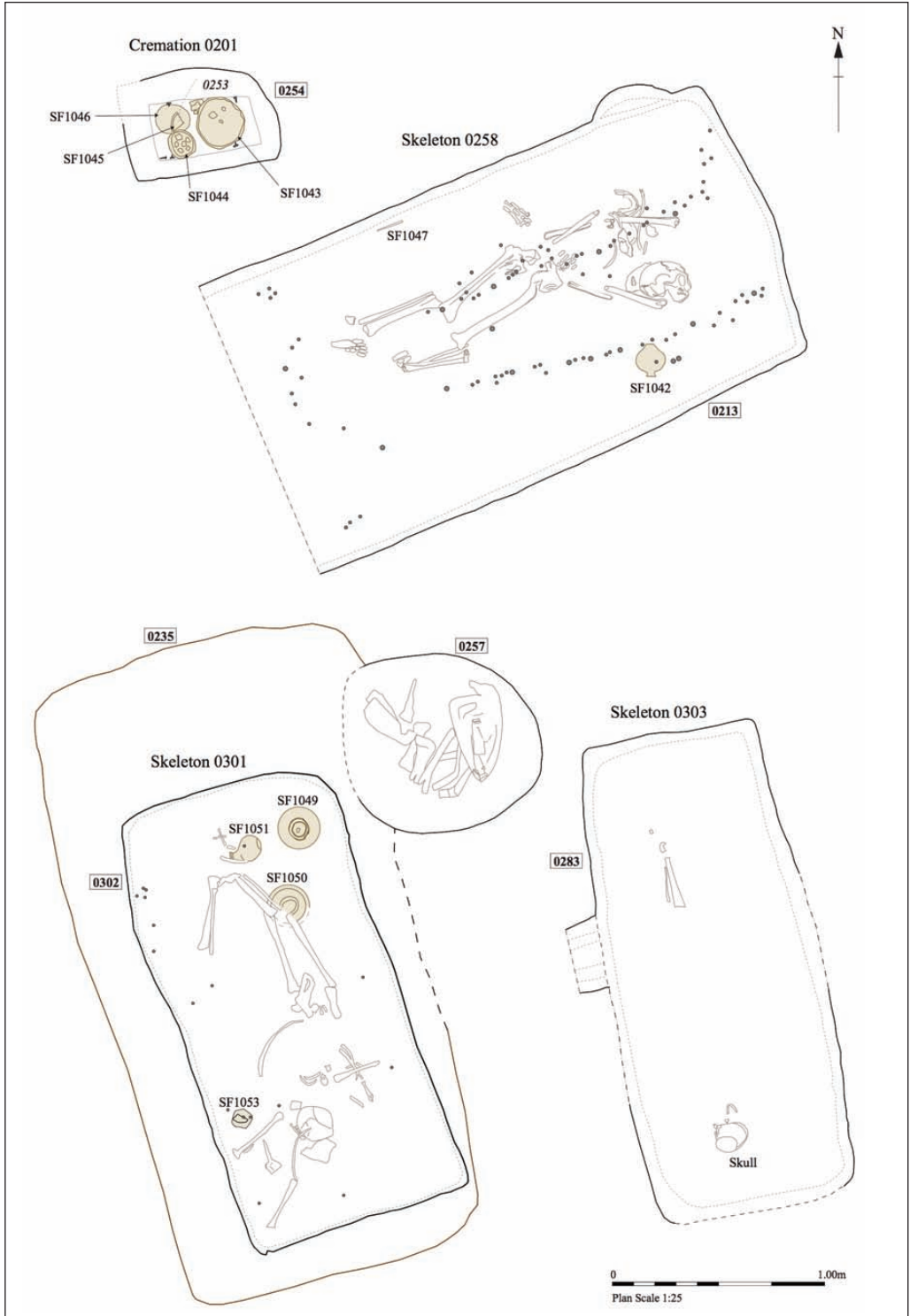
Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Suffolk County Council Properties; report no. 2012/135.

*Lowestoft*, Normanston Drive (TM/5493; LWT 179). English Heritage Level 2 building recording of a concrete structure was undertaken prior to its demolition. It was identified as a former ARP Control Centre dating from World War II which was later converted for use as Sub Control Centre for Lowestoft. The structure consisted of a single-storey, flat-roofed building containing a series of rooms above a basement of similar size. It was in generally good condition and many internal fixtures had survived. These included the electrical wiring and circuit boards, much of which was exposed, presumably for ease of repair, along with pumping equipment for supplying fresh, filtered air to the basement rooms.

Mark Sommers, SCCAS, for Wellington Construction.

*Lowestoft*, land north of Hubbards Loke, Gunton (TM/5495; LWT 188). An evaluation of phase 1 of a proposed woodland burial site some 50m NE of St Peter's Church at Gunton, revealed a small number of archaeological features of either uncertain or post-medieval date. Of the two ditches found during the evaluation, one contained a small quantity of post-medieval peg tile while the other one did not yield any finds. Both of these linear features can be interpreted as former field boundaries.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Gunton PCC.





*Martlesham*, land off Felixstowe Road, Martlesham Heath (TM/2446; MRM 144). An evaluation on land between Main Road and Felixstowe Road prior to residential development revealed a number of linear features that included field boundaries, internal subdivisions and irrigation ditches and plough lines, as well as a smaller number of pits and post-holes. The artefactual remains varied from a single Neolithic flint to a quantity of mid 20th century RAF/NAFFI china found in a refuse dump pit (a World War II airfield lies to the south) but also Roman and medieval pottery. As there are known Roman finds in close vicinity, it is likely that some of the ditches are part of a Roman field system, with possibly underlying later prehistoric activity and overlying medieval field usage.

Simon Cass, SCCAS, for Bloor Homes Ltd.

*Mildenhall*, 16 Mill Street (TL/7074; MNL 674). Four trenches revealed well preserved pits, ditches, post-holes and building footings, which appear to be either medieval or post-medieval, although two large pits and the post-holes are currently undated. The finds were made up of medieval pottery, medieval and post-medieval ceramic building material, animal bone and mussel shells.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Baker Construction; report no. 2012/014.

*Mildenhall*, Lincoln Road, RAF Mildenhall (TL/6877; MNL678). An evaluation between Gates 2 and 3 found scattered evidence of the Roman settlement previously identified immediately to the N of the site. No features were completely exposed but the excavated remains appear to consist mostly of ditches that were generally aligned more E–W than N–S. The features were heavily truncated by medieval/post medieval ploughing, which was visible against the surface of the natural chalk.

Andrew Tester, SCCAS, for Defence Infrastructure Organisation.

*Nayland*, village test pitting (TL/9734). Nayland today is an elongated nucleated settlement arranged parallel with the River Stour, along the B1087, just E of the main A134 road connecting Colchester and Sudbury. Today, the older core lies close to the river, including a small number of houses on an island in the Stour, clustered around St James' Church, whose fabric dates to the 14th century. Newer estates are located along the N side of the river valley and in the E extremity of the village. Nayland parish has over 100 listed buildings including many timber-framed structures dating back to the 13th–16th centuries. These are concentrated in Nayland village itself, with a scattering across the rest of the modern parish. The medieval site of Court Knoll lies in the SE of the village. This appears to have been a manorial site from the later 11th century onwards (Everett and Anderson 2001; Halliday *et al.* 2003). Fieldwalking and excavation here in the 1920s revealed large quantities of Roman tile reused as foundations for a manor building, and although virtually none of the pottery found at the site predated the later medieval period, documentary evidence, pottery finds and geophysical survey of building features confirm the presence of buildings on the site from the 14th century onwards.

Thirty-four test pits were excavated ([www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/nayland.html](http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/nayland.html)). The earliest material recovered was two sherds of Roman-British pottery from NAY/12/1 (close to the A134 bypass) and ten from the opposite end of the village over 1km to the E (NAY/12/15, NAY/12/17 and NAY/12/18). This is suggestive of two separate areas of activity at this time, with the easterly cluster in particular considered likely to derive from settlement in the vicinity.

LEFT (*page 110*)

FIG. 44 – Long Melford, Primary School (LMD 192). Plans of the Roman burials.

Very little archaeological evidence for Anglo-Saxon settlement was recovered from the test pits excavated in 2012, suggesting the area of the modern village was mostly unused for settlement until around the beginning of the 12th century. While it has previously been suggested that there may have been an Anglo-Saxon settlement on Court Knoll and in the vicinity of present-day Nayland (e.g. Halliday *et al.* 2003), the test pit excavations in the village produced no evidence to support this. The evidence from the test pit excavations suggests that the pre-Domesday population was not concentrated into a nucleated village in this area at this time. It is interesting to note that a series of test pits excavated in 2012 in neighbouring Stoke-by-Nayland (see report below) also produced Roman-era and high/late medieval sherds but no Anglo-Saxon pottery, suggesting a very similar pattern to that seen in Nayland. This suggests that the population in Stoke-by-Nayland was also probably dispersed in the Anglo-Saxon period rather than clustered in a nucleated village at the site of the present-day settlement.

A large volume of pottery of high medieval date was recovered from the test pits and is indicative of a nucleated settlement centred around Birch Street, Fen Street, Mill Street, High Street and the E end of Bear Street. Test pits NAY/12/13, NAY/12/14, NAY/12/25 and NAY/12/34 revealed evidence for recent disturbance, and the pottery distributions and finds from these pits are unlikely to be representative of the history of activity at the sites. Interestingly these test pits represent four of just six test pits from the central village area that did not produce sherds of high medieval pottery, contrasting sharply with the seventeen pits in this area that did.

By contrast, the W part of the village produced hardly any evidence of human activity prior to the 15th century. The lack of 12th–14th century pottery in pits NAY/12/06, NAY/12/08 and NAY/12/25 may also imply that the houses between Bear Street and Mill Stream were a later addition to the settlement arranged N of the road, which all have better evidence for occupation during this period. It thus appears that this W arm of the village appeared during a secondary phase of village expansion and development.

Perhaps the most striking observations to come from the test pits is the very large quantity of later medieval pottery recovered. It is clear that Nayland grew significantly in size and in intensity of occupation. This is in marked contrast to the pattern observed in most settlements within which test pit excavations have taken place as part of the University of Cambridge CORS project (Lewis in preparation), around 90% of which display contraction in the later medieval period (mid 14th–mid 16th century), mostly of some severity. Nayland clearly bucks this trend, with 76% of the excavated pits producing at least a couple of sherds of this date, considerably higher than the regional average (*ibid.*).

Carenza Lewis, Access Cambridge Archaeology for the *Managing a Masterpiece* Heritage Lottery-funded Landscape Partnership Project for the Stour Valley.

*Newmarket*, Palace House Stables (TL/6463; NKT 032). Excavation immediately to the NE of the main stable block and trainer's house revealed a series of post-medieval features and structures. The earliest of these is shown by a phase of 18th-century post-holes and a pit, as well as an 18th-century structure predating the 1787 Chapman map, overlaid by buried topsoil. Several more extensive phases of construction then occur, with the latest appearing to date to the late 19th or early 20th centuries. The function of these buildings was probably as subsidiary units to the adjoining stable yard (in its various incarnations), for purposes such as tack storage and possibly for husbandry of animals such as cattle. There are several historic maps showing the phases of the site's development, although none of the structures are shown on the earliest available plan, the 1720 Fort plan. This indicates that they were not associated with that phase of stable construction, although some of them may have been contemporary.

The features uncovered on site comprised brick walls and floors, surfaces, post-holes, soil and demolition layers, and a pit. The majority of the finds consisted of animal bone, ceramic building material and pottery, much of which was abraded. All of the finds were post-medieval, excluding one redeposited later prehistoric flint.

The lack of earlier features and finds on the site, particularly considering its position on the Icknield Way and within medieval Newmarket, suggests that the area was possibly levelled extensively during various phases of redevelopment; particularly as medieval pottery has been recovered from the adjoining stable yard.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Forest Heath District Council; report no. 2012/012.

*Newmarket*, Palace House Stables Basement (TL/6463; NKT 041). An evaluation was carried out within the SE end of the trainer's house, within the Palace House Stables/Rothschild's stable yard complex, off Palace Street. Some of the test pits revealed floor surfaces and a clunch wall from the Palace House Stables illustrated on the 1720 Fort Plan. Chalk screeds and floor surfaces from the older stables were also recorded. Overlying these remains, the various redevelopments of the site by the Rothschild family were uncovered, often incorporating or robbing out the older structures. The earliest deposit on the site was a buried topsoil layer, which predates the stable. Finds from the site included pottery, roof tiles, brick and tobacco pipes, all of which were post-medieval, as well as undated animal bone.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Forest Heath District Council; report no. 2012/079.

*Newmarket*, land to the rear of High Street (TL/6363; NKT 043). Early to Middle Bronze Age and Early Iron Age occupation features were recorded as well as early post-medieval backyard features. Various 18th-century remains associated with Queensbury Yard Stables and Lodge potentially represent some of the earliest stable buildings in Newmarket.

Anthony Haskins, Oxford Archaeology East; report no. 1407.

*Purdis Farm*, land south of Hillingdon House, Purdis Avenue (TM 2098 4288; PFM 020). An evaluation for a small residential development close to the edge of what remains of Purdis Heath revealed one small recent ditch and a small group of unstratified medieval pottery sherds.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Michael Howard Homes Ltd.

*Risby*, The Old Rectory (TL/8066; RBY 044). Two trial trenches recorded a ditch containing 2nd–3rd century Roman pottery as well as environmental residues of crop processing and smithing.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Mr and Mrs Aston; report no. 2012/131.

*Saxmundham*, Old Auction House, Fromus Square (TM 3863; SAX 026). A building survey concluded that, in addition to the auction house, this site included an adjoining former bakehouse and a small range of single-storey buildings at the rear of the site. Five main phases of development were noted, all ranging between the 19th and mid–late 20th century. Despite the initial assumption that the auction house was 19th century in date, cartographic evidence consulted during the background research has indicated that it was not constructed until after 1927. Features recorded during the survey include remnants of gas lamp fittings in the auction house and an early 20th-century steam oven inside the bakehouse. The auction house was most likely constructed to provide an indoor auction facility for the expanding cattle market immediately E of the site (under the present Waitrose supermarket) which existed until 1977.

Taleyna Fletcher, Oxford Archaeology East; report no.1404.

*Stoke by Nayland*, village test-pitting (TL/9836–9935; SBN 096). A two-day community test-pitting event took place in October for the Managing a Masterpiece HLF-funded project. The pitting revealed material dating from the prehistoric to the post-medieval period. The prehistoric material consisted of a single potsherd and a small number of worked flints and indicates a low level of background activity across the village. Two sherds of Roman pottery were found on the N edge of the village, whilst Roman ceramic building material (CBM) was found in pits closer to the centre which, in addition to that recorded in the church and a nearby house, suggest the presence of a Roman building in the vicinity. There was an absence of Anglo-Saxon and early medieval finds, but gradually increasing levels of finds from the 12th century onwards. Whilst this might suggest a break in the occupation of the village until the late 12th century (when pottery appears to indicate settlement in the NW corner of the village) in fact this only reflects the limits of the finds assemblage, as it is known from documentary evidence that Stoke has Saxon origins and had a 10th-century church. The largest part of the finds assemblage dated to the post-medieval period and mainly consisted of pottery and CBM. The medieval and post-medieval finds, as well as the map evidence and surviving buildings, suggest a slight shift in the focus of occupation after the 14th century from the NW to the SE of the village.

Rob Brooks and Jo Caruth, SCCAS, for the *Managing a Masterpiece* Heritage Lottery-funded Landscape Partnership Project for the Stour Valley.

*Sudbourne*, land west of Lodge Farm, (TM/4251; SUE 113). An area of 2.4ha was evaluated in advance of a farm reservoir, revealing two adjacent early medieval ditches, as well as a N–S aligned ditch which shows on a 1945 RAF air photo as a field boundary. The only other incised features present were what appeared to be large extraction pits, the deepest of which measured over 2m deep. Another of these pits had a layer of midden material at its base.

Linzi Everett, SCCAS, for Mr A. Hawes; report no. 2012/138.

*Sudbury*, The Old Rising Sun, 7 Plough Lane (TL/8741; SUY 108). Monitoring of foundations at the rear identified a large pit of possible medieval date in addition to a small group of unabraded pottery sherds of 11/12th to 13/14th century date.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr T. Crome and Ms P. Hyndman.

*Sudbury*, Woodhall CP School Stage 2 (TL/8742; SUY 109). Monitoring of pipe trenches identified a single circular pit containing three reasonably complete red deer antlers. A section of one antler was sent to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre for radiocarbon analysis and returned a date of 1404BC–1223BC with a 95.4% probability. Further bulk finds from the pit comprised an assemblage derived from the preparation of faunal remains, suggesting that the pit was originally excavated for the storage of materials for later working.

Andy Beverton, SCCAS, for Suffolk County Council Corporate Property; report no. 2012/015.

*Sudbury*, Harp Close Meadow (TL/8742; SUY 117). An evaluation in advance of a housing development on 4.5ha site in a dry valley overlooking the River Stour revealed a N–S orientated ditch close to its E boundary which produced small amounts of abraded prehistoric and Roman pottery and some worked flints, and a rich plant macrofossil assemblage that included frequent charred cereal remains. The ditch was sealed by a soil horizon containing small amounts of worked flint and Roman pottery, which in turn was buried by a layer of

colluvium that produced some fragments of Roman tile. The only other archaeological feature was part of a pit (or ditch terminus) in the W half of the site; this produced some undiagnostic and undated fired clay fragments.

Kieron Heard, SCCAS, for West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust;  
report no. 2012/126.

*Whatfield*, White House Farm, Elmsett Road (TM/0346; WHA 003). Monitoring of foundations trenches for an extension, coupled with map evidence, revealed a sequence of major changes for the farmyard on the moat island in the later post-medieval period, including major remodelling and infilling of the moat itself from c. 1900; but no evidence for medieval activity was recorded.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr C. Course.

*Wilby*, land adjacent to Church Farm, Church Road (TM/2472; WBY 027). An evaluation for a small residential development to the S of the moat at Church Farm revealed one large pit of post-medieval date, but palaeo-environmental sampling and the general lack of finds indicate little settlement activity.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr M Ford.

*Worlington*, Worlington Quarry (TL/6970; WGN 047). Monitoring of a topsoil strip revealed two undated pits, possibly extensions of the Bronze Age or later prehistoric activity seen in previous work in the quarry.

Rob Brooks, SCCAS, for Frimstone Ltd; report no. 2012/048.

*Worlington*, land to the north of Freckenham Road (TL/6873; WGN 049). A previous evaluation by SCCAS in 2011 identified evidence of medieval occupation on the site in the form of ditches, pits and a large buried deposit. At least two or more phases of occupation were identified, from the 10th to the 14th centuries. Pottery recovered during the excavation confirms the presence of remains predominantly from the 12th to 14th centuries. The results of the evaluation and a small amount of residual 10th- to 12th-century pottery found during the excavation would suggest the earlier activity may have been located immediately to the N.

The excavation revealed what appeared to be two phases of boundary or enclosure ditches, the earliest on an E-W orientation, with a parallel fence line on the same alignment as the main road and the second phase, thought to be 12th to 14th century in date, on a N-S orientation. A large silty deposit was investigated at the S corner of the site which may represent an area of flooding or an area into which the N-S aligned ditches were draining water. All of the ditches were relatively shallow and were recut in quick succession, which may indicate regular or seasonal reinstatement of boundary or drainage ditches associated with agricultural use.

Two large pits were also recorded, dating to the 12th to 14th centuries. These contained an interesting assemblage of mussel shells which are thought to be the waste from a single meal.

Taleyna Fletcher, Oxford Archaeology East, report no. 1398.

## CHURCH RECORDING

*Gislingham*, Church of St. Mary the Virgin (TM0771; GSG 040). Monitoring of the excavation for a 'trench arch' drain and connecting pipe-work in the graveyard on the north side of the church revealed the remains of a bonded flint wall that is likely to be the remains of the original (?)13th-century tower. The tower was probably demolished to allow for the lengthening of the nave in 1386 and was replaced with a second tower only for it to collapse in 1599; the current brick tower was built in 1639. Vestiges of the second tower are retained within the current building and can be identified by the off-centre tower arch within the church and externally by the remains of its decorative plinth. Rising from the east side of the plinth is a vertical joint where the former tower butted against the nave, indicating that the extension to the nave and the second tower were built independently of each other. After the collapse of the second tower the stone dressing of the string courses and openings were collected for reuse in the later brick structure.

David Gill, SCCAS, for Gislingham Parochial Church Council; report no 2012/129.

*Laxfield*, All Saints Church (TM/2972; LXD 032). Two small evaluation pits were excavated within the tower on the line of proposed new service trenches. Immediately below the existing concrete floor in Trench 1 were the remains of an earlier brick floor. The bricks were heavily sooted on their upper surface and were interpreted as representing a 19th- or early 20th-century structure to make a firm base for a stove; two similar bases survive in the nave. Below the brick floor in Trench 1 and immediately below the concrete floor in Trench 2, was a layer of disaggregated lime mortar and flints. No medieval floor levels were encountered and, judging by the base level of the extant limestone mouldings particularly in the area of Trench 1, the medieval floor levels would have been similar to those of today and, on that basis, are likely to have been replaced rather than buried.

Stuart Boulter, SCCAS, for Laxfield Parochial Church Council.

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