

# ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2015

*compiled by FAYE MINTER with  
object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL*

THIS IS A selection of the new discoveries reported in 2015. 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 Suffolk Heritage Explorer web pages (<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/>) or the Heritage Gateway ([www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)). This list is also available on the Suffolk Heritage Explorer site and many of the excavation/evaluation reports are now also available online via the Archaeological Data Service (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/>).

Most of the finds are 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 website (<http://finds.org.uk/database>) and for many of the finds listed here the PAS reference number is included in the text. During 2015 the PAS finds in Suffolk were recorded by Andrew Brown, Anna Booth and Faye Minter. 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:*

- CIC Community Interest Company  
Mdf Metal detector find  
PAS Portable Antiquities Scheme (see above). The Suffolk contact for this national scheme is Andrew Brown (tel. 01284 741236; email [andrew.brown2@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.brown2@suffolk.gov.uk))  
SAFG Suffolk Archaeological Field Group  
SCCAS Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Bury Resource Centre, Hollow Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7AY (tel. 01284 741230; e-mail [archaeology@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@suffolk.gov.uk))  
SHER Suffolk Historic Environment Record (see above).

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

## INDIVIDUAL FINDS AND DISCOVERIES

*Alderton* (ADT 024). **Ro, Sx, Md.** 2nd–4th-century Roman coins. Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy stirrup strap mount (SF-7E093B), strap ends (SF-B8532C and SF-B8AD21) and hooked tag (SF-AE6F64), silver penny of Cynethryth (under Offa), AD 787–792 (SF-7B972E), Watford penny of Stephen, AD 1135–1154 (SF-B8C0C8), French tournois of Philippe IV, AD 1285–1314 (SF-B794A3), and a complete copper-alloy medieval pilgrim badge depicting St Roche, the patron saint of dogs and accused people, often evoked against the plague, 15th century (SF-739782) (Fig. 223, F). (Mdf).

*Bradfield St Clare* (BSC 023). **BA.** An incomplete copper-alloy probable razor of mid to late Bronze Age date (SF-6E2C31). (Mdf).

*Barham* (BRH 064). **Sx.** A complete gold pierced Anglo-Frisian gold solidus, c. AD 825–850 (SF-DC15C9). (Mdf).

*Barnardiston* (BND 013). **IA, Ro.** Plated copy of a gold Iron Age Trinovantian stater of Dubnovellaunos, c. 30 BC–14 AD, as *Hobbs* 2425–2441 (SF-50C267), copper-alloy a cosmetic mortar (SF-4D1BA1), 1st century AD buckle frame (SF-51227A), 1st–4th century Roman coins and pottery, strap fitting inscribed with CVVICIVS (SF-4D6761) (Fig. 222, B), 4th century AD buckle frame *Hawkes and Dunning* Type IA (SF-CF0738), and a cast lead Roman seal (SF-4D045C). (Mdf).

*Barningham* (BNG 023). **Sx.** An early Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy strap or belt fitting decorated with chip carved style I and garnet (SF-5CE2A2) (Fig. 223, E). (Mdf).

*Brandon* (BRD 248). **Pa, Me.** Large flint assemblage of late Upper Palaeolithic to Mesolithic date flint blades, including large ‘bruised’ blades (SF3640AA and SF-3683A5), flakes, and tools, all found together on spoil excavated from a single pit during the construction of a soakaway.

*Bungay* (BUN 117). **IA.** Gold quarter stater of the Icenii, *Rudd’s Mossop* Mystery type, ABC 1486 (NMS-3D4D78). (Mdf).

*Coney Weston* (CNW 023). **IA, Ro.** A gold Iron Age quarter stater, Early Uninscribed British series H, c. 50–1 BC, as *Hobbs* no. 192 (SF-5AAAFD). (Mdf).

*Drinkstone* (DRK 026). **BA.** A hoard of late Bronze Age metalwork, one complete socketed axe, one fragmentary socketed axe and four fragments of metal working (SF-FAA455). (Mdf).

*Drinkstone* (DRK 048). **Sx.** A complete gold aestel or pointer (SF-3ABEB9) (Fig. 223, B). (Mdf).

*East Bergholt* (EBG 052). **BA.** Late Bronze Age hoard consisting of six cast bronze fragments (SF-8844BD). (Mdf).

*East Bergholt* (EBG 053). **IA.** A gold Trinovantian quarter stater of Dubnovellaunos, c. 30 BC–14 AD, as *Hobbs* no. 2442 (SF-E6317C). (Mdf).

*East Bergholt* (EBG 054). **Md.** Copper-alloy

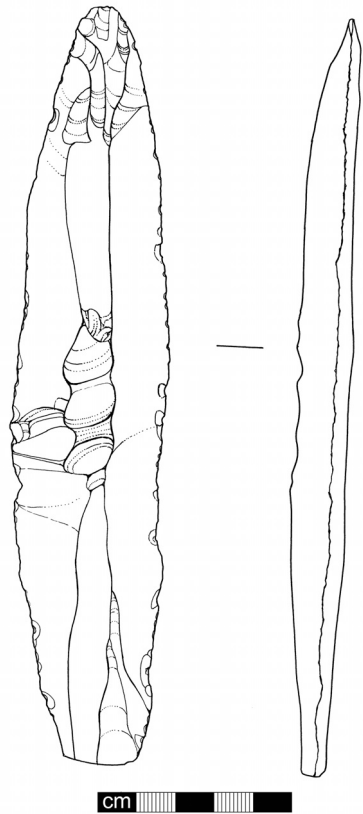


FIG. 219 – Upper Palaeolithic flint blade projectile from West Stow.

pointed oval seal matrix of 13th–14th century date with traces of gilding. AVE.GE-mmA.CELI.LVminARIVm, (Hail, jewel (or gem?) light of heaven) (SF-D4209B). (Mdf).

*East Bergholt* (EBG 055). Md. Hoard of six silver medieval coins of Edward I to Henry VI, dating to AD 1280–1438 (SF-DC1FA3). Copper-alloy medieval Limoges figurine (SF-8f61AE) (Fig. 223, C). (Mdf).

*Foxhall* (FXL 065). IA, Ro, Sx. Copper-alloy end-looped cosmetic mortar of Late Iron Age to Roman date (SF-B433F1), copper-alloy Roman rosette brooch (SF-C83122), copper-alloy late Anglo-Saxon disc brooch (SF-C8524B) and stirrup strap mount (SF-CA41EE). (Mdf).

*Felsham* (FHM 033). BA. Hoard of copper-alloy Bronze Age objects, including five fragments of metalworking debris and three incomplete and fragmentary socketed axes (SF-92A18F). (Mdf).

*Fressingfield* (FSF 089). IA, Ro. A near complete vase headed linch pin of later Iron Age to Roman date. Consisting of a cast copper-alloy head and foot, with incised and inlaid enamel decoration, and a central iron shank (SF-1007C4) (Fig. 221). Roman coins 1st–4th century in date (Mdf).

*Great Bricett* (BCG 025). Md. Cast lead double-sided seal matrix of 13th century date inscribed with +S'WILLELMI.MAIMVND, (seal of William Maymond(?) on one face and S'TO[LI?] DE BRICET[E?], (seal of Toli) from Bricett) on the other. A potential association might be found in archival records of the sale of land in Great Bricett by John, son of, and Petronilla, widow of, William Maymond in 1317 (SF-DC1A5D). (Mdf).

*Haughley* (HGH 018). Sx. Lead spindle whorl with 8th–9th-century runes (SF-D8FC51) (Fig. 223, D). (Mdf).

*Hintlesham* (HNS 039). Ro, Sx. Roman coins of 1st–4th century date, pottery, copper-alloy vessel mount in the form of a human bust (SF-2B9C68) (Fig. 222, C). (Mdf).

*Hopton* (HPN 027). Sx. A copper-alloy style I figurative animal mount (SF-6F0C29) and a style II probable harness mount (SF-6EFA46). (Mdf).

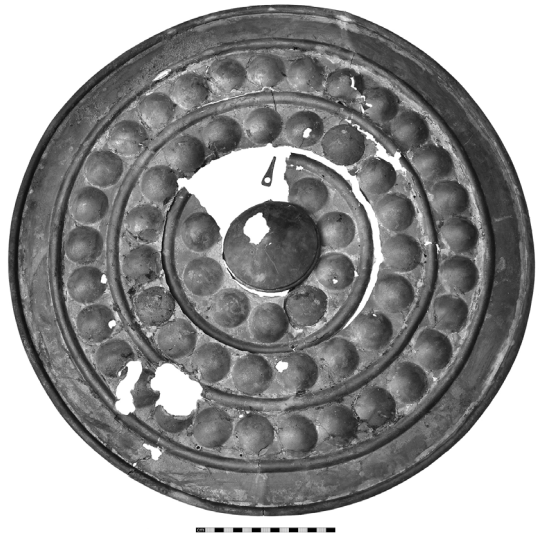


FIG. 220 – Bronze Age copper-alloy shield from near Lakenheath.

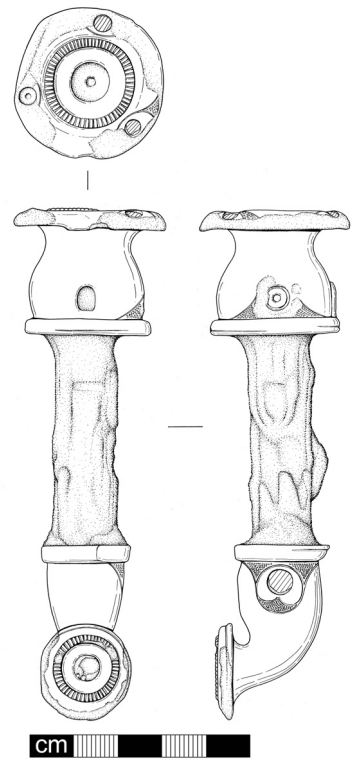


FIG. 221 – Late Iron Age to Roman linch pin from Fressingfield.

*Milden* (MDN 024). **Sx**. Copper-alloy Anglo-Scandinavian stirrup mounts (SF-17D257 and SF-17F784) and a harness fitting (SF-1740E6). (Mdf).

*Monks Eleigh* (MKE 040). **IA**. Gold Gallo-Belgic AB1 stater of the Ambiani, large flan type, *c.* 125–100 BC, as VA 12-1 (SF-627F21). (Mdf).

*Monk Soham* (MKS 014). **BA**. Middle Bronze Age hoard consisting of an incomplete copper-alloy palstave and two fragments of a copper-alloy dagger. (SF-A6C431). (Mdf).

*Near Lakenheath* (MNL 771). **BA**. An incomplete copper-alloy shield of Bronze Age date of Type Yetholm see *Uckelmann*, 2011, 191 (SF-E0D9C8) (Fig. 220). (Mdf).

*Ousden* (OUS 018). **BA, IA, Ro**. 21 body sherds of prehistoric pottery (SF-6F73B6), Roman pottery, glass and 3rd–4th-century coinage, a 2nd-century copper-alloy plate brooch in the form of a hare (SF-93372E), early bracelet (SF-925208), staff handle fragment (SF-E85A26), and a copper-alloy zoomorphic knife handle (SF-A683AD). (Mdf).

*Parham* (PRH 037). **IA, Ro**. Iron Age gold Gallo-Belgic E stater of the Ambiani, *c.* 75–50 BC. Gallic war type. VA, 69, 52.01(SF-B06F68). (Mdf).

*Stowupland* (SUP 009). **Ro**. An incomplete copper-alloy figurine of Mercury (SF-BB84FE) (Fig. 222, A). (Mdf).

*Sutton* (SUT 283). **Sx**. Copper-alloy unfinished pair of Anglo-Saxon wrist clasps (SF-66EDD6) (Fig. 223, A). (Mdf).

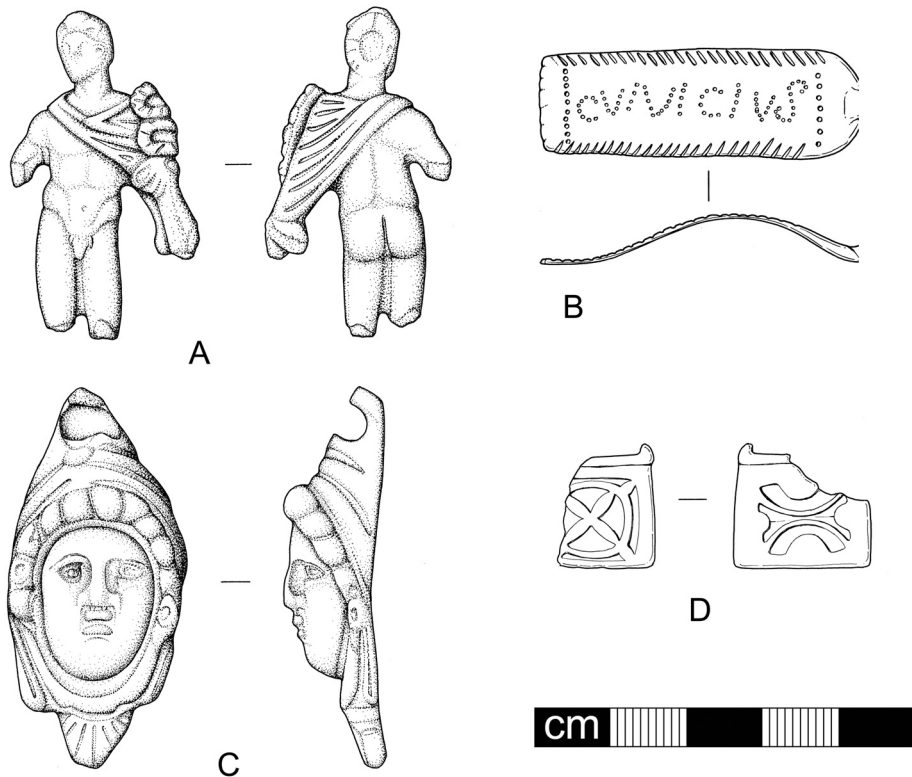


FIG. 222 – Roman copper-alloy figurine from Stowupland (A); strap fitting from Barnardiston (B); vessel mount from Hintlesham (C); votive altar from The Saxhams (D).

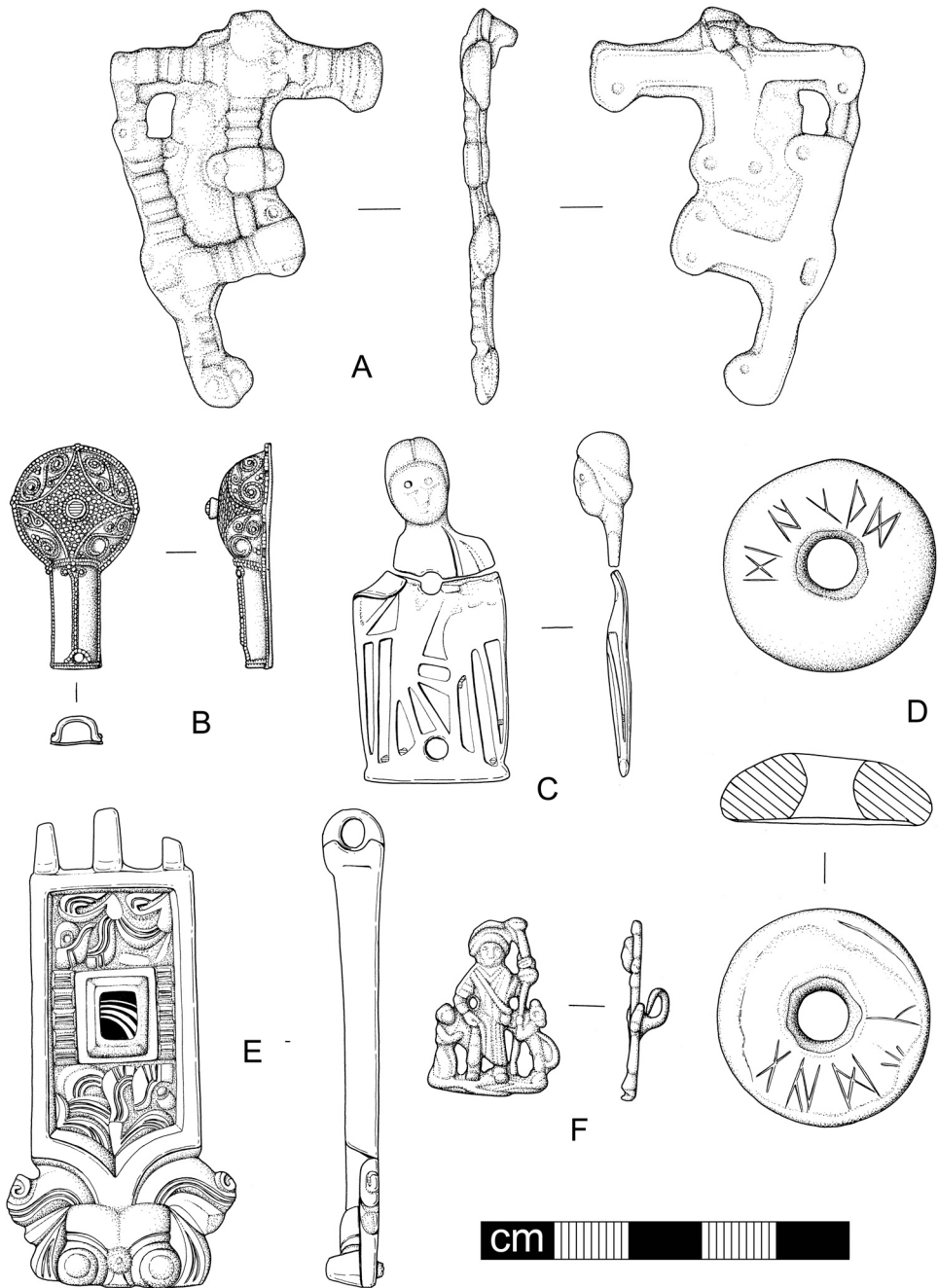


FIG. 223 – Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy unfinished wrist clasps from Sutton (A); gold pointer from Drinkstone (B); copper-alloy figurine from East Bergholt (C); lead spindle whorl from Haughley (D); copper-alloy strap fitting from Barningham (E); medieval lead pilgrim badge from Alderton (F).

*Thelnetham* (THE 040). **Sx.** Silver sceatta, Series D type 8, as *Metcalf*, 1993, 191–95 (SF-707088), copper-alloy hooked tag (32CE63). (Mdf).

*The Saxhams* (SXG 016). **Ro.** An incomplete copper-alloy miniature votive altar (SF-177275) (Fig. 222, D) and 2nd–4th-century coinage. (Mdf).

*Wenhaston with Mellis Hamlet* (WMH 005). **Ro, Sx.** Known Roman site, copper-alloy Roman figurine fragment (SF-A9A3EC) and strap end (SF-A9ASEC). Middle Saxon copper-alloy ansate brooches (SF-A799FB, SF-A77BBC), pin (SF-A70D05) and late Saxon stirrup terminal (SF-0FB89). (Mdf).

*West Stow* (WSW 139). **Pa.** A patinated flint blade point projectile of early Upper Palaeolithic date (SF-OBE51F) (Fig. 219). Discovered approximately 25–30 years ago during gravel extraction at what is now the Lackford Lakes nature reserve complex.

*Wetherden* (WDN 019). **Pa, Sx.** A complete Lower Palaeolithic flint hand axe (SF-2899A7). (Mdf).

*Worlington* (WGN 021). **Ro, Sx.** Copper-alloy Roman enamelled seal box lid (SF-342E60). (Mdf).

*Worlingworth* (WGN 034). **IA, Sx.** Pale gold Iron Age uninscribed East Anglian Irstead type quarter stater, c.40–10 BC as *Hobbs* no.3436 (SF-F5A6B5).

#### SURVEYS

*Aldeburgh*, Chapel Barn Farm (TM/4459; ADB 223). A day of community fieldwalking was undertaken in a field containing the marginal remains of St Mary, Hazlewood, one of two Aldeburgh churches listed in the Domesday Book. The fieldwalking produced finds from the prehistoric through to the modern period. Two sherds of prehistoric pottery were particularly significant and, in conjunction with flint and burnt stone, provide a strong indication of a possible Late Bronze/Iron Age settlement in the SE corner of the field. Roman pottery was sparse and abraded, and may therefore not be significant. An overlapping distribution of Saxon, early medieval and medieval pottery in the S half of the field shows a high potential for settlement in these periods around, and to the W and S of, the church. Of particular interest were six pieces of decorated medieval floor tile, most probably originating from within the church itself. The results of the fieldwalking are sufficiently encouraging to warrant further investigation of the site, with particular reference to the area around the church ruins and the potential settlement areas identified above. ADLHS hopes to undertake this further research in 2016/17.

Peter Howard-Dobson, Aldeburgh and District Local History Society.

*Covehithe*, (TM/5282; COV 147). Community fieldwalking was undertaken on a field immediately W of the church in the village of Covehithe in Suffolk. The earliest evidence is a thin scatter of worked flint dating from the Mesolithic period through the Neolithic and into the Bronze Age. Romano-British settlement is hinted at by the volume of pottery found during fieldwalking, possibly associated with a linear feature which may be a road, sited to the north of the survey area. The settlement appears to have been founded in the middle Anglo-Saxon period and grew vigorously in the later Anglo-Saxon period. The settlement was at its peak during the medieval period, and saw little in the way of decline after the Black Death. In the post-medieval period the community E of the church may have migrated W onto the fieldwalked area in the face of coastal erosion, but by the 19th-century settlement W of the church was in decline, thinned out to leave just a couple of cottages.

Carenza Lewis and Catherine Ranson, Access Cambridge Archaeology,  
University of Cambridge.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

*Barking*, Land at Fox Meadows (TM/0652; BRK 138). Evaluation identified five medieval features comprising two pits, two parallel ditches and a curvilinear gully. The ditches are likely to have flanked a trackway off Barking Road. A small ceramic assemblage of hand-made medieval wares was recovered; they are likely to have been produced locally during the 11th–13th centuries.

Martin Brook, Britannia Archaeology,  
for Benjamin Wolfe of Potter Raper Partnership.

*Barnham*, East Farm, (TL/8778; BNH 013). New excavations have been undertaken at East Farm, Barnham, since 2013. The site is in an old clay pit, which has been known since the turn of the 20th century to contain Lower Palaeolithic artefacts. The first excavations were in the 1930s by T.T. Paterson and a section was cut in 1978 by John Wymer.<sup>1</sup> Larger-scale excavations undertaken between 1989 and 1994 provided our current understanding of the geological succession, artefact assemblages and floral and faunal remains<sup>2</sup> (Fig. 224). The site consists of silts and clays that infill a depression, interpreted as a fluvial channel, cut into Anglian glacial sediments that date to *c.* 450,000 years ago. At the edge of the basin the sediments consist of a coarse lag gravel overlain by a fluviially-deposited silt (Fig. 225). The silt thickens towards the middle of the basin, where the top 2m preserve pollen, molluscs and vertebrate remains. The environmental evidence suggests a slow-moving stream that flowed through the basin, surrounded by grass and deciduous vegetation. The channel sediments are sealed by a palaeosol at the margins and probably in the middle of the basin, showing the drying out of the river, and the whole sequence is overlain by 2–3m of brickearth. The channel deposits and the artefact assemblages date to the Hoxnian Interglacial, *c.* 400,000 years ago.

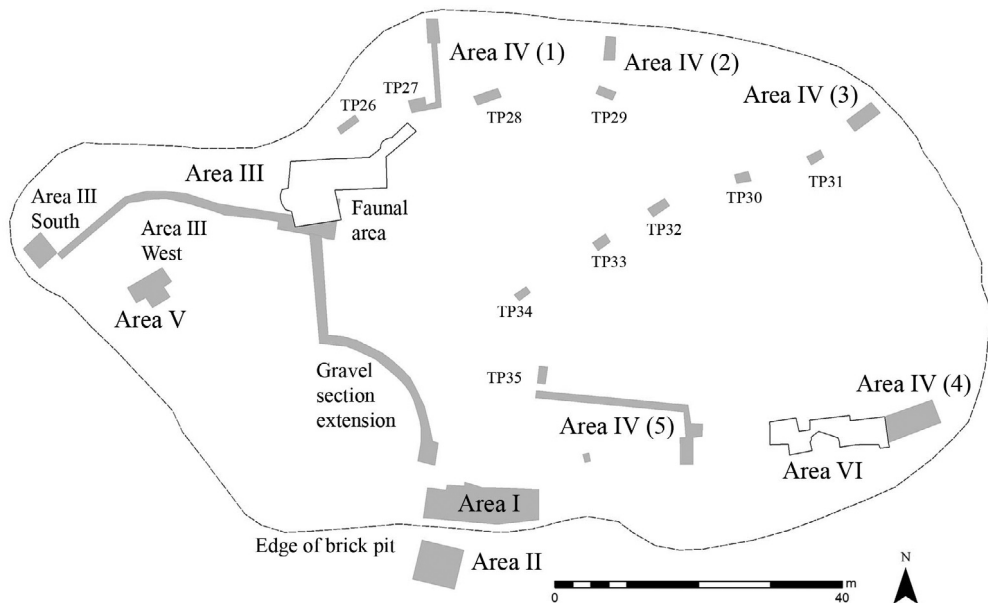


FIG. 224 – East Farm Pit, Barnham, showing excavations from 1989 to 1994 in grey, and the new excavations since 2013 in white.



FIG. 225 – Excavation of Barnham Area VI in 2015.  
The lag gravel at the base is overlain by fluvial silt, the palaeosol, and brickearths.

The main artefact assemblages were found on the lag gravel on the S margins of the channel. In one area (Area I) the flint artefacts consisted of simple cores and flakes with occasional scrapers, which have traditionally been termed a ‘Clactonian’ assemblage. Less than 50 m to the east, Area IV(4) contained both cores and flakes, but also evidence of handaxe manufacture, traditionally termed ‘Acheulian’. The interpretation put forward from this work was that the same group of people were responsible for both assemblages, but with different activities and tools in the two areas, rather than being culturally distinct.

The current project is reinvestigating this conclusion by opening up new archaeological areas and geological sections (Area VI) between Areas I and IV(4). It is hoped that this will provide improved understanding of the relationship between the assemblages. A second aim is to investigate the evidence of burning. Abundant quantities of burnt flint have been found in the palaeosol, but it is not clear whether this from a natural forest fire, or from the controlled use of fire by humans. Some of the earliest evidence of human fire-use in Europe was found at Beeches Pit near Icklingham, which also dates to *c.* 400,000 years ago,<sup>3</sup> and if the new work at Barnham provides evidence of more widespread use of fire this may shed more light on what is a major turning point in early human evolution. A final aim is to increase our knowledge of the floral, molluscan and vertebrate assemblages recovered from the middle of the channel and new areas have been excavated and sampled in Area III. It is the richest site for the variety of amphibians and reptiles in Britain, with exotic species such as tree frogs and European pond terrapin. It also has exotic mammals, including remains of



extinct forms of rhinoceros and elephant, but also of lion. The new work is adding to understanding of the vertebrate and molluscan assemblages and will also provide improved understanding of the local vegetation from fresh analysis of the pollen. The excavations will continue in 2016.

Nick Ashton, Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory, British Museum;  
Rob Davis and Simon G. Lewis, School of Geography, Queen Mary University of London;  
Simon Parfitt, Institute of Archaeology, University College London,  
and Department of Earth Sciences, The Natural History Museum.

*Beddingfield*, Flemings Hall (TM/1967; BDF 015). Excavation in the central part of the moat island and *c.* 2.5m north of the main range of Flemings Hall revealed a brick-lined drain which is probably contemporary with the standing 16th-century Grade II\* listed hall building, and a small post-hole of post-medieval date.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr and Mrs A Hill.

*Belstead*, The Bridge School (TM/1342; BSD 018). Excavation revealed a number of ditches likely to represent field boundaries. In the NW corner of the site one ditch, which may be part of an enclosure, contained Early Iron Age pottery. A line of four post-holes immediately W of this feature's terminal end could be associated, perhaps related to an entrance. The enclosure was cut by a later ditch containing Late Iron Age pottery, giving some indication of when the earlier feature had gone out of use. Roman features in the SE corner of the site included a large ditch and several pits or post-holes. These contained material dating largely from the Early Roman period up to the 3rd century and point towards relatively modest occupation in the vicinity, possibly developing from an Iron Age background. Notable finds include part of a later Roman annular bracelet and building material from a reasonably well appointed building likely to have been nearby.

Linzi Everett, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
on behalf of Concertus Design and Property Ltd.

*Bramford*, Land E of The Street (TM/1247; BRF 123). Geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation of a 5ha site, which lies on an E-facing slope extending down towards the River Gipping. The work identified two phases of field system: one probably later prehistoric (Bronze Age to Iron Age) and orientated N-S, and one medieval (11th–14th-century) and aligned NW–SE and NE–SW. Some rubbish pits containing fairly large medieval pottery assemblages, together with dumped hearth waste, were present on the higher ground in the SW of the site, indicating increasing proximity to settlement. A single residual Ipswich-Thetford ware sherd indicates some occupation in the vicinity from as early as the 9th century AD, but the medieval assemblage otherwise spans the 11th to late 15th or 16th century, with a marked peak in the 13th to early 14th century, represented by Hollesley-type, Hedingham ware, and locally-produced coarse wares.

Mary-Anne Slater, Pre-Construct Archaeology,  
for the Heritage Collective on behalf of Cemex UK Properties Ltd.

*Brandon*, Center Parcs, Elveden Forest Holiday Village (TL/8180; ELV 093). Excavation revealed two phases of activity dating to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age (9th–6th century BC; Phase 1) and early Romano-British period (mid 1st to early 2nd century AD; Phase 2). Possible ditched enclosures were revealed in both phases. Of particular note was the Phase 1 burial of an adolescent/young adult. Several Phase 1 pits also yielded notable pottery groups which displayed traits consistent with the 'late' decorated Post Deverel-Rimbury ceramic style.

Radiocarbon dating of one of these pits produced a calibrated date range of 1050–890 cal BC (90.3%) and 880–845 cal BC (5.1%) at 95.4% confidence.

Antony R.R. Mustchin, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Centre Parcs Ltd.

*Brettenham*, Land W of Church Farm, Buxhall Road (TL/9654; BTT 027). Excavation encountered an area of enclosed medieval (12th–14th century) activity, including at least two rectilinear enclosures bounded by short lengths of possible trackway. The *c.* NE–SW/NW–SE alignments of the medieval boundaries mirrored those of adjacent Buxhall Road and The Street. A number of pits and post-holes were also assigned to this phase. The NW-most medieval enclosure contained the remains of a possible post-built structure; perhaps a simple agricultural building, animal pen or shelter. It is thought that the medieval site represents a toft and croft-type peasant holding.

Antony R.R. Mustchin, Archaeological Solutions Ltd,  
for Vaughan and Blyth Ltd.

*Bucklesham*, Street Farm (TM/2441; BUC 099). Trial trenched evaluation revealed the remains of a ring-ditch that extended partially into the site area. This is likely to be part of a prehistoric burial mound that has been ploughed flat. The ring-ditch was 3m wide and over 1.2m in depth. No cremations, graves or other deposits were found associated with this feature in the site area. A series of undated ditches were found across the rest of the site. These were on similar alignments to the current field boundaries and are likely to be of medieval or later date.

Jezz Meredith, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Foskers.

*Bungay*, Land W of St John's Road (TM/3488; BUN 109). A *c.* 9ha site was subject to trial trench evaluation. The site is located on an E-facing hillside overlooking a steep-sided stream valley; the stream flows into the River Waveney just under a mile to the N. The evaluation identified two main areas of archaeological potential. On the high ground in the NW of the site was an Iron Age (probably *c.* 350–50 BC) boundary ditch containing a dump of settlement waste including a large (for the period) assemblage of ironworking slag. Other features in this area, including a post-hole, add to the picture of settlement activity. On the sloping ground in the S half of the site was a broadly rectilinear system of field boundary ditches containing flint-tempered Iron Age pottery and later prehistoric (later 2nd–1st millennium BC) struck flint. One 'kinked' field boundary/drainage ditch in the SW of the site was medieval in origin. A single natural geological feature, located on a sandy knoll in the centre of the S part of the site, contained a small but homogenous assemblage of Mesolithic struck flint, probably representing some of the debris from an episode of flint-knapping, which became accidentally incorporated into the feature.

Tom Woolhouse, Pre-Construct Archaeology,  
for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Mr Tim Bassey-Fisher

*Bury St Edmunds*, 40 College St (TL/8563; BSE 490). Archaeological monitoring of footings revealed two large intercutting refuse pits, likely to be of early Victorian origin, and two smaller undated pits (one of which may be medieval). An assemblage of clay tobacco pipe, including decorated bowls and 19 with makers' marks was recovered during the work. The pipes are all of English manufacture, some probably produced in Bury St Edmunds and others from the wider East Anglian region and possibly London, and most date between 1810 and 1900.

Simon Cass, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for the homeowners.

*Bury St Edmunds*, 87–88 Guildhall Street (TL/8564; BSE 473). Excavation uncovered chalk quarry pits, post-holes and wells of medieval and post-medieval date beginning in the 12th century, as well as post-medieval mortar deposits, culverts and drains, suggestive of structures. However, there had been significant terracing of the site from post-medieval landscaping, as well as the construction of a modern small extension. Despite this, well preserved deposits, including delicate remains such as fish bone, were preserved in places. Finds from the site included pottery, animal bone, ceramic building material (CBM), shell, and fired clay of medieval and post-medieval date. There was also post-medieval tobacco pipe, mortar, bottle and window glass, and a small range of medieval and post-medieval small finds. Environmental samples produced evidence of crop processing, malting and smithing. Unusually large quantities of non-magnetic clinker/slag were recovered, indicating some sort of industrial activity nearby.

Rob Brooks, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Mothersole Builders.

*Bury St Edmunds*, Guildhall Feoffment Primary School evaluation (TL/8563; BSE 493). Evaluation trenches revealed a series of medieval quarry pits. Post-medieval quarry pits were also excavated, as well as pits of uncertain function. Two medieval or post-medieval post-holes were recorded. Layers of post-medieval garden soil and a series of late post-medieval surface or levelling deposits were also excavated, sealing the features. Finds included pottery (Late Saxon, medieval, post-medieval and modern), medieval and post-medieval brick and tile, post-medieval window and bottle glass, slag, animal remains and oyster shell, as well as undiagnostic struck flint. The environmental samples produced evidence of cereal processing (possibly including malting) or the use of cereal waste for kindling, as well as wood charcoal, and hammerscale residues.

Rob Brooks, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
for Concertus Design and Property Consultants Ltd.

*Carlton Colville*, Land W of Carlton Hall, Chapel Road (TM/5090; CAC 088). Excavation examined an open area of approximately 0.42ha. The earliest evidence for human activity at the site consisted of worked flints, typically residual or unstratified and typologically dating from the Palaeolithic to the Late Bronze Age periods. Archaeological evidence of Late Saxon and early medieval settlement took the form of post-hole groupings perhaps representing dwellings and ancillary buildings, with associated metalled surfaces, pits and land divisions defined by ditches. The dating evidence suggests this activity spanned the 10th–12th centuries AD, with settlement at the site established in the Late Saxon period. Settlement activity appears to have ceased in the 11th or 12th centuries. The development of a nearby early medieval manor is suggested as one possible cause for the alteration in settlement pattern and land use changes recorded by the excavation.

A small number of post-medieval features included a ditch and probable watering-hole or pond.

John Ames, Project Officer, NPS Archaeology,  
for Mr G. Baxter of Carlton Hall.

*Cavenham*, 36, The Street (TL/7669; CAM 063). A single trench was excavated, within which a rectangular clay lined feature and a possible post-hole or small pit were recorded. The internal faces of the clay-lined feature were scorched red, suggesting *in-situ* heating. Although the precise purpose of this feature is unknown, it probably represented the remains of a domestic bread oven. A small number of medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the pit fill, which may be contemporary, although the possibility of these being residual finds cannot

be ruled out. A further section of this feature was seen during subsequent monitoring, but the full extent was not established.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Rede Developments.

*Cavenham*, Marston Pit, quarry land S of the River Lark (TL/7672; CAM 058). Following on from the previous phased work in 2014 there was limited prehistoric activity in the form of a small group of Iron Age pits. Historic-era evidence relating to the 19th-century oak plantation was revealed in the form of two ditches.

David Gibson, Cambridge Archaeological Unit, for Allen Newport Ltd.

*Culford*, Culford School (TL/8370; CUL 051). A number of archaeological features were identified within an open excavation area, but the most significant activity on the site comprised four Early Anglo-Saxon Sunken Featured Buildings (SFBs) which had not been encountered during the previous phase of archaeological evaluation. Finds from the SFBs included a Roman intaglio ring, several coins and a placed deposit of three unutilised deer antlers (possibly a ritual deposit) alongside more common domestic artefacts, the number of which could suggest that bone/antler tool production was being carried out on the site.

Simon Cass, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for East Anglian Sports Centre Ltd.

*Darsham*, Land W of Mill House, The Street (TM/4170; DAR 030). The earliest evidence from the site comprises two Romano-British cremation deposits, one of which was radiocarbon dated and produced a calibrated date range of 20–175 cal AD (93.4%) and 190–210 cal AD (2.0%) at 95.4% confidence. Other archaeology included an enclosed medieval (12th–14th-century) landscape including at least one enclosure and possible field boundaries. The medieval enclosure may have formed part of a toft and croft-type peasant holding including ‘backyard’ activity, chiefly confined to the NE part of the site. The latter included refuse pits, a well and possible quarry features. There was also a possible pond which may have served as a domestic and/or agricultural water source. The finds evidence hints at the presence of a medieval building in the near vicinity, while the economy was dominated by wheat-based agriculture. The medieval site declined at some point during the 14th century and was superseded, indirectly, by limited evidence of post-medieval/early modern activity, including possible structural remains.

Antony R.R. Mustchin, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Hopkins Homes Ltd.

*Dunwich*, (DUN 137–DUN 140). Community archaeological excavations in the village of Dunwich were run by Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund through Touching the Tide, and planned in consultation with English Heritage and the Dunwich Greyfriars Trust, on whose land the dig was undertaken. The excavations have added weight to inferences that the area at the top of the hill was locally important in the prehistoric period and that the Pales Dyke may have originated as an Iron Age enclosure. They have also indicated that there is potential for Anglo-Saxon evidence to survive. Most substantial, however, is the confirmation that traces of the remaining medieval town are still present under the woods and roads of Dunwich village today.

Carenza Lewis and Catherine Ranson, Access Cambridge Archaeology,  
University of Cambridge.

*Exning*, Land S of Burwell Road (TL/6165; EXG 101). Excavation recorded an Anglo-Saxon cemetery comprising 20 graves containing the skeletal remains of 21 individuals. Interred with these human remains were notable assemblages of small finds, seemingly representing grave

goods (Fig. 226). Small-scale Roman and pre-Roman archaeology was also recorded, including a ring-ditch which may represent the remains of a barrow monument. The presence of this apparently high-status Saxon cemetery may be particularly notable in light of the connection between Exning and the royal residence of the Saxon King Anna.

Andy Newton,  
Archaeological Solutions Ltd,  
for Persimmon Homes/Charles  
Church.

*Eye*, Eye Airfield (TM/1474; EYE 123). The earliest recorded features comprised six post-holes that may relate to a possible Early Neolithic settlement site. Early and Middle Iron Age occupation was represented by a N-S aligned trackway, including a remnant of cobbled surface, and a scatter of pits and post-holes. To the E of the site were three graves and a horse burial which are potentially of Anglo-Saxon date. These may form a small burial ground for a family group, associated with the settlement site located to the S at Hartismere School. Later medieval activity was revealed in the E side of the site, where the remains of two phases of field boundaries were present. A later field boundary ditch, dating at the earliest to the 18th century, was also revealed.

Helen Stocks-Morgan, OA East; report 1742, for Pegasus Group.

*Farnham*, Land off Hill Farm Road (TM/3659; FNM 021). Geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation in advance of construction of a reservoir identified two phases of later prehistoric (Bronze Age to Iron Age) field system and late Saxon and medieval pits and ditches. Only limited finds were present in features of both periods. The shallow prehistoric ditches contained just four small and abraded sherds of flint- and quartz-tempered pottery, indicating that they were field boundary ditches located some distance from contemporary settlement areas. The medieval ditches were more substantial but, again, both these and the contemporary pits contained a total of just seven sherds of pottery, including St Neots ware, Thetford ware, Hollesley-type ware and other local medieval coarse wares. The site is located some distance SE of the parish church and other core areas of the medieval village.

Matthew Jones, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for Strutt and Parker.



FIG. 226 – Exning: Anglo-Saxon double grave.

*Flixton*, Flixton Park Quarry (TM 3086 and 2985; FLN 091 and SEY 035 respectively). The continuing expansion of the working areas at Flixton Park Quarry involved soil-stripping over an area of c. 3ha during 2015, split between the main quarry (FLN 091) and an extension area known as Cartwrights Covert (SEY 035). Features relating to a number of archaeological periods were recorded. Isolated features of Neolithic date, principally pits, were recorded, along with a background scatter of worked flint of this period. Small clusters of later Neolithic/earlier Bronze Age beaker pits were recorded in both areas. Later Iron Age and ?early Roman occupation features were recorded widely throughout both areas, but were particularly concentrated in SEY 035 where at least 13 four-post structures were recorded along with possible evidence for at least three rectangular buildings. Elements of a contemporary ditched field system previously identified in the quarry continued into both areas. Post-medieval features included ditches representing boundaries extant on historic maps, post-holes marking the lines of fences, features relating to military buildings of WW II date and geological test-holes and bore-holes.

Stuart Boulter, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Cemex UK Materials Ltd.

*Glemsford*, Land to Rear of 49–55 Schoolfield (TL/8248; GFD 054). An evaluation revealed three pits and two ditches dating to the Romano-British period. The ceramic assemblage from these features comprised coarseware (greyware) body sherds and base fragments, and small fragments of Black-surface ware and micaceous Black-surfaced pottery commonly found in early to mid-Romano-British contexts. Two pieces of tegula were recovered from one of the pits. The ditches were parallel to each other and may have formed part of a small track or driveway. The site was likely located on the periphery of an area of Roman settlement.

Martin Brook, Britannia Archaeology,  
for Oxbury Chartered Surveyors.

*Great Barton*, Land NE of Bury St Edmunds (TL/8865; BRG 076). Ninety-nine trial trenches were excavated across the 75ha site. Geophysical survey was carried out prior to the evaluation, with positive archaeological results. Archaeological remains were encountered in 37 trenches, concentrated on the higher ground in the N part of the site. Residual worked flint suggests broadly Neolithic/Bronze Age activity, although two pieces may be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date. A single pit and associated ditch were of earlier Iron Age date. More numerous Late Iron Age/early Roman period pits and other cut features containing significant amounts of unabraded pottery and other domestic refuse were probably associated with an extensive enclosure ditch and two or three smaller ditched enclosures recorded elsewhere on the site. An extensive rectilinear enclosure system developed in the northern part of the site later in the Roman period and was associated with pits, at least one inhumation and a horse burial. Post-medieval features, including field ditches, a possible track and at least one quarry pit, were also recorded.

Kieron Heard, Archaeology South-East, for Berkeley Strategic Land Limited.

*Great Blakenham*, Kingfisher Drive (TM/1150; BLG 035).

The evaluation encountered six quarry pits, one of which yielded a small quantity of Roman pottery, and a rectilinear system of boundary ditches of possible post-medieval/early modern date.

Gareth Barlow, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Centre Parcs Ltd.

*Great Cornard*, Land at Radiator Road (TL/8840; COG 042). A trial trench evaluation prior to redevelopment of the former Guilford Performance Textiles factory identified a ditch

containing a sherd of probable Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery. The ditch may be part of a later prehistoric field system on the eastern terrace of the River Stour.

Jonathan House and Mary-Anne Slater, Pre-Construct Archaeology,  
for CgMs Consulting.

*Hadleigh*, Hadleigh Quarry (Phase 2) Peyton Hall Farm (TM/0244; HAD 145). An excavation revealed a series of features interpreted as field boundaries, the majority of which dated from the medieval period, although at least one group of ditches represented Iron Age boundary features. A single, unurned cremation burial, radiocarbon dated to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, was also recorded. A group of what were possibly medieval post-holes was present, suggestive of a structure, but they did not readily conform to any known structural arrangement and may be related to a simple, open-sided animal shelter. Evidence for occupation in the vicinity was present on the site in the form of pottery and occasional animal bone, in addition to fired clay and charcoal deposits that probably originated from domestic bread ovens. Features close to the S boundary of the site were the most productive with regard to medieval finds, and this would suggest a medieval occupation site was located immediately to the S in the area that was quarried during the 1960s. All medieval features recorded on the site have been dated to the 11th–12th century through pottery analysis.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for J.T. Few Ltd.

*Haughley*, Chilton Leys, Stowmarket (TM/0359; HGH 055). Fieldwork revealed six phases of archaeological activity dating between the late Neolithic/late Bronze Age and the modern era. Features were recorded across the site and included evidence of both settlement and industrial activity throughout all phases. Of particular note were two Romano-British pottery kilns and two T-shaped corn-driers, and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery. A medieval pottery kiln was also present. Ephemeral evidence for Romano-British post-built structures was also encountered. Grave goods from the Anglo-Saxon burial indicative of high status individuals included jewellery, a gold knife pommel and a sword.

Antony R.R. Mustchin, Archaeological Solutions Ltd,  
for Taylor Wimpey East Anglia Ltd.

*Hengrave*, ‘Denbet’, Mill Road (TL/8268; HNV 034). The site is situated in the immediate vicinity of the Fornham Cursus (FAS 004), parts of which are a Scheduled Monument (SF 114). The cursus, formerly ditches and banks that are now visible as cropmarks, stretches for over a mile between Fornham and Hengrave. It would have been a significant Neolithic landscape feature and is interpreted as a processional way dating to 3500–3000 BC. Trenching found a post-setting which subsequently proved to be part of a very shallow set of features, and an area of scorched gravel. Together these features, and the worked flint collected from them, offer ephemeral evidence for the location of a Mesolithic camp site or temporary shelter. Worked flint was also collected from several shallow hollows in the natural geology close by, along with a broader scatter across the site. The overall assemblage includes several exhausted bladelet cores, numerous bladelets, a microlith in the form of an obliquely backed point and a small number of *ad hoc* scrapers.

Part of a coaxial ditch system was revealed on a NW–SE orientation, which may be seen as an extension of a past landscape identified previously to the N and E through extensive cropmarks. Some areas of these ditches were masked by a build-up of cover sands of *c.* 200mm depth, which may suggest the former presence of a denuded topsoil. The ditches contained occasional residual prehistoric flints, but no cultural material which can elucidate further their date or function. The general form and layout of these ditches does not appear

to be consistent with a Neolithic landscape, and overall they may be interpreted as being later land divisions set away from settlement, possibly related to pastoral use.

Giles Emery, Norvic Archaeology, for Jon Birrell.

*Ipswich*, 31 Stoke Street (TM/1643; IPS 758). Two trenches were excavated revealing a small number of features. Finds evidence suggests that at least some of these date from the medieval period. These were interpreted as rubbish pits suggesting occupation in the immediate vicinity, presumably on the street frontage, an area now under later buildings. Occasional sherds of Middle Saxon Ipswich ware and some possible Late Saxon Thetford-type ware were also recovered as residual finds in the medieval features.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Fastracker Developments Ltd.

*Ipswich*, Land at Chantry Vale, Poplar Lane (TM/1243; SPT 053). Twenty-six trial trenches were excavated over a 25ha site. A Middle Saxon pit was located in the SW of the site. This area remained the main focus for activity during the medieval period, with a series of probable enclosures as well as a building platform and post-holes located here. All of 12th or early 13th century date, these remains were almost certainly related to the former hamlet of Felchurch and/or its church, thought to have stood in this area. Two medieval pits, located close to Poplar Lane, may suggest that this route was established by this time. Post-medieval agricultural land use was denoted by a series of field boundary ditches of probable 18th and 19th century, or earlier, date which correlate with those on the 1838 Sproughton Tithe Map.

Ian Hogg, Archaeology South-East, for CgMs Consulting.

*Ipswich*, Land W of Downham Boulevard, Ravenswood (TM/1841; IPS 756). Excavation recorded several phases of a rectilinear field system, which was probably first laid out during the Middle Bronze Age. This comprised a NE–SW-aligned trackway defined by parallel ditches, with field boundaries extending away from it at right angles. A pit in the corner of one field, adjacent to the trackway, contained an infant cremation in a small, plain grog-tempered pottery vessel with a slightly barrel-shaped profile, similar to examples from Ardleigh in Essex. The character of the vessel is in keeping with a Middle Bronze Age date. Another notable early feature of the field system was two small ring-ditches (2.5m diameter) which seem to have been used as markers for laying out the first trackway ditches. The trackway and field system underwent several stages of development which, although only very broadly dated by the small assemblage of associated pottery and later prehistoric (later 2nd to 1st millennium BC) struck flint, are likely to date to the later Bronze Age and Iron Age. The latest ditch in the stratigraphic sequence contained charcoal which returned a radiocarbon date of cal. AD 230–385 (1746±30 BP; 95.4% probability), indicating that the field system was maintained, at least to some extent, and that the Bronze Age field alignments continued to be respected, into the later Roman period. The absence of evidence for boundary ditches after the Roman period fits the known historical character of the area as open heathland used mainly for grazing sheep, although it is possible that above-ground landscape features such as banks and hedges continued to be visible for some time after the field system ceased to be maintained. Post-Roman land use was represented by scattered (*c.* <1m diameter) shallow pits containing charcoal-rich fills but no finds, one of which has been radiocarbon dated to cal. AD 534–642. Identical burnt pits have now been recorded at several sites in the Ravenswood area and elsewhere across SE Suffolk. Although they frequently used to be dismissed in archaeological reports as being associated with WWII and Cold War airfield fog dispersal systems ('FIDO') used to increase runway visibility for returning bombers, all those that have been radiocarbon dated (at least seven examples on four different sites) have



returned early to middle Anglo-Saxon dates. In the absence of finds or environmental evidence, their origin/function remains enigmatic, although similar features excavated at Mousehold Heath, Norwich, were associated with charcoal burning and the roasting of iron ore to remove impurities. Alternatively, they may simply represent one-off fires used by shepherds.

Matthew Jones and Tom Woolhouse, Pre-Construct Archaeology,  
for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Persimmon Homes.

*Kelsale*, Park (TM/3866; KCC 050). Magnetometer survey of a meadow showed a 44m x 17m ditched enclosure with extensive areas of noise indicating hearths and other fired areas. The meadow location, with access to main pond and hypothesized hunting area, indicated that this site might contain workshops supporting park functions. A 2m x 3m trench was excavated within this feature. A stone surface was found at a depth of nominally 25cm from the meadow surface. The soil surface sloped towards the Fromus river, whilst the stone surface had a steeper slope to the river. Medieval pottery sherds of 13th/14th century date, and bone, including that of deer, were in the soil above the stone surface and embedded in the top of the stone surface. Sampling with a metal rod indicates that the stone surface probably exists throughout the large majority of the feature. The feature appears to be a stone surface of some 700sqm, deliberately sloping towards the river, with strong evidence of medieval age. The nature of the finds and the proximity to the deer park and the fish ponds indicate that it may have been a processing area, draining off to the river.

John Rainer and Jack Cade, SAFG.

*Kentford*, Kentford Lodge (TL/7066; KTD 019). Excavation identified two main phases of activity, in the later prehistoric and early Anglo-Saxon periods (Fig. 227). The early Anglo-Saxon settlement was dispersed across the majority of the excavation area, consisting of two complete earth-fast post buildings with evidence of perhaps four incomplete examples, and at least 18 SFBs. In addition, a large post-in-trench type building was identified, measuring c. 23m by 10m, the date and function of which is not currently known. The range of buildings seem to conform to a pattern of small groups or clusters of SFBs associated with a single earth-fast post building or hall, as observed at West Stow. Whilst largely consisting of domestic debris, the Anglo-Saxon finds assemblage also provides evidence of craft activities, such as antler and bone working, with loomweights, pin beaters and needles an indication of textile working. The large quantity of animal bone collected may be as representative of the processing of animals on or near the site as much as of food waste. Seven rectangular pits, which were characterised by a fill of densely packed heat-altered flint over a charcoal-covered base were found. Similar features have been identified on other contemporary sites in this region, for example at Eye 083, and are dated by association to the Anglo-Saxon period, but their function is currently unclear.

In addition to the early Anglo-Saxon occupation, a small number of prehistoric features were recorded. These included three Bronze Age cremations, one of which survived in an almost complete collared urn of Early to Mid Bronze Age date. Worked flints were well distributed throughout the site, present within later features and collected from the machined surface. Occasional prehistoric pottery sherds were also present in later contexts.

Evidence of Roman activity on this site was restricted to finds in later features, mainly SFB fills, where many items such as glass fragments, coins and sherds of Samian ware pottery may represent the collection of such finds as curios. An unfired hearth base or area of hardstanding located between two SFBs was constructed from flints and Roman tiles, presumably collected from an unknown source nearby. Evidence postdating the early Anglo-Saxon occupation is



FIG. 227 – Kentford: excavation plan.

sparse, mainly consisting of undated or post-medieval ditches. In the N part of the site a few post-medieval pits were identified, as well as significant truncation towards the N limit of excavation which is assumed to be associated with the construction of the adjacent A14 and/or quarrying.

Linzi Everett, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, on behalf Matthew Homes Ltd.

*Lakenheath*, Recycling Centre – Road Repairs and Soakaway excavation (TL/7381; LKH 365). In a continuation of the main phase of excavation at the Recycling Centre (2014), RAF Lakenheath, two further areas were stripped in 2015. This uncovered further early Roman ditches on similar alignments to those recorded in the first phase of works. A number of earlier (late Iron Age?) pits and later pits (late Roman and/or Early Saxon) were also recorded, along with a series of natural deposits indicating waterlogging in the area and the formation of a gleysol. The occupation on site was clearly dominated by Roman activity, which seemed to increase towards the E edge of the site. Low levels of Iron Age, Roman and Saxon pottery, animal bone, fired clay, worked flint, heated stone, ceramic building material, slag and iron nails were recovered, along with a copper alloy Roman coin and a Saxon ceramic loomweight.

Rob Brooks, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
for Defence Infrastructure Organisation.

*Leiston*, Land at Red House Lane (TM/4561; LCS 218). Trial trench evaluation of a c. 8.5ha site identified evidence for Middle Bronze Age to Early Iron Age settlement and associated field systems. Trenches in the W of the site investigated an enclosure identified by a previous magnetometer survey. This was surrounded by large ditches and contained several pits, one of which contained burnt flint and Middle Bronze Age (c. 1500–1150 BC) pottery. Across much of the rest of the site were ditches apparently demarcating several phases of field system; finds were sparse but suggest a later prehistoric date, as does the presence in this area of two possible roundhouse drip gullies, one of which contained Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (c. 1150–350 BC) pottery, and a cremation buried in a small Ardleigh tradition urn.

Matthew Lees and Shannon Hogan, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Hopkins Homes.

*Leiston*, Leiston Abbey (TM/4462; LCS 177). A community-based survey and field evaluation continued into a third season at Leiston Abbey. Ten small-scale evaluation trenches were excavated over the course of the 2015 field season, located to address specific questions relating to different parts of the site. This included one trench in the Abbey Precinct (Trench 14), where results indicate that bioturbation is confined to superficial deposits. Four trenches were dug in the Eastern field (Trenches 15, 16, 19 and 23), where the former monastic structures were observed; in 16, 19 and 23 these had been substantially damaged by an agricultural ‘subsoiler’, with modern plough furrows dragging archaeological material downslope. Three trenches at the southern edge of the site were in an area previously used as allotments (Trenches 20, 21 and 22). An E–W-orientated medieval wall was exposed in Trench 20, though it was not clear if the wall comprised part of a larger roof-bearing gatehouse structure, or was part of a longer boundary wall aligned with the adjacent precinct ditch. Two trenches at the present entrance and driveway into the Abbey complex (Trenches 17 and 18) revealed a precinct ditch, large set limestone blocks, and a cobbled area, though the excavated area was not sufficient to characterise a potential gatehouse within the confines of the trench.

Remote sensing results were mixed, with magnetometry survey revealing the clear line of the precinct boundary ditch in the E field, but offering little further resolution of the ground plan of previously excavated structural remains in either this field or the earthworks field. Low level aerial survey of the site was much more successful, with a full digital model of a 70ha area created using quad-copter mounted cameras to build a georeferenced digital terrain model.

Brendon Wilkins, Digventures Ltd.

*Long Melford*, (TL/8645, LMD 261). Eleven test pits were excavated in the southern half of Long Melford. These yielded a large amount of Roman pottery, building on what is already known about the Roman town in the later village and the Roman pottery that has been identified from previous test pitting in the village. No Late Saxon pottery was recorded from the 2015 test pitting and only two 2015 test pits yielded medieval pottery that continues to suggest that the Late Saxon and medieval occupation of Long Melford was spread out along much of the length of the village, with almost two separate areas of settlement: one in the N around the church and one in the S. Many more test pits produced later medieval pottery, and work continues to suggest that the village was not greatly affected by the Black Death during the 14th century, and that the two separate foci began to become one settlement.

Catherine Ranson, Access Cambridge Archaeology, University of Cambridge.

*Long Melford*, Melford Valley Tandoori, Hall Street (TL/8645; LMD 243). Monitoring and

recording carried out during the excavation of foundations for an extension to the rear of Melford Valley Tandoori Restaurant identified three large Roman pits containing in total 1kg of Roman pottery, and a fragment of quernstone.

Pip Parmenter and Ben Holloway, Colchester Archaeological Trust,  
for Mr R. Malique and London Maintenance Company.

*Long Melford*, land to rear of Chapel House, Chapel Green (TL/8645; LMD 232). Excavation revealed 99 significant Late Iron Age (LIA) to Roman archaeological features. These were primarily quarry and rubbish pits, but also included possible structural features, five Roman burials and a section of Roman road. It has generally been assumed that the old line of the A134 (now B1064) passing through the centre of Long Melford is on the line of the original Roman road from Chelmsford *via* Braintree, to Long Melford and Ixworth. A projection of this line places this road on the W edge of the Chapel House site. Excavations in 1970–1972 at Chapel Field (to the S of Chapel Green) identified a Roman road with roadside ditches running NNE–SSW. This appears to be the main Roman road. The gravel surface seen in 2015 may be the same road, with its edges and roadside ditches cut away by later pits. The site was predominately used as a rubbish dump. Quarry pits, which may originally have been dug for road gravel, were infilled with large quantities of domestic pottery, waste animal bone, and ceramic building material. Structures, of which the exact function is unclear, are represented by three clusters of post-holes, stake-holes and gullies.

Of particular interest are two pits containing placed deposits, and five Roman burials. The placed deposits, in two of the earliest site features, include pottery vessels, loomweights, and a spearhead. Very small fragments of possible human cremated bone may indicate that these deposits are actually LIA cremation burials and much earlier than the other cremations on this site (late 2nd to the mid/late 3rd century). The five burials – three inhumations and two cremations – include the inhumations of a possible stillborn baby, a mixed race female and an adult male.

Adam Wightman, Laura Pooley, Colchester Archaeological Trust,  
for Vaughan and Blyth.

*Martlesham*, Land S of Main Road (TM/2446; MRM 162). Excavation revealed a continuation of the later prehistoric landscape identified in the previous phase of open area excavation (MRM 157). The principal archaeological features were a ditch which appears to be a continuation of a field boundary in the previous area. Adjacent to this was the eaves-drip gully of a small (*c.* 5.5m diameter) roundhouse with an E-facing entrance. The roundhouse probably postdates the initial cutting of the ditch, but the boundary is likely to have still been visible and in use when the building was occupied. A few metres from the roundhouse, on the side opposite its entrance, was a small pit containing the base and lower portion of a flint- and quartz-sand-tempered large jar or urn of the Collared Urn or Deverel-Rimbury tradition. Although no cremated bone was present, this may be the plough-damaged remains of a Bronze Age cremation burial. The feature also contained a rare copper-alloy ‘votive wheel’ of probable Late Bronze Age date, similar to examples from Flag Fen. The pottery from the roundhouse drip gully and adjacent section of field boundary ditch is mainly of later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age date; both also contained assemblages of later prehistoric (later 2nd to early 1st millennium BC) flint-knapping debris. Subsoil finds of Bronze Age pottery and struck flint from across much of the excavation area suggest the original presence of a later prehistoric land surface or occupation layers that have been truncated by post-medieval ploughing. An isolated pit containing large sherds from several earlier Bronze Age vessels, including a food vessel (rare in Suffolk) and several Beakers, was also recorded. The pit also

contained knapping waste, a struck flint flake and burnt flint, all in a deposit of dark soil. The pit indicates some activity in the area prior to the formal subdividing of the landscape for agriculture in the Middle Bronze Age. Close to the pit were several possible post-holes and stake-holes which, although undated, might relate to some kind of temporary shelter.

Tom Woolhouse, Pre-Construct Archaeology,  
for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Bloor Homes.

*Mendham*, Withersdale St, Oak Meadow Medieval Croft (TM/2781; MDM 011 and MDM 114). Magnetometer survey of crop mark areas showed two overlapping settlements, one of them with a path or track aligned on the entrance to Mendham Priory, a few hundred metres away. Test excavations showed 12th- and 13th-century pottery, possibly 14th-century, all at a depth of 1 to 1.2m with a single sand and silt layer above. The date of the second settlement, whether earlier or later, is not determined but a tentative assessment is that it might be earlier.

John Rainer, SAFG.

*Mildenhall*, Land S of Worlington Road (TL/7074; MNL 710). A number of archaeological features were identified, including a series of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pits, and two Middle Iron Age ditches. Prehistoric finds were also recovered from a series of natural hollows across the site. Features yielded a number of pieces of worked flint including a Mesolithic bladelet and a Late Neolithic sub-circular, invasively retouched knife. Prehistoric pottery dating from the Late Neolithic to the Middle Iron Age was also recovered, including sherds of Grooved Ware, Beaker and Collared Urn.

Rebecca Jarosz-Blackburn, OA East; report 1825,  
for CgMs on behalf of Trumpington Land Ltd.

*Mildenhall, Beck Row*, Land adjacent to 1 St Johns Street (TL/6977; MNL 718). Four evaluation trenches were excavated. Cut features included two large, deep ditches, one of which appeared to be recut at some time from the late medieval period, as well as two modern rubbish pits. Other features recorded include a pit or hollow filled with Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age material and three ditches, two of which could be related to boundaries shown on historic maps.

Linzi Everett, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, on behalf of RPV Group.

*Mildenhall, West Row Primary School* (TL/6776; MNL 745). An archaeological evaluation has added to the evidence seen in previous projects, identifying two ditches and a pit of Roman date. Of these one ditch forms a substantial boundary and, in conjunction with previous results, appears to mark the W edge of the Roman settlement area which is known to underlie much of the school site and neighbouring properties.

John Craven, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Suffolk County Council.

*Mildenhall, West Row*, Land off Beeches Road (TL/6775; MNL 747). A metal-detecting survey yielded artefacts dating from the Late Roman period to the early 20th century, including 12 Roman coins. Evaluation trenches revealed a well defined area of Roman settlement, broadly corresponding to the coin scatter from the metal-detecting survey. The core of the Roman settlement included a network of inter-cutting ditches, rubbish pits, a possible well, and a metallised surface which was covered by a thick deposit of artefact-rich 'dark earth'. The quantity and range of artefacts point towards a relatively wealthy or high status farmstead-type settlement, dating from the 2nd to 4th century AD, with roof tile, floor

tile and box-flue tile suggesting the presence of a structure with underfloor heating in the vicinity. An articulated inhumation was also discovered but left *in situ*.

Evidence for medieval activity, comprising a series of shallow pits and ditches, was found to the W of the Roman occupation, along the frontage of Beeches Road. A background scatter of prehistoric pottery and worked flint was also recovered, mainly from periglacial hollows and tree throws.

Kathryn Nicholls, OA East, for Pigeon Investment Management Ltd,  
on behalf of Suffolk County Council and Mr Johnathan Waters.

*Nacton*, Land NW of Ladywood House (TM/2140; NAC 112). Sixteen trial trenches were excavated across the site; one trench revealed two pits, both of which contained Late Bronze Age pottery, whilst another trench contained an undated, but probably post-medieval, ditch and a small undated pit. Two open area excavations were subsequently undertaken, revealing further pits, a number of which also contained Late Bronze Age pottery. Additionally, a group of four shallow, charcoal-filled, pits were recorded, one of which has been radiocarbon dated to around the Late Saxon period.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Prime Irrigation Ltd.

*Newmarket*, Fordham Road (TL/6367; NKT 047). Excavations uncovered multi-period remains with evidence of occupation on the site from the Early Neolithic and more permanent settlement dating from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age through to the Iron Age. Settlement remains including a possible midden layer, pits and a post-built structure contained pottery and lithics dating to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age; these were associated with a line of tree pits which may have formed an early boundary across the site.

The early settlement boundaries were respected and elaborated during the Middle Bronze Age, when the majority of activity took place on the site, represented by the remains of several post-built structures and other features. Charred grains and quern stones provide good evidence for cereal processing, whilst the animal bone assemblage is typical of the Middle Bronze Age, with predominantly primary butchery waste of cattle being recovered. The recovery of hazelnuts and red deer antler indicate that a pastoral lifestyle was being supplemented by hunting and foraging. The number of buildings dating to the Middle Bronze Age uncovered on this site make it the largest settlement of this period so far investigated in East Anglia and the East Midlands.

Gareth Rees, OA East,  
for BayWa r.e. Solar Projects GmbH and Countryside Renewables.

*Orford*, Orford Ness tidal surge repair works (TM/4450; ORF 139). In conjunction with the undertaking of works to repair flood defences on Orford Ness, archaeological monitoring of the excavation of borrow pits was carried out. Due to unforeseen circumstances only limited excavations were undertaken, although a number of artefacts relating to the 20th-century activities on the site were revealed, the majority of which were photographically recorded and left *in situ*. As part of this project a drainage sluice, known as Pig Pail Sluice, was photographically recorded prior to its replacement. Its removal was also photographically recorded. It consisted of a brick culvert beneath an earthwork bank with a brick headwall on the inland side and an outworks of sheet piling and concrete that enclosed a one-way flap valve. It allowed water to drain from an unnamed channel at the northern end of an area of King's Marsh into a tidal stretch of the River Ore, whilst the one-way flap valve acted to prevent the water returning at high tide. The date of the sluice is unknown. The outworks facing the River Ore are clearly of relatively recent origin and a large part of the brick

headwall has been rebuilt relatively recently. Lower sections of the headwall and brickwork visible within the culvert were built of a soft red brick which would suggest the core of the structure dates from the 19th century.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for the National Trust.

*Oulton*, Land off Lime Avenue TM/5194; OUL 037). The excavation revealed abundant evidence of activity dating to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age and early to middle Anglo-Saxon period. Evidence of Romano-British, middle to late Anglo-Saxon and Saxo-Norman/medieval occupation/activity was also encountered. Other periods were more sparsely represented. Of particular significance were a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age enclosure system, a Romano-British enclosure, hearths and a post-built structure, five Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured buildings and five burnt flint pits, also of Anglo-Saxon date. A middle to late Anglo-Saxon enclosure, a post and beam slot structure and a Saxo-Norman/medieval metal working area were also recorded. Notable small finds comprise eight late Anglo-Saxon/Viking Age scale weights with embedded silver coins (Fig. 228).

Antony R.R. Mustchin and Julie Walker, Archaeological Solutions Ltd,  
for Persimmon Homes Ltd.

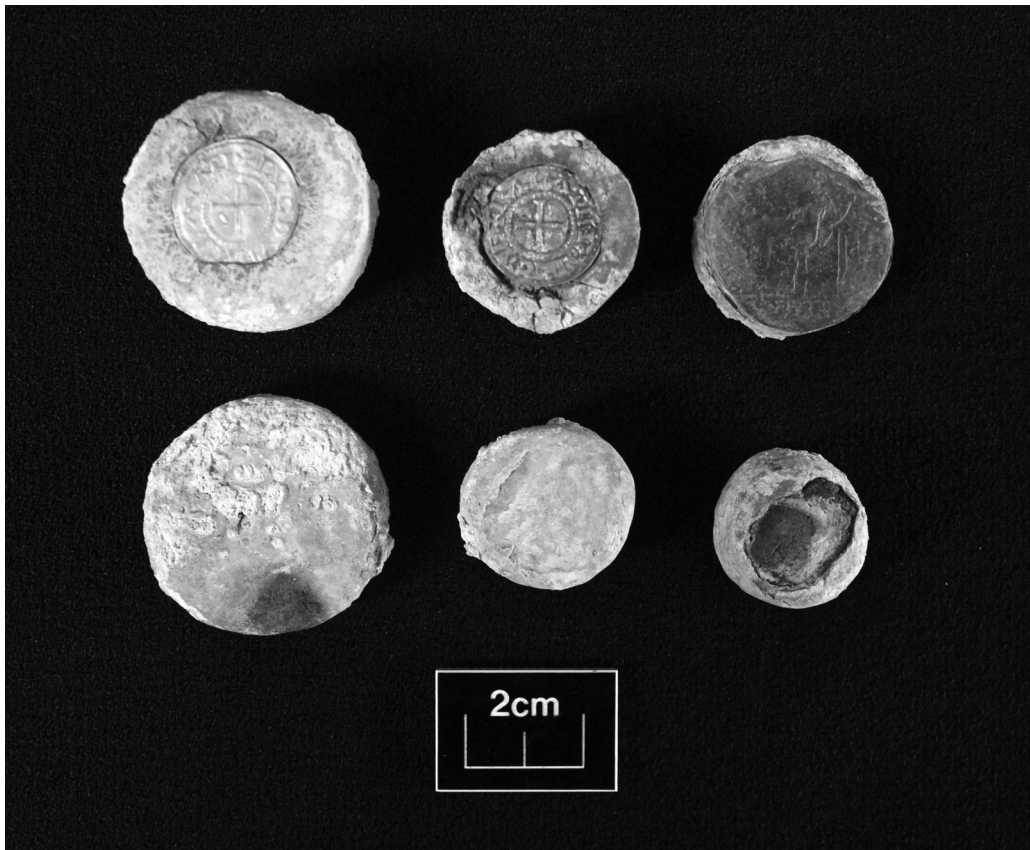


FIG. 228 – Oulton: weights of late 9th to early 10th century date.

*Purdis Farm*, 135 Bucklesham Road, (TM/2042; PFM 022). Excavation revealed a number of ditches which are likely to represent evidence of at least three phases of field systems. Datable evidence was scarce but comprised a small assemblage of Roman and medieval pottery, the former redeposited in later contexts. A single pit was also recorded, which had a charcoal-dense fill and heat-altered base. Similar pits are well documented from archaeological investigations in the former heathlands around east Ipswich and, whilst this example is undated at the time of writing, several others have returned radiocarbon dates for the Early and Middle Saxon period.

Linzi Everett, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, on behalf of Barnes Construction.

*Risby*, Land S of School Road, Risby (TL/8066; RBY 042). An excavation identified seven phases of activity dating to the Mesolithic, Roman, medieval, and post-medieval periods. The majority of features and finds were distributed between four distinct phases of medieval activity showing how the site developed between the 11th and 16th centuries. The earliest phase related to the defining of the plot in the 11th to 12th century with a ditch running parallel to School Road. This was followed by a moderate level of mineral extraction resulting in several large clay extraction pits and a possible well dating to the 12th to 13th centuries. All were backfilled with domestic waste, including a variety of coarse- and fineware pottery and faunal remains that showed evidence of having been processed for food. The original ditch was recut and extended sometime up to the 14th century and after the extraction pits were closed. By the 16th century the site was used for arable agricultural purposes and the remains of ridge and furrow ploughing was identified in the S of the site. Two pits dating to the Roman period were found in the W of the site, and late 19th-century foundations and a ditch relating to Quay Farm were also recorded.

Matthew Adams, Britannia Archaeology, for Fleur Developments.

*Rushbrooke with Rougham*, Land E of Moreton Hall (TL/8864; RGH 066). An evaluation identified deposits dating to the Iron Age and post-medieval periods. The presence of two ditches containing assemblages of mid Iron Age pottery are further evidence of dispersed settlement activity in the area.

John Craven, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
for Barnes Construction/Suffolk County Council.

*Rushbrooke with Rougham*, Eastern Relief Road (TM/8864–TM/8963; RGH 086). An area of c. 18.46 hectares was evaluated by trial trenching. Sixty-six trenches were excavated, revealing a moderate density of archaeological features concentrated mainly in two areas. Evidence of Iron Age, late Iron Age/early Roman and likely late/post-medieval activity was identified on the site. Towards the E a collection of ditches and pits were recorded containing a large assemblage of Iron Age pottery (Area A). The middle part of the site (Area B) contained two undated kiln/oven type features, a group of intercutting ditches, from which several prehistoric struck flints were recovered, and a shallow ditch that held a single sherd of prehistoric pottery. The pits are unusual as their sizes and fill types are fairly atypical in comparison to the rest of the archaeological features. There is a possibility that this group of features represents evidence of modern disturbance or tree throws.

The archaeological horizon of the development area is generally only shallowly surviving, and it is probable that the lack of features towards the western area is due to loss through truncation and WW II airfield construction activity.

Laszlo Lichtenstein, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
for Suffolk County Council Transport Strategy Team.



*Saxmundham*, Land E of Warren Avenue, Church Hill (TM/3863; SXM 036). Evaluation by 28 trenches uncovered areas of colluvial deposits. These layers contained occasional archaeological artefacts ranging in date from Mesolithic/Early Neolithic to post-medieval. Identifiable cut features were scattered, with the majority of the features located at the N end of the site. Eight prehistoric pits, four of Neolithic-Middle Bronze Age date, were scattered over the site. A ring-ditch, probably the remains of a Middle Iron Age roundhouse, was associated with pits of the same date, perhaps denoting the presence of a small farmstead. A single medieval pit and several ditches of post-medieval date relate to the late land enclosure and agricultural exploitation of this location.

Samara King, Archaeology South-East, for CgMs Consulting.

*Snape*, Land at St Benedicts Place, Church Street (TM/3958; SNP 106). Excavation of a 0.31ha area uncovered prehistoric remains consisting of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pits, and more substantial Middle Bronze Age ditches, gullies, possibly all remnants of a field system, and three large pits. A more regular and developed field system was imposed in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, though few discrete features were associated with it. Early Saxon remains comprised a single sunken-featured building and a solitary pit, both of which appear to be part of the extensive, though dispersed, settlement previously encountered to the S. A broad 5th–7th century date for these remains is evidenced. A large post-medieval or early modern quarry pit occupied much of the north of the site.

Trevor Ennis, Archaeology South-East, for Hopkins Homes Ltd.

*Stowmarket*, Cedars Park Phase 6C (TM/05591; SKT 077). Twenty trial trenches were excavated within the 2.95ha development area. Archaeological remains were recorded in eight trenches, mainly in the NW of the site. A possible Roman ditch ran across the site, with a scatter of discrete features of unknown date being present in its vicinity. A medieval ditch was found in the E of the site. Modern disturbance found in two trenches can be correlated with features present on late 19th century mapping.

Angus Forshaw, Archaeology South-East, for CgMs Consulting.

*Stowmarket*, The Gables, Bury Road (TL/0458; SKT 071). An evaluation uncovered a small group of two pits containing several episodic dumping layers of kiln waste/pottery, kiln structure and furniture and fired clays dating from the 16th–18th centuries, deposited over a relatively short time-frame. Large quantities of ceramics were recovered, allowing an insight into the post-medieval redware production of Stowmarket, of which little is currently known. The ceramic assemblage within the pits represents the largest found within two decades in East Anglia and has added considerably to the study of post-medieval pottery production regionally.

Daniel McConnell, Britannia Archaeology,  
for Ian Baker of Laurence Homes (Eastern) Ltd.

*Sudbury*, Harps Meadow Close (TL/8742; SUY 139). An open area excavation along the E edge of the site confirmed the presence of a large ditch of Roman date, previously recorded in the evaluation. This produced a few sherds of very abraded pottery of 1st–2nd century date and a charred seed-rich infill, suggesting the burning of cereal processing waste in the near vicinity. Silt deposits located along the SE edge of the excavation contained worked flint and were sealed by colluvium.

Michael Webster, OA East, for Bellway Homes.

*Trimley St Martin*, Land at and adjacent to Mushroom Farm, High Road (TM/2737; TYN 132). A trial trench evaluation and three small targeted excavations identified ditches forming part of the large-scale field and trackway systems visible as cropmarks in the surrounding area. The fieldwork identified a later Bronze Age trackway on a NW–SE, which was recut in the Middle to Late Iron Age. A few small pits and a series of nine post-holes aligned parallel to the trackway and possibly forming a fence, suggest an area of Middle to Late Iron Age settlement in close proximity.

Stephen Porter, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for CgMs Consulting.

*Walberswick, Southwold* (TM/4874; WSW 111). Twelve test pits were excavated in Walberswick. Roman pottery was recorded in the W of the village and opposite the church, which overall indicates some level of activity during this period. Four test pits yielded Late Anglo Saxon pottery, which with the previous Late Saxon pottery already recorded, indicates a cluster of activity around the green and extending SW along The Street. This settlement continued to thrive into the medieval period as noted from previous years' excavations, and the pottery evidence continues to suggest that Walberswick did not decline in the later medieval period after the Black Death, perhaps due to its status as a coastal trading settlement. In the post medieval period the village may have developed into the small fishing village that is still seen today.

Catherine Ranson, Access Cambridge Archaeology,  
University of Cambridge.

*Wangford with Henham*, Wangford Quarry (TM/2777; WNF 023). A new area of approximately 1ha was stripped for archaeological investigation. To the N, adjacent to previously recorded roundhouses and prehistoric features, a high concentration of Iron Age features was encountered. This included at least nine four-post structures, clay-lined pits and evidence for a small circular building of c. 4.5m diameter. It is possible that this structure is an ancillary building to a large roundhouse found nearby in 2014. A previously undated double-ditched droveway was cut by two of the four-posters so this is likely to be of earlier Iron Age date.

Jezz Meredith, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Cemex UK Ltd.

*Wenboston with Mellis Hamlet*, Land off St Michael's Way (TM/4275; WMH 038). The excavation demonstrated the presence of a significant Roman settlement on the site as indicated by the substantial metalwork and other surface find assemblages recovered in the past from the surrounding fields. The remains uncovered predominantly date to the 2nd century AD. A regular system of ditched plot boundaries ran across the higher ground in the W part of the site. The central part of the site focused on a former spring with palaeochannel deposits running E from the spring head. An enclosure and further ditched boundaries were present across the spring, controlling access to wells and watering holes sunk into the high water table encountered in this part of the site (Fig 229). A later phase of pitting activity was observed across the whole site, which included storage pits, a cesspit and further watering holes sunk into the spring. The presence of timber structures was indicated by three groups of post-holes.

Graeme Clarke, OA East, for CgMs for Hopkins Homes Ltd.

*West Stow*, Recording the Sunken House (TL/7971; WSW 136). As part of the ongoing experimental archaeology works at West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village, the Sunken House (a



FIG. 229 – Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet: Roman well.

sunken-floored building built in 1974–75) was fully recorded and dismantled. After demolition, its underlying pit was excavated. Whilst full reporting has yet to take place, preliminary results suggest that the profiles of the underlying pit varied greatly from those of Saxon examples, indicating that this method of construction was not used. The condition of the structural elements also suggested that, on the premise that the timbers would have been reused wherever possible, the Sunken House had been left standing for longer than would traditionally have been the case.

Rob Brooks, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
for the Heritage Lottery Young Roots Fund, SCCAS, and West Stow Anglo-Saxon village.

*Whatfield*, Land W of Church Farm (TM/0246; WHA 015). An excavation revealed a series of features interpreted as pits, post-holes and gullies associated with a single house plot located on the edge of the village of Whatfield. Evidence in the form of foundation slots suggests a single building measuring approximately 13.5m x 4.9m. A number of post-holes and other slots are probably related to alterations and repairs to this structure. Pottery recovered from the features suggests the site was relatively short-lived, with occupation being limited to the 11th century only.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Landex Ventures Ltd.

## BUILDING RECORDING

*Brandon*, Brandon Park Engine House (TM/7885; BRD 234). An English Heritage Level 2 building recording was undertaken of a pair of estate buildings associated with Brandon Park House. The larger of the two buildings, known as the Engine House, comprises a single storey structure built of chalk blocks faced in flint with limited decoration in 'white' brick (quoins, chaînes, door and window surrounds). The structure is rectangular in shape with a single apex roof covered with corrugated metal sheeting and a glass top-light. The interior is divided into two chambers; one contains a deep well with *in situ* pumping equipment that was actuated by rods and a crank driven via geared wheels, drive shafts and belts, many of which are in place. In its final phase, the pump was driven by an electric motor, but documentary evidence suggests it was previously powered by an oil engine. The base of this former engine survives along with a concrete/brick plinth for a probable dynamo, which was also powered by the oil engine. The second chamber housed a workshop and contains a pair of substantial workbenches and a freestanding bench saw, which would have been powered, via shafts and belts, by the oil engine, and later the electric motor, in the other chamber. Map evidence indicates that this building was constructed between 1883 and 1905.

The second building, known as The Bothy, stands to the NE of the Engine House on a perpendicular alignment. It is rectangular in shape with a lean-to and a small extension to the rear. The walls are built of fletton bricks, although the SW wall, which faces the area adjacent to the Engine House, is faced with flint and white bricks in a matching style. The roof is covered with slate with a tiled ridge.

A third building was also recorded. It comprised a flat roofed rectangular structure built of fletton bricks with a flat concrete slab roof. It was open at each end, although sturdy doorframes with the remains of substantial door hinges were present, indicating doors had been originally fitted. The date and purpose of this structure are unknown.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
for the Breaking New Ground Landscape Partnership Scheme.

*Ipswich*, Holywells Park (TM/1743; IPS 749 and 768). Refurbishment of the former stable block revealed two separate underground chambers constructed of red brick, both of which contained boilers for heating water. Map regression indicates that these structures were located under former 19th-century glasshouses, which would suggest that their purpose was for heating the glasshouses to enable the cultivation of exotic plants. A service trench excavated between the stable block and an extant glasshouse to the W (the orangery) revealed a red-brick wall base and a covered well associated with the former mansion house that was demolished in the early 1960s.

The presence of a 19th-century icehouse within the park was confirmed during earlier exploratory works. It was entirely backfilled, but is being excavated by volunteers from the Friends of Holywells Park group with the ultimate aim of full restoration and presentation. The entrance tunnel has been fully cleared and soil to a depth of *c.* 2m has been removed from within the chamber.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Ipswich Borough Council.

*Lowestoft*, Esso Waterside Jetty, Harbour Road, Oulton Broad, (TM/5293; LWT 338). An English Heritage/Historic England Level 2 Historic Building Record of a waterside jetty adjacent to a decommissioned Esso petroleum depot on Harbour Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, comprised a photographic survey and documentary research. The jetty and associated fuel storage depot was constructed *c.* 1901 for Esso's predecessor, the Anglo-

American Oil Company Ltd. The timber jetty, which was built to facilitate the unloading of wooden petroleum barrels, was originally fitted with a wooden sheerleg lifting device. By 1904 the sheerleg had been replaced with a steel swing-jig crane mounted on the SE end of the jetty. There was an extant crane in this position, but it had been re-mounted at some point and it is unclear whether it was an original feature or a later replacement. Although the jetty retained its basic form, decay caused by the harsh intertidal environment had necessitated extensive rebuilding, which included the complete replacement of the SE end of the structure and the addition of new piles along its entire length. At least two major phases of rebuilding are evident; it is unclear when the first rebuild occurred, but the second is likely to be contemporary with the construction of mooring dolphins and associated steel walkways in the 1970s or 1980s.

Cai Mason, Wessex Archaeology, for Esso Petroleum Company Ltd.

#### CHURCH RECORDING

*Aldringham Cum Thorpe*, St Andrew's Church, (TM/4560; ARG 015). A series of four test-pits were excavated: two aimed primarily at investigating whether internal damp problems originated from leaking drains and their associated features. All of the test-pits were excavated to the depth of the base of the bonded component of the nave and chancel walls with a view to informing any future remediation of the damp problem. The results indicated that the level of the base of the wall reflected the natural E–W slope of the site and was either itself sloped or, more likely, stepped. A layer of gravel-rich render recorded in all four pits was consistent with a more weathered layer previously recorded above ground and thought to be relatively early in date, possibly even contemporary with the earliest component of the walls. The depth at which this render continued below ground suggested that the ground level of the churchyard had risen significantly, possibly as the result of bulking up caused by the repeated excavation of graves.

Stuart Boulter, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Aldringham PCC.

*Capel St Mary*, St Mary's Church, (TM 0838; CSM 013). During the insertion of an underfloor heating system the principal recorded features included a ledger stone located below a pew floor base close to the N nave doorway, which was not thought to be *in situ*. The stone would originally have been set in the floor above the Maundrell family vault/tomb. A marble wall monument in the chancel recorded the same information that was transcribed from the stone. A wall stub running between the three easternmost arches of the S aisle arcade was interpreted as the vestiges of the earlier S nave wall. This wall would have been extensively demolished to accommodate the insertion of the arcade arches. A void close to the S aisle doorway was thought to have been caused by a collapsed coffin. The lower section of the now blocked rood stair was revealed by the removal of wood boarding from the internal face of the N nave wall. Evidence for the tying-in of the later brick-built buttresses was recorded on the internal faces of the S aisle wall and the N nave wall, although that to the N was complicated by the presence of a possible surviving jamb that may have related to an earlier opening.

Three vents recorded through the N nave wall were interpreted as relatively recent insertions providing air flow behind the wall boarding and under the pew floor bases in order to dry and reduce the effects of damp.

Stuart Boulter, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,  
for Capel St Mary Parish Council.

*Sudbury*, Church of St Gregory (TL/8741; SUY 097). The stratigraphic sequence revealed during the lowering of the floor within the tower was directly comparable to that recorded during evaluation (test pitting). Externally two brick walls and a flint wall foundation were recorded. No finds predating the post-medieval and modern periods were present, apart from a portion of the coped slab lid of a chest tomb, possibly medieval in date, revealed during the lowering of the floor of the tower. Disarticulated human bone was retained to one side, to be reinterred during backfilling. No grave cuts were visible.

Stephen Quinn, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Parochial Church Council.

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#### NOTES

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