

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2016

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

THIS IS A selection of the new discoveries reported in 2016. 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/>). 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 2016 the PAS finds in Suffolk were recorded by Andrew Brown, Anna Booth and Alex Bliss. 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 Anna Booth (tel. 01284 741241; email anna.booth@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)
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 046). **Sx.** A gold early continental tremissis (uncertain type) of uncertain anonymous ruler, c. AD 580–675. The obverse die is the same as another found in the parish of Coddensham in 2003 (EMC 2003.0219). Newman and Blackburn (BNJ 004, Coin Register 2003, no. 62) argued that this is probably an East Anglian coinage (SF-0C182A). (Mdf).

Bacton (BAC 045). **IA.** Pale gold quarter stater, Irstead type c. 10 BC–42 AD (NMS-7D95EA). (Mdf).

Bradfield St George (BSG 035) **Md.** An incomplete copper-alloy medieval ecclesiastical seal matrix. Unusually it is cast – most matrices are individually engraved. The mould that produced it was cracked (there is a flaw line across the seal) which suggests that it was probably one of many copies. The inscription in Old French reads [..]E:IOVRS:DE:PARDVN:RECEIT:S[] and must refer to days of pardon or indulgence received, presumably for a money payment. This would seem to be a seal used to validate indulgences. The motifs enclosed by the inscription appear to represent the four evangelists, with St Mark and St Matthew surviving. Bradfield St George was also known as Bradfield Monachorum because it belonged to Bury Abbey and it is likely that it was the Abbey that organised the sale of pardons (SF-34DF4B). (Mdf).

Braiseworth (BRA 010). **Ro, Sx.** Roman cast copper-alloy vessel mount in the form of a female head on an incomplete rectangular plate (SF-5C05A6) (Fig. 42 E). An incomplete cast copper-alloy fork of possible 9th-century date, similar in form and decoration to one from Freckenham (SF-11124), and a spoon/fork combination from Brandon (Tester et al. 2014, 178–79, no. 8230) (SF-5C6DE1) (Fig. 43 A). (Mdf).

Bromeswell (BML 062). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Roman coins, 1st–2nd century, fragment of a 1st-century enamelled copper-alloy platform terret (SF-FCE6DC) and a Roman trumpet brooch (SF-FD3453). Anglo-Saxon stirrup strap mount (SF-FBD93A) and medieval buckles and strap fittings. (Mdf).

Butley (BUT 094). **Sx.** Florid cruciform brooch side knob, possibly burnt (SF-C5949B). (Mdf).

Cotton (COT 032). **IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Silver unit of Icenic, pattern/horse ECEN type, Hobbs nos. 4033–4215, c. 10 BC–43 AD (SF-583418). Two copper-alloy 1st-century Nauheim-derivative type brooches (SF-58B999, SF-58ABDA). Cut silver halfpenny of Aethelred II First Hand type, AD 979–98, as North 1980, no 1997 (SF-585D55), 11th-century copper-alloy four-way strap distributor (SF-58CCFD). (Mdf).

Cransford (CRN 015). **Me.** Unfinished stone mace head, c. 9000–4000 BC (ESS-6D4EC7).

Dalham (DAL 034). **BA, Ro, Sx.** Copper-alloy tracer awl of probably Bronze Age date (SF-132BE9). Roman coins 2nd–4th century and brooches of

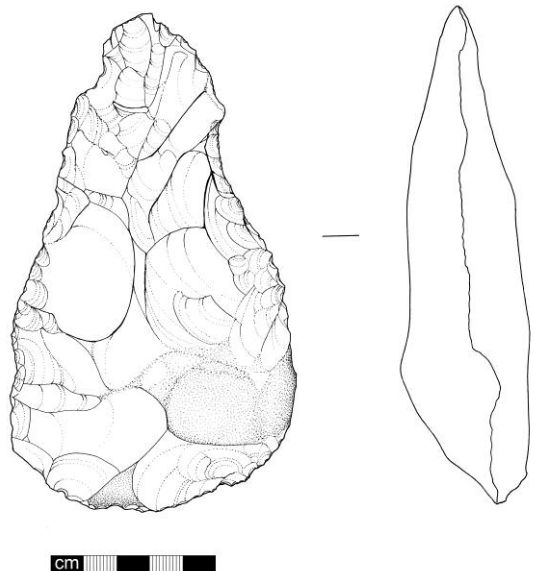


FIG. 40 – Lower Palaeolithic flint hand axe from Lavenham.

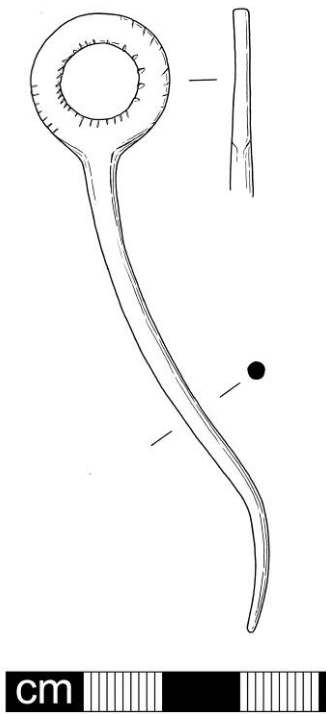


FIG. 41 – Bronze Age quoit-headed pin from Whepstead.

5A7A56), a silver sceatta Series R and perhaps R8, *c.* 710–65 (SF-5945A5). Enamelled gold posy finger ring, the inside of the band bears the inscription ‘o tHat I migHt’ of 17th century date (SF-6FDEB9). (Mdf).

Haughley (HGH 018). **Sx.** Early Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy equal-armed brooch fragment (SF-43AEC1), cruciform brooch fragment (SF-DB064B), and middle Anglo-Saxon strap end of Thomas Type A Class 5 (SF-DC62F8) (Fig. 43 E) and pin (SF-DB1561). (Mdf).

Lavenham (LVM 119). **Pa.** A Lower Palaeolithic bifacially worked flint hand axe (SF-0862D6) (Fig. 40).

Lawshall (LWL 035). **IA.** Gold quarter stater, Early Uninscribed British series H, *c.* 50–1 BC, as Hobbs no. 192 (SF-D8DCE4). (Mdf).

Lidgate (LDG 021). **IA, Ro, Sx.** Copper-alloy Langton Down brooch of Nertomarus type, *c.* AD 25–65 (SF-8FF84B) (Fig. 42 D), Roman coins 1st–4th century. Silver Anglo-Saxon sceatta, primary series Z Type 66, *c.* 680–720, Metcalf 1993, 137–39 (SF-EC0089). (Mdf).

Monk Soham (MKS 016). **Me.** Two flint transept axe heads (SF-1404F1) and (SF-125DAD), and a Mesolithic blade (SF-118AD7). (Mdf).

Near Bury St Edmunds (BSE 518). **Md.** Complete iron sword decorated and inscribed with silver wire inlay, found together with the separate remains of its scabbard *c.* 12th century in date (SF-9EF0BA) (Fig. 45). Possibly originally deposited during the Battle of Fornham, fought between royalist and rebel forces during the reign of Henry II in 1173 (SHER number: FGF 030). Found by workmen in waterlogged material from the bottom of a pond close to the banks of the River Lark.

1st and 2nd century date. Silver Anglo-Saxon sceatta, probably of Series R1 (Metcalf series C: R1), *c.* AD 710–65 (SF-12AA59). (Mdf).

Darsham (DAR 038). **IA.** Fragment of a gold Iron Age stater, mid–late 1st century BC. Uninscribed East Anglian ‘Freckenham’ type as Hobbs 188, no.3385 (SF-0E376A). (Mdf).

Debenham (DBN 171). **IA, Ro.** A site known previously solely from Roman pottery: additional finds include a 1st- or 2nd-century copper-alloy cosmetic mortar (SF-4BA8CC) (Fig. 42 A), Roman Colchester derivative brooches (SF-FB2DAE, SF-FB10C1 and SF-FA9358), Roman coins of 3rd–4th century and additional Roman pottery. (Mdf).

East Bergholt (EBG 058). **IA, Sx.** Incomplete cast copper alloy terret ring, Hutcheson’s ‘three-lipped’ type, *c.* 100 BC–100 AD (SF-DA1DC6) (Fig. 42 B). A copper-alloy middle Saxon polyhedral-headed pin (SF-DB168C), strap end of Thomas Class A (SF-D80479) and late Saxon stirrup terminal (SF-D8BEE1). (Mdf).

Exning (EXG 111). **IA.** Gold quarter stater, so-called ‘Clacton Cross’ type, *c.* 50–20 BC (NMS-5A7D5C) and a silver unit of Dubnovellaunos dating *c.* 30 BC–14 AD, as Hobbs 2453–2460 (SF-768D46). (Mdf).

Gislingham (GSG 053). **Sx, PM.** A fragment of gilded silver keystone disc brooch decorated with Style I zoomorphic motifs *c.* 550–600 AD (SF-5AEA1D) (Fig. 43 D), copper-alloy early Anglo-Saxon buckle frame (SF-

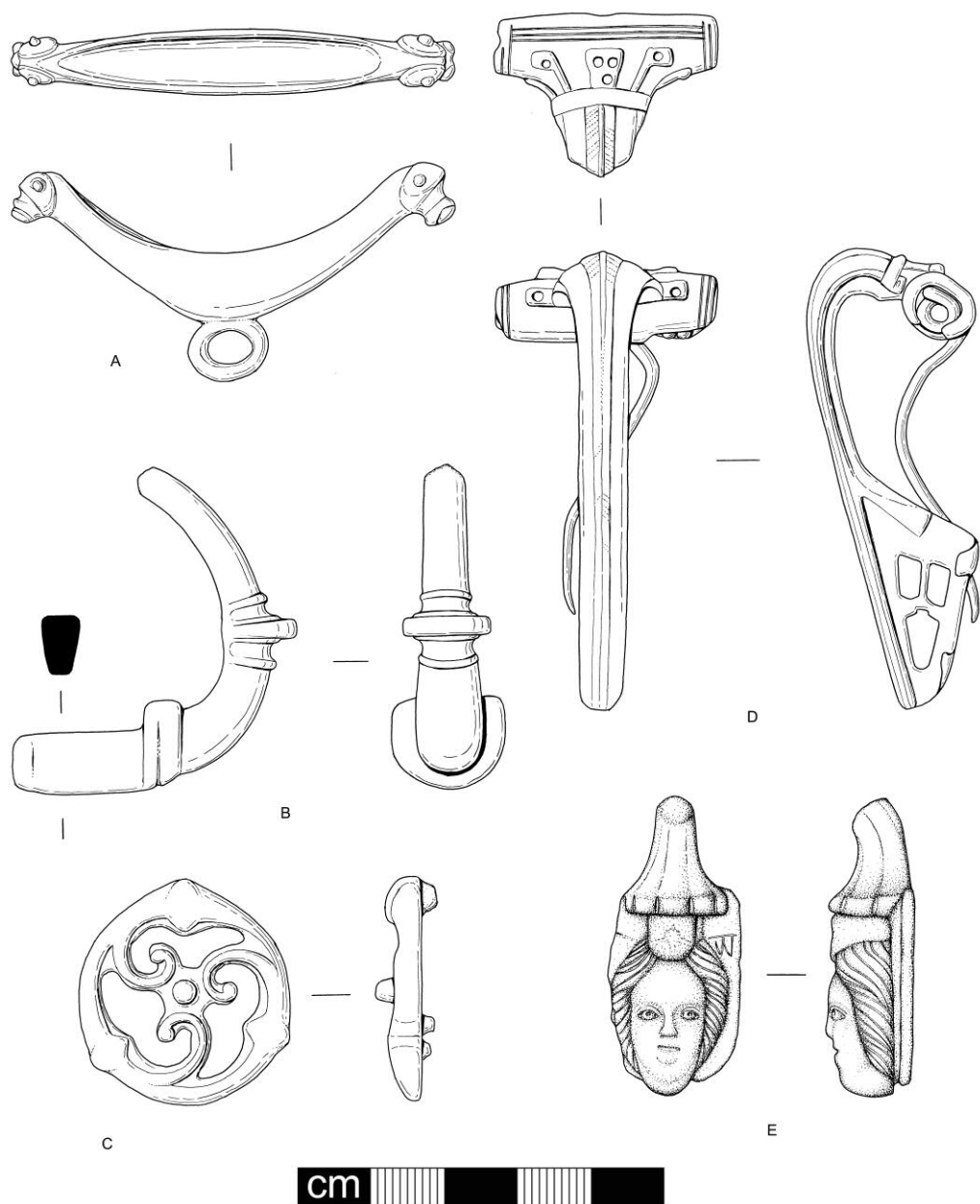


FIG. 42 – Iron Age cosmetic mortar from Debenham (A); terret from East Bergholt (B); Roman mount from Theberton (C); brooch from Lidgate (D); mount from Braiseworth (E).



FIG. 43 – Anglo-Saxon fork from Braiseworth (A); Lead-alloy pseudo-nummular brooch from Tuddenham (B); disc brooch from Wangford (C); gilded silver keystone disc brooch from Gislingham (D); strap end from Haughley (E); Stirrup terminal from Risby (F); Viking mount from Wordwell (G); Medieval buckle and plate from Risby (H).

Old Newton with Dagworth (ONW 034). **IA**. Gold Gallo-Belgic E stater of the Ambiani, c. 75–50 BC. As VA 52-1 (SF-70D983). (Mdf).

Pakenham (PKM 104). **IA, Ro**. Silver Icenian unit, Early Face/Horse series, Talbot 2006, Bury A, Group 2 c. 50–15 BC (SF-9FDAF2). Copper-alloy brooches of Nauheim-derivative (SF-9FDAF2), Hod Hill (SF-8A7224), Aesica (SF-8A5ECA), rosette (SF-8A35B8) and Colchester derivative (SF-8A8676) and (SF-8D7E85) types. (Mdf).

Risby (RBY 048). **BA, Ro, Sx, Md**. Copper-alloy Late Bronze Age tanged chisel (SF-3CA0C8). Roman coins 1st–4th century and 1st-century Colchester derivative brooches. Copper-alloy 11th-century Anglo-Scandinavian zoomorphic stirrup terminals (SF-3E1A57) (Fig. 43 F) and (SF-3DA973). Medieval copper-alloy enamelled buckle plate c. 1150–1250 (SF-3C70C2) and a copper-alloy buckle and plate also enamelled of the same date (SF-3C1522) (Fig. 43 H). (Mdf).

Risby (RBY 049). **Sx**. A probable weight: the square lead body is set with silver gilt mount, which has chip carved and gilded interlace decoration of Insular Art style. Composite weights of this type are usually found in Viking contexts (SF-20A507) (Fig. 44). (Mdf).

Stoke-by-Nayland (SBN 102). **BA**. Late Bronze Age hoard, consisting of five fragments of metal working debris, one fragment of socketed axe and one of a blade (SF-9DAF64). (Mdf).

Theberton (THB 040, THB 041). **Ro, Sx**. Copper-alloy Roman openwork mount (SF-D7B091) (Fig. 42 C), 3rd- and 4th-century coins. Two copper-alloy small long early Anglo-Saxon brooches (SF-DB7050 and SF-DB378A). (Mdf).

Thelnetham (THE 042). **Ro, Sx, Md**. 1st–3rd century coins and brooches, fragment of a silver finger ring of 2nd–3rd century date (SF-5888BA). Early Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy cruciform brooch (SF-58C377), disc brooch (SF-34FEB7) and gilded copper alloy harness pendant fragment with Style II ornament (SF-F34C4B). Medieval silver pennies of Henry III, VI and Edward I-II, copper-alloy seal matrix of 14th century, inscribed LEL AMI AVET ('You have a loyal friend') (SF-5B03D4). (Mdf).



FIG. 44 – Viking lead weight from Risby.



FIG. 45 – Medieval iron sword from near Bury St Edmunds.

Tuddenham (TDD 033). **Sx.** Lead-alloy pseudo-nummular brooch, only the letters '+C+I+C+ [...]' can be read, Weech Type 2A, late 8th–early 9th century (SF-234D38) (Fig. 43 B). (Mdf).

Wangford (WNG 061). **IA, Sx.** Silver contemporary copy of a Catuvellaunian minim of Eptaticus, c. 20 BC–40 AD, cf. Hobbs 1996, 142, no. 2351-7 (SF-576998). Early Anglo-Saxon copper-alloy long brooch (SF-4601B4), buckle frame (SF-450D04), middle Anglo-Saxon disc brooch (SF-464304) (Fig. 43 C) and late Anglo-Saxon finger-ring (SF-467E38). (Mdf).

Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet (WMH 005) extension of known area of Roman settlement WMH 005. **Ro.** Copper-alloy prick spur of late Roman date (SF-DA80E7). (Mdf).

Whepstead (WHP 046). **BA.** Copper-alloy Middle Bronze Age quoit-headed pin (SF-6DFB8E) (Fig. 41). (Mdf).

Wordwell (WRW 067). **Sx.** Copper-alloy openwork Urnes-style mount, 11th century in date (SF-69437C) (Fig. 43 G). Gold and enamel early medieval mount inlaid with cloisonné enamel 10th–11th century (SF-2F449E). (Mdf).

SURVEYS

Barham, land off Norwich Road (TM/1350; BRH 066). A detailed fluxgate gradiometer survey was undertaken in the field to the S of the parish church in Barham, recording a wide range of geophysical anomalies. Those with the highest archaeological potential were present in the E half of the field. Anomalies indicative of pits, including one that had been fired, a ring ditch (10m diameter), and enclosure ditches with alignments different to the current field boundary configuration were recorded. Of note were a series of rectilinear enclosures near to the field boundary with the church.

Timothy Schofield, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,
for Pigeon Investment Management Ltd.

Bromeswell, Garden Field Sutton Hoo (TM/2849; BML 037). Ditch-type anomalies indicative of Bronze Age or Late Iron Age to Romano-British enclosures were prospected during a detailed magnetometer survey. At least three different phases of ditch-type enclosure activity associated with the parallel double ditches of a potential trackway were recorded. Two thermoremanent responses in the NW corner indicate the presence of at least one possible kiln. A magnetic susceptibility meter survey revealed that there was an increase in topsoil magnetic enhancement on the plateau to the E of the field, peaking where funerary activity, including cremations, is believed to have been practised. Earth resistance meter survey undertaken with visitors in November over the area of the 'Bromeswell Bucket' revealed high and low resistance anomalies indicative of pits and ditches along with low resistance readings delineating the modern service trench that originally disturbed the 6th-century Mediterranean bucket.

Timothy Schofield, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for the National Trust.

Coney Weston, Fen Meadow (TL/9778; CNW 017). A detailed fluxgate gradiometer survey was undertaken to the E of a survey undertaken in 2013. A narrow range of anomalies was prospected on the fen's periphery. Recorded for the first time were discontinuous positive linear anomalies interpreted as enclosure ditches, similarly aligned and therefore likely to be associated with two building structures formerly recorded. It is possible that the discontinuous linear anomalies form larger enclosures that remain undetected due to masking areas of magnetic enhancement, low contrast soil magnetism and the fen itself. No anomalies

indicative of medieval structural remains were prospected during this phase of the survey.

Timothy Schofield, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,
for Coney Weston Local History Group.

Earl Soham, Mill House (TM/2262; ESO 020). Magnetometry survey of likely Roman road route through the grounds of Earl Soham Mill prior to a school project dig. The road was not found but clear rectilinear ditch lines may extend under the current A1120 road.

John Rainer, SAFG.

Great Bricett, Nunnery Mount and Priory site (TM/0350; BCG 001 and BCG 002). Magnetometry survey of land around Great Bricett church/priory site and Nunnery Mount. The location of some known features was confirmed, plus a probable building response within the Mount itself.

John Rainer, SAFG.

Kelsale, Simpsons Fromus Valley Nature Reserve (TM/3866; KCC 050). Magnetometry survey of land adjacent to, and at the centre of, the site of Kelsale Medieval Park. Evidence of possible post-holes in a hypothesized hunt area and a rectangular enclosure in the reserve entrance meadow. A small trench to date the enclosure found a cobbled surface, bone fragments, including some from deer, and many pot fragments, tentatively identified as 14th-century and earlier.

John Rainer, SAFG.

Mildenhall, Mildenhall Community Hub (TL/7074; MNL 778). A detailed fluxgate gradiometer survey revealed anomalies of potential archaeological origin to the north of the River Lark. A series of positive linear anomalies indicative of ditch type features were recorded in all four fields, some of which converged to form enclosures, along with a plethora of rubbish pit-type anomalies. A cluster of discrete positive pit-type anomalies have further been recorded within a ditched enclosure, located just to the north of the river, this area is considered to have the highest archaeological potential.

Timothy Schofield, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for SCC.

Mildenhall, Thistley Green, West Row (TL/6776; MNL 722, 724, 725, 726, 727). Geophysical (magnetometry) and systematic metal-detecting and fieldwalking surveys were carried out on fields around the probable findspot of the late-Roman Mildenhall Treasure. These showed the extent of activity, which includes evidence for a Roman building close to the findspot. The metal finds included late Roman objects and coins likely to be contemporary with the deposition of the treasure hoard in the late 4th or early 5th century. The project, run jointly with the British Museum, was supported by the Roman Society and the Society of Antiquaries of London; survey work involved Britannia Archaeology, Suffolk Archaeological Field Group and Mildenhall and District Detecting Club.

Faye Minter, SCCAS.

Rendlesham, St Gregory's Church (TM/3252; RLM 015). A magnetometry survey was carried out in parts of the churchyard and in adjacent gardens, but few features of potential archaeological interest were identifiable, and none that linked to other parts of the extensive Rendlesham survey work. The survey was carried out by John Rainer and other members of the SAFG.

Faye Minter, SCCAS.

Santon Downham, High Lodge Visitor Centre (TL/8084; ESF23630). A Rapid Archaeological Investigation Survey was undertaken within an area of Forestry Commission land centred on the High Lodge Visitor Centre. The aim of the survey was to inform proposals for the creation of a multi-user heritage trail. Three proposed 5km trials were surveyed and a number of earthworks of potentially archaeological origin were recorded. Newly identified features consisted of two extraction pits (?19th century), a possible prehistoric burial mound, a series of post-medieval field or plantation boundaries, and two further banks that may be related to the known warren banks.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC for High Lodge.

St James South Elmham (TM/3280; SEJ 001). A magnetometry survey of an area of crop marks and pottery finds indicating a substantial medieval building. The results confirmed ditch lines and the likely building location.

John Rainer, SAFG.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Badwell Ash, land next to Donards (TL/9969; BAA 035). An archaeological evaluation: only one trench contained any archaeology. Comprising a spread containing Late Iron Age–early Roman pottery sherds, a small ditch terminus and post-hole with sherds of Late Iron Age pottery and an assemblage of struck and worked flint from the Neolithic to Early Bronze Age.

Dennis Payne, for R and D Construction.

Barham, land off Norwich Road (TM/1350; BRH 066). An archaeological evaluation was undertaken prior to submission of an application for the residential development of the site. The evaluation was carried out in conjunction with a geophysical survey (see above). 116 trenches were excavated, 55 of which contained archaeological features. Systematic metal detecting over a number of years, along with previous work to the E of the site, had shown prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon activity in the area, potentially of high status, and features dating to each of these periods were identified during the evaluation. While a number of post-holes and potential beam slots suggested the possibility of the presence of Anglo-Saxon buildings on the site, a single confirmed sunken-featured building was identified. Unusually, interred within the backfill of this building were the remains a middle-aged man, possibly the victim of execution (Fig. 46). The skeleton was articulated with the exception of the skull, which had been placed on the knees, and the lower legs which were upside-down and the wrong way around; the left foot was next to the right thigh and vice versa. Deliberate decapitation was evident, with cut marks present on the neck vertebrae. No cut marks were present on the knees, suggesting that time had passed between death and deposition, with the possibility that the body had been left on display. It is currently unclear whether this inhumation represents a so-called deviant burial or the disposal of a victim of execution. Radiocarbon testing of the skeleton returned a date range of 555–646 AD. Further evidence of potential Anglo-Saxon settlement was shown by the presence of sherds of both Ipswich Ware and Thetford Ware pottery, and also a layer of dark earth within some of the trenches.

Occupation of the site in prehistory was evident, with dispersed pits containing pottery and flintwork dating from the later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age, while Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from two ditches and one pit. Middle–Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from both pits and ditches, including two large pits which were not fully excavated due to their depth and may parallel similar examples recorded nearby at both



FIG. 46 – Barham: Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured building with skeleton.

Barham and Coddensham quarries. A possible double ditched enclosure was identified by the geophysical survey, targeted by the trenching, and shown to date from the Late Iron Age to the early Roman period. Three further ditches and a large pit could also be dated to this transitional Iron Age to Roman period.

Simon Picard, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,
for Pigeon Investment Management Ltd.

Barrow, land E of Barrow Hill (TL/7663; BRR 060). A trial trench evaluation recorded medieval features, predominantly ditches, distributed in the S area of the site. Pottery from the ditches spanned the medieval period and may indicate deposition into the 15th–16th centuries, while several pits and post-holes also contained daub, and may indicate the location of former structures. Also recorded were animal bone, oyster shell, lava quern, and slag likely derived from iron smithing. A medieval roadside settlement has been identified at Barrow Green *c.* 200m to the S, but on this evidence the settlement area may have been more extensive than previously thought.

Julie Walker, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Mr B. Phizacklea.

Bramford and Blakenham, Loraine Way (TM/1148; BRF 106). An archaeological evaluation was carried out on a 22.3ha area of land in advance of the construction of a large commercial greenhouse and associated infrastructure. A total of 144 trenches were excavated, within which a small number of archaeological features were recorded. The majority of these consisted of ditch-type features that contained post-medieval material and were coincidental with field boundaries marked on a late 18th-century estate plan. Other ditches were undated and did not correspond with documented boundaries, suggesting they relate to earlier, potentially prehistoric or Roman, field systems. Of greater significance were three pits that yielded quantities of prehistoric pottery, along with flint tools and flakes. One has been dated

to the Early Neolithic period whilst the other two, which were located within the same trench, yielded pottery that has been dated to the Early Iron Age. Immediately following the excavation of the trial trenches, two areas, one c. 20m by 30m and another 20m square, were opened around recorded pits, and two further pits, dated to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age period, were recorded.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Stephen Wright.

Brandon, Church Road (TL/7786; BRD 283). Evaluation revealed a series of ditches on four different alignments in addition to a small number of pits, some of which contained charred cereal grains typical of the medieval period. Very few finds were recovered, comprising six sherds of pottery dating from the Roman and medieval periods, along with poorly preserved animal bone. The small size of the assemblage is in contrast to that recovered from an adjacent evaluation, suggesting that this area lay within fields on the periphery of the main settlement zone, which lay to the S, closer to the roadside.

Kathryn Blackburn, OA East, for Brandon Town Council.

Brightwell, land W of Church Cottages (TM/2443; BGL 049). Open area excavation across 2.14ha was undertaken in advance of the creation of a reservoir. Two previous phases of archaeological work had identified a series of Late Iron Age/early Roman ditches across the area. The excavation defined a rectilinear field system following the edge of the high ground and overlooking the valley floor to the S, which dated from the middle-late Iron Age and the early Roman period. The system consisted of a possible N-S aligned driveway with enclosures to the E and W. Five post-holes found to the S of the E enclosure may form a six-post structure with the sixth post cut by the adjacent ditches, or a four-post structure, usually interpreted for this period as a granary. A single Early Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured building (SFB) with up to 6 associated post-holes was found in the centre of the site. An unusual copper-alloy bracelet dating to the 5th or 6th centuries AD was found within the fill. Three oval pits containing burnt deposits, one with evidence of *in situ* burning, and two which contained 3rd/4th century Roman pottery, may represent the only activity in the later Roman period, but are not inconsistent with features associated with Early Anglo-Saxon activity, so may, in fact, be of this later date. Generally, finds quantities were low and pottery dates spanned a broad period, with small assemblages from the Bronze Age to medieval period, suggesting that this represented largely agricultural activity over a prolonged period rather than intense domestic settlement.

Simon Cass, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Prime Irrigation Ltd.

Bury St Edmunds, Guildhall Feoffment Primary School Excavation (TL/8563; BSE 493). An archaeological excavation was carried out in the school grounds. Though preservation was poor in places, substantial levels of medieval to post-medieval evidence remained. Low levels of Roman and Late Saxon pottery form the earliest evidence from the site, recovered from later contexts. However, the first indication of substantial occupation comes in the 11th–12th century, indicated by a larger pottery assemblage, an antler gaming counter and other finds. Into the 12th–14th century, a number of quarry pits were excavated and the feature of greatest interest, a small building of unspecified function, was constructed, with flint and mortar foundations surviving (Fig. 47). The majority of the pottery assemblage was of this period, with associated animal bone, mollusc remains, fired clay (possibly from oven-type structures), roof and floor tile, mortar and lava quernstone. Following this, the building was quite thoroughly demolished, being infilled with a range of domestic refuse and demolition material. A further series of late medieval/transitional and later pits and post-holes, as well as

levelling layers, then dominated the site. These contexts produced pottery, decorative tiles, animal bone, CBM, window and bottle glass, iron nails, tobacco pipes and slag.

An unusual assemblage of small finds was collected from the site, the rarest of which were medieval/late medieval. Fragments of an alabaster vessel are particularly unusual and in this case are unprovenanced, but may have a religious association. A well-preserved copper alloy chain (one of the longest recorded in England) was also recovered and is currently thought to be late medieval, and whilst its function is still uncertain it may also be of religious origin. A number of fragments of coloured medieval window glass and a lead window came are a potentially interesting indicator as to the nature of the building, as are a series of iron objects, which may prove to be related to the structure. Other small finds of interest include an antler Saxo-Norman carved gaming counter, a medieval spindle whorl, late medieval button-making waste, antler-working waste, a 15th–16th century boy bishop token and a 15th–16th century glass bead (probably from a rosary).

Rob Brooks, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Concertus/SCC.

Bury St Edmunds, land at Westgate House, Westgate Street (TL/8563; BSE 498). Excavation found evidence for two or more tenements fronting on to Friar's Lane, which forms the W boundary of the site. The excavation investigated and recorded rubbish pits, cesspits, wells, two clay-lined ovens, and a building represented by post-holes and a set of parallel beam slots or post-trenches. The associated pottery indicates occupation between the early 12th and mid 14th centuries. The character of the features and the majority of the finds suggest inhabitants of middling status engaged in a range of trades and crafts including tanning, horn-working, butchery of sheep, and crop-processing. However, there are also indications of high-status occupation in the area. Of particular note is the large assemblage of medieval tile, many examples with hard 'pozzolan' cement mortar adhering to them, which appear to have been used as levelling courses in flint/ rubble walls or cellars. Flakes from flint-dressing add to the evidence for well-built masonry buildings with architectural embellishment. Bones of sturgeon, one of the 'royal fish', were present in a 13th-century cesspit. A possible source for this high-status material might be the Franciscan friary which was briefly located somewhere in this part of the town (1258–63) before being forced to relocate to Babwell, outside the town boundary. Alternatively, the finds might derive from dwellings of affluent townspeople on Westgate Street. The date of the Friars Lane tenements fits well with current models of the development of this area on the S fringe of the town centre, with the lane developing in the early 12th century as a route to the SW section of the newly-constructed town defences.

Tom Woolhouse, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for CgMs Consulting
on behalf of Greene King and M&S Highland.

Bury St Edmunds, land rear of 78 Whiting Street (TL/8564; BSE 500). Archaeological monitoring and recording were carried out during redevelopment. The monitoring revealed backyard activity dating from the post-medieval to modern periods. Foundations of a brick wall and brick floor that constituted the former rear extension of the property were recorded. Under this was a phase of activity consisting of two large pits and a large boundary ditch. This phase was characterized as post-medieval yard activity. These features were heavily truncated by more modern activity associated with the present dwelling. A sherd of 15th–16th-century pottery was recovered from one of the large pits. A sherd of 18th–20th-century blue transfer printed, and a piece of contemporary CBM, were recovered from the boundary ditch.

Adam Leigh, Britannia Archaeology,
for John Stebbing Architects Ltd.



FIG. 47 – Bury St Edmunds: medieval building foundations.

Bury St Edmunds, Priory Hotel, Tollgate Lane (TL/8565; BSE 509). The site lies partially within the Scheduled Ancient Monument of Babwell Friary. A physical assessment of two sections of boundary wall, on the likely line of a former medieval wall, identified the predominant visible fabric as post-medieval (17th–19th century) but with reused medieval flint and stonework. A trial trench evaluation revealed articulated human bones within grave cuts, which were left in situ; while residual disarticulated human bone was present in overlying layers along with medieval CBM, including glazed floor tile with under-glaze relief decoration dating to the late 14th–15th centuries. Residual prehistoric, Roman and late Saxon pottery was also contained in a post-medieval robber trench.

Kerry Bull, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Mr B Keane.

Capel St Mary, land W of Pine Dell and Ashcroft, London Road (TM/0938; CSM 045). Evaluation trenching for a small residential development revealed a ditch and a clay-built oven of Roman date; further work is planned for the latter feature.

John Newman Archaeological Services, for Capel Properties Ltd.

Capel St Mary; land N and W of Capel Community Church, Days Green (TM/0838 CSM 048). Evaluation revealed a small number of features of prehistoric and Roman date. Two small pits in the E of the site contained pottery and flints dating to the Early Bronze Age. Several small ditches in the S of the site contained Roman pottery, and similar small ditches on similar alignments were recorded in the SE and W. The ditches were very small and appeared regularly spaced, which may suggest an agricultural origin. The dating evidence from the ditches and the position of the Roman villa (CSM002) to the S suggests that Roman cultivation may have extended into the evaluation site.

Steve Hickling, NPS Archaeology,
for CgMs Ltd on behalf of Hopkins Homes Ltd.

Cavenham, Marston Pit Quarry Extension (TL/7672; CAM 058). Two phases of archaeological investigation followed evaluation trenching in advance of an extension to an existing quarry. This revealed evidence for prehistoric and post-medieval habitation. The 8ha site lies upon second river terrace sand and gravel at a height of 15–18m AOD, and is situated in an area noted for the density of its prehistoric settlement and burial, along with Roman and subsequent historic sequences culminating with the site's use during the Second World War as part of Tuddenham Airfield. Prehistoric activity was largely contained within the N half of the site, with the earliest human presence represented by a small quantity of Early–Late Neolithic surface-recovered worked flint as well as from later features. A cluster of nine pits dated to the second half of the Early Iron Age may represent settlement margins from a period that has hitherto been absent from the broader landscape picture. Twenty-five additional pits and post-holes could not be assigned by period, although a number of these may also be prehistoric.

Historic-era evidence comprised a ditched rectilinear enclosure that corresponds with a known 19th-century oak plantation. Lastly, wartime activities were represented by two large pits that contained clearance debris, including fragments of mortar rounds.

Marcus Brittain, Cambridge Archaeological Unit,
for Andrew Josephs Associates on behalf of Allen Newport Ltd.

Clare, land at Cavendish Road (TL/7745; CLA 087). A trial trench evaluation followed a geophysical survey, which had identified a co-axial field system on the site. The ditches recorded correlated closely with the geophysical data, and were dated by low quantities of pottery to the early Roman period.

Gareth Barlow, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Land Charter Homes.

Clare, Cavendish Road (TL7745; CLA 089). Three trenches were excavated as part of an archaeological evaluation. Trenching revealed evidence for late Saxon to high medieval occupation in the form of large pits, a property boundary, and a structure by way of post-holes, including a post-hole alignment. The large pits, which are thought to be for extraction, contained a larger than average ceramic content, at a total weight of a kilo from the pits sampled, suggesting a high usage for the site during this time. The depth of the archaeological horizon, at a minimum of 0.80m, suggested that the site had probably been used continuously over the last 800 years. The subsoil consisted of a dark soil-like composition with some building debris and oyster shells, and was interpreted as a made-up layer from previous occupation and activity on the site. With the juxtaposition of the site to Clare Castle, a Norman motte and bailey, and the dating evidence from the pottery, it is quite likely that the site was used for the construction of the castle. The extraction pits could have been excavated for materials used in the building process, such as sand, gravel and clay, which forms the geology for this location.

Dennis Payne, Archeoserv, for Stephen Willson.

Easton, land adjacent to Easton Primary School, The Street (TM/2858; ETN 023). Excavation of a 0.45ha area in advance of housing development identified almost continuous activity on the site from the Early Bronze Age through to the later Roman period. A single Early Bronze Age pit containing a Beaker pot was recorded, but residual pottery across the site indicates further activity in the vicinity. During the later Bronze Age to Early Iron Age, the landscape was subdivided to form part of a field system. Nearby occupation was evident from the large quantity of pottery recovered. A possible roundhouse was present in the NW corner of site, as well as post-holes and pits. By the Middle Iron Age the field system had silted up and activity had reduced, although pits, post-holes and a hearth were present. Towards the



FIG. 48 – Easton: Iron Age roundhouse.

end of the Iron Age, a roundhouse was constructed close to the earlier roundhouse (Fig. 48); this was rebuilt during the early Roman period, suggesting continuity of occupation by the ‘native’ inhabitants of the area between the Late Iron Age and early Roman period. A set of boundary ditches separating the up-slope settlement area from a down-slope ‘industrial’ area were continually re-defined between the 1st and 3rd centuries AD. A cremation burial, an oven and quarry pits were located down-slope of the boundary, while numerous rubbish pits, and two areas of buried soil containing dumps of Roman rubbish, both preserved in slight hollows in the ground surface, were on the up-slope side of the boundary. Activity continued throughout the mid-Roman period, although no discernible structures were apparent. The settlement may have shifted N to the very top of the slope, with only its S periphery present in the excavation area. Activity on the site appears to have declined by c. AD 300.

Mary-Anne Slater, Pre-Construct Archaeology, for CgMs Consulting
on behalf of Hopkins and Moore Developments Ltd.

Eriswell, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7380; ERL 246). Archaeological excavation identified two field systems, one of Late Iron Age–Early Roman date and the other Middle Anglo-Saxon. Settlement occupation of both periods has been identified at RAF Lakenheath, and the ditches within the current site form part of a much wider area of activity. Although only representing a small portion of the enclosures, both sets of ditches contribute to a better understanding of the overall development of agricultural systems in this part of Suffolk, from the late Prehistoric to early medieval periods. It is notable that both field systems respect similar alignments, but whilst Late Iron Age and early Roman occupation has been identified across c. 300ha, the Middle Saxon is restricted to only c. 25ha. A single unurned cremation burial of possible Bronze Age date was also discovered; the results of radiocarbon dating are awaited.

Jo Caruth and Mike Green Suffolk Archaeology CIC,
for Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Eriswell, POW Camp 85 Victoria (TL/7376; ERL 240). Previous evaluation found that although the majority of WWII Prisoner of War Camp 85 Victoria had been demolished, foundation trenches and post-holes survived across the development area. Excavation was therefore undertaken to further analyse the remains of the Camp. The excavation recorded the foundations and associated services of several structures comprising possible living huts, a shower/drying room and kitchen. An inner perimeter fence separating the prisoners' and the guards' compounds was also located.

Daria Tsybaeva, OA East, for Anglian Water.

Flixton, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086 and TM/2985, FLN 091 and SEY 035). The continuing expansion of the working areas at Flixton Park Quarry involved soil-stripping over an area of c. 4 hectares during 2016, split between the main quarry (FLN 091) and an extension (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 Roman occupation features were recorded widely throughout both areas. The presence of metal-working waste, particularly smithing material, and frequent triangular loomweights, were evidence for some of the activity that was associated with the occupation. 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, and post-holes marking the lines of fences. The footprints of a number of WWII-date buildings were marked by areas of rubble along with associated service trenches and other features.

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

Fornham All Saints, land NW of Bury St Edmunds (TL/8367; FAS 055 and FAS 056).

An area of 10.6ha was excavated in the first phase of works in advance of residential development. The site lies on a N-facing slope on the S side of the valley of the River Lark, overlooking the E end of the Fornham Cursus (and associated monuments), a Scheduled Monument (SF114) which runs for 1.87km NW–SE along the base of the valley, on the S side of the river. One excavation area lay towards the cursus, on the S side of the A1101 Mildenhall Road. Towards the E, the archaeology was largely sparse and dispersed although it included a small cluster of ten Iron Age circular 'storage' pits linked with early Iron Age activity, and a series of small linear features that are probably post-medieval in date. To the W, there was a concentration of over 100 Iron Age storage pits, located in distinct clusters, from which quantities of pottery were recovered. Small ditches were also seen on the site, which most likely link to the strip fields seen on early tithe maps. Additionally, two post-hole groups show that some structures were present in this area; these were most likely temporary and small, one being a four-post possible grain store and another a possible shelter linked with a curvilinear ditch. A separate volunteer project was run alongside this element of the excavation, allowing opportunities for members of the public to gain experience working on a large-scale excavation, and contributing additional archaeological evidence by excavating and environmental sampling the entire fills of every pit, and developing a research project based around these pit groups.

A second excavation area, of 8.05ha, lay on higher ground to the W. The most unusual and prominent feature was a burnt mound/well complex dated to the Early Bronze Age and covering an area 23m by 21m in an irregular circular shape, including a cobbled surface overlain by thick deposits of burnt flint and charcoal. It lay within, and made use of, a natural

hollow in which were two large water collection pits dug into the natural clay and seventeen smaller pits for heating water, all with charcoal rich fills and full of heat-altered flint and stone. The burnt mound/well complex produced large amounts of struck flint debitage and tools, including over 250 flint scrapers and smaller amounts of beaker pottery. The site resembles other complexes found on the fen-edge, but its location high above the valley is unusual. Soil samples and various scientific analyses, as well as further research, is anticipated to reveal more about the function of this feature. The working hypothesis is that processing of organic materials, perhaps hides or wattle hurdles, was taking place, in which water was being collected in the larger pits and heated within the smaller pits. Cutting the burnt mound/well complex was part of an Iron Age 'D'-shaped enclosure, and to the E of it was a Bronze Age droveway aligned NE-SW, consisting of 3-4 small parallel gullies with an internal routeway of 8-9m, and associated pitting dating to the Bronze Age and later Iron Age along its length. Also at the top of the slope was a Roman square enclosure with an associated ditched field system, pits, and quarrying. Roman finds, including pottery, CBM and metalworking slag were recovered from these features, with a dense concentration in the NW corner. Also seen was evidence of WWII activity, with a post alignment possibly linked to a firing range. Other large natural hollows, similar to that into which the burnt mound/well complex was dug, were found across the site and contained naturally accumulated mixed prehistoric material. Metal detecting of the topsoil and subsoil also points towards medieval manuring of this area. The earliest find from this stage of works was an unstratified Mesolithic flint axe. Further work is scheduled for 2017, which should uncover the remainder of the 'D'-shaped enclosure and provide further evidence of the wider archaeological landscape.

Michael Green, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Countryside Properties.

Fornham St Martin, Hollow Road Farm (TL/8666; FSM 024). A trenched evaluation revealed a total of 13 features in 24 trenches, indicative of site occupation dating from at least the Middle Iron Age through to the Roman period. Features were focussed in the E third of the field and include ditched enclosures recorded on a variety of alignments, with finds revealing that the site had been subdivided from at least the Middle Iron Age. Materials recovered from within the rubbish pits and ditch fills indicate that domestic habitation, animal husbandry and cereal crop production had taken place within the site.

Timothy Schofield, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for West Suffolk Council.

Glemsford, land to the rear of 49-55 School Field (TL/8248; GFD 054). An archaeological excavation targeted an area of features identified during a 2015 evaluation. The results of the excavation identified four phases of activity ranging in date from the late Bronze Age to the Roman period. Phase I (1000-400 BC) was represented by three features dating from the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age located in the NW area of the site. Sparse amounts of pottery recovered from this phase indicate limited Bronze Age activity in the area preceding the development of the site in the Iron Age. Phase II (400 BC-43 AD) comprised three features, including two ditches forming part of a field system and a potential droveway. The spacing between the boundary ditches demarcating the enclosed areas could have been used as a trackway/droveway. Phase III (mid 1st C AD-mid 2nd C AD) relates to a period of limited activity associated with three features dated to the Roman period. This Roman activity on the site likely occurred after the droveway had fallen into disuse, with the focus of activity on the site moving away from agricultural activity to domestic waste and storage indicated by pits from the evaluation and post-holes from the excavation. Phase IV (undated) showed seven features. These could not be dated by material culture and have been assigned to this phase.

The excavation may indicate the location of settlement towards the village core in the prehistoric period. Phase II shows a typical view of peripheral Iron Age activity associated with an agricultural community with possible animal paddocks evidenced by a droveway to allow movement from field to field. Phase III seems to indicate a change in use of the localised area, with a move from purely agricultural practices to peripheral storage and settlement activity that may be associated with a Roman settlement site excavated recently off Tye Green and Shepherds Lane.

Martin Brook, Britannia Archaeology, for Oxbury Chartered Surveyors.

Great Blakenham, land to the W of Stowmarket Road (TM/1151; BLG 037). Forty-nine evaluation trenches were excavated across the 4.6ha development area. Eighteen of the trenches were established to contain below-ground archaeological remains. The majority of features were of Late Saxon/Early Medieval date (11th–12th century) and formed a clear concentration in the E of the site alongside Stowmarket Road. Comprising ditches, pits and possible structural remains, these may constitute occupation, such as a farmstead, alongside the former Roman road. Post-medieval remains were confined to three field boundary ditches, two of which are shown on 19th- and earlier 20th-century OS mapping.

T. Ennis, Archaeology South-East, for CgMs Consulting.

Great Whelnetham, land at Erskine Lodge, Stanningfield Road (TL/8760; WLG 037). Trial trenching following an earlier phase of trenching (GWSR 15) in 2015. Phase 2 (GWSR 16) entailed the excavation of fifteen trenches. A low density of pits, ditches and post-holes were found, scattered across the site, the majority of which dated to the 1st–4th century AD. Over half of the pottery assemblage was recovered from a pit in Trench 2, potentially representing structured deposition. An articulated Roman burial was exposed in Trench 5, towards the centre of the site. Environmental evidence from the site suggests that it is a peripheral zone, away from any focus of settlement or industrial activity. This accords with the low density of features identified.

Robert Evershed, Allen Archaeology Limited,
for Havebury Housing Partnership.

Hacheston (TM/3157; HCH 047). An evaluation identified three cremation burials and at least one possible rectilinear field enclosure, all of prehistoric date. Roman activity comprised domestic and industrial features, including a pottery production kiln, associated with the N fringes of the Roman settlement recorded at Lower Hacheston. Medieval rectilinear enclosures were also present.

Alison Roberts, Cotswold Archaeology, for EDF.

Haughley, Wider Site, Chilton Leys (TM/0359; HGH 055). A trial trench evaluation comprising 124 trenches followed a geophysical survey. A single Middle Bronze Age pit containing a bucket urn was recorded, but the bulk of the evidence comprises medieval enclosure ditches and pits containing a sparse scatter of medieval pottery, animal bone and iron fragments. Numerous post-medieval ditches were also recorded and correlate closely with field boundaries depicted on historic cartographic sources.

Kerry Bull, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Taylor Wimpey East Anglia Ltd.

Haverhill, land at Great Wilsey Park (TL/6945, TL/6845, TL/6846; KDG 050, HVH 099, WTL 013). Trench evaluation comprised 314 trenches. Middle Iron Age remains were concentrated around the central area, with a ring ditch and a possible enclosure within which

may have been the remains of a kiln/hearth structure with associated ashy deposits. A number of isolated Iron Age pits were also found in the SW part of the site and two possible field systems in the central-W and SW. The pottery assemblage comprises domestic forms, but the number of bowls may hint at a slightly higher status site than a lone farmstead. Medieval activity consisting of ditches and pits of the 12th to early 13th century was concentrated in the SE area. The moderate quantity of medieval pottery recovered from the site implies a settlement within the immediate environs, which tallies with the location of both Wilsey Manor Hall and Little Wilsey moated site. The total absence of late medieval pottery is perhaps consistent with an abandonment of Wilsey Hall manor. Overall, the medieval landscape appears to be that of farm and pasture land either associated with, or owned by, the moated sites of Wilsey Hall Manor, located close to the centre of the site, and the unscheduled Little Wilsey moated site located to the SE of the site boundary, with a possible area of common ground ridge and furrow to the S.

Jonathan Elson and Susan Porter, MOLA Northampton, for Orion Heritage.

Holbrook, land on the E side of Ipswich Road (TM/1737; HBK 064). Fourteen evaluation trenches were excavated across the 3ha site. This revealed a number of linear ditches and gullies, pits and a post-hole across, with a concentration evident in the S half of the site. The majority of the dated archaeological features were later prehistoric (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age to Early Iron Age), with the exception of a known post-medieval field boundary.

R. Wroe-Brown, Archaeology South-East, for BSA Heritage.

St Mary South Elmham otherwise Homersfield (TM/2885; SEY 017). Following on from previous work, a small trench on the edge of a potential building, and another across a possible enclosure ditch, were dug. The first trench revealed further areas of a clay surface, which in conjunction with two other trenches indicates a likely extent of 20 x 20m. Immediately outside this clay area was a narrow scatter of Roman roof tile, possibly some brick, plaster and mortar. Roman pottery sherds and a pipe-clay hand from a figurine were found in this context. A prehistoric occupation layer was uncovered immediately beneath the clay, with possible pits or post-holes. Preliminary dating of the pottery sherds is early-late Iron Age, with possibly some Bronze Age. Initial analysis of the finds from the trench across the enclosure ditch indicates that it is probably post-medieval. Given the evidence so far of a Roman building and Iron Age occupation, alongside considerable surface finds, the site is potentially a religious site, used continuously through the Iron Age and Roman periods.

Jack Cade, SAFG.

Ipswich, 7-9 Woodbridge Road (TM/1644; IPS 982). A single trench was excavated down the centre of the site. The earliest datable feature was a pit of later Saxon, 10th/11th century date, while an E-W orientated ditch at the S end of the trench was also considered to be of a relatively early date based on the leached character of its fill. The majority of the recorded features were large loam filled pits of varying depth that appeared continuous with an overlying soil layer in the N half of the trench. The artefactual evidence, primarily CBM, suggested that these features were post-medieval in date, when the site is known from map evidence to have been open, probably cultivated, ground. A series of post-holes seen to be cutting at least the lower levels of the post-medieval overburden, some with rotten wood still within them, were probably associated with relatively minor structures present on the site immediately prior to the more formally constructed early 20th-century buildings.

Stuart Boulter, Suffolk Archaeology CIC and Ipswich Borough Council.

Ipswich, Cornhill Project (TM/1644; IPS 874). The site is located in the nucleus of the historic core of Ipswich, close to the N of the former location of St Mildred's church and to the location of a former market cross. This evaluation recorded a high density of pit and post-hole features c. 1.0–1.2m beneath the modern ground surface, which contained a variety of middle Saxon, late Saxon and early medieval pottery, as well as animal bone, shell and slag.

Tom Muir, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Ipswich Borough Council.

Ipswich, Christchurch Mansion (TM/1644; IPS 878). The site was situated within that of the former Holy Trinity Priory, subsequently developed into a Tudor mansion and a 17th- to 18th-century park and garden. Archaeological monitoring recorded two walls, the former of which was parallel to an existing cemetery wall and may have been an earlier definition, potentially the original cemetery boundary, while the latter wall appears to relate to the former priory. Disarticulated human bone was also recovered and is likely derived from former areas of the adjacent St Margaret's church burial ground.

Mark Blagg-Newsome, Archaeological Solutions Ltd,
for Ipswich Borough Council.

Ipswich, Henley Gate (TM/1647; IPS 881). Ninety evaluation trenches were excavated. A probable Later Bronze Age un-urned cremation was found on relatively high ground overlooking a valley to the N of the site. Several foci of Early/Middle Iron Age occupation were found across the area of the site. A significant result of the fieldwork was the confirmation of a ditched enclosure on the knoll at the E end of the site, previously detected by the geophysical survey. This is dated provisionally to the Early/Middle Iron Age, with activity in this area continuing into the Late Iron Age/early Roman period. A large pit or ditch produced Ipswich Ware pottery and associated refuse, suggesting Middle Saxon occupation in the immediate vicinity. A medieval occupation site was found in the W part of the site, close to modern Henley Road. Part of a cobbled surface and a possible beaten earth floor or external surface are dated by pottery to the 12th or early 13th century. A small clay extraction pit nearby contained pottery of the same date.

K. Heard, Archaeology South-East, for CgMs Consulting.

Kessingland, The Nordalls (TM/5386; KSS 133). Archaeological excavation was conducted over the S part of the site. The earliest recorded find recovered during the excavation was an Upper Palaeolithic–Mesolithic flint implement. The excavations revealed evidence for medieval settlement in the form of a proposed puddling pit with an associated feature; ovens or corn dryers, a ditch, post-holes, pits, occupational deposits and redeposited geological clay. All of the evidence is indicative of domestic activity, including manufacturing, food processing and storage. The dated contexts predominantly indicate activity between the 12th and 14th-centuries and suggests that occupation ceased during the 15th–16th centuries.

John Ames, NPS Archaeology, for Wellington Construction Ltd.

Lackford, Mill Heath (TL/7771; LKD 001). A short excavation to recover material from the ploughsoil was carried out when small, discrete areas of early Anglo-Saxon pottery sherds and burnt bone were observed immediately after the ploughing of an area adjacent to the large cremation cemetery partially excavated by T.C. Lethbridge in 1947 (published in 1951 in the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, Quarto Publications, NS, No. 6). Thirty-six groups of surface scattered finds were collected, and 13 more intact, though badly damaged, pots were exposed and excavated from the subsoil, 5 of them probably in a single burial.

Faye Minter, SCCAS.

Leiston, land opposite 18–30a Aldeburgh Road (TM/4461; LCS 175). Two areas totalling 1.45ha were identified for open area excavation. The earliest remains comprised worked flint artefacts of Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date that were residual in later features and deposits. Two clusters of pits containing worked flint, pottery and animal bone marked the first tangible occupation of the landscape in the Early Neolithic period. The Middle to Late Bronze remains included a trackway, with a coaxial field system to one side and unenclosed land containing the remains of a potentially earlier barrow or small henge-like monument to the other. Iron Age activity within this landscape was sparse. In the Roman period the imposition of an extensive rectilinear field system was on a distinctively differing orientation to that of the Bronze Age. Tangible land use activity was absent until the post-medieval period when this land was again enclosed for agricultural use.

S. King, Archaeology South-East,
for Hopkins Homes Ltd.

Leiston, Johnson's Farm (TM/4362; LCS 221). Sixty-nine trenches were excavated across the 8.65ha site. A low incidence of poorly-dated prehistoric and Roman remains was identified across the S part of the site, concentrated in the SW; the Roman remains perhaps focused upon a ditched enclosure initially defined by the geophysical survey results. More numerous medieval period features were present across the central-W part of the site. These ditch and pit remains constituted part of a probable late 11th- to mid/late 14th-century farm, with activity continuing perhaps as late as the mid 16th century. Post-medieval remains were widespread across the site. These field boundary ditches, ponds and quarries are shown on historic maps and were associated with the 19th–20th century Johnson's Farm, the demolished remains of which were located N of the centre of the site.

R. Cullum, Archaeology South-East,
for CgMs Consulting.

Leiston, Pillbox Field, Sizewell C (TM/4762; LCS 219). An evaluation identified medieval domestic or industrial activity in the form of two hearths, both predating the 11th century. Two trackways were also present, surviving as parallel trackside ditches; they contained pottery dating from the 12th–14th centuries. Extensive quarrying was also recorded, with one quarry pit having contained a sherd of medieval pottery. Alongside a number of undated ditches, most likely forming a field system, was a ditch leading to the extant pillbox which has been interpreted as a WWII command post.

Christopher Leonard, Cotswold Archaeology and Simon Cass,
Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for EDF.

Leiston land E of Eastlands Trading Estate, Sizewell C (TM/4562; LCS 223). An evaluation revealed a trackway or droveway associated with prehistoric finds. Ditches defining land parcels were also prehistoric, as were several small pits, which produced a finds assemblage suggestive of nearby settlement. Later remains included at least one early Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured building and at least one post-built structure. Several rectilinear enclosures and a kiln or oven were dated to the medieval period. Post-medieval and modern field boundary ditches and sand extraction pits were also present.

Alison Roberts, Cotswold Archaeology, for EDF.

Leiston Main Development Site, Sizewell C (TM/4564; LCS 224). An evaluation identified prehistoric enclosures and a single Roman ditch, the latter corresponding to an enclosure identified during a geophysical survey. Further enclosures were dated to the medieval period

and one of these contained a large pit which produced possible industrial material. Undated ditches were also present, along with finds attesting to the use of the area by the military in the 20th century.

Alison Roberts, Cotswold Archaeology, for EDF.

Leiston, Leiston Abbey (TM/4765; LCS 002). A community-based survey and field evaluation concentrated its investigations at the original abbey site in Minsmere. Four archaeological trenches were located around the surviving chapel to investigate anomalies picked up in the geophysical survey and identified via crop marks. The excavations revealed the extent to which the original abbey had been dismantled and removed to the second site at Leiston, identifying features relating to the original abbey precinct and recovering material culture linked to the structure (including fragments of stained glass, plaster and medieval tile), as well as evidence for life and work around the abbey (ceramics and animal bone). The project now enters a phase of analysis and reporting, and updates on the post excavation – as well as access to the site archive – is provided via the project microsite at <https://digventures.com/leiston-abbey/>. This was a crowdfunded excavation staffed by community volunteers and coordinated by DigVentures, undertaken with support from Heritage Lottery Fund. Historic England and RSPB granted access and assistance throughout.

Manda Forster, DigVentures.

Long Melford (TL/8645: LMD 251 LMD 252 and LMD 253). Five test pits were excavated in the N half of Long Melford by students from Thomas Gainsborough School and Ormiston Sudbury Academy. One test pit had Late Anglo-Saxon pottery that was from the top green, where in previous years test pitting additional Late Saxon pottery and building remains have been recorded, so there is likely a Late Saxon site just S of the church and hospital. A single test pit also yielded high medieval pottery from opposite the green. All the test pits produced later medieval pottery, and this continues to suggest that the village was not greatly affected by the Black Death and other socio-economic factors during the 14th century, when the village was thriving and the two separate foci began to become one settlement.

Catherine Collins and Alison Dickens,
Access Cambridge Archaeology, University of Cambridge.

Long Melford, Melford Hall (TL/8646; LMD 265). Monitoring of trenching work for a new cable run recorded evidence for an outer gatehouse to the NE of the hall which is depicted on the Pierse map of 1613 but was later demolished. An early brick foundation was also found close to the 19th-century gatehouse that currently allows access to the site from the High Street to the NW.

John Newman Archaeological Services for the National Trust.

Lowestoft, land E of White Horse Street (TM/5593; LWT 351). Archaeological evaluation recorded a spread of midden or refuse deposits of transitional late-medieval and post-medieval date, overlying an earlier pit of 11th–14th century date. The subsequent excavation and watching brief revealed evidence for medieval activity in the form of post-hole clusters, likely to represent dwellings and ancillary buildings. Structural remains included wells, and a number of pits were excavated. The dateable contexts for much of the site lie between the 13th–14th and 16th–18th centuries. Of the 235 sherds of pottery recovered, c. 40 per cent was imported wares dominated by late 15th- and 17th-century fabrics, which may be a reflection of the function and status of the site and activities of manufacturing, storage and food processing in the port town. Excavation retrieved a range of imported pottery, which has

high potential as evidence for trade. Environmental remains indicate that most plants consumed on the site would have been imported to it, and also identified a frequent presence of spheroidal hammerstone in samples, indicative of metalworking activity. The site lies adjacent to earlier excavations on Compass Street (LWT 183).

David Adams, NPS Archaeology, for Wellington Construction Ltd.

Martlesham, land off Sandy Lane (TM/2547; MRM 165). This 12.67ha site straddled the dryland–wetland interface in this vicinity of the Deben Valley, as defined by a natural bank or scarp that ran roughly E–W across its middle. Twenty-nine evaluation trenches were excavated, with 23 of the trenches containing archaeological features. Residual struck flint artefacts indicated some activity of Mesolithic to Early Neolithic date in the vicinity of the site. Single pits of prehistoric and Late Iron Age or Roman date, and a Roman ditch, were identified. However, the majority of recorded archaeological features, comprising pits, ditches, gullies and a single post-hole, were undated. A short section of wall of c. 1500 AD was identified within the W of the site and a ditch containing CBM of the same date was located towards the E edge of the site. Deposits within a possible palaeochannel running roughly E–W across the site contained waterlogged material with high potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental remains.

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

Mildenhall, 16 High Street (TL/7174; MNL 775). A trial trench evaluation was undertaken and revealed four phases of activity, indicating the site was in use throughout the medieval period, from as early as the 12th century through to modern day. The medieval and early post-medieval phases are characterised by a number of pits and post-holes associated with the backyard activity of medieval properties. The later post-medieval activity is characterised by the remnants of small brick structures, including an oven.

Martin Cuthbert, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Steve Watson.

Nayland, Court Knoll (TL/9734; NYW 006). Volunteers from Nayland and local archaeological groups under the guidance of Suffolk Archaeology CIC excavated seven trenches into the Scheduled Monument at Court Knoll. This formed the next stage in a series of projects designed to better understand the monument. Court Knoll, a 5½ acre D-shaped earthwork, lies to the S of the Nayland village settlement close to the bank of the River Stour. Geophysical survey of the monument in 2015 appeared to reveal a double apsidal structure as well as the remains of other buildings. A document of 1280 lists repairs to the manorial buildings on the site, including a ‘great chapel’ and it is this that the geophysics may have revealed. Historical research has shown that the lord of the manor of Nayland at the Conquest in 1066 was Robert Fitz Wimar, kinsman of Edward the Confessor, and also of King Harold and William of Normandy. The trenches revealed the squared E end of a substantial bonded flint structure, a feature of which was the reuse of Roman floor tiles at the corners and in the flint coursing (Fig. 49). This had been cut through at a later date by a circular structure with walls up to 1m thick. It was not possible to be certain whether this was a replaced apsidal end (some evidence suggested that the original structure may have suffered fire damage), or a freestanding round tower placed through the end of the building. Of particular note were 17 pieces of glazed polychrome tiles recovered from the rubble, which dated to the second quarter of 11th century and are usually only found in high status ecclesiastical buildings. An E–W aligned supine burial was found in a trench to the N side of the structure; this has been subsequently radiocarbon dated to 942–(79.3%)1023cal AD (SUERC 70733). Other trenches revealed the presence of a hearth and masonry walls, surfaces and deposits. A notable feature



FIG. 49 – Nayland: Court Knoll medieval structure.

of the site was the vast quantity of Roman tile recovered, mainly roof tile but also some flue and floor tiles, which appears to have been brought in from elsewhere and reused here. The work has been possible due to the sponsorship and support of Nayland with Wissington Conservation Society, Nayland with Wissington Community Council, the Dedham Vale Project Sustainable Development Fund, the Trustees of the Tendring Estate and Suffolk Archaeology CIC, as well as a number of individuals who have made cash donations.

Andora Carver, Nayland with Wissington Conservation Society.

Orford, land off Burnt Lane (TM/4249; ORF 140). A single trench was excavated, revealing an area of fired silty clay associated with what was probably a supporting pad of stonework, which was also scorched. This was buried beneath a layer of mixed silty sand containing pottery and oyster shell. This pottery, along with further sherds collected from the scorched layer, has been dated to the medieval period. The scorched surface and stone pad has clearly been associated with *in situ* heating which suggest it was probably the remains of a domestic oven or hearth, or that it was possibly related to some form of medieval industrial activity.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for NWA Planning Ltd.

Red Lodge, land E of Kings Warren (TM/7070; RDL 002). An open area excavation was carried out following trial trench evaluation earlier in 2016. The 1.87ha excavation area was centred upon a substantial ring-ditch found by the evaluation to contain Roman pottery in its upper fills. Devoid of any diagnostic features in its interior, the basal fills of the 45m diameter ring-ditch have since been OSL (optically stimulated luminescence) dated to the Early Bronze Age. Although its original function is unclear, it was reused in the Roman period, with pottery, ranging in date from the 1st to 4th century AD, and coins, being deposited within its upper

fills. A small rectangular post-built structure of Roman date stood immediately E of the ring-ditch enclosure. Pits cut into its floor contained E-facing pig skulls, some with associated feet, often with coins placed on them. Painted wall plaster, pottery and coins suggest this was a significant structure; a religious use of the building and of the adjacent reused prehistoric monument is posited. Further Roman features were present to the W, including a possible well. A NW–SE boundary ditch appears to have defined the W extent of this Roman activity, and produced 3rd-century pottery and a coin of AD 275–85 and a single prone inhumation in its upper fill.

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

Saxmundham, land E of Warren Hill (TM/3863; SXM 043). Two areas of excavation were undertaken that targeted the results of previous phases of work, although the southernmost area revealed only a large clay-filled pit that yielded a small quantity of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flintwork. In the N part of the site the second area uncovered a substantial Early Bronze Age pit cluster, the fills of which produced rusticated, Beaker-type pottery and flintwork indicative of nearby occupation. The full extent of the Middle Iron Age roundhouse found during the evaluation was uncovered, along with a further roundhouse and associated pits. Unexpectedly, the remains of a significant Early Saxon settlement were revealed, represented by a large rectangular post-built structure along with evidence for a further two post-built structures and nine sunken-featured buildings (Fig. 50). Handmade pottery and other finds indicate an early 6th century AD date.

Graeme Clarke, OA East, for CgMs Consulting
on behalf of Hopkins Homes Ltd.

Snape (TM/3958; SNP 111). Community test pitting excavation undertaken by local residents and volunteers through the village. There was a small number of later prehistoric flints, mainly recorded from the pits in the S and W of the parish along the river valley. Limited Roman activity was identified, with only one test pit yielding Roman pottery that was again sited in the S of the village along the bank of the River Alde. No material of Anglo-Saxon date was recovered, despite the location of a number of test pits close to where both Anglo-Saxon occupation and a cemetery have been identified. Evidence for high medieval occupation was prevalent through the majority of the test pits in the village, and the excavations also suggested new areas of previously unknown occupation for this time. Snape was affected by the Black Death and a decline in the amount of later medieval pottery was found throughout the excavations. After this, the village still remained small until the 19th century and later, when the arrival of industries and the railway drew people to the area. The dig was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the Touching the Tide programme and was supervised by staff from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) and Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA), both part of the University of Cambridge.

Catherine Collins and Alison Dickens,
Access Cambridge Archaeology, University of Cambridge.

Stowmarket, Cedars Park Phase 6c (TM/0559; SKT 077). A 750 sq m excavation area targeted archaeological remains initially identified in the NW of the development area during preceding trial trench evaluation. An early Roman boundary ditch crossed the N end of the site and a medieval gully was recorded in the E. A scatter of pits and a brick wall of post-medieval date were also found.

R. Wroe-Brown, Archaeology South-East, for CgMs Consulting.

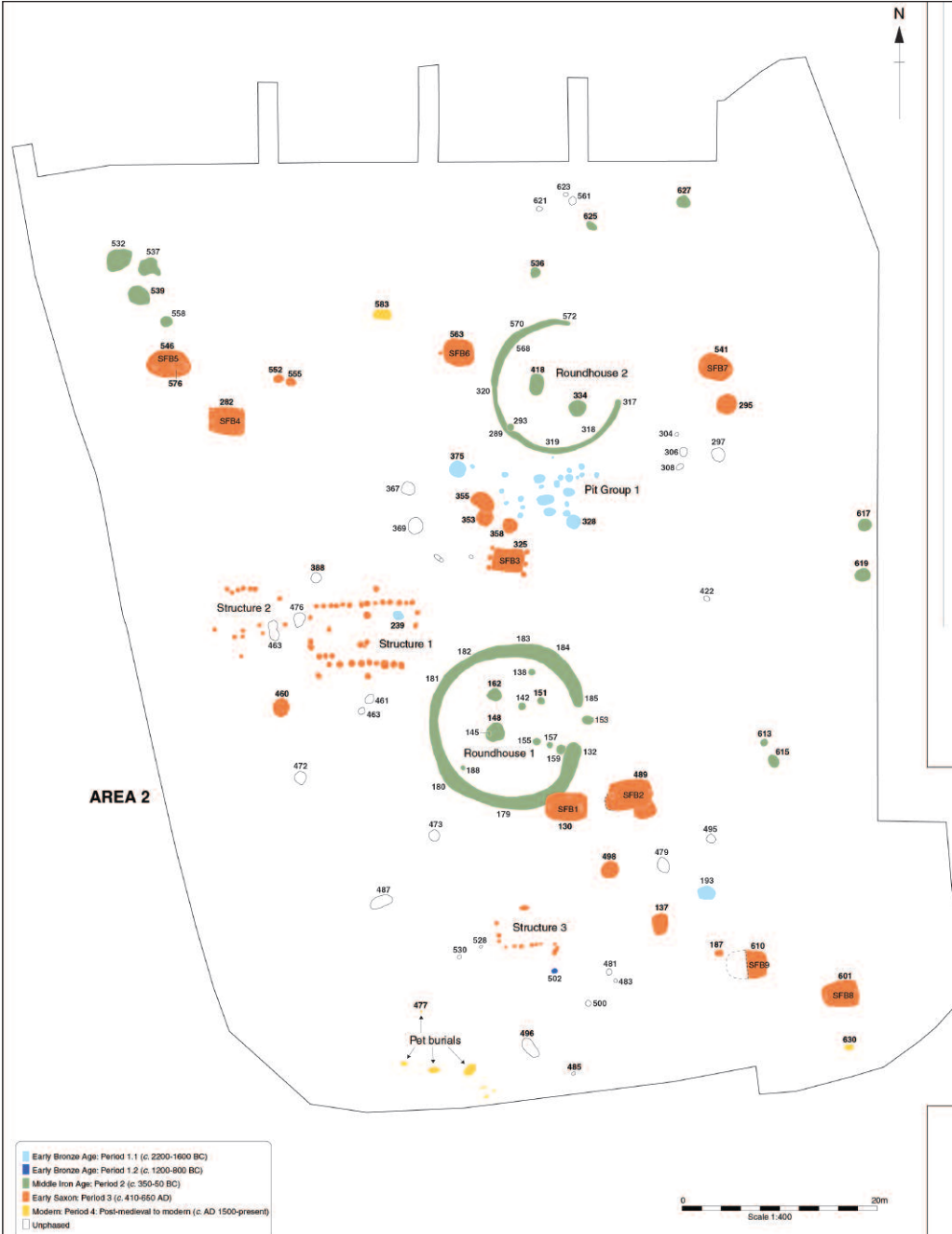


FIG. 50 – Saxmundham: excavation plan.

Sudbury, Walnut Tree Hospital (TL/8641; SUY 153). Evaluation within the area of the medieval college revealed the remains of a brick-built structure positioned in the NW part of the site, which may have been related to the 19th-century hospital known to have been located to the rear of the Sudbury Union Workhouse, which stood on the site in the 19th to early 20th centuries. No other archaeological features were identified due to truncation.

Stephen Morgan, OA East, for CgMs Consulting.

Trimley St Mary, land S of Thurmans Lane (TM/2736; TYY 068). Excavation of a 2.9ha area in advance of housing development recorded two parallel ditches, thought to be a prehistoric track or driveway. A number of small pits to the N and S of the driveway were also dated to this period, while ditches on perpendicular alignments appeared to define two similar-sized rectilinear enclosure or fields on either side of the track. The excavation also revealed part of a medieval (predominantly 12th- to 14th-century) farmstead, probably a predecessor of the adjacent Mill Farm. A system of rectilinear ditches was recorded, which divided up this part of the landscape into a series of small infield enclosures close to the presumed core of the farmstead, and larger fields further away from it. The infield included a post-built barn; post-hole alignments that may have formed stock pens and drafting races; an oven or other industrial feature of unusual design; a number of wells, one of which contained a complete Hollesley Ware jug; and the remnants of a rubbish heap or midden, the latter preserved in a slight dip in the ground.

Clare Jackson, Pre-Construct Archaeology,
for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Bloor Homes.

Walberswick (TM/4874; WLB 16). Twelve test pits were excavated in Walberswick by students from Sir John Lemen High School, Ormiston Denes Academy, and Bungay High School. Half of the 2016 excavation sites were centred in the village, where previously no test pitting had been undertaken before, as well as a cluster in the E and one site in the far W. Additional evidence for Romano-British activity was recorded from opposite the church, and another two test pit sites yielded late Anglo-Saxon pottery, in the E and centrally in the village, and supports the notion that there may have been a cluster of activity around the green, extending SW along The Street. Additional high medieval pottery was recorded, showing that the village continued as one linear settlement that also continued to grow and prosper into the late medieval with a lot more test pits yielding pottery of 14th–15th century date, potentially 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 Collins and Alison Dickens,
Access Cambridge Archaeology, University of Cambridge.

Wetherden, Lawn Farm (TL/9962; WDN 015). The archaeological monitoring revealed land use in the form of field boundaries and small pits, most likely dating to the prehistoric period. Remnants of a large controlled rabbit warren were also exposed, possibly associated with the medieval period.

David Webb, Cambridge Archaeological Unit, for S. Walsh and Sons.

Witnesham, land to the N of The Street (TM/1850; WTN 032). Trial trenching led to the identification of significant Iron Age remains. This confirms Basil Brown's records, made for Ipswich Museum, that Iron Age and Roman finds had been uncovered during the digging of the sand pits on the N side of The Street. A subsequent open area excavation revealed a comparatively dense scatter of pits and other features, many belonging to the Iron Age and

representing nearby occupation during this period. Also found was a linear arrangement of minor field ditches of the Roman period, and a ditch of medieval or later date. Of particular interest was a large E–W boundary ditch of Iron Age date containing many fragments of fine handmade black burnished pottery, bones (including the lower jawbone of a dog), and pieces of fired clay. At the W terminal end an interesting group of loomweights was recovered, including a complete triangular example. The pottery suggests a Middle Iron Age date of 350–50 BC. The densest concentration of Iron Age pits was in the vicinity of the large ditch terminal, and it was in one of these that part of an articulated skeleton of an adult female individual was found, consisting of the torso and skull but without limbs. Finding partly articulated bodies could be evidence that a form of exposure of the dead was taking place during this period. Also of Iron Age date were several larger pits which were likely to be for clay extraction (for daub and possibly for the manufacture of pottery and loomweights). To the N of the large ditch was a four-post structure with post-holes spaced about 2m apart. These are often interpreted as the bases of granaries but they could have fulfilled a number of functions and may even have been exposure platforms for the dead. A small number of other features are likely to be of Roman origin, and two small N–S running ditches of this period probably represent a field layout. Several of the pits contain Roman greyware pottery.

Jezz Meredith, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,
for Last & Tricker Partnership.

Wortham, land off Bury Road (TM/0877; WTM 059). Trial trench evaluation excavations recorded Roman, medieval and post-medieval features in an area close to the route of a Roman road, and to the core of the medieval village. Two Roman ditches contained well preserved early Roman Wattisfield Ware pottery, potentially deposited by domestic activity in the close vicinity. Numerous medieval pits and ditches contained small sherds of local coarse wares, animal bone and CBM, which may represent a scatter of demolition material associated with roadside plots.

Kerry Bull, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Danny Ward Builders.

BUILDING RECORDING

Bawdsey, Old Generator House (TM/3438; BAW 207). An English Heritage Level 2 building recording was undertaken of the ‘Old Generator House’ located on the Bawdsey Manor Estate, prior to its conversion into a two-storey domestic residence. The building is situated within the former area of RAF Bawdsey, a radar base in use 1937–1972. Part of the base later became a surface-to-air missile (SAM) site, which was operational from 1979 through to final closure in 1991. RAF Bawdsey is important in the history of the development of radar in the UK, as it is a site of early research and was also the first of the ‘Chain Home radar stations’ to be established. The Old Generator House, as its name suggests, originally housed a large diesel powered generator. This has since been removed, although significant evidence relating to its installation was still extant at the time of the survey. The building consists of a tall single-storey structure built of brick with a single apex roof. A lean-to that runs the full width of the building is located at the N end, and a rectangular extension supporting water tanks is at the southern end of the W wall. The external wall surfaces are painted green, presumably to provide a degree of camouflage; the external brickwork was originally red. A large section of the W wall of the main structure is also cement-rendered. The roof is clad in corrugated asbestos sheets, whilst the lean-to is roofed with clay tiles. The interior of the building comprises one main space in which the generator set was located, the mountings for which

can be seen running along the central axis. An overhead gantry crane for servicing the generator and the diesel engine runs the full length of the space, and remnants of associated equipment and signage are affixed to the walls. Running below the tiled floor are a series of service ducts covered by steel sheets. The lean-to houses modern transformers, which appear to still be in service. The date of the building's construction is unclear. It is believed to be part of the original Chain Home radar installation around 1937, and can be clearly seen on aerial photograph of 1945. To the west of the main building a concrete slab surrounded by a low brick and blockwork wall was extant. This enclosed area once held a series of fuel tanks and comprised the fuel store for the generator.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC, for Alexanders College.

Ipswich, Ranelagh Primary School, Paul's Road (TM/1444; IPS 857). An English Heritage Level 2 building recording was undertaken on a WWII air raid shelter exposed during building work. It consisted of a narrow below-ground chamber, formed of precast concrete panels, with a brick-built vestibule at each end that led to an entrance accessed via stairs. A smaller chamber, probably for a toilet, was also present at each end of the shelter. The stairwells had been backfilled with concrete rubble and soil to prevent access, whilst the main chamber was left as an open void. Other than the remains of a toilet door and an electrical supply board, no interior fittings or furniture were present, and no decoration or graffiti was identified. Prior to its discovery, no visible evidence of the shelter was present on the surface.

Mark Sommers, Suffolk Archaeology CIC,
for Concertus/SCC.

Monks Eleigh, Slough Farmhouse, Stackyard Green (TL/8640; MKE 034). Slough Farmhouse is a Grade II Listed Building, and works to reduce the floor levels were the subject of archaeological monitoring. A substantial area of brick paviour floor survived in the E service cross-wing below later floor surfaces. The floor appears to have been inserted during the conversion of this area to a bakehouse in the 19th century, when the formerly jettied range was reduced in height. The removal of other modern ephemeral cladding exposed small details of the structural timber frame, in particular indicating that there was no direct communication between the original dairy/workshop and the bay to the N, and that an aperture existed in the ceiling of the N bay to provide access to the upper level.

Tansy Collins, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Mr Cartwright.

CHURCH RECORDING

Aldeburgh (TM/4459; ADB 223). Two days of ground resistance surveying, and metal detecting followed by two days of excavations in a field containing the marginal remains of St Mary, Hazlewood, one of two Aldeburgh churches listed in the Domesday Book. The geophysical survey produced some strong indications of what appeared to be the foundations of the church, in the area to the W of the residual wall – a surprising result, given received opinion that the ruin was of the church's W end. The team undertook targeted excavations, seeking to confirm the results of the geophysics. After clearing vegetation from the W side of the wall, soil was excavated along its length to a depth of between 300mm and 500mm to trace the foundations. There were few of these remaining to the N, but the trench to the S was successful in locating the SE corner of the church walls. Two trial trenches were cut, at distances of 10m and 19m W of the wall, on a line running W from the SE corner. These trial trenches clearly identified substructure foundations typical of other Saxon sites in the local



FIG. 51 – Blythburgh: post-medieval masonry structure in the centre of the chapel.

area. Further work will be undertaken in 2017 to establish the location of the N and W walls of the church. Subject to the analysis of the metal detecting finds, further work may be indicated to establish whether there were dwellings adjacent to the church.

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

Blythburgh, The Priory, Priory Road (TM/4575; BLB 123). The Priory is a Grade II listed building with a 17th-century core and a chapel incorporated as an annex on its W side, believed to be a later reconstruction of a medieval chapel, though the listing notes that the W and N walls appear original. The Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Augustinian Blythburgh Priory, founded around 1125 and dissolved in 1537, is adjacent to the site. Archaeological monitoring revealed the footings of the chapel walls and a small rectangular masonry structure in the centre of the chapel that may have been used to house human remains (Fig. 51).

Gareth Barlow, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Mr and Mrs Saunders.

Witnesham, St Mary's Church, Church Lane (TM/1850; WTN 033). Monitoring of ground works during a major re-ordering at the church revealed flint and mortar foundations for an earlier church structure in external service trenches at the W end of the standing church, which is dated to the earlier 13th century. A small length of earlier flint and mortar foundation was also revealed on the NE corner of the 19th-century vestry. Works within the church were limited to a very shallow floor level reduction at the W end, which remained in material of

recent date, and no burials were disturbed outside the church. It was also confirmed that the font base was of post-medieval date, as it was removed to allow a smaller base to be constructed. In addition a small number of later Saxon and medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the upcast spoil of the external trenches.

John Newman Archaeological Services for Witlesham PCC.

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