

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2002

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object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL

THIS IS A selection of the new discoveries reported in 2002. Information on all these has been incorporated into the county's Sites and Monuments Record, which is maintained by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council at Bury St Edmunds; the Record number is quoted at the beginning of each entry. Following requests from metal detector users, we have removed all grid references from entries concerning finds reported by them. We continue to be grateful to all those who contribute information for this annual list.

Abbreviations:

E.C.C.	Essex County Council
E.C.S.	East Coast Searchers
I.D.D.C.	Ipswich and District Detector Club
M.D.D.C.	Mildenhall and District Detector Club
M.d.f.	Metal detector find
S.C.C.A.S.	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR (tel. 01284 352443; e-mail archaeology@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk)

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

INDIVIDUAL FINDS AND DISCOVERIES

Akenham (AKE 025). **IA**. Gold *stater* of Gallo-Belgic E (Ambiani) type as *Van Arsdell* 52-1. 1st century B.C. (M.d.f.).

Akenham (AKE 026). **IA**. Gold quarter *stater*, type as *Hobbs* 192, British F. 1st century B.C. (M.d.f.).

Arwarton (ARW 002). **Sx, Md**. Bronze fragment with Ringerike-style engraving, probably an 11th-century harness fitting, and a 15th-century annular brooch with a poorly executed small black-letter inscription 'ihc n??? chi'. (E.C.S.).

Ashbocking (ABK 008). **Md**. Circular lead seal matrix, central motif is a sunken triangle; inscription + S' ROGER' FILII ADE ('the seal of Roger son of Adam'). 13th century. (E.C.S.).

Ashfield cum Thorpe (AST 012). **IA**. Flat bronze terret fragment decorated on both sides with a circular double depression surrounded by an area of tiny punchmarks in a wave pattern. (I.D.D.C.).

Badingham (BDG 045). **Md**. Flat rectangular lead pilgrim's badge, missing attachment loops at the corners, with central motif of St Paul and St Peter. Inscribed + SIGNA APOSTOLORVM PETRI ET PAVLI ('signs of the apostles Peter and Paul'). Produced in Rome, 13th–14th century. (I.D.D.C.).

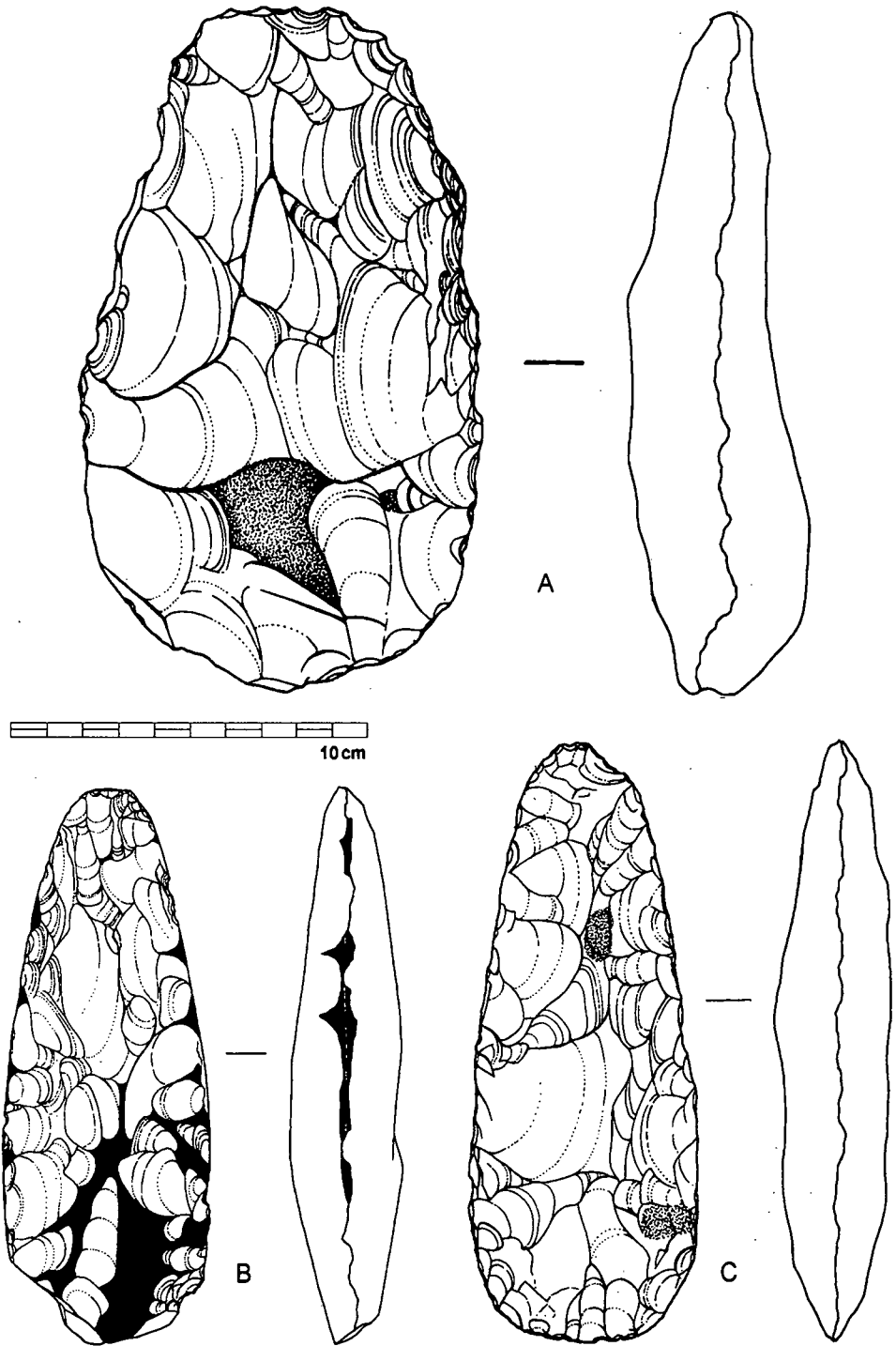


FIG. 92 – Prehistoric flint axes: (A) Palaeolithic from Higham; (B) Neolithic from Benacre; (C) Neolithic from Old Newton.

Barking (BRK 105). **Ro.** A bronze lion-head stud and a grooved bronze ring with traces of an iron attachment loop that were probably both fittings on a wooden box for a cremation burial. (I.D.D.C.).

Barningham (BNG 014). **Sx.** Silver penny of Aethelred II, moneyer Aethelnoth, minted at Northampton, *North* 770 (995-997). (J. Dovey).

Barrow (BRR 037). **BA, Sx, Md.** Incomplete bronze knife, tanged and double-edged, probably Middle Bronze Age. Fragment of a gilded bronze Early Anglo-Saxon wrist clasp, probably *Hines* type C4 and medieval bronze items including a square harness pendant and a three-armed lamp suspender. (M.d.f.).

Bedingfield (BDF 009). **BA.** Small Middle Bronze Age bronze palstave with very low side flanges, unusual form which is closest to the Stibbard type: these are never finished and were probably used as ingots. (M.d.f.).

Benacre (BNC 042). **Ne.** Partly polished pale brown flint axe, missing the cutting edge, bifacially worked all over with polish on the high points and sides only. (Fig. 92, B). (Mrs. Goode).

Bentley (BTY 015). **IA.** Incomplete bronze La Tène I bow brooch. (E.C.S.).

Bentley (BTY 026). **Ro, Sx.** Bronze brooch fragments (1st-century rosette and Hod Hill types) and a 9th-century strap-end with animal head terminal and inlaid *niello* and silver wire decoration. (E.C.S.).

Blaxhall (BLX Misc). **Md.** Lead token of Boy Bishop (St Nicholas) type; *obv.* mitre in profile with pellet in each half and criss-cross inside, legend replaced by a zig-zag with pellet in each angle; *rev.* long cross *fourchée* with three pellets in each quarter, inscribed VIL/LA/BLA/XAL (Fig. 96, D). This is the first example that can be definitely attributed to a place outside the towns of Bury, Ely, Sudbury and Ipswich. 16th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Blaxhall (BLX 016). **Md.** Circular lead seal matrix engraved on both sides, central motifs are eight-petalled flowers. One side inscribed + S'. IOHIS. EVERARD the other + S'. S[?EL]VE EVERARD ('the seal of John Everard' and 'the seal of [?]Selve Everard' – double-sided seals are commonly for a husband and wife, but Selve is not a known woman's name). There was a Robert Everard living in Blaxhall in 1327 (Lay Subsidy roll). (E.C.S.).

Braiseworth (BRA 005). **Ro.** Bronze brooches, including Colchester, Colchester derivative, Hod Hill, trumpet, penannular and sitting chicken types. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (TL 7986; BRD 165). **Ro/Un.** At least two human burials found in garden works, one decapitated with the skull between the legs suggesting a possible Roman date. (D. Ling).

Brantham (BNT 032, 038-040). **BA, IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Finds made during a metal-detecting rally include a damaged Middle Bronze Age basal-looped or pegged spearhead; an Iron Age miniature terret; Roman brooches (Colchester derivative and dragoesque types); a fragment of a 9th-century bronze strap-end with *niello* and silver wire ornament; 11th-century bridle cheekpiece and stirrup-strap mount of *Williams* Class A type 10C and a lead papal bull of Martin IV (1281-1285). (E.C.S.).

Bredfield (BFD 032). **Ro.** Bronze jug lid with an integral duck-shaped thumbpiece. (I.D.D.C.).

Brundish (BUH 023). **Ro.** Bronze handle from a large iron key, the handle in the shape of a lion and similar to a knife handle from Wattisfield (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2000', Fig. 16 B) except that this example has an empty open mouth. (I.D.D.C.).

Burgh (BUG Misc). **Md.** Large quatrefoil bronze mount with a tapering spike on the reverse. In the centre a relatively small shield bearing a lion rampant on a blue enamelled background. Around the shield are three dragons on a red enamelled background: one on either side of the shield and one above – two retain tiny scraps of gilding. Probably the arms of the baronial Mohaut or Montalt family (azure, a lion rampant argent) who held estates in Suffolk (Framsden, Cretingham, Kessingland),

Norfolk (Castle Rising) and elsewhere. Probably *c.*1300. (Mr and Mrs Blunt).

Chilton (CHT 016). **Sx, Md.** Silver penny of Cnut, moneyer Hildulf, as *North* 790 (1030-1036); gilded bronze teardrop-shaped harness pendant and mount. (M.D.D.C.).

Clare (CLA Misc). **Ro.** Late Roman gold finger ring with a small oval setting containing decayed coral; the hoop is of beaded wire and there are a pair of beads on each shoulder. (R. Baldwin).

Claydon (CLY 012). **Ro.** Coins (Republican to late 2nd century) and a brooch in the form of a swimming duck. (M.d.f.).

Cockfield (COK 041). **Ro.** Pottery including samian and tile fragments including box flue tile. (B. Main).

Little Cornard (COL 027). **IA.** Two Gallo-Belgic *staters*, *Van Arsdell* 12-1 and 52, 1st century B.C. Also a very late Cunobelin issue, *obv.* head to right, possibly copying a Roman issue of Caligula, *rev.* griffin to left. (M.d.f.).

Covehithe (COV 083). **BA, Md.** Small fragment of ribbed bronze 'plate', probably scrap ingot of Late Bronze Age date. A large assemblage of medieval finds includes coins (early 13th century onwards), bronze annular brooches, buckles, strap ends, strap mounts, clasps, fragment of a late type of folding balance, human head from a Limoges-style crucifix, purse fittings, sword belt fittings. (M.d.f.).

Cransford (CRN 009). **Ro.** Four worn Republican *denarii*, probably a small hoard deposited in the mid-1st century A.D. (I.D.D.C.).

Culpho (CUP 025). **BA.** Fragment of a socketed axe, deliberately broken, Late Bronze Age. (E.C.S. rally).

Dallinghoo (DLL Misc). **IA.** Gold coin of Addedomaros, as *Hobbs* 2398, 2400. (I.D.D.C.).

Dallinghoo (DLL 010). **Sx, Un.** Fragments of 11th-century bronze bridle cheekpieces and an elongated and very corroded dog (?) figure carrying another in its mouth (Fig. 95, E), perhaps a toy and of uncertain date. (E.C.S.).

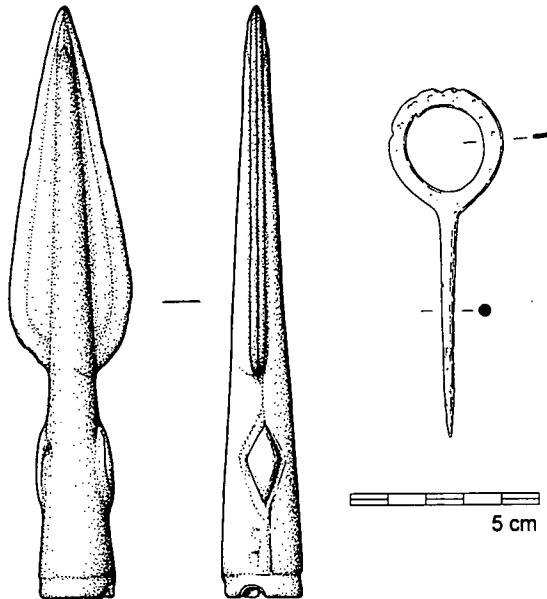


FIG. 93 – Bronze Age spearhead and pin, possible hoard from N.W. Suffolk.

Eyke (EKE 005). **PM**. Bronze combination padlock with five originally rotating discs between two fixed ones, each with letters and numbers stamped on them and now arranged to read OXEN under the hasp; early 17th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Falkenham (FLK 033). **Ro, Sx**. Roman coins (1st–early 4th century) and a bronze Anglo-Saxon cruciform brooch. (E.C.S.).

Felsham (FHM 020). **Ro, Sx**. Roman pottery (2nd–4th century), bronze peltate mount and a late ‘lancet-shaped’ strap end. Bronze strap end with Borre-style relief decoration, 10th century. (M.D.D.C.).

Great Finborough (FNG 025). **BA**. Incomplete blade fragment, probably a Middle Bronze Age knife. (I.D.D.C.).

Great Finborough (FNG 026). **Sx**. Late Saxon silver ring consisting of a flat strip with rows of rectangular punch marks and a knotted wire junction. (M.d.f.).

Great Finborough (FNG 023). **Pr, BA, IA, Ro, Sx, Md**. Worked flints including scrapers and knife; fragment of a bronze socketed axe. Iron Age bronze toggle with an empty central setting, early Roman brooches and a late Roman penannular brooch (*Fowler* type C). Fragment of an Early Anglo-Saxon cruciform brooch and a medieval annular brooch of woven silver wire. (I.D.D.C.).

Finningham (FNN 011). **Sx**. Fragments of two bronze cruciform brooches. (M.d.f.).

Flowton (FLW 012). **Sx**. Bronze ansate brooch, Middle Saxon. (I.D.D.C.).

Fornham St Martin (FSM 015) **BA**. Bronze Arretton-tradition low-flanged axehead, late Early Bronze Age. (M.D.D.C.).

Fornham St Martin (FSM 016). **BA, Sx, Md**. Bronze blade fragment, probably from a Late Bronze Age sword. Bronze pin head, faceted flattened cuboid with traces of punched dot and ring decoration, Middle Saxon. 13th-century lead seal matrix (broken in two), pointed oval, central motif a feathered cross; inscribed + S’ RAT[?CH]ELINEOV- - ICTI. Possibly ‘the seal of Rachel ...’, though Rachel was not a common name in the Middle Ages and appears to have been restricted to Jews. The rest of the inscription is even more problematical: there is just a chance that it contains *neova*, an otherwise unrecorded form of *nativa* ‘a neif or female slave/serf’, paralleling *neovitas*, a form of *nativitas* ‘neifty, villein status’. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK 075). **Sx**. Bronze cruciform brooch fragment, 6th century, and a gilded mount decorated with interlace designs, two pierced lugs on the back, 8th century (Fig. 96, B). (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK 022). **Ro**. Bronze dolphin-shaped mount, perhaps from a box (Fig. 95, B). (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK 038). **IA, Sx, Md**. Bronze stylised bull’s head, probably a vessel mount and similar in style to La Tène iron fire-dog terminals (Fig. 95, A) and a rosette-type brooch. Pottery, brooches (small-long and square-headed types), spangles, faceted head pin and buckle of Early and Middle Saxon date. Shield-shaped harness mount bearing the arms of the de Warenne family, earls of Surrey (chequy or and azure), whose principal seats were at Lewes in Sussex and at Castle Acre in Norfolk. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK 039). **Ro, Sx**. Roman bronze brooches (Aucissa, Colchester derivative and a flat enamelled disc with black and white millefiori), hairpin and coins. Middle to Late Saxon hooked tags, pins, and an 11th-century stirrup-strap mount of *Williams* Class A type 11. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK 076). **Ro**. Pottery sherds from a jar with fluted rim and possibly originally an applied face mask, found in a building trench. (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK 077). **Md**. Circular lead seal matrix, central motif is a horse-shoe, inscribed + SIGILL GERARDI HORSSO (‘the seal of Gerard Horsso’). 13th century. (M.D.D.C.).

Gedgrave (GED 015). **Md**. Lead seal matrix, pointed oval, central motif possibly a pea

pod, inscribed + S' CLARICIE. LE NEVMAN ('the seal of Clarice le Newman'). 13th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Gedgrave (GED 016). **IA**. Bronze copy of a gold *stater* of Addedomaros, as *Van Arsdell* 1635-1. (I.D.D.C.).

Hawkedon (TL 7953; HWN 018). **Un**. Cropmark of a small ring-ditch. (E.C.C.).

Hawkedon (HWN 019). **Ne**. Polished axehead of igneous stone, possibly Cumbrian. (M.d.f.).

Hemingstone (HMG 023). **BA**. Small bronze side-looped spearhead or arrowhead. (I.D.D.C.).

Hessett (HTT 014). **Sx, Md**. Bronze Middle Saxon strap end fragment and ansate brooch, fragment of a 11th-century stirrup-strap mount. Sherds of medieval coarse-ware pottery, coins (late 12th-14th centuries) and a bronze seal matrix inscribed I CRAKE NOTIS (I crack nuts) around a squirrel. (I.D.D.C.).

Higham (TM 0335; HGM 019). **Pa**. Large flint handaxe of squat ovate form. (Fig. 92, A). (B. Johnson).

Hitcham (HTC 059). **Sx**. Bronze four-armed bridle cheekpiece and a stirrup-strap mount of *Williams Class A* type 11A, 11th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Hitcham (HTC 060). **Md**. Lead pointed-oval seal matrix, inscribed S' AGNETIS DELOFHOM (seal of Agnes de Lofhom) around a crude bird, 13th century. (E.C.S.).

Ingham (TL 8572; ING 019). **Pr, BA**. Worked flints including flakes, cores, scrapers, fabricator, barbed and tanged arrowhead. (I.D.D.C.).

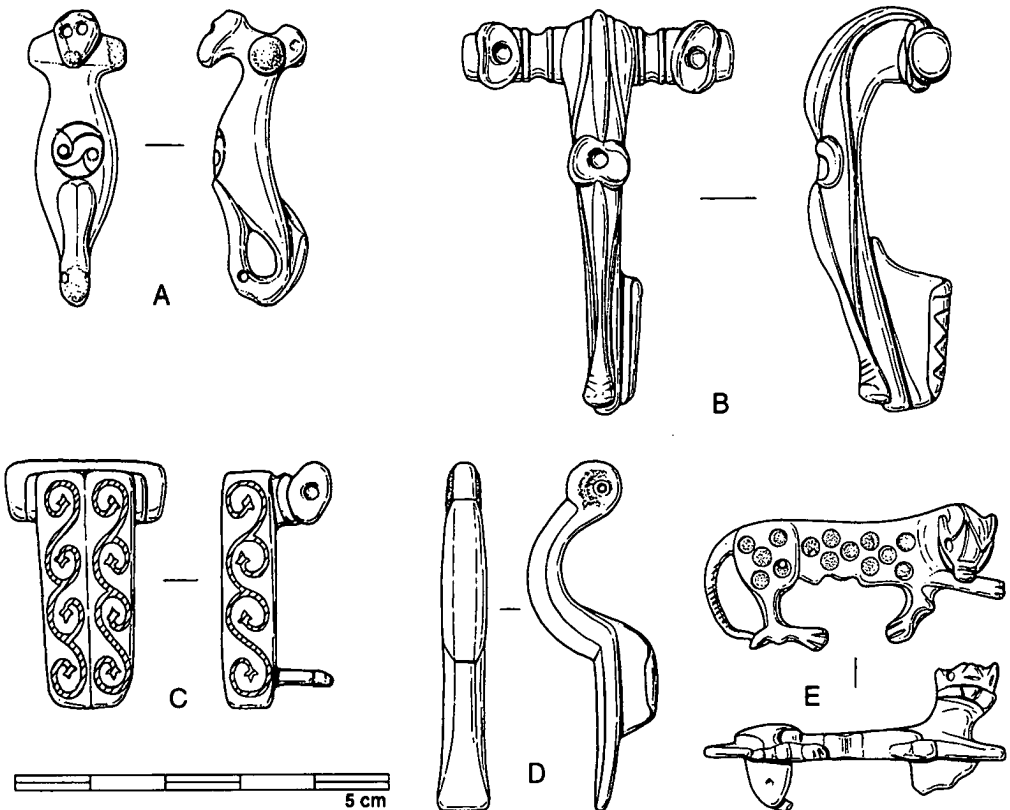


FIG. 94 – Iron Age and Roman bronze brooches: (A) Iron Age from Thelmetham; (B–E) from Nowton, Worlington, Thorndon and Stanningfield.

Kenton (KNN 011). **BA**. Blade end from an Early Bronze Age copper or bronze flat axe. (M.d.f.).

Kenton (KNN 013). **Ro, Sx**. Roman pottery sherds, including samian ware; tile fragment; bronze wax spatula handle, *Feugere* type A3 which would have held an iron blade for smoothing wax on a writing tablet (Fig. 95, C); and a phallic pendant. Bronze stirrup-strap mount, *Williams* Class A type 12, 11th century. (M.d.f.).

Kettlebaston (KBA 006). **Ro**. Gold finger ring with an engraved cameo setting of white agate against light blue showing a female bust with a hairstyle similar to Faustina II (161–176) but probably a private portrait and 3rd century. (M.d.f.).

Lakenheath (LKH 219). **Ne, BA**. Partially polished flint axehead; bronze unlooped palstave, *Rowlands* Class 1 group 3, Middle Bronze Age. (D. Howard).

Lavenham (LVM 041). **IA, Ro**. Bronze coin of Cunobelin, as *Hobbs* 1991–1996. Samian pottery stamp FPATILLVS of Patillus of Lezoux, silver spoon, bronze coins (1st–4th century) and Harlow-type brooch. (I.D.D.C.).

Linstead Magna (LDM 003). **Ro**. Upper stone of a Hertfordshire puddingstone quern and a coin of Constantius (293–306). (M.d.f.).

Mickfield (MCK 012). **Sx, Md**. Bronze Early Anglo-Saxon cruciform brooch. Circular lead seal matrix, central crescent and star, inscribed in large letters + S ION DEB, 'the seal of John Deb', 13th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Mildenhall (TL 7275; MNL 516, 517). **Un**. A pair of long mounds, possibly warren pillow mounds, identified in the forest. (N. Gibbons, Forest Enterprise).

Mildenhall (MNL 529). **Ro, Sx**. Conical headed bronze pin, silver coin (198–209). Early Anglo-Saxon bronze small-long brooch of 5th-century type. (M.D.D.C.).

Newton (NEN 007). **BA**. Bronze socketed arrowhead, damaged, probably pegged form and Late Bronze Age. (I.D.D.C.).

Nowton (NWN Misc). **Ro**. Colchester-derivative hinged brooch with plastic curvilinear decoration and empty settings on wings and bow (Fig. 94, B), 1st century. (M.d.f.).

Old Newton with Dagworth (TM 0462; ONW 017). **Neo**. Flaked flint axe in good condition (Fig. 92, C). (S. Colchester).

Orford (ORF 022). **Md**. Bronze pointed-oval seal matrix engraved with the Virgin and Child within an architectural frame consisting of a tower to either side of the figures and three towers above; below, under a V-shaped roof, is a small kneeling figure looking to the left with the hand raised in front of the face. Inscribed 'S' ROB'I FIL' RANULF [T/C]OVh' ('the seal of Robert son of Ranulf Tovh...'). This style was common on the seals of clergy from the late 13th century onwards. (I.D.D.C.).

Orford (ORF 036). **Md**. Lead papal bull of Martin IV (1281–1285). Gilded bronze mount with a relief figure on the front and a sheet back plate held by three rivets (Fig. 96, E) and a rectangular gilded harness pendant with incised butterfly decoration, probably 13th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Otley (OTY 024). **Ro**. Enamelled bronze button and loop fastener, *Wild* Class VIa; a tumbler lock slide key and fragment of a second one; a globular headed pin; a twisted wire necklace; bracelet fragment; a swan-head terminal, probably from a vessel; fragment of a rectangular speculum mirror and bronze brooches (penannular, Colchester, Colchester derivative, trumpet and equal-ended plate types). (I.D.D.C.).

Otley (OTY Misc). **Md**. Large circular lead seal matrix, damaged; central eight-pointed feathery star, inscription * SIGILL ...WILL, 'the seal of ... [the son of] William', 13th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Parham (PRH Misc). **IA**. Gold Irstead-type quarter *stater*, as *Hobbs* no.3436. (I.D.D.C.).

Parham (PRH 017). **Md**. Pointed oval lead seal matrix, a fleur-de-lys in the centre and inscribed + S' MEILIE BILIHOLT, 'the seal of Michael Biliholt'. (M.d.f.).

Peasenhall (PSH 011). **Md**. Pottery concentration, Early Medieval ware and medieval

coarse wares, 11th–14th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Pettistree (PTR 010). **BA, Sx.** Two flint arrowheads (petit tranchet derivative and tanged types). Bronze Early Anglo-Saxon small-long brooch and a 9th-century strap end, *Thomas* Type A group 2. (I.D.D.C.).

Rattlesden (RAT 033). **Pr, IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Perforated pebble hammer with a relatively straight perforation suggesting Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. Fragment of a bronze terret and probable bow of a La Tène-type brooch. Roman bronze lion-head stud and steelyard fragment. An 11th-century bronze bridle cheekpiece and 13th–14th century silver coins. (I.D.D.C.).

Rattlesden (RAT 034). **Sx.** Bronze hooked tag with silver and *niello* inlay and a 9th-century strap-end. (M.d.f.).

Rougham (RGH 034). **Sx.** Fragment from a bronze cruciform brooch. (M.d.f.).

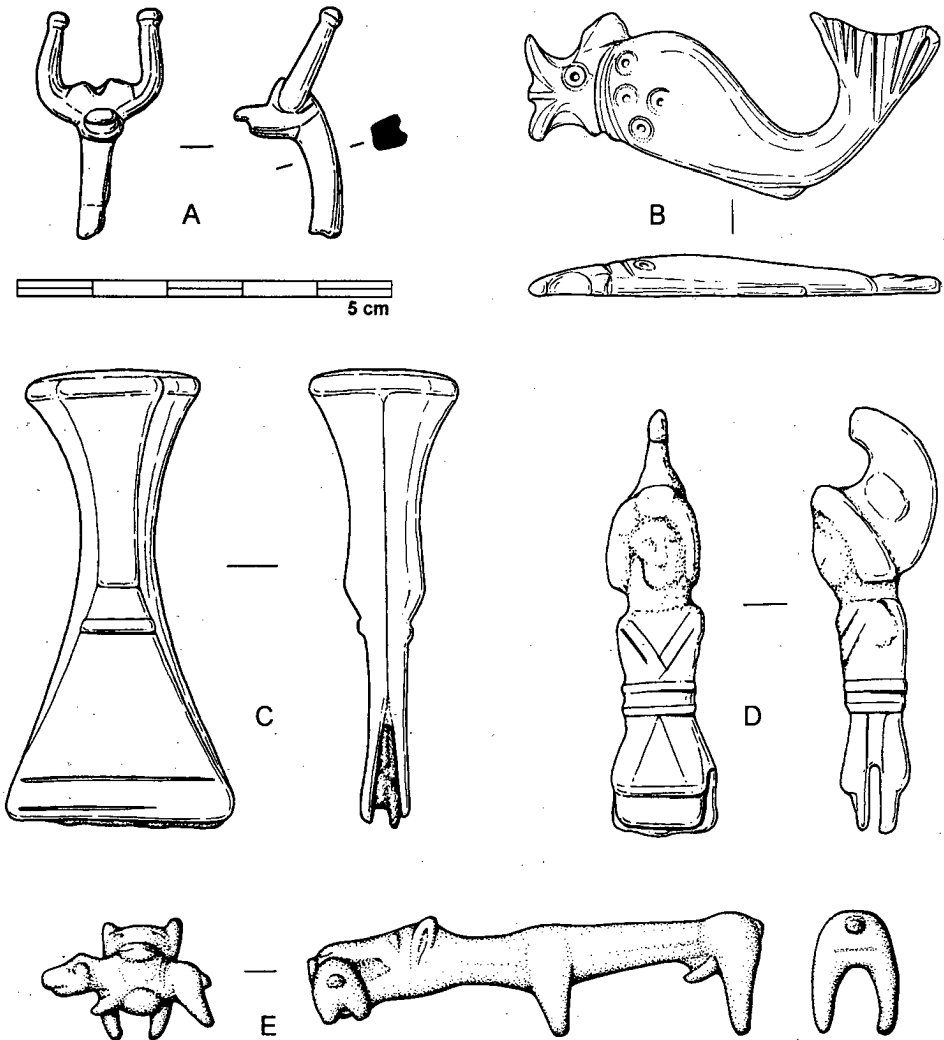


FIG. 95 – Iron Age and Roman bronze objects: (A) terminal from Freckenham; (B) mount from Freckenham; (C–D) wax *spatulae* from Kenton and Stonham Earl; (E) toy (?) of uncertain date from Dallinghoo.

Rougham (TL 9162; RGH Misc). **Ne.** Very small flaked axe with slight polishing, but none on the cutting edge. (J. Agnew).

Shimpling (SPL 020). **Ro.** Fragments of roof and box flue tile and a single coarse *tessera*. (M.D.D.C.).

Somerton (SMT 005). **Sx, Md.** Bronze finger ring and lead nummular (coin-derived) brooch, Late Saxon. Bronze pointed-oval seal matrix, central tonsured figure with hand raised, standing in front of an altar with a chalice on it; inscription is badly worn, possibly + S'. GILI. [?BO-RI]—R[OI].— ('the seal of Gilbert ...'). (M.D.D.C.).

South Elmham St Margaret (SEM 009). **Ro, Sx.** Two bronze centre-looped cosmetic pestles, coins and brooches. Fragments of Early Saxon cruciform and small-long brooches. (M.d.f.).

South Elmham St Mary otherwise Homersfield (SEY 017). **IA, Ro.** Silver Icenian coins including an Early Face/Horse B type (as *Hobbs* nos. 3554, 3555), Normal Face/Horse B and Ecen-type Pattern/Horse examples. Roman bronze finger ring, brooch and coins. (M.d.f.).

Stanningfield (SNN 005). **Ro, Md.** Roman bronze brooches (including headstud, knee, T-shaped and a leopard (Fig. 94, E) types); small bell; nail cleaner; spoon; pin; cosmetic mortar; building material including small tile and chalk *tesserae*. Boy Bishop (St Nicholas) lead token, series 1F and a rectangular pilgrim badge depicting St Andrew. (M.D.D.C.).

Stanningfield (SNN 017). **BA.** Very small bronze knife-dagger with triangular blade, Early Bronze Age. (M.D.D.C.).

Stanningfield (SNN 018). **IA, Ro.** Silver coin, possible half unit of uncertain type, perhaps related to Icenii Boar/Horse type. Bronze lion-head stud and flat enamelled disc brooch. (M.D.D.C.).

Stonham Earl (SRL Misc). **Ro.** Bronze handle with a Minerva bust terminal from a wax spatula (as Kenton example above), *Feugere* type A5 (Fig. 95, D). (M.d.f.).

Stowupland (SUP Misc). **IA.** Bronze terret fragment with 'lip' mouldings. (I.D.D.C.).

Sudbourne (SUE 009). **BA.** Flat axe, probably copper, Early Bronze Age. (I.D.D.C.).

Thelnetham (THE 029). **IA, Ro.** Iron Age bronze terret fragment and a bronze brooch with zoomorphic terminals and a hollow-backed bow, which seems to have also functioned as a cosmetic mortar (Fig. 94, A). Roman pottery, coins and a bow brooch fragment. (M.d.f.).

Thelnetham (THE 030). **Sx.** Early Anglo-Saxon bronze cruciform brooch. (M.d.f.).

Thorndon (THD 023). **Sx.** Gilded cross-shaped bronze mount, 6th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Thorndon (THD 024). **Ro, Sx?** Bronze coins (4th century) and Colchester derivative brooch. Bronze brooch, probably of Continental origin, with a mixture of Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon characteristics (Fig. 94, D). (M.D.D.C.).

Trimley St Martin (TYN 101). **Sx.** Silver coins (*sceatta*), a Series E uncertain sub-type (700–750) and a precursor of Series Q (?K/Q) (710–730). (I.D.D.C.).

Trimley St Martin (TYN 102). **Sx.** Bronze three-sided mount decorated with incised spirals and central *millefiori* enamel circles in white and dark grey enamel (Fig. 96, A), late 7th–first half 8th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Tuddenham St Martin (TM 1948; TDM 025). **Un.** Human skull with a partially-healed trepanation found in a stream.

Little Waldingfield (WFL 015). **BA, IA, Ro.** A deliberately broken blade fragment from a Middle Bronze Age rapier. Plated bronze forgery of a gold *stater* of the Corieltauvi, inscribed VEP, as *Hobbs* 3276. Fragment of a Hertfordshire puddingstone quern and a bronze centre-looped cosmetic mortar with knob terminals. (M.d.f.).

Walsham le Willows (WLW 091). **Ro, Sx.** Bronze enamelled Roman brooches (including a dragonesque and a disc type) and an Early Anglo-Saxon wrist clasp, *Hines* type B18. (M.d.f.).

Wattisham (WAM 011). **BA, Ro.** Rivet, probably from a Late Bronze Age sword or dirk. Bronze brooches (Hod Hill, Colchester derivative, Trumpet and T-shaped types), coins, nail cleaner, hairpin, vessel foot and pottery (grey wares and South Gaulish samian). (I.D.D.C.).

Wenhaston (WMH 005). **Ro, Sx.** Bronze centre-looped cosmetic pestle, two mounts, both possibly military types. Anglo-Saxon animal-shaped mount, probably from a vessel, with a hole through the head which is silvered and may have hooked over a rim and a curved rectangular gilded plate with symmetrical interlace and four holes (Fig. 96, C). (M.d.f.).

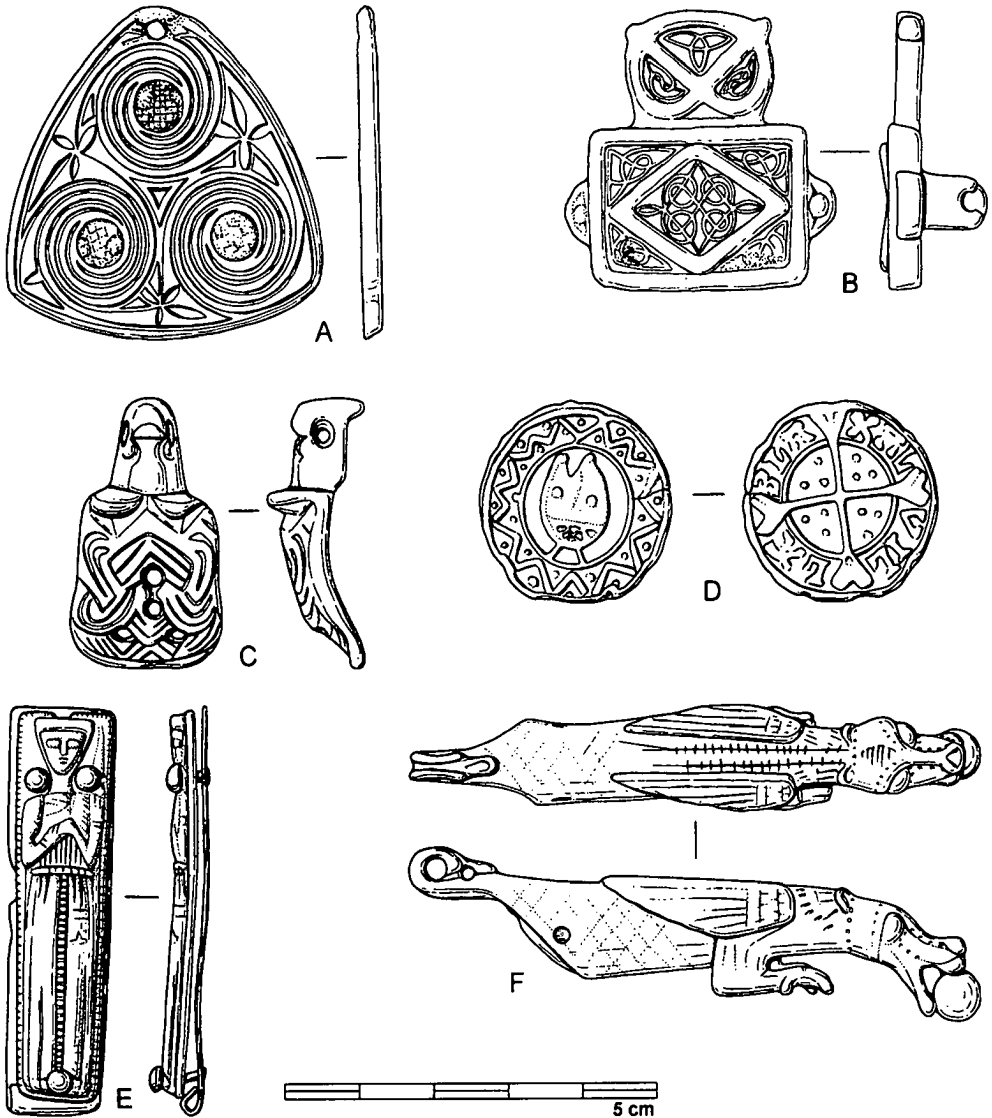


FIG. 96 - Anglo-Saxon and medieval objects: (A-C) mounts from Trimley St Martin, Freckenham and Wenhaston; (D) St Nicholas lead token from Blaxhall; (E) mount from Orford; (F) stylus handle from Worlington. All bronze except (D).

Wetheringssett cum Brockford (WCB 059). **Sx.** Bronze buckle with open triangular plate, 7th–8th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Wickham Skeith (WKS 007). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Later Roman bronze finger ring and narrow decorated bracelet. Early Anglo-Saxon bronze wrist clasp, *Hines* Form B20, and a fragment of another and an 8th-century ansate brooch. Coins and jettons (13th–16th centuries) and an unfinished lead seal matrix with a moulded fleur-de lis on the back but nothing on the die. (M.d.f.).

Worlington (WGN 023). **Ro, Md.** Tinned bronze brooch with red enamel in a scroll pattern on the front and sides; the form is related to the 3rd-century knee type but very unusual (Fig. 94, C). Bronze handle in the shape of a dragon, probably from a medieval stylus (Fig. 96, F). (M.D.D.C.).

Worlington (WGN 025). **IA.** Bronze coin of Cunobelin with winged Victory holding wreath on reverse, *Hobbs* 1931–1934. (M.D.D.C.).

Worlingworth (WGW 020). **Ro, Md.** Coins (3rd–4th century). Circular lead seal matrix, central motif is a crescent moon and star, inscription reads something like * S ICCSEMOW, not intelligible but probably 13th century. (I.D.D.C.).

Worlingworth (WGW 021). **Sx.** Gilded bronze spherical-headed pin with circular settings and silver-wire spiral decoration. (M.d.f.).

Wyverstone (WYV 007). **IA, Ro, Sx.** Iron Age and Roman pottery, bronze brooches (Colchester derivative type). Late Saxon bronze hooked tag and a pierced strap-end of *Thomas* type E. (E.C.S. rally).

North-west Suffolk (sf 20990). **BA.** Bronze spearhead, *Rowlands* Group 1 side-looped type (but with blocked side loops) and a very small quoit-headed undecorated pin, an unusual type found in northern East Anglia (Fig. 93). The two were found close together and may form part of a Middle Bronze Age hoard. (M.D.D.C.).

Near *Wickham Market* (sf 20200). **Sx.** Fragment of a late-8th-century silver-gilt linked pin head, cast, with fine chip-carved ornament showing a cat-like beast with its head turned back, its mouth open and a long tongue projecting. A silver pendant or appliqué in the form of an armed, apparently male, figure with *niello* inlay with a single pierced lug for attachment or suspension on the back. Comparable to other, often female, pieces of 9th-century date from Scandinavia and England which are generally thought to represent the valkyries and likely to be Anglo-Scandinavian products of the later 9th century. (M.d.f.).

FIELD SURVEYS

Coastal Survey, Suffolk Coast and Inter-tidal Zone. A rapid field survey of the inter-tidal zone was carried out as part of a larger archaeological study of the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts which includes the analysis of aerial photographs, historic maps and documentary sources. The ground-based survey involved walking the salt-marsh and estuarine shorelines of the rivers Blyth, Alde, Ore, Butley, Deben, Orwell and the north bank of the Stour, looking for and recording features, structures and finds in the mudflats, salt-marshes and eroded land surfaces. The aim was to locate and make a basic record of archaeological sites. Those of particular interest will be revisited at a later date for full recording or to monitor changes where they are under immediate threat.

Surveying was carried out during low tide periods. Where the foreshore or mudflats were firm enough to walk over, they were subject to visual examination, looking for finds as well as man-made structures and exposed land surfaces on the mud. The vertical sections of eroded salt-marsh and land surfaces, where accessible, were also examined. Where the mud was too soft to walk on safely or the salt-marsh too heavily creeked to traverse, surveying was done from the river bank or closest point of safety and binoculars

used to search for sites on distant, inaccessible mudflats. Access onto the mud was generally poor with the exception of the Orwell and Stour, where most of the foreshore was firm enough to survey as far out as the low-water line.

A total of 484 features were recorded in the course of the survey including docks, jetties, red hills, tile kilns, fish traps, causeways and pottery scatters as well as numerous military structures, hulks and unidentifiable post alignments. The majority of discoveries remain undated but a quarter could be identified as features present on the first, second or third edition Ordnance Survey maps. Five red hill sites relating to Roman salt production were identified: four on the Alde around Snape and Iken, and one on the Blyth. Of these, two on the Alde were unknown prior to the survey. Furthermore, aerial photograph study has identified a number of other possible red hills on reclaimed marshland sites, two of which have so far been visited and confirmed as Late Iron Age/Early Roman salterns.

Two fish traps were recorded on the Stour. These survived as rows of posts close to the low-water mark with patches of wattle work alongside. Two further examples of wattle work visible in the mud of the Deben may also be related to fish traps. Although none of these structures are dated as yet, they are quite likely to be of medieval or even Saxon date. As with many of the sites flagged up by this survey, further work is necessary in order that certain features and landscapes might be dated and characterised.

A number of finds scatters, jetties and docks appear to be associated with existing riverside farms and houses. In the past, rivers provided a vital and busy network for the transportation of goods associated with farming and industry, to the extent that probably all riverside dwellings had their own wharf or landing stage of some kind. In some instances, medieval pottery was present in such locations, suggesting that the sites had been occupied since the medieval period, possibly earlier.

In general, little of archaeological significance was discovered on foreshores where sea banks enclose reclaimed marshes, suggesting that most deposits of any antiquity now lie on the landward sides of the banks, under what is now arable land. Land reclamation of this kind has occurred on a large scale on most of Suffolk's tidal rivers, with the exception of the Stour and the majority of the Orwell.
(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S. for English Heritage).

Kelsale cum Carlton, East Green area (TM/3965; KCC 034). Fieldwalking of an area of approximately 100ha identified five dense pottery scatters (one Roman and four medieval), together with more dispersed material of prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval date.
(Robert Steerwood).

Thornham Estate (TM/17). Fieldwalking has continued, by permission of Lord and Lady Henniker, as part of a detailed long term study of the area covered by the estate. Work is also being extended to some areas adjoining the estate. It has revealed a number of concentrations of Neolithic pottery and worked flints as well as broken bronze artefacts and decorated pottery from the Bronze Age. Some locations have produced large amounts of Iron Age pottery and a significant number of coins which may seem surprising in this part of 'High Suffolk'. For the Roman period there is evidence (pottery, coins and metalwork) of extensive settlement beside the A140 in Stoke Ash and in part of Thornham Parva, as well as a number of individual farms. Early, Middle (including Ipswich Ware pottery) and Late Saxon material has been recorded in several places, some of which coincide with Roman sites suggesting continuity of occupation. Medieval occupation has been plotted in relation to moats and greens, farms and mills. More recent changes in the landscape can be linked to the successive owners of the estate (the Briseworth, Wiseman, Bokenham, Killigrew, Major and Henniker families). The folly in Thornham Park was found to

incorporate material removed during the Victorian restoration of Thornham Magna church, and the medieval font has been returned to the church, while the search continues for the real medieval hermitage which features in several documents. Individual finds have included a complete Roman seal box and a medieval bronze seal matrix, which has the inscription 'the seal of the Deanery of Hartismere'.

(Mike Hardy and John Fairclough with members of the Thornham Estate Research Group).

Weston, Weston Hall (TM/4287; WSN 009). A resistivity survey of a small area (28m x 20m) of lawn south of the late-16th-century Hall included an area where a broadly contemporary well and hearth had previously been partially excavated by S.C.C.A.S. in 2000. The survey suggests two significant areas. One, to the south-west of the excavation, is a rectilinear high-resistivity feature. Some bricks were seen on the surface here and it is likely to represent a building or area of building debris. The second, irregularly shaped area, surrounding the excavated features is, surprisingly, mainly one of low resistivity. A possible explanation may be infilled cellars, though the (limited) excavations did not show any evidence to support this.

(Tim Maycock, I. Hinton and J. Dean; adapted from a report by T. Maycock).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Barking, Gallows Hill (TM/1053; BRK 104). An area of *c.*18ha was evaluated by trial-trenches. The earliest material recovered consisted of unstratified Mesolithic worked flints, probably derived from ploughed-out features on the higher areas. However, in the lower-lying areas of the site the old ground surface was protected by an overlying alluvial layer which provides the potential for archaeology of Mesolithic and, indeed, of later prehistoric date to survive as surface-intact deposits. A limited palaeoenvironmental assessment (by Peter Murphy, English Heritage) also suggested that palaeochannels relating to the nearby River Gipping were present.

The Neolithic period was represented by unstratified worked flint, with three concentrations identified which also included discrete features. Associated pottery (including Ebbsfleet-Mortlake type) suggested a later rather than earlier Neolithic date. No evidence was recorded during the evaluation to confirm or deny the tentative identification of a known cropmark complex (BRK 016) as a Neolithic long barrow, although the condition of the fill and the presence of an adjacent ring-feature did suggest a prehistoric rather than a later date. Positively identified Bronze Age features were limited to a ring-ditch, previously recorded as a cropmark (BRK 005), although a number of the undated features could belong in this period.

The Roman period was represented by a road or trackway defined by its flanking ditches. Previously identified as a cropmark (BRK 004) this feature is thought to continue across the river into the major settlement of *Combretovium*. Almost all the Roman finds recovered during the evaluation were in the fill of these ditches. While this suggests that there were no accompanying occupation areas of this period within the confines of the site, it is likely that some of the undated ditches relate to a contemporary field system.

Two Early Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured buildings were identified, *c.*175m apart. The concentration of features did not, however, appear to be high, which may suggest a scattered settlement over an extensive area. Significantly, Early Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered from the fills of the flanking ditches of the Roman road. This does not prove that the road continued in use through to this time, but does indicate some continuity, with the ditches at least remaining partially open as surface features.

Medieval evidence was limited to a single sherd of pottery in the fill of a ditch that is shown as a boundary on early-20th-century maps. The boundary may date back to the medieval period, but it is equally likely that the pottery sherd was residual, possibly derived from manuring. The post-medieval features were limited to field-boundary ditches and relatively small quarry pits – the latter being present in most areas of the site. The backfill of the quarry pits comprised unconsolidated sand and gravel that was interpreted as the sieved-out residue that would remain after the larger stones had been removed. Dating evidence included 17th/18th-century brick fragments and clay tobacco pipes from an associated pit.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Lafarge Aggregates Ltd; report no. 2002/53).

Great Barton, Moreton Hall East, Areas 8 and 9 (TL/8864; BRG 027 and 032). An extension to the excavation carried out in Area 8 in 2001 at this site showed that the archaeology visible to the west did not continue. The Catsale Green boundary ditch shown on a map of 1805 was located. Excavation in advance of a housing development in Area 9 (following an evaluation in 1999) confirmed the presence of a sparse scatter of undated pits, and the line of the Catsale Green/Blowthorpe Heath boundary.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S. for Wilson Connolly, report no 2002/122).

Beccles, Land adjacent to Newgate (TM/4290; BCC 032): Monitoring of footing trenches revealed a series of pits and two wells. Only limited artefactual evidence was recovered which suggests an earlier post-medieval date for some of the pitting, while the earlier of the two wells, constructed in flint and mortar, probably dated to the 16th or early 17th century. The second, brick-built, well was of later, possibly 19th-century date.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Richard Godfrey; report no. 2002/37).

Blythburgh, Blythburgh Hospital Burial Ground (TM/4476; BLB 033). The site of the former burial ground was evaluated prior to redevelopment. Desk-based assessment showed that it was used between 1767 and 1929 and estimated that some 2000 burials had taken place. Trial trenching showed that graves extended throughout the site, though they were less dense in the N. E. corner. Estimation of the number of burials based on the trial trenching agreed closely with the figure of 2000. Human remains were encountered in two-thirds of the graves and were better preserved in the S. part of the site where the soil appeared to be less free-draining. Grave depths ranged from as little as 0.65m below the existing ground surface to in excess of 1.20m.

(Rhodri Gardner, S.C.C.A.S. for Champion Developments Ltd.; report no. 2002/107).

Brandon, Coulson Lane (TL/7886; BRD 164). Four evaluation trenches revealed a substantial build up of topsoil over a colluvial soil. Beneath this layer at the S.-E. corner of the site, a layer of buried sand produced struck flint and a large pottery sherd, both probably Neolithic. Alongside Coulson Lane two ditches and at least one small pit are thought to be late Saxon.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for Bennett Homes, report no. 2002/29).

Bromeswell, Sutton Hoo Access (TM/2949; BML 025). Soil-stripping associated with a new access route to the Sutton Hoo Visitors Centre revealed a single N.N.W.–S.S.E. orientated ditch. While no finds were recovered from the feature, the leached condition of the fill suggests that it was of some antiquity, possibly forming part of a previously unidentified prehistoric field system.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for The National Trust; report no. 2002/9).

Bury St Edmunds, North boundary wall, Abbey Gardens (TL/8564; BSE 196). The base of a medieval buttress was recorded during the monitoring of footing holes. The buttress was part of the range of stables and brew-houses, which were built against the inside of the precinct north wall.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for St Edmundsbury District Council and English Heritage; report no. 2002/113).

Bury St Edmunds, Drovers Went (TL/8764; BSE 199). During the construction of houses an area of pits was excavated; a preliminary analysis of the finds suggests late Bronze Age/early Iron Age occupation.

(Andrew Tester S.C.C.A.S. for Paul Roberts Developments).

Bury St Edmunds, The Maltings, Westgate Street/College Street (TL/8563; BSE 200). Prior to the construction of flats a small strip of land with a College Street frontage was excavated. The earliest evidence was probably a series of postholes suggesting a building to the north of the plot; however the dating evidence was inconclusive. The main site was scattered with cess pits during the medieval and late medieval period and there was a series of ovens suggesting some industrial activity. Medieval concrete, recovered from a cess pit, suggests there was a high status building close by. The area was probably the backyard of a property fronting Westgate Street. Later activity, including a rectangular flint and mortar lined pit which was backfilled in the 19th century, probably relates to the maltings which has stood on part of the site since the 18th century.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for M & D Developments, report no. 2002/125).

Bury St Edmunds, 2 St Mary's Square (TL/8586; BSE 201). A watching brief during the construction of an extension uncovered evidence of pits and buried medieval soils. An articulated horse's leg was recovered from a pit and a single sherd of Thetford-type ware. Clay and flint in the base of footing trenches suggests that medieval structural evidence is also well preserved here.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. report no. 2002/28).

Bury St Edmunds, Cotton Lane (TL/8564; BSE 204). Evaluation trenches across a proposed housing development exposed evidence of widespread gravel quarrying during the medieval period. These areas were then used to dump substantial amounts of waste. The corner of a building, constructed with flint and mortar foundations and including a buttress, was also uncovered on the edge of the floodplain. There was also a complex network of ditches which seem to have been variously in use from the medieval period to the present.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for Hopkins Homes).

Carlton Colville, Carlton Colville Bypass (Phase 2) (TM/5190; CAC 001, 026, 027, 028). Four areas, identified in a previous evaluation (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2001'), were excavated in advance of road and balancing-pond construction (Fig. 97). Three of the sites (CAC 001 and 026, Sites 1 and 2) were located on a slight, sandy, south-facing hill. A general spread of prehistoric features, including an intriguing early Bronze Age circular structure, were superseded by enclosure ditches and structures of probable Iron Age and Roman date. A Middle Saxon building was also recognised. At site CAC 027, at the valley base, enclosures associated with the edge of a medieval green were excavated.

At CAC 026–Site 2, a circular, or rather elliptical, structure was revealed, associated with laurel-leaf flint points, thumb-nail scrapers and Beaker-type pottery suggesting a later Neolithic/earlier Bronze Age date. The structure consisted of an outer ring of posts set within a bedding trench c.12m in diameter. The post settings clearly survived as post-pipes

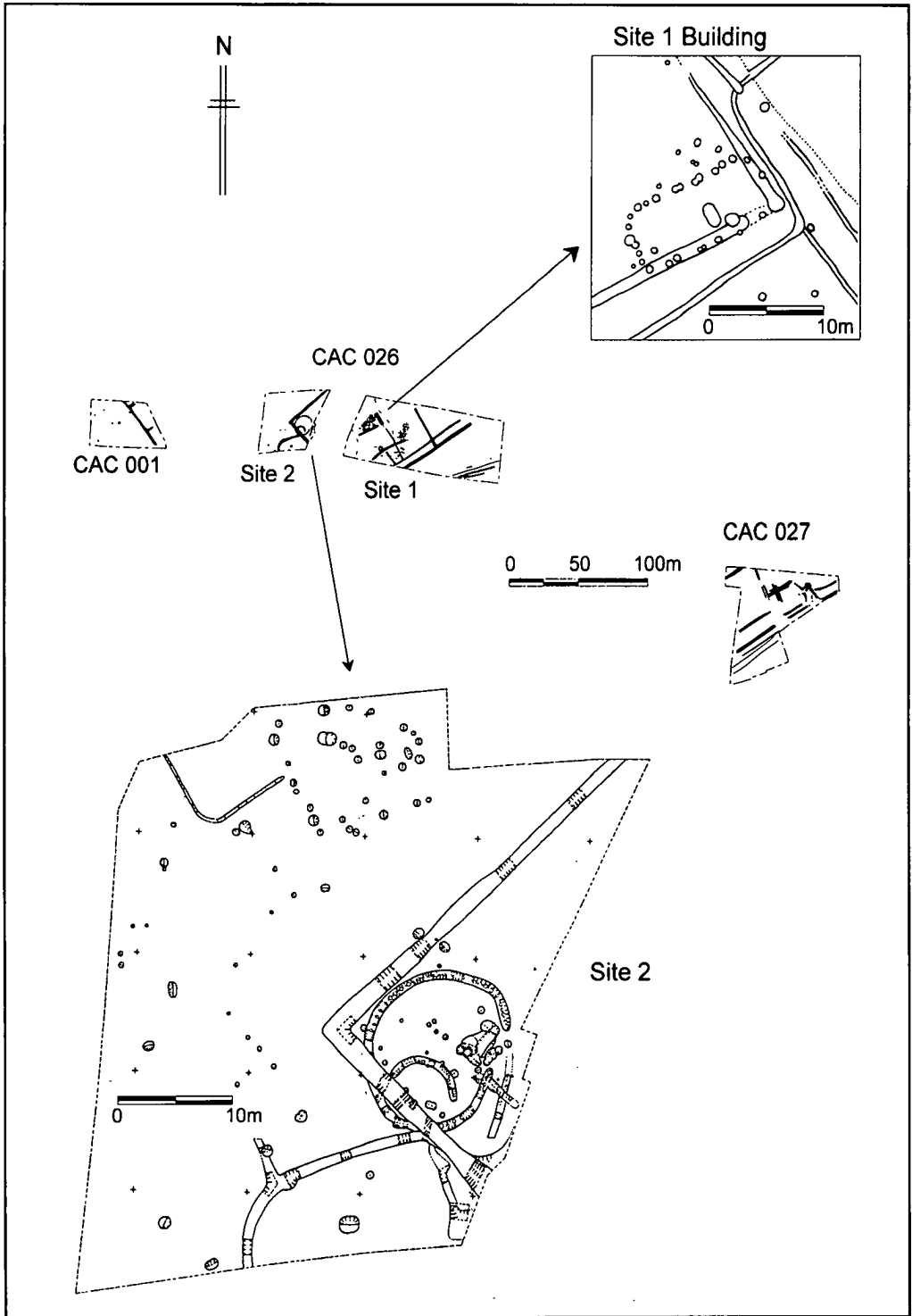


FIG. 97 – Carlton Colville: Plans showing the relative positions of sites CAC 001, CAC 026 and CAC 027 in the centre, with details of CAC 026 Site 2 below and the Saxon building at CAC 026 Site 1 above.

and in some cases appeared to be burnt *in situ*. A gap along the E. edge indicated an entrance and within this space was placed a threshold burial, surviving as a body stain and accompanied by flint artefacts and a complete collared urn in the grave's upper fill. Within the circle there was an inner crescent, enclosing the area to the south, in the centre of which was an urned cremation, as yet undated. The circular structure was cut by a ditch containing Roman material. This seemed to be part of a series of enclosures of presumed Iron Age to Roman date, which were encountered *c.* 100m to the west at site CAC 001 and extend a further 120m to the east into CAC 026–Site 1. Within one area of the CAC 026–Site 1 ditch system were at least six four-post structures. There were also twelve hearths, one of which has been dated to the Iron Age by thermo-luminescence (TL) dating. A small ring-ditch, under 4m in diameter and at present undated, was also excavated at Site 1. Unurned cremation burials were encountered both at Site 1 and during the monitoring between Site 2 and CAC 001.

At CAC 026–Site 2, part of a Roman post-built rectangular structure was revealed, possibly superimposed over a circular setting of posts. At Site 1, set within the corner of one of the Iron Age/Roman enclosures was a post-hole building 13m long by 6m wide and orientated E.-W. Opposed doorways were recognised along the north and south sides; the offset thresholds and the weak corners suggest a Middle Saxon date. Another similar building was revealed during the monitoring of the area between Sites 1 and 2.

At CAC 027, to the south-east, on the medieval green edge, at least three phases of ditched enclosure could be recognised with a break in the north-east corner that held a well. This area also contained a variety of small pits, slots, post-holes and concentrations of flint cobbles, possibly post-pads, suggesting a small structure. Subsequent earth moving in the vicinity revealed a spread of medieval pottery to the west and one panel of an enamelled, gilded bronze triptych. Monitoring of the green edge a further 200m to the east revealed a further scatter of medieval pottery (CAC 028).

(Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S. for Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd; report no. 2002/140).

Carlton Colville, land off Chapel Road (TM/5090; CAC 025). Excavation of two small areas, each approximately 30m x 30m was designed better to characterise and date ditches and field systems identified in the evaluation of *c.* 5 ha.

The first of these areas in the S. of the development area revealed eight ditches as well as a series of narrow slots filled with charcoal and burnt clay rich material. These slots appeared to be structural but did not form an obvious building. Apart from a pit and a ditch of probable Iron Age date, all the evidence from this area pointed towards a high medieval date.

The second area contained ditches and thin spreads of material rich in finds. One large pit, cut by a later ditch, was almost fully excavated to recover a good assemblage of finds. The pottery from this area was largely of 11th–14th-century date and the quantity suggested occupation nearby. In both cases, only a 300mm thick layer of ploughsoil sealed the archaeological deposits and ploughing may have destroyed deposits at a higher level. The field systems revealed align with Chapel Road (a likely medieval lane) and also with ditches observed during excavations just to the north in 1999 (Gill, S.C.C.A.S. report no. 2001/24). The site of the medieval Carlton Manor is within 300m.

(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S. for Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd.; report no. 2002/106).

Charsfield, land adjacent to Topos (TM/2556; CHA 017). Construction of a new dwelling required the archaeological monitoring of strip foundation trenches. A single pit was observed from which a substantial quantity of pottery was recovered, most of which was from a single bowl of 13th–14th-century date.

(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S. for Neil Davies Ltd.; report no. 2002/131).

Chilton, Churchfield Road (TL/8842; CHT 014). Monitoring of development on the Chilton Industrial Estate near the major 1997 excavation of an Iron Age site (CHT 009) revealed a single, probably Iron Age, ditch, an undated pit and the remnants of a Bronze Age feature.

(Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr Santomauro; report no. 2002/66).

Chilton, Churchfield Road (TL/8842; CHT 015). Evaluation and subsequent excavation revealed a continuation of the enclosed Iron Age settlement excavated during 1998 (for previous work see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1998'). The excavation recorded the position of the southern arm of the large (3m across and 1.5m deep) ditch to complete the plan of the enclosure, which covers an area of c. 3ha. Pottery and occupational material from the top of the ditch suggested that it was filled in during the life of the settlement, which then expanded beyond the limits of the enclosure. The features were mainly postholes and included several square four-post structures that are thought to represent granaries and a large round house 9.5m in diameter. The pottery was largely flint tempered handmade, suggesting a presence on the site from the Bronze Age through the Iron Age, and fragments of crucible and metal-working waste indicated that copper alloy was being smelted on site. Two inhumation and two cremation burials were excavated; each was an isolated interment and within the general spread of settlement features. One of the bodies was lying in a flexed position, but none has yet been closely dated. Wheel-made pottery recovered from a ditch indicated activity in the Roman period, and part of an early medieval field ditch was also found.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Alfred Frank and Bartlett plc).

Coddenham, Valley Farm (TM/1512; CDD 019). The flinted track crossing the gated entrance across the Roman boundary ditch (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk' 1996 and 1997) on one side of the occupied site area apparently peters out and does not lead to the door of the elusive house it was hoped to find. Underneath the track were brick/tile and pottery (all early, including Gallo-Belgic type fabrics) including a Dr38 rim, all very worn. The area around the track and ditch had been much disturbed, with no stratification, Oxford colour-coated wares being found just above natural and below earlier pot. A large, curiously-shaped piece of fired clay turned out to be the nose and part of the eyebrows from a very large 'face pot' (the larger than life size is apparently unique). Various stone groups, presumed to be bases for posts, most in shallow scoops, make no sensible alignments at present.

A new area stretching away from the ditch, alongside the modern field boundary, revealed an area of metal-working finds. A deeper, preserved soil under the modern plough soil over this area, proved to be from a previous era of ploughing which had removed all except the deeper Roman features. A 13th-century rim, two silver farthings of James I and Charles I, and 17th-century stoneware, indicate the duration of cultivation; the present owner's late father stated that it was first ploughed again during the Great War. Pollen from the pre-modern soil included wheat (exact type as yet uncertain), a *Compositae* (*Cichorium Intybus* type, probably a hawkweed) and harebell.

Metal detected from below the Roman surface were a dolphin brooch (mid 1st century A.D.), an iron needle and copper dross. A large black feature turned out to be an iron- and copper-working dump containing a mass of heavily-fired walling from a furnace, part of a crucible for copper/bronze working and iron slag, plus more copper dross and a small cast-bronze finial. Several iron finds were baffling, until it was realised that they were metal-working chisels, with the tips broken off due to poor tempering or inferior steel. Pottery from the feature was of late-2nd- to early-3rd-century date.

A trench across the modern field boundary bank revealed a ditch running beneath, which interconnected with the Roman ditch. The new ditch had a fine uniform fill and few

stones, leading to the conclusion that it had gradually filled by natural action. There were no finds, but from the test pit topsoil, a coin of Claudius II, 268–70.

Coins from the medieval ploughsoil in this area were Constantinian, one of the deified Constantine (337–339) and one struck 330–335. It became obvious during recording the site coin finds, that all later coins came from what is now known to be ploughed out Roman.

Working back uphill, the next area uncovered as before, a mix of worn Roman pottery and tile, nails and post-medieval pottery in the topsoil. Away from the hedge line, the medieval plough soil is just a few centimetres deep. Metal detecting produced (another) iron stylus, a door lock plate with the 'key' slot across the diagonal and remains of a fixing nail in one corner, a brooch of Polden Hill type (*c.A.D.*50) and a coin of Carausius (287–294). (John Fulcher, Coddenham Village History Club).

Debenham, land off Low Road (TM/1762; DBN 104). One of two areas of significant archaeology identified in an evaluation in 1999 was excavated. During the soil-stripping it became clear that a shallow depression ran across the site from W.N.W. to E.S.E. and was clearly marked by a dip in the hedge-line on the northern site boundary. This represented the vestiges of a once more extensive natural depression or channel, which contained two layers.

An upper layer of light-brown silty-clay colluvium exhibited significant lateral variation with concentrations of gravel and cobble-sized stones. The heavier stone component suggests that the down-slope movement of material in the depression included pulses of higher energy activity that are not generally associated with colluvial deposits. No finds were recovered from this layer. The underlying layer filled the bottom of the depression and comprised grey water-lain sands and gravels that acted as an aquifer between the boulder clay subsoil and the overlying layer. As a consequence, any excavation into this layer resulted in the ingress of water. Finds recovered from the layer included a few sherds of unabraded Bronze Age pottery, flint flakes and heat-altered flints. While these finds suggest prehistoric activity in the vicinity, it was not clear whether they were contemporary with the layer or had been washed into the depression at a later date.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Laurence Homes (Eastern) Ltd.; report nos. 99/30 and 2002/42).

Elmswell, land off Gardeners Walk (TL/9863; EWL 013). Following evaluation of *c.*1.5 ha. in 1999, a small area was opened for full excavation. The excavation revealed three ditches of probable Roman date, at least one of which may be part of an enclosure. Finds were sparse but well distributed and mainly date from the 1st to the mid 3rd centuries with a few prehistoric sherds and flints present as residual finds and a few medieval objects from the subsoil.

(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S. for Hopkins Homes Ltd.; report no. 2001/106).

Eriswell, Child Development Centre, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7279; ERL 089). Continued monitoring on this development uncovered further early Roman ditches. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Eriswell, family housing improvements, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7280; ERL 112). A human skeleton was found during monitoring of a project to improve the housing. The body was undated but the grave cut a soil layer containing 2nd-century Roman pottery. Possible ditches were found in other footing and service trenches.

(Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Eriswell, New Access Control, Gate 2, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7279; ERL 120). Excavation in advance of road development uncovered a network of ditches that probably represent a continuation of the Roman field systems observed to the east (ERL 089 and 112) and a cluster of 17 pits with dense charcoal fills containing late Neolithic/early Bronze Age Beaker pottery.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S. for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Flempton, Hall Farm (TL/8069; FMP 021). The monitoring of topsoil removal during the excavation of a reservoir (c.3,000 sq.m) uncovered a concentration of shallow pits containing charcoal and fire cracked flints in a slight hollow on a gradual north-facing slope. It is hoped that radiocarbon dating can be used to establish the date of the site although such features are characteristic of the Bronze Age.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S. for R.C. Browne and Son; report no. 2002/86).

Flixton, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086; FLN 061). Further work took place on the northern edge of the quarry where the removal of a narrow strip of topsoil in 2001 had revealed a double ring-ditch and traces of Anglo-Saxon settlement along a gravel ridge (orientated N.E.-S.W). A larger area was stripped in 2002 revealing more of what is a significant Early Anglo-Saxon settlement and a further ring-ditch (Fig. 98).

An isolated pit that included a significant quantity of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware and worked flint (including scrapers) represented the earliest activity in the stripped area. The form and general character of this feature were similar to many others excavated at Flixton which suggest a repeated formal deposition process which is not clearly understood, but does not seem to represent domestic activity. Another pit, which included a single large sherd of pottery (as yet unidentified), was cut by the internal component of the double ring-ditch and, therefore, pre-dates it.

The double ring-ditch was large, with an external diameter of 40m for the outer ditch and 27m for the inner one. The outer ditch was c.2m wide, with a depth of c.1m and a V-shaped profile. The inner ditch was 5m wide, with a bottom that sloped gently towards the internal edge, and had a maximum depth of c.0.8m. The fill included a relatively large quantity of abraded pottery that is probably prehistoric in date but has not, as yet, been studied in any great detail. One feature was recorded in the area enclosed by the inner ring-ditch. Although it was located relatively centrally and exhibited a shape and size that is consistent with it being a grave, there were no artefacts and no evidence for a body. So, while it is likely that the ring-ditch represents a flattened burial mound of the Bronze Age, there is, as yet, no positive evidence.

The second ring-ditch was located c.70m to the east of the first, close to the most concentrated area of Early Anglo-Saxon settlement. The ditch was penannular, with opposed butt-ends to the north-east, with an external diameter of c.10m, a maximum width of c.1m and a maximum depth of only 0.2m, with a gently rounded bottom. No finds were recovered from the ditch fill, or from a rectangular feature enclosed by the ditch. While there was no evidence for a body, the internal feature was clearly regular in shape and it seems likely that it did represent a grave. However, dating the ditch and possible burial is problematic, as it exhibited elements that could place it in the Early Bronze Age (forming part of the dispersed group of burial mounds known to exist at Flixton) or the Early Anglo-Saxon period. However its closeness to the Anglo-Saxon settlement make the latter less likely.

In addition to a number of ditches and pits, the Early Anglo-Saxon phase of the site was represented by a series of buildings, of both sunken-featured and post-hole construction, together with an enigmatic small square enclosure. While the main concentration of buildings was located towards the eastern end of the stripped area, the overall area of

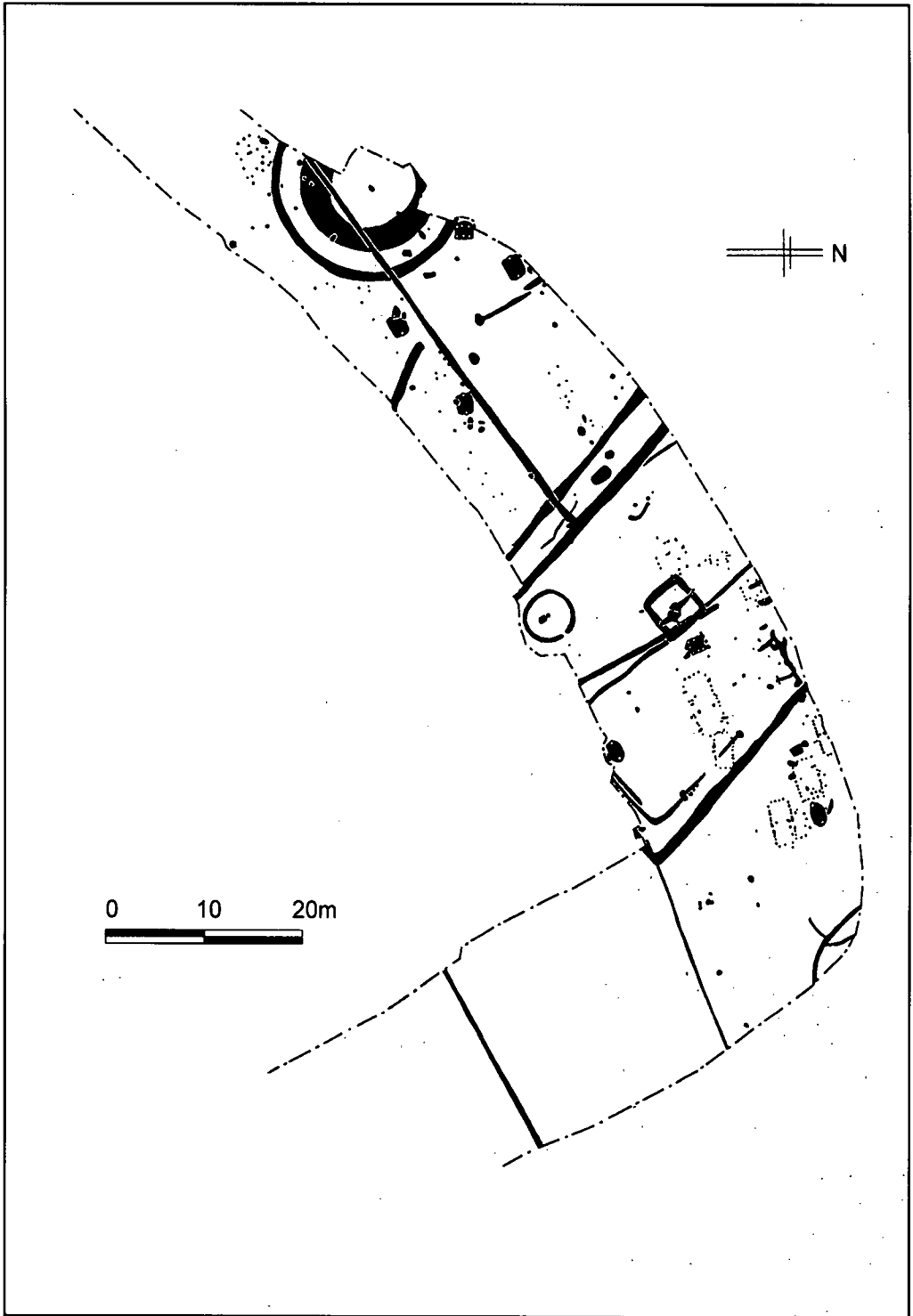


FIG. 98 - Flixton Quarry: Plan showing area FLN 061.

occupation was far larger, spanning approximately 320m from one end to the other (S.W. to N.E.) and in excess of 50m across (N.W. to S.E.).

A total of twenty buildings was recorded which, with a certain amount of variation, could be assigned to one of three main types, all of which are represented at the other two excavated major Early Anglo-Saxon settlement sites in Suffolk – West Stow and Carlton Colville (Bloodmoor Hill). Possibly the most significant were the rectangular post-holed structures that were described as ‘halls’ at West Stow (West 1985). Six of these were recorded and were characterised by a rectangular shape, closely spaced post-holes, weak corners and (usually) internal post-holes that may have supported a second storey or raised platform. Four of these ‘halls’ exhibited uniform dimensions, measuring *c.* 9m x 4m, one was smaller, measuring *c.* 7m x 3.5m, while one was larger, measuring *c.* 13m x 5m. However, the most numerous buildings were of the sunken-featured type (SFBs). There were eight in all: six with two post-holes, one at each end; one with six post-holes, arranged down the longer sides; and one with no post-holes. All were approximately 4m in length, with widths varying between 2 and 3m. Depths varied between *c.* 0.1m and *c.* 0.6m. The third type of building, of which there were five, were also constructed from earth-fast posts, but were significantly different in character to the more formal ‘halls’. Generally, these structures were smaller and squarer, commonly measuring *c.* 5m x 5m. The post-holes were not as closely spaced and the overall ground-plan was often less well defined than that of the ‘halls’. One similarity, however, was the weak corners that were present in most examples. One other building was recorded that has not been assigned to any of the main categories, as it exhibited structural elements of all three. The building measured *c.* 4m x 3m, with two large post-holes at each end (similar to the SFBs) and two lines of relatively widely spaced post-holes arranged down each side in two shallow slots. In addition, the major part of the area enclosed by the post-holes formed a shallow irregular depression.

The small square enclosure measured approximately 9m x 9m and overlay, but respected, an existing ditched boundary. The ditch itself was continuous, *c.* 1m wide, with a maximum depth of *c.* 0.6m and a gently rounded bottom. The area confined by the ditch was heavily disturbed by tree-holes. However, when the natural disturbances were removed, a large circular pit, 2m in diameter, was revealed with a *c.* 1m square cut in its base and an overall depth of *c.* 1m. Lying on a ledge above the square cut was a single line of flint cobbles. It seems likely that the square cut would have been associated with some form of lining, although no evidence for this survived. The upper fill contained a number of iron nails and a few sherds of pottery. The function of the enclosure and the internal feature remains unclear although its close proximity to the largest of the ‘hall-type’ buildings and four of the smaller post-holed structures may be significant.

As yet little work has been done on the limited artefactual evidence recovered from the site and, as a consequence, putting a date range on the Early Anglo-Saxon activity is difficult. However no Middle-Saxon Ipswich Ware was present and the indications from the 2001 work were that the ceramic assemblage, although limited, was dominated by 6th-century material, with only a hint of 7th-century activity.

Apart from numerous tree-holes of ancient and modern date and periglacial disturbances, the only other features recorded on the site related to the medieval and post-medieval landscape, particularly ditches relating to Flixton Hall Park which appear on the early Ordnance Survey and estate maps.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for RMC Atlas Aggregates (UK) Ltd).

Freston, Freston Tower (TM/1739; FRT 030). Evidence recorded in hand-excavated evaluation trenches suggests that the tower had been constructed on a contemporary platform which may have had a retaining wall on its northern side. All other features

recorded related to later activity on the site and included a possible retaining wall on the western side of the platform, a set of steps to the north of the tower, brick and gravel surfaces and a major episode of underpinning.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for The Landmark Trust; report no. 2002/31).

Gedding, Gedding Hall brick kiln (TL/9458; GDD 012). A brick kiln, located approximately half a kilometre from both Gedding Hall and Gedding church, was partially excavated. It consisted of two tunnels or firing chambers with brick walls and a central brick spine, and measured 4m wide by over 4.5m long. The stoke pit was sectioned at the entrance to the N. tunnel, and contained charcoal and fragments of brick and tile. The two tunnels had been backfilled with loose rubble, largely brick fragments but occasional pieces of peg tile, and the floors were covered with a thick layer of white ash and charcoal. A small pit at the entrance to the N. tunnel suggested the presence of a baffle. The bricks used in the construction of the kiln and from its fill were slightly smaller than those used in the gatehouse of Gedding Hall. The kiln was comparable with a post-medieval example from Danbury, Essex (Drury 1975), but the type is known to have been used from the medieval period onwards.

(Sue Anderson, S.C.C.A.S. for Bill Wyman; report no. 2002/128).

Haverhill, land south of Millfields Way (TL/6845; HVH 019). Excavation of a site identified in an evaluation (1992) as having limited occupation in either the Iron Age or early Anglo-Saxon periods revealed a sparse scatter of features, with one pit containing Iron Age pottery.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S. for McLean Homes (East Anglia) Ltd; report no. 2002/123).

Henham, Henham Quarry (TM/4578; HAM 028). A watching brief on the removal of overburden on the western edge of the quarry revealed a possible palaeochannel running north-south. The feature exposed in the quarry face was some 1.90m deep at its lowest point and nearly 10m wide with a basal fill of grey silty sand which was below a c.150/200mm thick layer of peat and small branches. Above the peat the deposit filling the possible channel was made up of a pale brown sandy clay with very few stones. No artefacts were recovered from the site but a radiocarbon date on a small branch from the peat layer gave a result of 140 ± 50 A.D. (GU-10597).

(John Newman, S.C.C.A.S.).

Horringer, Ickworth Park (TL/8261; HGR 014). Six trenches were excavated to record a relict field system disturbed during the laying of a water pipe across the park. Six ditches were recorded with only one producing occupation evidence, dated 17th–18th-century. The same trench also contained 13th–14th-century pottery in a buried ploughsoil layer. There was no clear evidence of ploughing in any of the other trenches, suggesting the land may have been under pasture for a considerable period of time.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for The National Trust; report no. 2002/112).

Hoxne, Oakley Park Pit (TM/1776; HXN 001). A two-week excavation in July was the third season of a project designed to re-study the dating of the Lower Palaeolithic industries from the site, and to set these industries in a firmer environmental context. Previous work, particularly by Clement Reid (Evans *et al.* 1896), West (1951–54) and Singer *et al.* (1972–78) has established that the sequence at Hoxne consists of Anglian till lying at the base (probably Oxygen Isotope Stage [OIS] 12, dating to c. 475–425,000 years ago), followed by lacustrine clays infilling a kettle-hole (Strata F to C of West 1956). These lake beds contain pollen which was interpreted by West as spanning part of the Hoxnian Interglacial, (probably OIS 11, c.425–365,000 years ago). The overlying fluvial, colluvial

and solifluction deposits (Beds 4 to 6 of Singer *et al.* 1993) have been interpreted as dating to the end of that interglacial through to the early part of the following cold stage.

The flint assemblages recovered by Singer *et al.* (1993) have been divided into a Lower Industry and an Upper Industry. The former was excavated to the west of the Oakley Park Pit at the base of what was interpreted as Stratum C (suggested to be contemporaneous with Bed 4) at the change from lake to river. Stratum C was previously described as an 'Arctic Bed' on the basis of plant remains, dominated by dwarf birch and dwarf willow (Evans *et al.* 1896). The Upper Industry was excavated 50m to the south from the overlying Bed 5. Both industries contain bifaces, although the Upper Industry is dominated by scrapers.

Current work. Despite previous work, problems remain in dating the site, reconstruction of the human environments and the relationship between the Lower and Upper Industries. In the 2000 season, samples were taken from sediments associated with the Lower Industry (Area I), while the main work in 2001 concentrated on the sediments associated with or lying beneath the Upper Industry, in particular Beds 5 and 4. From that season 82 samples were taken, of which 30 (625kg) have been sieved and sorted. Remains of small and large mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, molluscs and plant material have been recovered.

This season, a trench was re-opened to examine the stratigraphic relationship between the Upper and Lower Industries. The trench was originally cut in 1978 and measured 35m x 1m, reaching a depth of 4m. A JCB was used to widen the trench to 4m from ground surface to a depth of 2m, and then the original 1m wide trench was taken down to the original depth of 4m.

Stratum D (organic peat horizon, marking overgrowth of the lake by alder woodland) could be traced at the base of the trench along almost the entire length. This was overlain by a 10–20cm thickness of sediments attributed to Stratum C, which could be traced from the north end of the trench to the south where they were overlain by Bed 4. At the south end Bed 4 attained a thickness of 1.2m and consisted of sandy, chalky clays which became truncated and decalcified towards the north, but could still be traced as a 10–20cm thick deposit at the north end. Cutting into Bed 4 was a channel filled with laminated sands, silts and clays, which has not been recognised elsewhere at the site. Bed 5 appears to be primarily a colluvial deposit that infills the upper part of this channel. The soliflucted gravel of Bed 6 overlies the sequence.

Several flakes and chips were found at the base of the channel-fill, the most significant being a handaxe manufacturing flake found at the north end of the trench in a sandy horizon. This was similar to a sandy horizon identified in the 2000 season as the horizon that yielded the Lower Industry. If this correlation is correct, then the Lower Industry does not come from the lower part of Stratum C, but from the base or edge of this newly-identified channel, and is later than both Stratum C and Bed 4. The Upper Industry, which was recovered by Singer *et al.* from the top of Bed 5, from its condition, seems to have slightly moved. If this is the case, and it is derived from the slopes around the channel, then it could be broadly contemporary with the Lower Industry.

Support for this conclusion may come from recent pollen work (Gosling 2001a; see also Ashton *et al.* 2001 and Gosling 2001b) which showed that the sediments containing the Lower Industry had a similar palynological signal to Bed 5 (Mullenders in Singer *et al.* 1993), although both sediments probably contain re-cycled pollen. More robust environmental evidence is provided by the fauna that is associated with the Lower Industry. This includes fallow deer, red deer and thermophilous fish such as tench and rudd, suggesting relatively temperate conditions.

The stratigraphic succession at Hoxne therefore comprises basal glacial sediments (stratum G), overlain by lacustrine deposits (strata F–C). Within the lacustrine sequence,

climatic warming takes place through interglacial zones I–II (Turner and West 1968). Contraction in the dimensions of the lake and formation of alder carr (stratum D) appears to be followed by deterioration in climate and formation of the ‘arctic bed’ of Stratum C. This, in turn, is followed by climatic amelioration, suggested by the fauna associated with the Lower Industry (here regarded as post-dating stratum C), on the edge of a newly-identified channel.

The interglacial at Hoxne is generally correlated with OIS 11. This stage has three temperate substages (Bassinot *et al.*, 1994). If the interglacial sequence at Hoxne within strata F–D represents the early part of OIS 11, the cool-warm oscillation within stratum C and the overlying deposits may represent a later part of OIS 11 or a subsequent warm OI stage. This cannot be resolved at present and more detailed analysis of the Hoxne sequence is planned to address these critical issues.

In addition to the excavations in July 2002, a borehole was put down through the lacustrine deposits (Stratum E) which underlie the old brickyard. A percussion drilling rig was used and continuous U-100 sampling of the sediments was carried out. The borehole was located in the deepest part of the lake basin, as determined by Evans *et al.* (1896) and reached a depth of 10.8m where sand was encountered. However it is probable that sampling of the entire interglacial lacustrine sequence was achieved. The objective of the borehole was to undertake a range of analyses on the lacustrine sediments. In particular it is hoped to establish whether secular geomagnetic variation may provide a means of correlation. In addition, material will be available for a range of palaeoenvironmental investigations, including mollusc and ostracod analysis, isotopic investigations, magnetic susceptibility, pollen and charcoal.

Acknowledgements. We would like to thank the British Museum, the British Academy, the Society of Antiquaries and the Leverhulme Trust (through the Ancient Human Occupation of Britain project) for funding the project. We are also grateful to Andrew and Mel Banham, Peter Whatling and Suffolk County Council for access to the sites. (Nick Ashton, Department of Prehistory and Europe, British Museum; Simon Lewis, Department of Geography, Queen Mary, University of London; Simon Parfitt, Department of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum and Institute of Archaeology, University College London).

Ipswich, Friars Street (TM/1644; IPS 410/IAS 4102). Two mechanically-excavated engineering test-pits were monitored, primarily with a view to recording the depth of overburden masking the archaeological deposits. The natural sand and gravel subsoil was encountered at a minimum depth of 2.2 metres. Four pits were recorded, one in Test-Pit 1 and three in Test-Pit 2. The artefactual evidence which, due to difficulties in identifying secure contextual information, could not be used to date individual features, ranged in date from Middle Saxon (A.D. 650–850) to the post-medieval period. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Gracemore Homes; report no. 2002/43).

Ipswich: Philip Road, Stoke (TM/1643; IPS 414/IAS 9315). During house renovation work an east-west orientated, unaccompanied, human burial was revealed and excavated by the homeowner. Subsequent examination of the skeletal remains identified a second individual and it also appears that a neighbour found a similar burial some years ago. These burials therefore represent a previously unknown cemetery which has now been radiocarbon dated to 820±50 A.D. (GU-10586). Philip Road is on the southern edge of the Victorian development of Stoke and the burial site is some 220m south-west of St Mary’s church and well away from any previously recorded findspots of Middle or Late Saxon material.

(John Newman, S.C.C.A.S.).

Ipswich, 5–11 Friars Street (TM/1644; IPS 410, IAS 4102). Monitoring of the excavation of pile caps and a lift shaft base, revealed in excess of 2m of dark earth/humic build-up and pitting over the majority of the site. Only within 10m of the Friars Street frontage could individual features be recognised, including a ditch yielding Late Saxon Thetford ware, but there was considerable truncation by recent intrusions. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S. for Beanland Associates; report no. 2002/141).

Ipswich, Elm Street (TM/1544; IPS 411, IAS AT01). Road widening in front of the magistrates' court revealed an E.–W., supine inhumation of a middle-aged male. Anglo-Saxon burials were recorded under the court (IAS 3902), and this individual was radiocarbon dated to 1150 +/- 50 BP. Evidence for the medieval town ditch, over 4m wide, was also observed to the W. and the bank may have sealed the grave. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S. for Suffolk Highways Engineering Consultancy; report no. 2002/104).

Ipswich, 6 Lower Brook Street (TM/1644; IAS 4406). Drainage renewal revealed two fragmentary human burials at a depth of *c.* 1m. One burial overlay and disturbed the other but individual grave cuts could not be identified. They have no secure date, but a Late Saxon or medieval date has been suggested. There are no known cemeteries in the immediate vicinity. (Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S.; report no. 2002/143).

Lakenheath, Building 1125, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7380; LKH 146). An excavation in advance of the construction of an extension contained Roman ditches and two pits. The ditches link with those identified in the 1993 excavation of the building footprint. (John Duffy, S.C.C.A.S. for the Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Lakenheath, Recycling Centre, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7381, LKH 207). Excavation in advance of the redevelopment of the recycling centre uncovered settlement evidence from the Roman and Early Saxon periods. A series of east–west aligned ditches probably mark the northern boundary of the Roman settlement and other Roman ditches and pits were found to the south of these. Three Early Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured buildings were also found, as well as several contemporary ditches and pits. These were dispersed across the whole site with no apparent respect for the line of the Roman settlement boundary. A well cut by the Roman ditches may have been Iron Age in date. The most enigmatic feature on the site was a small pit, found in the north-east corner, which contained three horse's heads arranged in a triangle. Unfortunately there were no other finds from it to enable it to be dated. It is likely to have had a ritual function but whether this was Roman and situated outside the settlement or Early Saxon and within the settlement area remains to be determined. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for the Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Lakenheath, Construct Utilities workshop, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7381; LKH 207). A small excavation carried out in advance of construction work revealed a continuation of the line of ditches marking the northern boundary of the Roman settlement. Plough lines, apparently contemporary with the earliest ditches, demonstrated the use of land immediately beyond the settlement for arable farming. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for the Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF); report no. 2002/82).

Lakenheath, Sandpits (TL 7183; LKH 220). An evaluation and excavation were carried out in advance of housing development. The evaluation consisted of 19 trenches with a

total length of 812m and trenches 7, 9 and 17 identified a prehistoric phase of activity. An excavation of 1570sq.m was subsequently centred on these trenches. A total of 48 features were identified, the majority appearing to be associated with the presence of a surviving buried soil horizon. The site appears to be a small Bronze Age/Iron Age funerary site, containing at least nine cremations, one inhumation and one possible inhumation, amidst a scatter of undated pits. One large medieval pit was also found. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S. for Bennett Homes Ltd).

Lakenheath, Wells Road, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7381; LKH 223). An excavation carried out in advance of the rebuilding of Wells Road revealed further evidence of the Roman and Early Saxon settlements. The excavation uncovered a network of ditches forming enclosures, boundaries and possible trackways dating from the 1st–4th-centuries A.D., as well as pits, wells and the first Roman building to have been identified on the base. The presence of the building was indicated by the remains of a rammed chalk floor, and, although no features relating to the superstructure of the building were identified, this enabled approximate minimum dimensions (4m x 7m) of the building to be established. Two possible hearths were found within it and dense, finds-rich soil lying just beyond the south edge of the building may relate to the period of its use. The building overlay a number of the ditches, which suggests that it is probably later rather than earlier in the Roman sequence. The northern edge of the settlement, represented by a series of re-cut parallel ditches, which had been identified in previous excavations to the west of Wells Road (see LKH 207), was identified again and its interpretation is supported by the absence of any Roman occupation evidence to the north of it. A single, probably new-born, infant burial was found lying at the junction of several of the ditches.

A single Early Saxon sunken-featured building was identified. This had an associated semicircular ditch around the north side of it. There were also some pits and post-holes dating to this period. The Early Saxon occupation was separated from the Roman by a soil layer up to 25cm thick in places, which suggests the complete dereliction of the Roman settlement by the time of the Early Saxon occupation of the area. There were occasional substantial Early Saxon post-holes; these may relate to a larger hall building, but at the moment insufficient structural features have been identified to confirm this.

Finds recovered have included much pottery dating from the 1st to 6th centuries A.D., animal bone representing food waste, and Roman iron nails, coin, brooch fragment and part of a cosmetic set.

(Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S. for the Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Lawshall, Lawshall Hall (TL/9962; LWL 028). Evaluation in advance of redevelopment has revealed the footings of late 15th-century and mid-16th-century building ranges. Lawshall Hall is part of a great house completed in 1558 by William Drury, a wealthy landowner and member of Queen Mary's Privy Council. Drury's house was a development of an existing timber-framed building and had been the site of the manorial hall since the 11th century.

At the front of the house was evidence of a flint and mortar footing, part of a dwarf wall for a timber-framed range c. 6m wide. This dated to the late 15th century and it appears that this was retained and incorporated into Drury's house. Evidence of a second range was found at the rear. Here, well-constructed brick walls, 70cm thick and standing up to ten courses high, were found. The walls had been partly robbed but a range 7.75m wide by 26m could be surmised which was parallel to the front timber framed range. The bricks were dated to the mid 16th century and similar to those in the existing fragment of the 1558 house, suggesting that it was all the same phase of build.

Pits and a shallow ditch produced animal bone and medieval pottery which indicated an unbroken occupation of the site since at least the 12th century, and a large deposit of burnt grain was evidence of crop processing (either the drying or malting of grain) occurring within the hall complex.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr Al Rashidi; report no. 2002/119).

Long Melford, Bramertons (TL/8645; LMD 131). Monitoring during the construction of a house and garage produced evidence of occupation from the late Iron Age to mid 2nd century. Features included ditches, pits, clay spreads and a clay packed posthole. The artefactual remains included pottery and animal bone, probably domestic waste, and smithing debris.

(Andrew Tester and Cathy Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr Watson, report no. 2002/116).

Long Melford, Yeoman's Cottage, Little St Mary's (TL/8645; LMD 133). Monitoring of the erection of an extension to the rear of the cottage did not identify any deposits or features but a small number of Late Iron Age and early Roman pottery sherds were recovered from the spoil.

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr Yarham; report no. 2002/32).

Long Melford, 15 Meeting Field (TL/8645; LMD 134). The monitoring of footing trenches for an extension uncovered 1st-century Roman finds in a dark soil layer suggested to be a rubbish spread.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr Wiseman; report no. 2002/114).

Long Melford, rear of Wrights, St Catherine's Road (TM/8645; LMD 136). In trial trenching prior to redevelopment an E.-W. aligned flint wall of 3rd-4th-century date was recorded and has been interpreted as part of an exterior boundary rather than part of a building. A shallow spread of dumped material confirmed the late Roman activity. A single N.-S. aligned ditch dated to the 15th-16th-century.

(Rhodri Gardner, S.C.C.A.S. for Ellisdale Builders Ltd; report no. 2002/139).

Lowestoft, Walton Road (TM 5451 9320; LWT 137). An archaeological trial-trenching evaluation of a site on the eastern side of Walton Road identified one pit of Neolithic date. The finds from this isolated feature included a significant quantity of worked flint and earlier Neolithic pottery.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Wellington Construction Limited; report. no. 2002/73).

Mildenhall, Warren Hill (TL/7474; MNL 001). This well-known Palaeolithic site is now within a fenced conservation area and permission to excavate a series of test trenches was given by Forest Enterprise. The purpose of the trenches was mainly:

1. To confirm the results of the 1991 excavations conducted for the Easter Excursion visit by the Quaternary Research Association.
2. To confirm the absence of boulder clay beneath the Warren Hill sands and gravels.
3. To find evidence to explain the edge damage which occurs on many of the artefacts in spite of their not being heavily rolled.
4. To obtain samples for further lithological and other analyses.

Five test sections were cut by hand through the sand and gravels. Very loose, steeply-sloping clasts of small flints in the upper one or two metres, devoid of any artefacts apart from a few, small, rolled primary flakes, occurred in four of these sections. It was concluded that this was disturbed gravel, possibly the result of sieving. However, at the base of two of these cuttings there was a rubble layer of rolled chalk blocks and flints, in which were found

two small cordiform hand-axes and several flakes, some with the characteristic 'toad-belly patina' of Warren Hill. These were considered to be undisturbed. The fifth section was one cut by the QRA in 1991. It was cleared and the upper levels further excavated. This was undisturbed gravel and produced a hand-axe and some flakes.

All of these sections overlay the Warren Hill sands and silts. Elsewhere on the site, deep sections were cut through these deposits by a JCB but were not bottomed even at the full length of the JCB bucket. Nor had anything been exposed beneath them in 1991. Tentatively, it is considered that these are not deposits associated with the Warren Hill sands and gravels but possibly part of an outlier of Early Pleistocene or Pliocene crag deposits. Samples were obtained for analyses.

A very thorough surface survey was conducted by Terry Hardaker, yielding 342 artefacts judged to be Palaeolithic, of which 8% only consisted of cores or hand-axes. The importance of this survey was the presence of these artefacts up the slope to the north towards High Lodge, well above the level of the top of the Warren Hill sands and gravels. (Dr John Wymer and Professor J. Rose, Dept of Geography, Holloway College, University of London).

Mildenhall, High Lodge and Partridge Pit (TL/7375; MNL 002 and 241). This has been a site of archaeological and geological interest since the 1870s. Collection of artefacts during the latter part of the 19th century provided two important flint assemblages – a typologically Middle Palaeolithic scraper industry from interglacial lacustrine or fluvial clayey silts and an overlying biface industry from sandy gravels, both apparently sandwiched between two tills (glacial deposits). Work up until the 1960s researched the problem of the dating of the tills, and of the two industries. Excavations in 1988 (Ashton *et al.* 1992) supported the view that the clayey silts had been moved by ice, during a glaciation represented by the underlying till. This till was assigned to the Anglian glaciation, currently attributed to OIS 12 (*c.* 450,000 years ago), therefore placing the clayey silts and the associated scraper industry to an earlier warm phase. The overlying gravels were interpreted as being glacial outwash, and therefore the associated biface industry was explained as being Anglian, or perhaps derived from the underlying clayey silts. The uppermost till was re-interpreted as a solifluction deposit derived from glacial deposits, rather than an *in situ* till.

Since then, there have still been some doubts about the dating of the scraper industry, based partly on recent reappraisal of tills attributed to the Anglian glaciation. In addition, if the till is Anglian, to which pre-Anglian warm phase should the clayey silts be assigned? The recent work has attempted to re-evaluate these questions, primarily through re-opening a previous trench for the recovery of fauna. Although occasional pieces of larger mammalian bone had been recovered through previous work, there had never been systematic sampling of the relevant sediments.

Current work. A week's work in April re-opened trench F4, originally excavated by Sieveking in 1966 (Ashton *et al.* 1992). Section drawings revealed this to contain the usual sequence of brown to grey to brown clayey silt, but towards the base of the grey clayey silt much darker, organic-looking sediments were found. A 5m x 5m trench was initially opened with a JCB over the area of the south-east face of trench F4, down 70cm to the top of the clayey silt to show the outline on the surface of the original cut. The backfill was removed to a further depth of 3m to re-expose the somewhat collapsed south-east section of F4.

As previously described, the section showed *c.* 0.2m of grey-brown clayey silt at the base, overlain by 1.4m of grey clayey silt (increasingly organic towards the base), and overlain by up to 1.4m of brown clayey silt at the top. In the north-east side section of the 5m x 5m trench, bedded sand was revealed that overlay the clayey silts, previously interpreted as the

base of the glacial outwash sands and gravels.

Three column samples were taken down from the base of the brown clayey silt through the grey clayey silt to the top of the grey-brown clayey silt. Fragments of wood, including two large pieces, were recovered from the grey clayey silt. It is hoped that oxygen isotope analysis of the cellulose of the individual growth rings will provide a direct indication of temperature and of temperature change over a short length of time.

Eight fresh-condition flint artefacts were also discovered while cleaning the sections from a variety of depths in the clayey silt, confirming the association between human presence and any dating and environmental information obtained from the sampling.

A further week's work was undertaken in November, which re-opened the top of the same trench, to take further samples from a fourth column at the junction of the brown and grey clays. From both weeks' work a total of 136 samples were taken, with a total weight of 3.2 tonnes. Initial processing of these samples suggests that very little faunal material has survived in the sediments. However, sparse molluscan remains, fragments of vole molars and a cheek tooth of *Trogontherium* (an extinct beaver-like rodent) were recovered.

In addition, a section was opened in a pit to the north of the main site, described by Marr (1921) as the Partridge Pit (MNL 241) and from which larger bones were reported to have been recovered during the 19th century (Charles Turner *pers. comm.*). The section on the north-west side of the pit revealed 5.2m of sands and gravels, visibly bedded in places. Although there is a relatively high quartz and quartzite content to the gravel, its composition, including the presence of *Rhaxella* chert, suggests that it is similar to the gravel overlying the silty-clay in Area III of the 1988 excavation, which was interpreted as of glacio-fluvial origin.

A further 6m x 3m trench was opened by JCB adjacent to a disused pit on the brow of the hill, which is probably the pit described by Sturge (1911, 72–73) and from which artefacts had been recovered. Beneath 1.2m of topsoil and coversand, 1.6m of light brown clay was revealed overlying chalky till. Four samples were taken at intervals through the depth of the clay, but no fauna has been recovered.

The results of this work support the conclusions drawn by Ashton *et al.* (1992) that the clayey silts were moved by Anglian ice, and therefore the sediments and the artefacts that those sediments contain are pre-Anglian in date (at least 500,000 years old). The overlying sands and gravels seem to be glacio-fluvial in origin, produced during the Anglian cold phase.

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(Nick Ashton, Department of Prehistory and Europe, British Museum; Simon Lewis, Department of Geography, Queen Mary, University of London; Simon Parfitt, Department of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum and Institute of Archaeology, University College London; and Rob Symmons, Department of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum).

Newmarket, The Marlborough Club (TL/6463; NKT 004). Monitoring of soakaways in the garden of the Club revealed that the present garden level has been built up with a rubble of plain peg tiles with a yellow fabric and handmade 'thin-sectioned' bricks of 17th-century date. These probably come from the demolition of the palace of James I, which once occupied the site. Two sherds of glazed red earthenware of 16th–18th-century date were also found.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for The Marlborough Club).

Santon Downham, High Lodge Country Park (TL/8185; STN 067, 068). Trenches were excavated across two separate systems of banks, in order to establish their archaeological potential before they were levelled. One system (STN 068) is thought to be associated with a warreners' lodge and to be medieval in origin. A sequence of ditches and banks were recorded here the earliest of which *may* be medieval although there was no clear dating evidence. Beneath this was a well-preserved buried soil layer and features, dated to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age. The second bank and ditch, STN 067, was found to be modern although it may have followed an earlier system. (Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for Forest Enterprise, report no. 2002/120).

Spexhall, Spexhall Manor (TM/3879; SPX 012). An evaluation was undertaken within the area of a proposed extension to Spexhall Manor, an Edwardian house built around a 16th-century timber-framed core situated within a partially moated enclosure. Four linear trenches were excavated to the depth of the natural subsoil and within one a small number of features, thought to be pits, were revealed. Artefacts from these features suggested a possible medieval date. (Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr and Mrs J. Maynard).

Stowmarket, Cedars Park Residential Development (TM/0658; SKT 018). Several stages of archaeological work over the past three years have revealed Iron Age and Roman field boundaries and settlement remains (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2001', SUP 020). Continuing excavation work revealed the remains of a number of late Iron Age/Romano-British roundhouses and a small, 2nd- to 3rd-century three-roomed corridor villa. The villa building had flint footings, which included postholes for substantial upright posts. Large quantities of building materials and pottery have been recovered. Ancillary Roman structures include two successive ovens and a possible sill-beam based barn, in addition to extensive field boundary ditches. (Dave Britchfield and Leonora O'Brien, Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust for Crest Nicholson Residential (Eastern) Ltd).

Sudbury, Ballingdon Bridge (TL/8640; BCB 012). Monitoring of the clearing of the Stour riverbed, as part of the work to construct a new bridge at Ballingdon, recorded remains of the sequence of bridges that predate the current crossing. A vast amount of early 16th-century brick and stone rubble was recorded and removed from the Sudbury side of the river along with a series of timber piles which had supported later bridges.

The earliest evidence was of the stone bridge, built by the Countess of Clare, that was known to have been standing at the start of the 12th century. None of the structure remained *in situ* but carved limestone blocks from the parapet and arches were found. The mass of brickwork is thought to be the remains of the bridge constructed in 1521 that replaced one swept away in a great flood the previous year. Much of the brickwork was in large bonded fragments. The bases of the piers, from which the arches sprang, were in place on the river bed and a complete cross-section of the bridge jutted out from the Sudbury bank. The bridge was just over 3m wide and crossed the river with eight arches each with a span of just under 3m. Although mainly brick it was faced with finely carved limestone on the cutwaters and the underside of the arches. The evidence suggests that it was repaired once when one of the piers failed, and was replaced in 1594 when the river current undercutting the footings caused the bridge to collapse.

The brick bridge was replaced with one based on oak piles, 50–60cm across and driven 3m into the riverbed. The positions of fifty piles were plotted and forty-six were extracted. The ends of the piles had been worked into points and were protected by iron 'driving shoes'. Differences in the style of the driving shoes and the way the piles were prepared,

from roughly shaped whole trunks to perfectly squared, machine cut pieces, suggested that there were several phases of build and repair. The timbers were sampled for dendrochronological dating which produced a range of dates from 1594 to the beginning of the 19th century.

The central part of the bridge will be unaffected by the new construction and will remain preserved on the riverbed.

A large amount of post-medieval pottery, animal bones, clay pipes and other household debris has been collected from the riverbed. This material was used in an effort to raise up the Sudbury bank by tipping rubbish against a series of timber revetments from the 17th century onwards.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Suffolk Highways Engineering Consultancy).

Sudbury, Bowls Club, Quay Lane (TL/8740; SUY Misc). An E.-W. ditch was recorded while monitoring groundworks for an extension. The site is immediately adjacent to the precinct of the Dominican Friary and close to the river Stour. The ditch is thought to be part of a channel cut by the friars to manage the wetlands on the river margins, either as a communication to the Stour or to create fish ponds.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S. for Sudbury Bowls Club; report no. 2002/63).

Westerfield, Land N. of Lower Road (TM/1747; IPS 393). Geophysical survey, topographical survey and trial trenching were undertaken to investigate the context of a fragment of Iron Age mirror handle (a metal detected find reported in 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2001'). These mirrors are often found in burial contexts. Despite a high degree of confidence regarding the precise findspot no archaeological features were identified. The evidence suggests that any features are likely to have been severely damaged by ploughing. (Rhodri Gardner, S.C.C.A.S. for English Heritage (Aggregates Levy); report no. 2002/132).

CHURCH RECORDING

Aldringham, St Andrew's Church (TM/4560; ARG 015). A single 5m by 0.5m trench on the N. side of the church, in an area proposed for a new vestry, identified six graves, with well preserved articulated skeletons. Disarticulated human remains were encountered in all grave fills indicating that intercutting burial activity in this part of the churchyard had been intense. No finds were recovered.

(Rhodri Gardner, S.C.C.A.S. for Aldringham Parochial Church Council; report no. 2002/108).

Beccles, St Michael's Church (TM/4290; BCC 013). In order to evaluate the potential of any surviving archaeological deposits within the body of the detached tower of the church, which may have implications regarding the design of a proposed tourist information facility, two small trenches were manually excavated against the internal walls of the tower.

Horizontally stratified layers relating to successive floor surfaces within the tower, interpreted as either bedding layers, demolition layers or natural build-up, were recorded in both trenches. Other than the existing floor, which was clearly of recent date, the one surviving formally laid surface, comprising flint cobbles, was best preserved in the trench excavated against the south wall of the tower. However, the presence of clay tobacco pipes in underlying layers suggested a relatively late date for this feature. Possibly the most interesting observation was the presence of burnt material in two layers recorded in the trench excavated against the north wall of the tower. It is well documented that a major conflagration in 1586 destroyed a large part of the centre of

Beccles and gutted the church. Could these layers relate directly to the fire, or at least the major refurbishment that must have occurred in its aftermath?

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Waveney District Council; report no. 2002/49).

Cotton, St Andrew's Church (TM/0766; COT 018). Renovation work exposed an area below the current floor in the S. aisle. Archaeological monitoring revealed the presence of several sand, mortar and clay surface/floor layers, and the remains of a tiled floor. Some of the tiles had probably survived *in situ* since the 14th–15th centuries, representing a typical design of the period, a yellow- and green-glazed chequered floor. Heavily worn tiles of the same period were redeposited in the later layers. At least one grave, probably of 19th-century date, was identified in the N.E. corner of the area, but the undulating nature of the surface and the presence of occasional pieces of disarticulated bone were evidence for further, earlier, graves.

(Sue Anderson, S.C.C.A.S. for Cotton Parochial Church Council; report no. 2002/93).

Walberswick, St Andrew's Church (TM/4874; WLB 014). A small-scale evaluation was conducted along the line of a proposed service trench from the N. side of the present church, cutting across the ruined N. aisle. The trench within and to the S. of the N. doorway revealed a partial tiled floor, consisting of large Flemish tiles of 14th- to 15th-century date. This surface was discovered in fragmentary state in another trench in the middle of the N. aisle. Further S., the foundation for the N. arcade was seen.

(Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S. for Hilary Brightman, Architect).

Wickham Market, All Saints Church (TM/3055; WKM 008). The first phase of remedial work to the tower, involving replacement of loose and blown facing and the insertion of three concrete ring-beams was accompanied by a programme of archaeological recording. Removal of the wall facing in the vicinity of the proposed ring-beams revealed that a far higher proportion of the wall than had originally been thought represented material associated with previous repair work undertaken approximately twenty years before. Indeed, the majority of the cracks appearing on the tower followed the junction between old and new work. Where original tower wall fabric was visible, it comprised uniform coursing throughout the tower and a similar mix of stone-types was used for the quoins from the top to the bottom. This would suggest that the whole tower, based on the architectural style of the belfry windows, was of 15th-century date. However, the architectural style of the south doorway favoured a mid-14th-century date. On this evidence, it seems likely that this was originally the south doorway of the nave which, itself, is attributable to the 14th century. It is not unusual to re-use architectural material where possible, particularly as the doorway would still have been relatively new and unblemished when the tower was built. Dismantling it and moving it a few metres to the south would not have posed any major logistical problems and would have saved a considerable amount of money.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S. for Wickham Market Parochial Parish Council and English Heritage).

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