

EXCURSIONS 2004

Reports and notes on some findings

23 April. *John Blatchly, David Warnes and, at the Blackfriars, John Fairclough Ipswich School* (by kind permission of the Headmaster, Ian Galbraith).

The 156th Annual General Meeting was held in the Library of 1982, the late Birkin Haward's last major commission. After presenting a watercolour of Aldeburgh beach to Dr David Allen to mark his retirement as Editor of the *Proceedings* after 25 years' devoted service, John Blatchly urged members to enjoy the four stained glass roundels by John Piper. They represent the four seasons, the four elements and the four ages of man (lit successively as each day passes).

David Allen chose most of the books exhibited in the Town Library of Ipswich. The nucleus of the collection was bequeathed to the Borough by William Smarte in 1599, but from 1612 books were given to form the working library of Samuel Ward, Puritan Town Preacher from 1605 to his death in 1640. Masters and ushers of the Grammar School acted as the librarians, a tradition which continued into the nineteenth century. Since 1980 the collection has been placed by the County in the care of the headmasters for the time being. The closed collection of a thousand volumes published between 1474 and 1750 includes, as well as theology, literature and philosophy, history, topography, science and atlases.

The Wallace Morfey Archives Room and Museum established in the 1970s proved invaluable when the 2003 school history was in preparation.

Three mariners' churches: At St Peter's (Ipswich Historic Churches Trust). Probably the site of the first Ipswich church, there are traces of the priory of St Peter and St Paul. In 1528, to make a chapel for the Cardinal's College of St Mary most of the canons' chancel was demolished and the roof sold to the Quay church. The College fell with Wolsey in 1530, reverting to parish use by the intervention of Thomas Cromwell in 1536, but needed a new chancel costing £150 in 1593. Restoration in 1877–78 by Sir George Gilbert Scott added much including the north chancel chapel. Opposite the south porch: house of Benedict Aldred (BA and 1590 on bressummer), maryner of St Peter's, Master of the *Primerose*, the *Blessinge* and the *Pelican* +1629.

St Mary Quay (Churches Conservation Trust). One of the earliest Ipswich double hammerbeam roofs c.1450. Chancel roof secondhand from St Peter's, 1528. Tomb (1567–68 for 11 marks by Aleyne Gaulyn or Gamon of London) of Henry 'Great' Tooley (+1551), first founder of the Almshouses which still function in Foundation Street. Brass of Thomas (+1525) and Emme Pounder (full account in *PSIAH* 2005).

St Clement's (IHCT). Font (churchwardens initials FS and IK) and Royal Arms restored 1662. Brasses for John Tye 1583 and William Cocke 1607. Memorials to John Ward (C.G. Cibber, see *PSIAH* 2000), Benjamin Brunning, Edward Howell, built Cromer light, Sir Thomas Slade, surveyor to Nelson's *Victory*, the first Thomas Cobbold, brewer and his descendent John Chevallier Cobbold. Mary, widow of Captain Samuel Green, having reversed an earlier memorial painted on board for her husband, had her stone fixed in the wall to avoid the same fate.

Blackfriars, a listed monument, always open, in Foundation Street.

Henry III gave property in 1263 to endow a Priory of Dominican Friars here. They chose a location near a bridge over the ramparts and the wash near the East Gate of the town. A Norman townhouse was their first base; its main doorway was retained and remained until 1850. For their preaching they built a church 54 metres long (half as long again as the largest town churches) which went soon after the Dissolution. The earliest domestic building was added south of the chancel to form the east range of what became the northern of two cloistered courtyards, a building which housed the dormitory above sacristy and chapter house. In the fourteenth century a refectory in Decorated style was added to the west; the south court with timber-framed Prior's lodging and study cells for novitiates was last

in the sequence of building. Complete excavation of the site between 1975 and 1985 revealed hundreds of burials in the church of those who gave money to support the Friars in return for prayers for the soul.

In 1275 a royal commissioner was appointed to enquire whether it would harm the interests of the King and the town if the Friars built an external chamber extending from their dormitory to the dyke (rampart) of the town. This almost certainly refers to the 'external chamber' found during excavations, which was built as a toilet block with first floor access by a bridge from the dormitory. The need for the bridge is explained by the terms of the grant of a further piece of land in 1349 on condition that the friars keep up the walls opposite their plot and also the two great gates, one in the north and the other in the south of their court, and through these great gates the men of the town have access to the defences in time of danger. The town defences of bank and ditch had been constructed in 1203, with the bank covering the line of an earlier (Viking period) defensive ditch which had cut through the original line of Fore Street. In the mid 14th century the friars built a substantial stone wall into the face of the town bank. When this wall started to slip into the ditch they supported it with a semi-circular buttress built like a small tower. Fragments of this work are still visible beyond the east end of the church.

Just as Norwich has its Blackfriars church (St Andrew's Hall) almost entire, but little else, so until 1850 Ipswich had the cloister buildings complete, in constant use after the Reformation as schools, bridewell, almshouses and library. In 1569 the town purchased Blackfriars from John Southwell in order to establish Christ's Hospital. Part of the purchase money apparently came from Tooley's bequest. Christ's Hospital was established by royal charter, for the relief and maintenance of poor aged persons and children, for the curing of poor sick persons, and for the correction and employment of the vicious and idle poor people. About 1612 the Grammar School moved from Felaw's House, on the other side of Foundation Street, to the Refectory. In 1614 the Town Library was transferred from a chest in St Mary le Tower to bookcases in the room above the Sacristy and Chapter House in the north-east range of Blackfriars. It is said that about 1805 the town Arsenal housed on the ground floor held 100 barrels of gunpowder (it was the time of fear of French invasion) and some grammar school pupils used the gunpowder to make fireworks!

The open landscaped area today includes the whole of the church. The pillar bases of the six-bay nave, and the north nave altar, and the chancel with return stall platform supports are easily identifiable. Between nave and chancel there will have been the walking place with one or two towers over it. To the south of the chancel the sacristy east wall stands to full height, and the chapter house comes next. Illustrated display boards explain more about the monument; Joshua Kirby's accurately engraved West Prospect of 1748 is a fortunate survival. The Victorian Tooley's and Smart's Almshouses further down the road replace the original buildings of the sixteenth century foundation. They have woodwork in Jacobean strapwork style copying what originally decorated the south cloister of the Priory.

22 May. Judith Middleton-Stewart, David Butcher and Mike Hardy

Lowestoft, Fritton and Burgh Castle

Lowestoft St Margaret's Church

This spectacular church stands upon a hill on the west of the town some distance from the North sea coast which was responsible for Lowestoft's former prosperity. What we see today is mainly from the 15th century rebuilding but, long before, the church of St Margaret had been given to St Bartholomew's priory in London sometime between 1123, when Rahere founded his hospital there, and the death of Henry I in 1135. At the dissolution, Richard Rich acquired the priory, although the hospital was reconstituted on secular lines in 1544, and it is possible that St Margaret's church also became a possession of Rich, with him as its lay impropiator.

To the west, the tower has Y-traceried windows and could be dated late 13th/early 14th century. It was heightened and embellished with flushwork and battlements when the present nave and chancel were rebuilt during the 15th century; and a lead and timber spire was added. This was replaced in 1954 and the present spire adds immeasurably to the overall appearance, although the

tower still lacks the grandeur that the building demands. The 15th century nave and chancel are of great length, but it is surprising to find that the chancel stands on a 14th century crypt, the octagonal piers of which support a ribbed vault. So with earlier buildings at either end of the 15th century rebuild, the fabric replaced then must have been as long as the present building, that is approximately 184 ft long.

St Margaret's is entered through a double-storied south porch which again has flushwork decoration. The outer entrance is surmounted by a hood mould with lions, and the symbols of the Passion and the Trinity are held by stone angels. Above this entrance, the carvings standing in the niches represent St Margaret, St Felix and Hubert de Losinga, the founder of Norwich cathedral and its diocese. Lowestoft, being so far to the north-east of the county, still lies within the diocese of Norwich. The upper storey of the porch is known as the Maids' Chamber, named after two anchoresses said to have lived here. The outer wall of the south aisle shows a change in the fabric due to its re-building which, although found to be unsafe as early as 1783, was not completed until 1871 by G. F. Bodley who totally reconstructed the aisle and the south arcade. The original buttresses were re-used and are decorated with 'proudwork', a design created by raised carved ashlar enclosing knapped flints. This is an expensive form of decoration and it is not as popular as 'flushwork', but it can be seen to good effect on many Suffolk churches and Lowestoft church is a particularly memorable example of such work.

As so often happens, the south side of the church which faces the town spares no expense – here is 'window dressing' at its best. Flushwork lies at the base of the south wall, for example, but there is none on the north, and there is no decoration at all on the north wall buttresses. There is no north porch, only two large roses on the spandrels of the doorway. Nevertheless, while walking around the outside of the church there is fine tracery to be seen in both nave and chancel windows of three and four lights. In the great five-light window at the east end there are battlemented stepped transoms

Within the church there is no chancel arch, and a single roof covers both nave and chancel. Birkin Haward called this a hall church, perhaps because there is no distinct chancel, but technically and architecturally it is not because the aisles roofs are lower than the central roof which was the salient Germanic feature of a hall church, first seen in England at Bristol abbey in the very late 13th century. Lowestoft, nevertheless, follows a style which is certainly seen in coastal churches of East Anglia built during the 15th century as at Blythburgh, Southwold and Woodbridge with their wide-open roofing – but is Lowestoft really late 15th century? 1483 seems to be the accepted date locally but where is the documentary proof of this? Unfortunately any Lowestoft wills which have survived throw no light on the date of the rebuilding, but Birkin Haward's detailed work on Suffolk arcades suggests that perhaps Lowestoft's north arcade of 7 bays is characteristic of an early 15th century East Anglian style similar to St Nicholas, Kings Lynn *c.* 1419 and Mildenhall *c.* 1420, rather than the more southerly style of St Mary's, Bury or Lavenham. St Margaret's mason is unknown, but he (? she) perhaps came from Norwich, a central point for King's Lynn, Mildenhall and Lowestoft. Whoever the mason was, produced arcades with large lozenge piers – 3½ feet east to west x 2½ feet north to south – with filleted shafts running up to support the wall posts. The original roof could not, and did not, survive Bodley's extensive rebuilding of the late 19th century. In 1890 crenellated tie-beams and braces on short hammer beams replicating and replacing the original roof were installed over 5 years at a cost of £2000. In 1897 angels were added by Ketts of Cambridge and two years later the roof was painted with great restraint and taste.

Some good quality modern glass in Suffolk can be seen in St Margaret's. The Evangelists (1903), each portrayed in their own window, are by Christopher Whall of the Arts and Crafts movement. The glass was removed from near-by St Peter's church, demolished in 1975. In the north west aisle is Whall's *Christ in Majesty*. Heaton Butler and Bayne (1906) created *The Three Marys at the Tomb*. The same firm installed (1891) the chancel glass featuring the *Te Deum* and *Benedicite*. An important survival, although not of the same standard, is the glass painted by Robert Allen, known as a painter of Lowestoft china. The china factory had closed in 1803 and the glass is dated 1819.

It would be difficult to better some of the furnishings. The eagle lectern (1504), which has been

related to lecterns in Coventry, Newcastle and Urbino by Charles Oman, is a precious survival from the pre-Reformation period. So is the 14th-century font ravaged by Dowsing. Its 1940 cover was designed by Ninian Comper, who also designed the altar. The banner stave locker, made to hold the gild banners of St Mary's, St Margaret's, St George's (or St Gregory's) and Holy Trinity gilds, is at the back of the church. Finally the brasses of the Jettor family in the central aisle and the Hatters in the south aisle, the headless shrouded figures of c. 1500 and the headless saltfish merchant and his wife are reminders of some of the wealthier inhabitants who contributed to Lowestoft's history. Churchwardens' names appear on the lead roofing above, and inside, along the north aisle wall, the Fishermen's Memorial records the names of local fishermen lost at sea between 1865 and 1923, the very people who might well have gone without a memorial of any kind.

Fritton, St Edmund's Church

Although this excursion had been planned, institute members were unable to visit this very interesting Romanesque church as a funeral had been booked in our 'slot' the week before.

After lunch members of the Institute visited one of the best-preserved Roman sites of East Anglia – the Saxon Shore Fort of Gariannonum, modern Burgh Castle, as listed in the *Notitia Dignitatum*. A cavalry unit of Stablesiani was based there under the overall command of the Count of the Saxon Shore, and the fort was built to protect the estuary of the rivers Waveney and Yare. It was one of ten, if we include Richborough, where the 2nd legion was based and was constructed as a defence against barbarian invaders, possibly of Saxon or Teutonic origin in the late 3rd century. It reputedly became the monastic site of St Furzey, Cnobheresburg in 630 A.D. and finally was converted into the Norman motte and bailey castle.

Excavations were carried out in 1850 and 1855 to establish the position of the missing west wall of the fort after it had been quarried away during the early part of the 19th century. They in fact revealed the footings of the harbour defences. We learn much more about the site from the excavations of Charles Green which were undertaken when he investigated the interior of the fort from 1958–1961. This was steadily being damaged by continuous agricultural practices, the motte having been levelled in 1837 to enable farming activity.

Over a thousand coins were recovered from the excavations, the earliest minted between 268–282 A.D., and, as was suggested, there had been no earlier occupation during Roman times prior to this date. It would seem to strengthen the argument for a late 3rd century build of the fort which added to the early forts constructed between 220–230 A.D. at Brancaster protecting the approaches to the Wash, Caister by Yarmouth situated on the northern shore of the Breydon Water, which served also as a port and town, and Reculver, protecting the mouth of the Thames.

The motte and bailey castle is attributed to a Norman knight, Ralph Ballistarius, and the landholding is listed in the Domesday Survey as one of his possessions. The Normans had incorporated the Roman wall into their construction and this probably accelerated the decay of this part of the site with the collapse of two of the original ten bastions, which had been constructed as artillery ballista towers, and were part of the defences of the fort. During the excavations it was discovered that internal towers had originally been built but then removed, with the ten external bastions replacing them. It was from the south-west corner that 164 graves were discovered, and were dated to the Mid-Saxon period by Charles Green, as he had also recovered Ipswich ware pottery from this area. A possible Roman building was also recorded in this area.

Entrances to the fort had already been established from earlier excavations of the 19th century. The main gate, situated in the East wall was a single portal with timber threshold, and the Postern gate in the North wall with a flanking bastion. The excavation revealed that in the north-east corner of the site a group of buildings had been constructed, with associated painted wall plaster. A glass hoard of eleven items, dated to the 5th century, and several coin hoards of the 330s and later were also recovered from this area.

Of the monastic site very little evidence was found. We know that the monastery was established, and that at least three monks lived there, as this is documented by Bede, but as to its location it is still a matter of conjecture. The large cemetery outside the walls of the fort is considered to be of late Roman and early Saxon origin; reputedly cremation urns were discovered from this area in antiquity. Until recently this land was cultivated but no major finds have been reported during modern times.

Members agreed that from within the area of the fort a magnificent vista could be enjoyed, looking across the reclaimed landscape, with distant views of Caister Roman fort, town and port. The visit certainly gave rise to discussion, enabling members more fully to understand this complex scheduled Ancient Monument.

*6 July. Mike Hardy, Edward Martin, John Sanderson and Tim Schofield
South Elmham Hall and Minster, South Elmham St Cross*

This was an evening farm walk organised jointly with the Suffolk Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group. The walk was at the invitation of the landowner, John Sanderson, who was the 2003 FWAG Conservation Cup winner. The walk started outside South Elmham Hall, where John Sanderson and Edward Martin gave an outline of the general history of this exceptional moated site that lies at the centre of a former ancient estate of the bishops of Norwich. The group then divided into a number of separate parties to walk around the farm and to listen to the speakers at set locations.

South Elmham Hall. The location of the seats of the early bishops of East Anglia is a matter of some controversy. The first bishop, Felix, was seated at *Dommoc* (either Dunwich or Felixstowe); in the later 7th century the see was split, with bishops at *Dommoc* and *Elmham*; but both bishoprics disappeared after the Viking invasions of the second half of the 9th century. Episcopal rule was restored by Bishop Theodred of London in the 920s. There was then a succession of bishops of *Elmham*, (with a second, Suffolk, seat at Hoxne) until the 1070s, when the see was moved to Thetford and then, in the 1090s to Norwich.¹ There is little doubt that, in the Late Saxon period, the see was located at *North Elmham* in Norfolk, but there is still doubt as to whether *North* or *South Elmham* was the location of the Middle Saxon bishopric. At Domesday, the whole of the *Ferthing* (a quarter of a Hundred) of South Elmham belonged to William de Bellofago, Bishop of Thetford.

Around 1100 Bishop Herbert de Losinga (1091–1119) ‘bought’ a property here from William de Noers, who had occupied it as a tenant of the earlier bishops and was probably responsible for moving the centre of the estate from its old site at Homersfield to a new one that came to be known as South Elmham Hall. From his time on, this was one of the country residences or ‘palaces’ of the medieval bishops of Norwich. Bishop Walter Suffield (1244–1257) is said to have resorted to Elmham for hunting; Bishop Roger Scarning (or Skerning) died at his manor house of South Elmham in 1278; Bishop William Bateman (1344–1355) is said to have been much attached to Elmham; and Bishop Henry Despenser (1370–1406) had a licence to crenellate his manor house at South Elmham in 1387.

The large quadrangular moat encloses about 3 acres (1.2ha), the ditch being about 10m wide. The parish boundary runs through the east entrance and then, curiously, defines a quarter of the moated platform and then exits across a causeway in the middle of the south side; a quarter of the site is therefore in South Elmham St Margaret and the rest is in St Cross. Moat cleaning in 1989 near the main, eastern, entrance revealed an area of brick walling edging the moat that may be part of the gatehouse mentioned by an nineteenth-century antiquarian: the Rev. Alfred Suckling described the site as having been ‘a vast quadrangular mansion, entered through a lofty gateway-tower, the remains of which were almost entire in the latter part of the seventeenth century’.²

Against the west side of the moat and close to a bridge is a ruined building called the ‘Chapel’ though this is not very likely – it is more likely to have been another gatehouse with an attached lodging. It has a 13th–14th century core, but was remodelled in the 16th century.³ Incorporated into the north side of some farm buildings and the south side of a barn in the north-east quarter of the site is a massive flint and mortar wall that looks as if may originally have aligned with the western gatehouse, effectively bisecting the moated platform; however a geophysical survey in 2000 failed to locate a continuation of this wall.⁴ These could conceivably have been part of the defensive works for which Bishop Despenser obtained a licence in 1387.

The main part of the present L-shaped Hall is a stone range of the late 13th century that measures c. 14 x 8m internally. This range may have been a chamber block attached to a now-vanished open hall. The base of a window high up in the north gable wall indicates that the walls have been lowered and the existing roof dates from c. 1600. Late-13th-century wall-paintings occur on both the ground and first floors. The builder could have been Bishop Roger Scarning, who died here in 1278. Medieval documents refer to numerous other structures here: a chapel, cloister (possibly two, one being referred to as 'old'), stables, kitchen, bakery, laundry, wellhouse, dairy, dovecote, a 'house of the steward of the hospice', as well as a *Kyngeserber* (or *le kyngesherber* – 'the king's garden') mentioned in 1391–2.⁵

The estate was taken from the bishop by King Henry VIII and granted in 1540 to Sir Edward North, Treasurer of the Court of Augmentations (later Lord North). The house was extensively remodelled, possibly from a ruinous state, in the late 16th century, possibly by Sir John North (son of Lord North) who lived here until his death in 1597. The walls of the main block were extensively patched and lowered in height; a new butt-purlin roof was added; and the floor-joists were replaced using massive timbers.⁶ A west wing was added to the building and brick and timber extensions were added to the north and south walls of the main block.

A linear depression runs towards the house on the north side, suggesting an additional entrance, possibly of the 18th century. Extensive earthworks in a pasture field to the east of the moat are probably the remains of medieval fishponds (the creation of stewponds is noted in the manorial account rolls in the 1380s) and farm buildings.⁷

South Elmham Minster. The site is located in a secluded valley approximately 600m south of South Elmham Hall. Set within a banked and ditched rectangular enclosure are the ruins of a building 30.5m long x 10.5m wide, with walls up to 3.5m high and 90cm thick, made of mortared flints. The building is aligned approximately east-west and is presumed to be a church. It consists of an eastern apse (not now visible above ground, but shown on a plan of 1863 and confirmed by excavations in 1963/4 and in a recent geophysical survey), a nave and a western narthex or tower base.⁸ The 1963/4 excavations also revealed a Late Saxon (10th century) tomb slab fragment built into the foundations. The geophysical survey produced no definite evidence of any other buildings within the enclosure, though some ill-defined linear 'trends' in the resistivity data to the north of the ruins could, just possibly, be indicative of insubstantial buildings, though nothing was noted in this area in some trial excavations by Sheffield University in 1984 (Fig. 36).

The ruins have been claimed to be those of the cathedral of the Anglo-Saxon bishops of Elmham, but the broken 10th century tombstone indicates that the ruins must be later than that. Medieval documents do indeed refer to the site as *le Menstre*, *le Mynstre*, *le Mynstreclos* or the *monasterium*, but give no actual explanation of what this meant.⁹ It could imply the presence of a monastery; however it was not in use as an independent religious foundation by the 14th century, though some of the references to a chapel and cloister in the 14th-century manorial account rolls could refer to this site or to the complex at the Hall, where there was another chapel.

Stephen Heywood's study of the rival 'cathedral' ruins at North Elmham showed that these too were not Anglo-Saxon in date, and not a cathedral.¹⁰ Instead they appear to be the remains of a private chapel built for Herbert de Losinga, Bishop of Norwich (1091–1119). Heywood also noted that this chapel had similarities in plan to South Elmham Minster, which suggested that both had been built for Bishop Herbert. Both churches have unusually large tower bases that have the same width as the nave, unlike most ordinary churches where the tower is narrower than the nave. At Brook in Kent there is a better preserved church with this characteristic, which was built by Prior Ernulf of Christ Church, Canterbury (1096–1107). At first-floor level in the tower it had a private oratory for the prior, which still contains the remains of an altar and has windows that open out into the nave of the church.¹¹ This layout has strong connections with what the Germans call *doppelkapellen*, which seem to have been inspired by Charlemagne's chapel at Aachen where the emperor's throne was in an upper gallery (?symbolically half way between heaven and earth). These 'double chapels' were well

Raw Data

GSB Prospection 2001/95

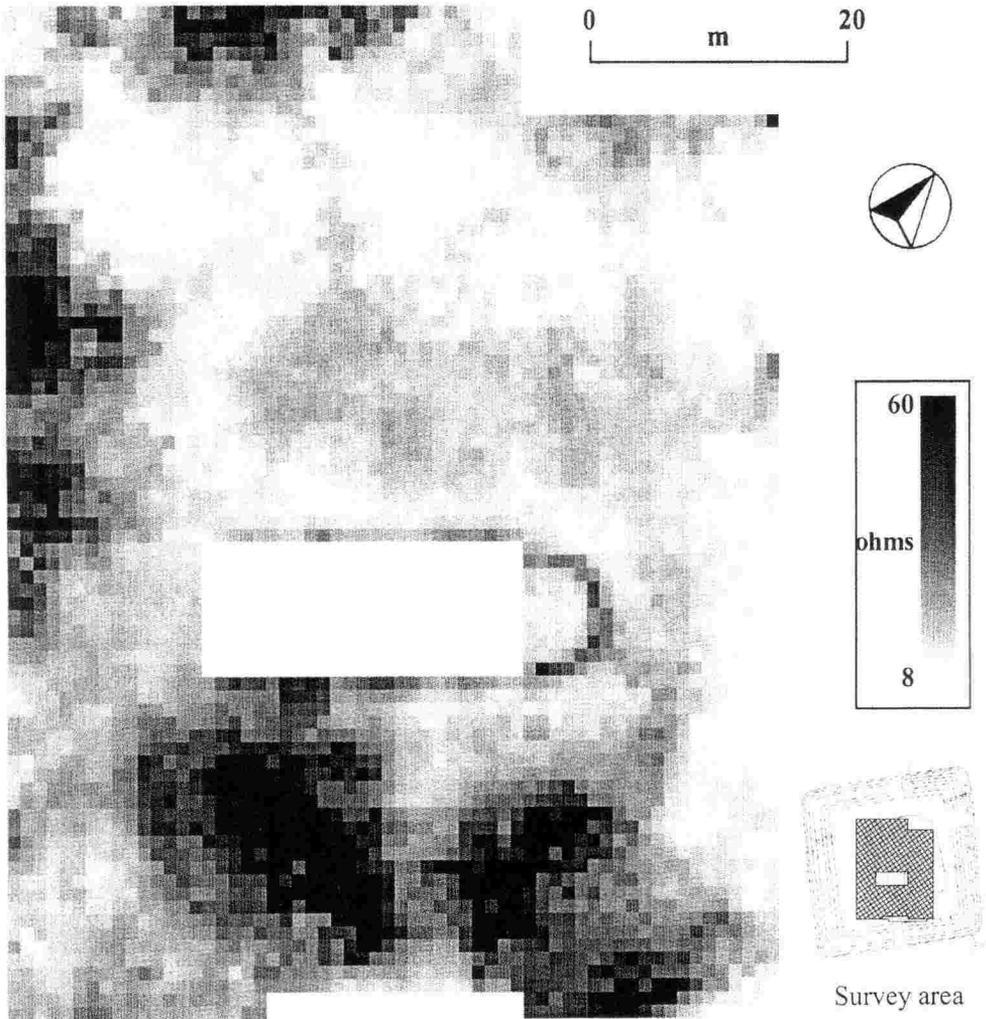


FIG. 36 – South Elmham Minster. Resistance survey by GSB Prospection of the area surrounding the Minster ruins. The small plan shows the survey area within the enclosing earthwork.

established in Germany by the end of the 11th century, and were a common formula for both imperial and episcopal chapels, providing a visual expression of the social order.¹²

An allied concept was that of the *westwerk*, a modern term for what Carolingian writers called a *castellum* or *turris* at the west end of a church. As well as having a political dimension, these also served as liturgical foci at the west end of the church. One particular possibility is that these ‘westworks’ were used as a setting for the Easter drama, with the poorly-lit space at the base of the tower taking the place of the tomb of Christ. It is perhaps significant that Carolingian ivory carvings of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem depict it as a multi-storey tower.¹³

The most likely explanation is that the Minster was an episcopal chapel built for Herbert de Losinga. Although he was responsible for establishing a new seat for the bishopric at Norwich, he does seem to have been concerned to incorporate references to the antiquity of the bishopric as a whole. In his new cathedral he appears to have placed the ancient bishop’s throne in an axial position, reflecting early Christian custom and placed a statue of St Felix, the see’s founder in a prominent position.¹⁴ Herbert also seems to have been keen to leave his mark on the older seats of the bishopric. At North Elmham he built both a private chapel and a new parish church. At South Elmham he bought back a tenanted estate and appears to have been responsible for both a new episcopal residence and a chapel. At Hoxne he may have been responsible for its identification as the site of the martyrdom of St Edmund, perhaps in intentional rivalry to Bury St Edmunds Abbey, which had gained great prestige as the custodian of the saint’s body. The first mention of Hoxne with regard to Edmund is the foundation charter of Norwich Cathedral Priory, by Bishop Herbert in 1101 (in a copy of c.1200). In this Herbert gave to his new foundation *ecclesiam de Hoxene cum capella Sancti Edmundi* and one copy of the charter adds *eiusdem villa ubi martir interfectus est*.¹⁵

The location of the Middle Saxon cathedral of Elmham is still an unresolved problem, but, interestingly, there is a definite Middle Saxon site not far from the Minster. Fieldwalking by Mike Hardy on the top of the hill, south-east of South Elmham Hall, located a spread of Middle Saxon Ipswich ware, some Late Saxon Thetford-type ware and piece of early window glass in a small, almost detached, extension of the parish of St Margaret.¹⁶ A geophysical survey in 2001 failed to locate any definite traces of substantial buildings here, but it is still possible that an excavation could reveal traces of timber structures with slight foundations.¹⁷ A 13th-century document refers to the Late Saxon ‘cathedral’ at North Elmham as a ‘small wooden chapel’ (*sacello ligneo*) and the Middle Saxon one was probably similar.¹⁸ This site, therefore, remains as one of the contenders to be the site of the Middle Saxon bishopric of Elmham. However, the claims of Homersfield (alias South Elmham St Mary) also merit serious consideration. Homersfield’s prime location beside the River Waveney was exploited in the Roman period and the Domesday evidence suggests that it was then the head of the episcopal estate in the Elmhams.

Greshaw Green. This former green, on a flat hilltop to the west of South Elmham Hall, was one of the largest in Suffolk with 196 acres of common grazing land before it was enclosed in 1894/5 (under a Parliamentary Act of 1853). In the 18th century, 177 common rights (and a quarter – a right claimed every fourth year) belonging to the inhabitants of the four parishes of South Elmham St Cross, St James, St Margaret and St Nicholas, were recorded here. The green was long and narrow, extending a mile and half southward into the next parish of South Elmham St James. A long straight road now runs along the centre of the old green. A small unploughed section of the green survives in a pasture field belonging to John Sanderson, together with the site of a small green-edge farmstead that was still standing into the early part of the 20th century.

Recorded as *Grisha* in the late 13th century and *Greshaugh* in the 15th century, its name appears to mean ‘the wood with grass’, suggesting that the green developed from an area of wood pasture. Fieldwork by Mike Hardy in the 1980s revealed a large number of deserted medieval (13th century and later) sites around the margins of the green.¹⁹

25 September. John Fairclough and Mike Hardy
Thornham Field Centre

This Activity Day was sponsored by Gross & Co, Solicitors, Bury St Edmunds, which enabled us to invite non-members to join us without charge and in particular to encourage youngsters to take part. On the day we had about 45 adults and 20 youngsters, all keen to get involved.

At the start Mike Hardy showed some of the finds from field walking at Thornham and from the small excavation within the area of Roman settlement. The group examined the finds, including many butchered animal bones and some large pieces of Roman pottery vessels, along with a photographic display including some of the metalwork that has been found and some of the clues to the history of this landscape. They were told something about the results of research on the story of the Thornham Estate before taking a guided walk past the animal cemetery, burial place of the favourite chargers of Major-General Arthur Henniker, and the folly which has been rebuilt several times incorporating material from Thornham Magna church. They saw the visible clues to the structure of the gardener's house built onto the outside of the Walled Garden. We hope to study this further as it was presumably the first home of John Perkins when he arrived in 1848 from Warwickshire to become Head Gardener at the age of 24. He held the post for 50 years, keeping the garden books in a neat hand, providing flowers for Queen Victoria and publishing a book of elaborate designs for table decorations. They saw the bases for the metal framework of the Conservatory that formed the grand entrance to the garden and the footings of the much humbler building that housed German prisoners during the Second World War.

Then we came to the main business of the day in an area near the walled garden where we are seeking evidence of Victorian buildings. In a cleared area David Meadows demonstrated how he conducts resistivity surveys, seeking the support of willing helpers. Tony Greenacre and Gilbert Burroughs fascinated those who wanted to see metal detectors in action and learn how they can be used in responsible fashion to find archaeological evidence. Mike Hardy and John Newman discovered which of the youngsters had most potential as skilled users of the trowel – still the archaeologist's most important tool! A team of helpers cleared a defined area of the former car park.

After lunch most of the group returned to conduct a systematic field walking survey of one of the fields that had been ploughed recently. Among a scatter of broken field drain fragments and a few pieces of tile, several pieces of medieval and more recent pottery were recovered and added to the record. Other finds included pieces of clay pipe and a broken slate pencil, presumably from the old school which is only a field away. The metal detectors continued their activity showing how they work systematically in support of the field walking.

NOTES

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- 2 A. Suckling, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Suffolk*, London 1846, I, 222.
- 3 S. Colman, M. Hardy, E. Martin & S. West, 'South Elmham Hall', *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.* xxxvi pt. 4, 1988, 324–5.
- 4 GSB Prospection, Geophysical Survey Report 2000/96 for the Friars to Flyers Project (Suffolk County Council), figs. 10–11.
- 5 J. Ridgard, 'References to South Elmham Minster in the Medieval Account Rolls of South Elmham Manor', *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.*, xxxvi, 1987.
- 6 L. Alston, 'South Elmham Hall', *Suffolk Historic Buildings Group Newsletter* no. 12, 1998, 2 1–3.
- 7 GSB Prospection, Geophysical Survey Report 2000/96, figs. 14–15.

- 8 B.B. Woodward, 'The Old Minster, South Elmham', *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.* iv, 1864, 1-7; N. Smedley & E. Owles, 'Excavations at the Old Minster, South Elmham', *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.* xxii, 1970, 1-16; GSB Prospection, Geophysical Survey Report 2000/95 for the Friars to Flyers Project II, figs. 11-13.
- 9 Ridgard, *op. cit.*
- 10 S. Heywood, 'The Ruined Church at North Elmham', *J. Brit. Archaeol. Assoc.* cxxxv, 1982, 1-10; S. Heywood, *The Site of the Anglo-Saxon Cathedral and the Bishops Chapel, North Elmham* (guidebook), North Elmham Parish Council 1998.
- 11 S.E. Rigold, 'The Demesne of Christ Church at Brook', *Archaeol. J.* cxxvi, 1969, 270-1.
- 12 R. Stalley, *Early Medieval Architecture*, Oxford 1999, 71-75.
- 13 Stalley, *op.cit.*, 46-51 and 237.
- 14 S. Heywood, 'The Romanesque Building' in I. Atherton *et al.*, *Norwich Cathedral. Church, City and Diocese, 1096-1996*, London 1996, 91; E. Fernie, *The Architecture of Norman England*, Oxford 2000, 146.
- 15 H.W. Saunders (ed.), *The First Register of Norwich Cathedral Priory*, Norf. Rec. Soc. xi, 1939, f 4d (p.36-7).
- 16 M.J. Hardy and E.A. Martin, 'South Elmham St Margaret', *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.*, xxxvi, pt. 3, 1987, 232-4.
- 17 GSB Prospection, Geophysical Survey Report 2001/95 for the Friars to Flyers Project, figs. 3-4.
- 18 Saunders, *op.cit.*, f 1 (p.22-23).
- 19 M.J. Hardy and E.A. Martin, 'South Elmham St Cross' and 'South Elmham St James', *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.*, xxxvi pt. 2, 1986, 147-50.

LECTURES AT HAUGHLEY

- March 6 'Aspects of the Symbolic Universe in Early Modern Suffolk', by Dr Vic Morgan
- March 20 'Time Flyers - the BBC TV Series', by Jo Caruth
- March 27 'Airfields of the Second World War', by Roger Freeman
- October 23 'John Wastell, his Contribution to Architecture in the Late Medieval Period', by Tony Redman
- November 13 'Rattlesden St John and Ecclesiastical Metalwork in 12th Century England', by Sandy Heslop
- December 11 'Sport and Games in East Anglia', by Dr Roger Munting

MEMBERS ELECTED DURING 2004

During the year 37 members were elected and, after taking into account resignations and lapsed members, the membership at the end of 2004 stood at 868, a net decrease of 19. The total comprised 601 full members, 189 associate members, and 78 institutions and societies.

ACCOUNTS

SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2004

The Council present their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004.

The Council is elected at the annual general meeting.

The current members of the council are shown on page 132. At the previous AGM on 24 April 2004 Mrs S. Colman, Dr M. Newton and Dr P. Pantelis retired and Mr P. Aitkins, Mrs M. Pereira, Mrs M. Tracy and Mr T. Easton were elected. During the year Miss A. Arrowsmith resigned. Professor C. Richmond has taken over the Editorship from Dr Allen who has been Editor for 25 years and to whom the Council is very grateful.

Objects

The objects of the Institute shall be for the advancement of the education of the public:

- a) to collect and publish information on the Archaeology and History of the county of Suffolk.
- b) to oppose and prevent, as far as may be practicable, any injuries with which ancient monuments of every description within the County of Suffolk may from time to time be threatened and to collect accurate drawings, plans and descriptions thereof, and
- c) to promote interest in local Archaeological and Historical matters.

Reserve policy

The Reserves of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History are in a form available for instant use should the occasion arise. The Institute is committed to the education of the public. The calls upon funds may be sudden and it may not be possible to mount an appeal at short notice, where a considerable amount of local money is needed to trigger funds from central bodies. The Trustees consider that the level of reserves on the Accumulated Fund should be in the region of two years' income, currently averaging £12,000 per annum. The trustees review the policy each year.

Review

Apart from the publication of the *Proceedings* Volume XL Part IV and two *Newsletters*, the Institutes' publications have continued to sell well. Decoding Flint Flashwork in Suffolk and Norfolk by John Blatchley and Peter Northeast will be published in April. There were also during the year the usual excursions and lectures.

Signed for and on behalf of the Council on 5 March 2005

AB Parry

Hon. Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

I report on the accounts of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History for the year ended 31 December 2004, which are set out on pages 146 to 148.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

C. L. Bassett, Chartered Accountant

on behalf Izod Bassett, Chartered Accountants, 105 High Street, Needham Market, Suffolk, IP6 8DQ,
18 April 2005

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2004

	Note	2004 £	2003 £
Incoming resources	2		
Membership income		8,435	8,740
Voluntary income		2,400	8,087
Gross income from publications		1,140	1,656
Income from investments		2,085	2,548
Total incoming resources		<u>14,060</u>	<u>21,031</u>
Resources expended	3		
Charitable support expenditure			
- General		(3,157)	(3,440)
- Proceedings publication		(8,119)	(7,939)
- Other		(1,870)	(1,312)
Total resources expended		<u>(13,146)</u>	<u>(12,691)</u>
Net incoming resources		914	8,340
Accumulated funds brought forward		48,678	40,338
Accumulated funds carried forward		<u>49,592</u>	<u>48,678</u>

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2004

	Note	2004 £	2003 £
Investments	5	5,964	5,964
Current assets			
Cash at bank – Current Account		899	3,861
– Deposit Account		42,911	38,963
		<u>43,810</u>	<u>42,824</u>
Less: Subscriptions in advance		(182)	(110)
Other creditors		–	–
		<u>(182)</u>	<u>(110)</u>
Net current assets		43,628	42,714
Net assets		<u>49,592</u>	<u>48,678</u>
Represented by			
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>			
Gwen Dyke Bequest	4	10,844	10,747
Research, Excavation and Publication fund	4	25,644	25,463
Accumulated fund	4	13,104	12,468
		<u>49,592</u>	<u>48,678</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Council on 5 March 2005.

A.B. Parry
Hon. Treasurer

The notes on pages 147 to 148 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2004

1. Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Standard of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities, except that investments are stated at cost rather than market value.

2. Incoming resources

	Gwen Dyke Bequest	Research, Excavation and Publication fund	Accumulated fund	Total 2004	Total 2003
	£	£	£	£	£
Membership income					
Subscriptions	-	-	<u>8,435</u>	<u>8,435</u>	<u>8,740</u>
Voluntary income					
Grants	-	-	2,400	2,400	7,787
Donations	-	-	-	-	50
Sponsorship	-	-	-	-	-
Legacy	-	-	-	-	250
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>8,087</u>
Gross income from publications					
<i>Proceedings sales</i>	-	-	120	120	191
<i>Roof Carvings</i>	-	436	-	436	325
<i>Suffolk Arcades</i>	-	433	-	433	768
<i>Hawes</i>	-	82	-	82	286
<i>Dovecotes</i>	-	69	-	69	86
<i>Others</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,020</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>1,140</u>	<u>1,656</u>
Income from investments					
Profit on redemption	-	-	-	-	73
Interest on investments	500	-	-	500	589
Bank interest	97	531	320	948	716
Income tax recovered	-	-	637	637	1170
	<u>597</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>957</u>	<u>2,085</u>	<u>2,548</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>597</u>	<u>1,551</u>	<u>11,912</u>	<u>14,060</u>	<u>21,031</u>

3. Resources expended

	Gwen Dyke Bequest	Research, Excavation and Publication fund	Accumulated fund	Total 2004	Total 2003
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure – General					
Newsletters, including postage	–	–	961	961	1,128
Excursions	–	–	190	190	230
Lectures	–	–	715	715	915
Printing and stationery	–	–	70	70	59
Office expenses and postage	–	–	104	104	307
Insurance	–	–	240	240	216
Independent examiners fee	–	–	235	235	206
Subscriptions	–	–	462	462	199
Miscellaneous	–	–	180	180	180
	–	–	<u>3,157</u>	<u>3,157</u>	<u>3,440</u>
Expenditure – Proceedings					
Printing and postage	–	–	<u>8,119</u>	<u>8,119</u>	<u>7,939</u>
Other expenditure					
Activity Day and lecture by Mrs J. Caruth	–	409	–	409	–
Grant	500	–	–	500	–
Articles in Newsletter	–	811	–	811	412
Excavation expenditure	–	150	–	150	900
	<u>500</u>	<u>1,370</u>	–	<u>1,870</u>	<u>1,312</u>
Total resources expended	<u>500</u>	<u>1,370</u>	<u>11,276</u>	<u>13,146</u>	<u>12,691</u>
4. Movement on funds					
Opening balance	10,747	25,463	12,468	48,678	40,338
Incoming resources	597	1,551	11,912	14,060	21,031
	<u>11,344</u>	<u>27,014</u>	<u>24,380</u>	<u>62,738</u>	<u>61,369</u>
Resources expended	500	1,370	11,276	13,146	12,691
Closing balance	<u>10,844</u>	<u>25,644</u>	<u>13,104</u>	<u>49,592</u>	<u>48,678</u>

Gwen Dyke Bequest

The Gwen Dyke Bequest fund is used to assist in the study of records, and the publication of research arising from such study.

5. Investments

	Market value	Cost 2004	Cost 2003
	£	£	£
8% Treasury Stock, 2009 £6,244.78 Nominal	<u>7,164</u>	<u>5,964</u>	<u>5,964</u>

6. Summary of net assets by funds

	Gwen Dyke Bequest	Research, Excavation and Publication fund	Accumulated fund	Total 2004	Total 2003
	£	£	£	£	£
Investments	5,964	–	–	5,964	5,964
Net current assets	<u>4,880</u>	<u>25,644</u>	<u>13,104</u>	<u>43,628</u>	<u>42,714</u>
	<u>10,844</u>	<u>25,644</u>	<u>13,104</u>	<u>49,592</u>	<u>48,678</u>

7. Trustees

No member of the council received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2003: Nil)

SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

Membership. – Application forms for membership are obtainable from the Hon. Membership Secretary, Dr J.O. Martin, Oak Tree Farm, Hitcham, Ipswich, IP7 7LS. Present members are urged to support the Institute by enrolling new members.

Subscriptions. – The annual subscription is £12.50 for an ordinary member due in advance on 1 January. The joint subscription for a husband and wife is £15. Full-time students under 25 are entitled to pay at the student rate of £8. Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Financial Secretary, A.B. Parry, 23 Vermont Crescent, Ipswich, IP4 2ST.

Privileges. – The annual subscription entitles members to a copy of the Institute's journal, the *Proceedings*, which contains articles by national and local scholars on the archaeology and history of Suffolk. They will also receive the twice-yearly *Newsletter*, giving details of forthcoming events, short notes and book reviews. The Institute organises a number of excursions in the summer to places of interest in and around Suffolk. In the winter it has a programme of lectures, held at Haughley. Members may also use and borrow books from the Institute's Library, housed in the Suffolk Record Office, Raingate Street, Bury St Edmunds. Finally, members who wish to take an active part in archaeological fieldwork may join the Institute's Field Group, which has close links with the County Archaeological Service and local museums. Enquiries respecting the Field Group should be addressed to the Hon. Field Group Secretary, M.J. Hardy, 29 High Road, Wortwell, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 0HG.

Publications. – Indexes of the articles in past volumes of the *Proceedings* are to be found in volumes X (1900), XXIV (1948) and XXX (1966). Back numbers of *Proceedings* are available from Mr J. Fairclough, 56 Orford Street, Ipswich, IP1 3PE, at £10 per Part to members, £12 to non-members (volumes XXXVIII and XXXIX), and £2.50 per Part to members, £3.50 to non-members (earlier volumes), plus postage.

Articles and notes on all aspects of Suffolk archaeology and history should be sent to the Hon. Editor, Professor Colin Richmond, Flat 3, Sutton House, Quay Street, Woodbridge, IP12 1BX, from whom copies of Notes for Contributors may be obtained. Items (including books for review) for inclusion in the *Newsletter*, published in March and September, should be sent to Mrs. J. Carr, 116 Hardwick Lane, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2LE.

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