

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2006

compiled by EDWARD MARTIN, COLIN PENDLETON and JUDITH PLOUVIEZ
object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL

THIS IS a selection of the new discoveries reported in 2006. 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.

A high proportion of the finds is now being recorded through the national Portable Antiquities Scheme, the Suffolk part of which is also based in the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council. Further details and images of many of the finds can be found on the Scheme's web-site (www.finds.org.uk) and for selected finds listed here the P.A.S. reference number is included after the figure number. During 2006 the P.A.S. finds in Suffolk were recorded by Faye Minter and Jane Carr.

Following requests from metal detector users, we have removed all grid references from entries concerning finds reported by them.

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

Abbreviations:

C.M.S.	Colchester Museums Service
I.D.D.C.	Ipswich and District Detector Club
M.D.D.C.	Mildenhall and District Detector Club
M.d.f.	Metal detector find
N.M.S.	Norfolk Museums Service
P.A.S.	Portable Antiquities Scheme (see above). The Suffolk contact for this national scheme is Faye Minter (tel. 01284 352449; e-mail faye.minter@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk)
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

Bacton (BAC 027). **IA, Ro**. Bronze coins, including a copy (perhaps originally gold plated) of an Iron Age *stater* of Icenian 'Freckenham' type, and objects including brooches (Colchester derivative, trumpet types), finger rings and a nail cleaner. (M.d.f.).

Barking (BRK 078). **Ro**. A bronze buckle of 1st-century type (SF-782CD4), commonly associated with the military, and pottery, bronze coins, finger ring and bracelet. (M.d.f.).

Barrow (BRR 043). **Ro, Sx**. A bronze covered-loop terret ring (SF-C98361) and an 11th-century stirrup-strap mount similar to *Williams* Class B type 4 (SF-C9CD64, Fig. 103, H). (M.D.D.C.).

Great Barton (BRG 036). **IA, Ro, Sx**. Pottery sherds of Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age type and

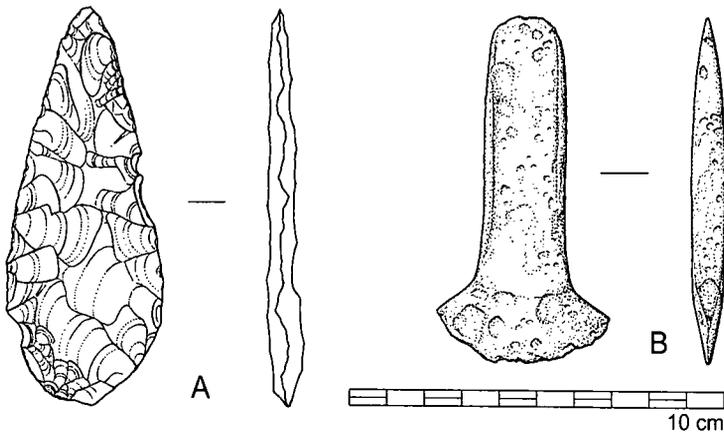


FIG. 100 – Prehistoric objects: (A) Neolithic point from Brandon, (B) early Bronze Age axe from Combs.

bronze brooch fragments, La Tene I and Colchester types. Roman finds include a late Roman silver finger ring (SF-336334) and a bronze vulvate mount (SF-B37B36). A simple ansate (or ‘caterpillar’) bronze brooch with rows of punched ring and dot motifs (SF-B340A2, Fig. 103, D). Silver coins of Aethelred II - a cut fragment of a crux type, AD 991-997 and a long cross type, AD 997-1003 (*North* 1980, 121, no 774). (I.D.D.C.).

Great Barton (BRG 044). **BA**. The blade end of a Late Bronze Age socketed chisel (SF-F095F2). (I.D.D.C.).

Great Barton (BRG 047) **Sx**. Gilded bronze *cloisonne* enamelled brooch, 10th- or 11th-century date (SF-0D8DC2, Fig. 103, B). (I.D.D.C.).

Great Barton (BRG 048). **Sx**. Bronze strap end *Thomas* Class A type 2 (SF-7351C5) and stirrup-strap mount *Williams* Class A type 1 (SF-767943). (I.D.D.C.).

Battisford (BAT 011). **Me, Ne, BA**. Worked flints, including a tranchet-type axe (SF-26F324) and a flake from a Neolithic polished flint axe which has been retouched at a later date. (M.Frost).

Benacre (TM/5282; BNC 077. **PM**. The remains of a timber duck-decoy pipe were visible and recorded in dry conditions on the south side of the broad. (F. Hillier).

Benacre (TM/5383; BNC 079). **Pa**. Pointed sub-triangular flint handaxe found on the beach (SF-0446A5). (Mrs. Fisk).

Bradfield Combust (BRC 013). **BA**. Late Bronze Age hoard, consisting of an incomplete winged axe, five complete and fragments of four definite and five possible socketed axes, a socketed chisel fragment and ingot fragments. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD 019). **IA**. Silver coin, an early Icenian unit ‘Bury’ type B (SF-71F565). (M.D.D.C.).

Brandon (BRD 190). **Ne**. Leaf-shaped flint bifacial point (SF-4F72C5, Fig. 100, A). (J. Yeagor).

Brockley (BKY 019) **Sx**. Silver penny of Edward the Confessor (1047-66) issued by the moneyer Morcere at Bury St Edmunds c.1050-55 and subsequently gilded for use as a brooch (SF-B51EF6). (M.d.f.).

Bures St Mary (BSM 050) **Sx**. Two 11th-century bronze ‘socketed hooks’, a type of Anglo-Scandinavian object recently identified as arms from strap distributors (SF-FCF566, SF-FD3563). (M.d.f.).

Burgate (BUR 030). **Ro**. Bronze centre-looped cosmetic mortar with enamelled triangle decoration and bovine head terminals (SF-E508C7). (M.d.f.).

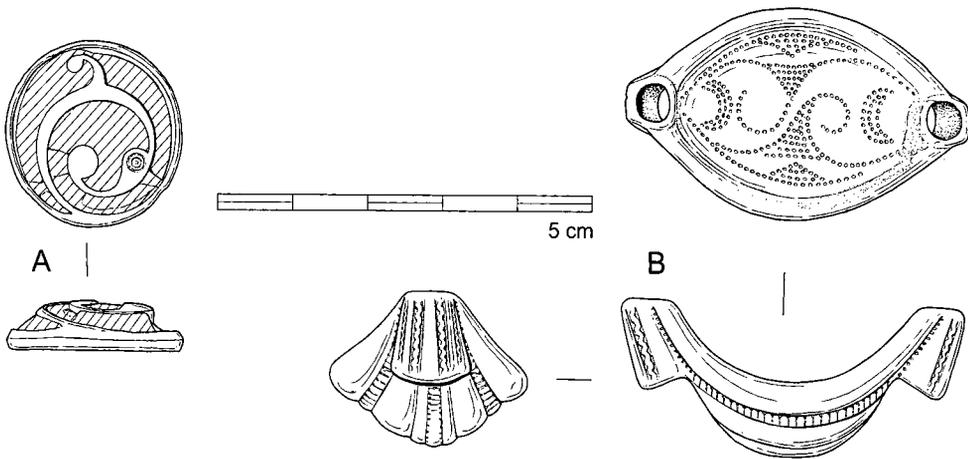


FIG. 101 – Iron Age (?) objects from (A) Ousden and (B) Thurston.

Burgate (BUR 031). **Ro.** Coins, bronze bracelet fragments and a pair of brooches representing flying birds (SF-A01500, SF-A08525). (M.d.f.).

Buxhall (BUX 028) **Ro.** Bronze figurine showing a leopard emerging from a *calyx* (flower) (SF-6E91C7, Fig. 102, B), similar to one found in Layham ('Archaeology in Suffolk 1990', 150-154, fig 24, A). (I.D.D.C.).

Chediston (CHD 013). **Ro.** Handle fragment from a mid 1st-century bronze skillet with maker's stamp CIPI·PO[, for Publius Cippius Polybius, a member of a Capuan family of bronze smiths (NMS-7F1BE6). (M.d.f. per N.M.S.).

Chediston (TM/3577; CHD 066). **Ro.** A layer of building material including Roman tile observed in the edge of a stream. (G. Burroughes).

Clare (CLA 012). **Me.** Flint tranchet axe (SF-A23B68). (J. Allen).

Combs (COM 028). **IA.** Silver Icenian coin, boar/horse CAN DVRO type (SF-58C933) and a bronze 'mini terret' of the type found in burials at Kirkham in East Yorkshire in association with linchpins (SF-4FE3B4). (M.d.f.).

Combs (COM 030). **BA.** Early Bronze Age low-flanged axe of Arretton type (SF-957C57, Fig. 100, B) and the tip of a Middle Bronze Age spearhead (SF-95A437). (M.d.f.).

Little Cornard (COL 032). **BA.** Late Bronze Age hoard, consisting of five complete or almost complete socketed axes, seven fragments of socketed axes, four sword fragments, one socketed gouge and eight ingot fragments (SF-C5C244). Initially discovered by metal detecting and excavated with S.C.C.A.S. (M.d.f.).

Drinkstone (DRK 023). **Ro.** Late Roman bronze openwork buckle plate, *Hawkes and Dunning* type IIA, with three human heads in the decoration (SF-9EFED0, Fig. 102, E). (M.d.f.).

Elmswell (EWL 010). **Md.** Enamelled bronze harness pendant, trefoil shaped and with the arms of Bury St Edmunds Abbey (SF-6A6245). (M.D.D.C.).

Elmswell (EWL 023). **Ro, Sx.** Fragment of a late Roman bronze strap end or buckle plate (SF-690346). Bronze tweezers and wrist clasp of *Hines* type B20 of early Anglo-Saxon date (Sf-2C9E37, SF-2C24E4), a bronze finger ring with punched decoration (SF-2D4CA0) and an 11th-century stirrup-strap mount, *Williams* Class A type 4 (SF-2B8103). (M.D.D.C.).

Elveden (ELV 013). **IA, Ro.** A potin coin, Thurrock type, 1st century BC (SF-9DCC44). Roman coins, pottery and fragments of plate brooch and bracelet. (M.D.D.C.).

Eye (EYE 082). **Sx.** A silver sceat of Metcalf Series R2 (AD 705 – 760), a *sceat* of Beonna (c. 758), moneyer Wilred, (*North* 430/2), and a damaged coin of Coenwulf, (796 – 821), (*North* 364). (M.d.f.).

Freckenham (FRK 032). **Ro, Sx.** Early Roman bronze bracelet, modified by adding two rivets at the end (SF-197A90) and Colchester derivative type brooches. A late Roman bronze buckle, *Hawkes and Dunning* type IIA, a 5th-century cruciform brooch (SF-19B413) and a 5th- or 6th-century small-long brooch (SF-199B22). (M.D.D.C.).

Freckenham (FRK 038). **Sx.** Early Anglo-Saxon bronze wrist clasp, *Hines* Form B18e (SF-748193) and part of an elaborate bronze girdle hanger (SF-D97F18, Fig. 103, A). (M.D.D.C.).

Friston (FRS 050). **Ro, Sx.** Roman bronze coins, Colchester derivative brooches and late Roman belt fittings – a *Hawkes and Dunning* type IA buckle fragment (SF-76D876) and a type VI suspension loop (SF-7750D6). Early Anglo-Saxon pottery, cruciform and small-long bronze brooches, a Middle Saxon ansate (caterpillar) brooch (SF-72B9C5) and a fragment of a bronze probable shield mount (SF-B608A3) of early 7th-century date. Also probably early 7th century is a bronze human male figurine with traces of gilding on the head; it apparently wears a cap and trousers and has the arms folded (SF-01ACA7, Fig. 103, C). The figure is comparable to only five similar figures, two female and three male, perhaps amulets of deities, of which one silver example was recorded from Carlton Colville (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2000', 69, Fig. 19). (M.d.f.).

Hessett (HTT 017). **BA.** Fragment of a large bronze socketed axe, probably of final Bronze Age, 8th century BC, date (SF-4CB546). (M.d.f.).

Holbrook (STU 003). **Sx.** A bronze disc brooch with relief backward-looking animal design (SF-B91713, Fig. 103, G). (I.D.D.C.).

Kedington (KDG 011). **Pa, IA, Ro, Sx.** A probable Upper Palaeolithic flint flake. *Potin* coin of Thurrock type, 1st century BC. Roman coins, pottery including samian ware, bronze brooches and two cosmetic mortars (SF-4E89C7, SF-4D68A3). Saxon bronze pin, hooked tag and a 11th-century stirrup-strap mount of *Williams* Class B. (I.D.D.C.).

Lakenheath (LKH 303). **IA.** Six Icenian coins: one a face/horse type, the rest pattern/horse with Anted, Ed and Ecen inscriptions. (M.D.D.C.).

Lakenheath (LKH 304). **Sx.** Bronze 11th-century stirrup-strap mount, related to *Williams* Class A type 4 (SF-CA2A57). (M.D.D.C.).

Leiston (LCS 147). **Md.** A small hoard of six silver pennies of Henry II (1154–89), all of Tealby type class C suggesting deposition in the 1160's (SF-AD7B12). (M.d.f.).

Mendham (TM/2783; MDM 107). **Md.** Late medieval pottery sherds including possible wasters found in a field ditch. (per N.M.S.).

Mendham (MDM 122). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Roman bronze brooch fragments and a lock bolt. Two decorated bronze pins of Middle Saxon type. Circular lead seal matrix, 13th century, central octofoil, + S · ALANI STACI ('seal of Alan Staci'). Staci (or Stacey) is diminutive of the vernacular form of Eustace (NMS-C5C902). Found on metal detecting rallies. (per N.M.S.).

Mendlesham (TM/1063; MDS 001, 136). **Me.** One incomplete flint tranchet axe (SF-SF-877DA2) and a large, elongated, sub-triangular flint flake core, possibly an unfinished pick (SF-876721). (R.Colchester).

Mildenhall (MNL 584). **Sx, Md.** Two 9th-century bronze strap ends, one extremely worn (SF-6EFED3, SF-6EE567). Medieval coins and bronze buckles. (M.D.D.C.).

Nacton (NAC Misc). **Ro.** A bronze hairpin, unusually with a head in the form of a tiny Roman key (SF-6EEB01, Fig. 102, A). (I.D.D.C.).

Nettlestead (NTT 012) **Ro.** Pottery and tile fragments suggesting a substantial building in the vicinity. (M.d.f.).

Orford (ORF Misc). **Md.** Circular 13th-century lead seal matrix, central six-petal flower, inscribed S'HENRIC[]S EV[], 'seal of Henry...' (SF-039047). (I.D.D.C.).

Ousden (OUS 011). **IA, Ro, Sx.** An enamelled late Iron Age bronze mount or stud with no surviving method of attachment, perhaps a shield or scabbard ornament (SF-6C83F7, Fig. 101, A). Roman bronze button-and-loop fastener of unusual form (SF-764A47), two fragments of late bracelets, coins and pottery including samian. A lead weight or gaming piece of conical shape

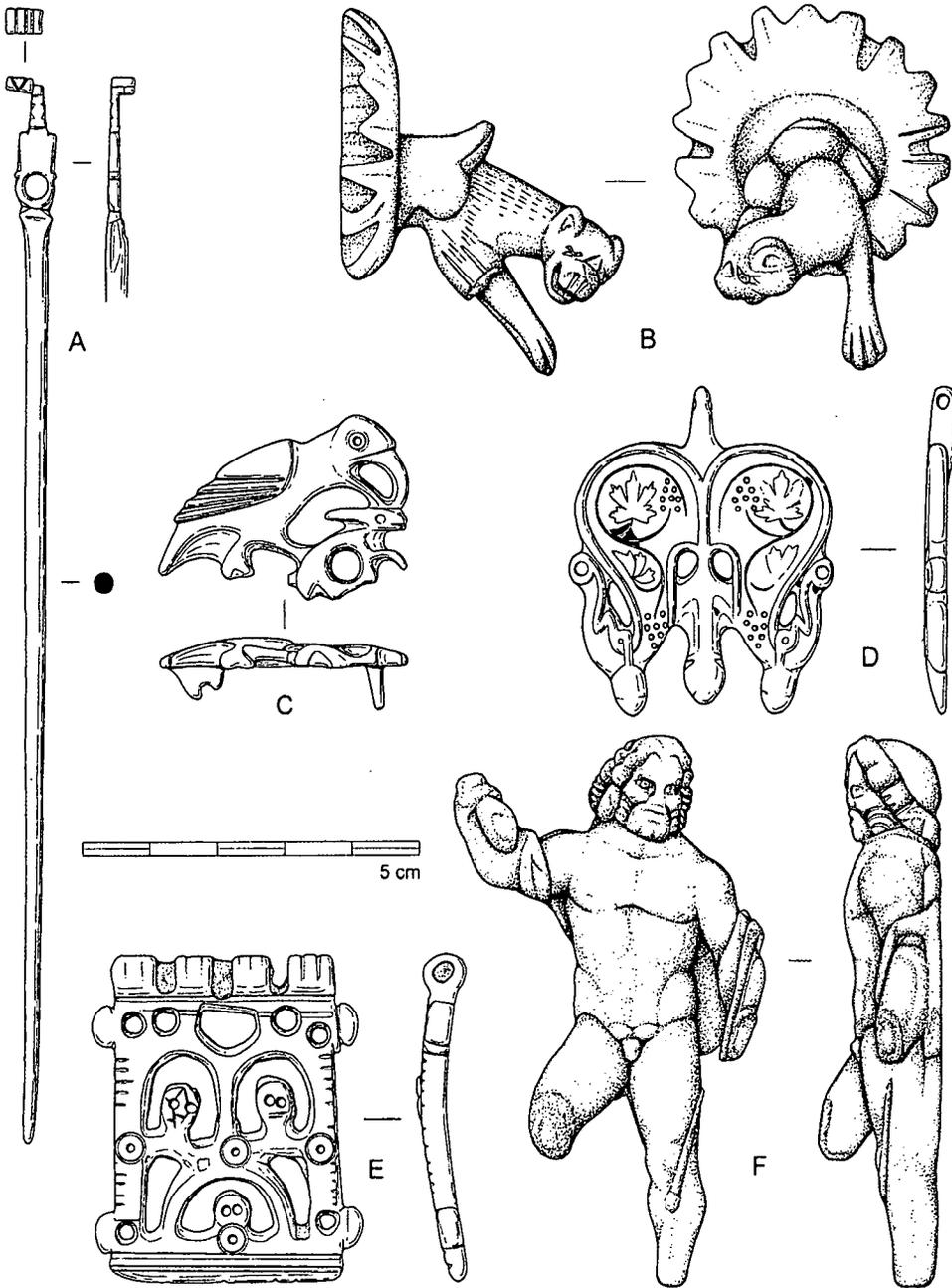


FIG. 102 – Roman objects: (A) pin from Nacton, (B) mount from Buxhall, (C) brooch from Worlington, (D), (F) harness pendant and figurine from Waldringfield, (E) buckle from Drinkstone.

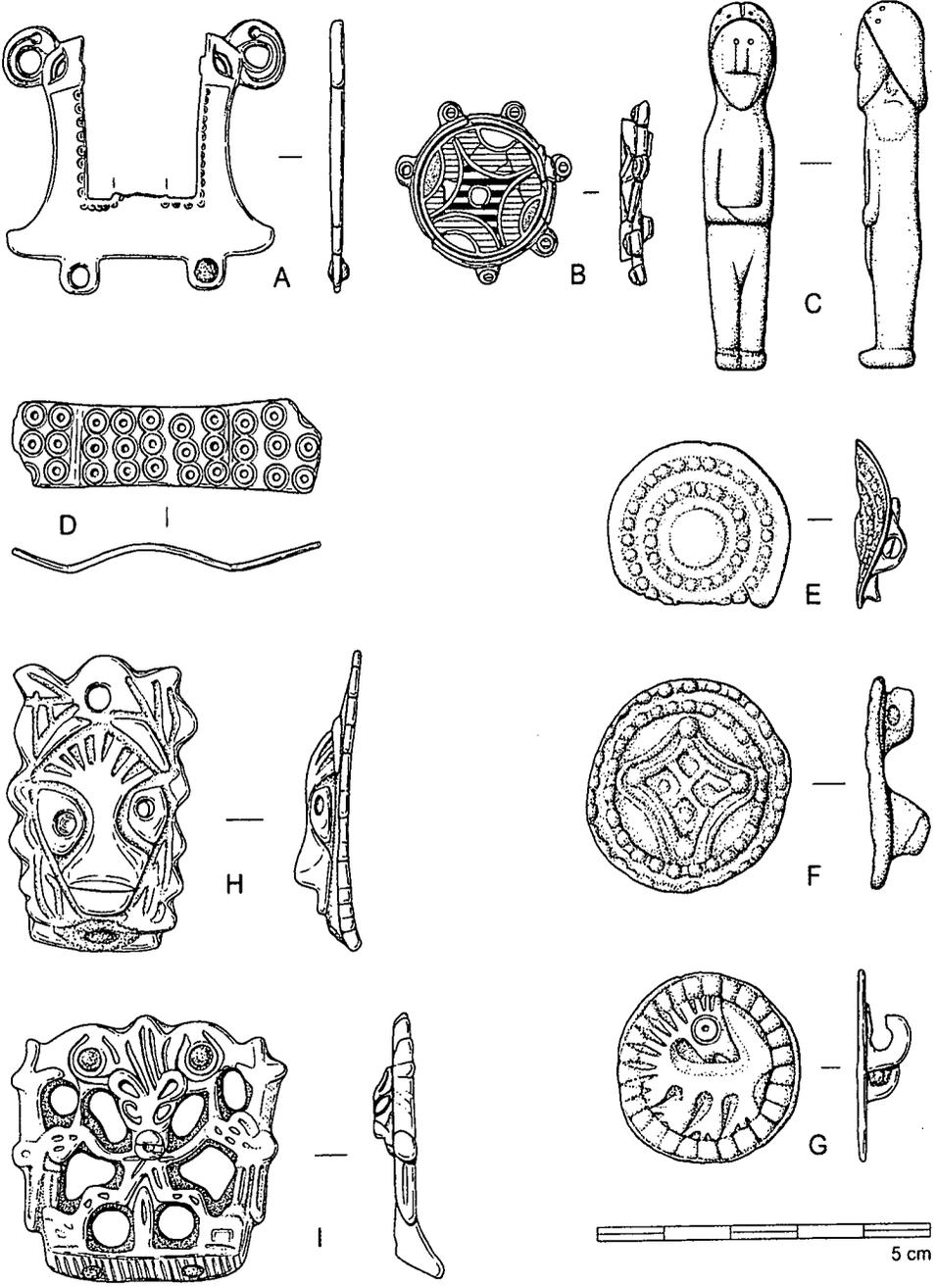


FIG. 103 – Saxon (A) girdle hanger from Frekenham; brooches from (B), (D) Great Barton, (E) Saxham, (F) Rendham, (G) Holbrook; stirrup-strap mounts from (H) Barrow and (I) Sutton.

modified to an irregular hexagonal section, probably Late Saxon in date (SF-80C447). (M.D.D.C.).

Parham (PRH Misc). **Md.** Enamelled bronze quatrefoil-shaped heraldic harness pendant; the arms shown are those of the Roscelin family (Gules, crusilly fitchy and three round buckles tongues fesseways argent) (SF-AEDB35). (I.D.D.C.).

Rendham (RNM 016). **Sx.** Lead disc brooch with a geometrical design probably originally derived from a coin (SF-88E700; Fig. 103, F). (I.D.D.C.).

Reydon (REY 058). **Ro, Sx.** Enamelled bronze button-and-loop fastener, *Wild* Class VIa, 2nd century, (SF-5A2776). Fragments of a Late Saxon strap end, *Thomas* Class E (SF-5AD2B4), and of a stirrup-strap mount, probably *Williams* Class C group 1 (SF-575073). (M.d.f.).

Ringshall (RGL 016). **Ro.** Enamelled bronze brooch, horse-and-rider type (SF-25CEA4). (I.D.D.C.).

Rougham (RGH 043). **Ne.** Worked flints including a leaf-shaped arrowhead (SF-731551), a probable laurel leaf fragment and end scrapers. (M.d.f.).

The Saxhams (SXL 025). **BA, Ro, Sx.** Bronze fragments from the butt end of an Early or Middle Bronze Age axe and from the mouth of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe (SF-3F9D78, SF-3F91C6). A fragment of a late Roman bronze openwork buckle plate (SF-504F66) and a lead steelyard weight. A Late Saxon bronze disc brooch with concentric beaded rows (SF-5081B5; Fig. 103, E). (M.d.f.).

South Elmham All Saints and St Nicholas (SEN 059, 060). **BA, IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Bronze socketed spearhead tip (NMS-C5EC87); late Iron Age bronze terret fragment (NMS-C616C4). Unusual, large bronze strap-end (NMS-17F7D5), the decoration appears to be derived from the Ringerike or Urnes styles, comparable to contemporary stirrup-strap mounts, 11th century and a bronze armllet (NMS-E90A21) with animal head terminals in Ringerike style, 10th or 11th century. Medieval objects include a lead pointed oval seal matrix (NMS-179393) with elaborate fleur-de-lis. + S [...M]ABILLIE MARIOhn (Seal of Mabel Marion). (*per* N.M.S.).

South Elmham St Mary otherwise Homersfield (SEY 017). **IA, Md.** A struck bronze coin, probably from Gaul, copying a *Massalia* (Marseilles) type (SF-7417E8), a cast *potin* coin of Thurrock type which derived from the same *Massalia* type (SF-746C65), and silver Icenian coins of face/horse, boar/horse and pattern/horse types. Part of a circular lead seal matrix inscribed [SIGILLVM] RICARDI LUM ('the seal of Richard Lum') around a petalled flower (SF-4B1967). (M.d.f.).

Stansstead (STS 019). **Ro.** A hollow bronze fitting in the shape of a panther or similar big cat, with an attachment spike on the front left paw and single holes in the rear limbs (SF-FD3D22). (B.Barker).

Stoke Ash (SAS 020). **Md.** Oval lead seal matrix, inscribed S'IONELECO, 'the seal of Joan le Co', around a five-petalled flower with a central hole (SF-B38735). (M.d.f.).

Sudbourne (SUE 108). **Md.** Silver *sceat* Series G (Type 3a), North 43, *c.* AD 710-720 (SF-186425). (I.D.D.C.).

Sutton (SUT 120). **Sx.** Rectangular bronze 11th-century stirrup-strap mount of unusual form with an animal head towards the top between two rust-filled holes, gaping-mouthed beasts along the edges and eight paired holes (SF-C49881; Fig. 103, I). (I.D.D.C.).

Thurston (THS 016). **IA?** A bronze object of uncertain function and date with moulded and punched decoration which might be late Iron Age in style (SF-203135; Fig. 101, B). (M.d.f.).

Waldringfield (WLD 016). Bronze 1st-century cavalry harness pendant, decorated with vine leaves and grapes with traces of white metal on the front (SF-BC1C94; Fig. 102, D). (M.d.f.).

Waldringfield (WLD 062). **Ro.** A flat-backed bronze figurine of Hercules, missing the hands and lower legs but with the stub of a club on the right arm, draped in a lion skin and perhaps wearing a plain cap (ESS- B4CEF5, Fig. 102, F). (M.d.f. *per* C.M.S.).

Wattisham (WAM 016). **Sx, Md.** Late Saxon bronze strap end, similar to *Thomas* class B type 6 (SF-98FAC1). Arabic gold coin, a half *dinar* of Abu Ya'qub Yusuf I (AH 558-80/AD 1163-84), struck in North Africa between 1168 and 1184 (SF-9EB484). (I.D.D.C.).

Westhorpe (TM/0470; WTP 010). **Ne.** Two partly-polished flint axes (SF-A26874). (C. Mees).

Westley (WLY 009). **Sx, Md.** Early Anglo-Saxon bronze cruciform brooch fragment (SF-BB4725). Bronze 9th-century strap end, *Thomas* class A type 5, with *niello* panels (SF-BCB7A5). A particularly

blundered silver coin from the late phase (c. 905-918) of the St Edmund Memorial coinage (SF-224432). Medieval silver coins, bronze belt fittings and sheet bronze scabbard chape. (M.D.D.C.).

Wickham Skeith (WKS 003). **Ro, Sx.** Further finds from this site include Roman pottery, tiles, bronze coins, brooches (including an unusual bird shape with outstretched wings, SF-E2CA31), a fragment of a late buckle plate (SF-6BE330) and a covered-loop terret (SF-6C4522). Fragments of early Anglo-Saxon brooches include cruciform, small long and florid cruciform (SF-68B596) types. (I.D.D.C.).

Woodbridge (WBG Misc). **IA.** Silver coin, possibly with a bronze core, an early Icenian Bury A type (ESS-9D52F0). (per C.M.S.)

Woodbridge (WBG Misc). **Ro.** Bronze cruciform brooch of late 3rd- or early 4th-century type (SF-A04765). (M.D.D.C.).

Wordwell (WRW 041). **IA.** Silver coin, Icenian early Face Horse type as *Van Arsdell* 665-3 (SF-161F76). (M.D.D.C.).

Worlington (WGN 023). **Ro.** Bronze brooch in the shape of a bird of prey, probably an eagle eating a hare (SF-BAD294; Fig. 102, C), and very similar to one from Hockwold, Norfolk. (M.D.D.C.).

Wyverstone (WYV 010). **IA, Ro.** Silver coin, Icenian pattern/horse type, probably Anted (SF-348711). Roman pottery, coins, bronze brooches, lock bolt, finger ring, silver spoon; building materials including coarse *tesserae* suggest a villa-type building. (M.d.f.).

Near Saxmundham (BNL 028). **BA.** Late Bronze Age hoard of the Ewart Park phase consisting of 57 small bronze fragments: two swords; four spearheads; ten socketed axes; nine unknown objects; 32 ingots (SF-13BAB8). (M.d.f.).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Alderton, Frith Cottage, Ramsholt Road (TM/3441; ADT 016). Monitoring was carried out on the excavation of footings for a small dwelling in the garden of Frith Cottage. The site is set within an area where the cropmark of a ring-ditch (ADT 016), thought to represent a flattened Bronze Age round barrow was observed in 1974. However, an initial archaeological trial trench dug through the centre of the proposed building footprint failed to reveal any Bronze Age remains. Monitoring continued during the excavation of the wall footings for the new house and two of the trenches revealed a pair of Bronze Age cremation urns. The vessels had become fractured in antiquity, but otherwise lay virtually intact within carefully constructed stone-lined pits. The stones in one of the pits consisted of selected large pebbles, which appeared to be water-worn and may have been collected from a nearby beach or river deposit. The stones from the other grave were mainly large irregular flints, but were equally carefully selected and positioned within the burial. Both of the cremation urns appear to be of early to middle Bronze Age in date, of biconical form and were inverted. The urns were lifted intact and are currently undergoing analysis. (Robert Atfield, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs T. Dorey).

Great Ashfield, Whitegates (TL/9966; ASG 018). Fieldwalking on Road Field (opposite the site) in 1982 produced 12th- to 14th-century pottery in several distinct concentrations suggesting a small medieval settlement beside the entry to the former Button Haugh Green. The extent of this massive green, though enclosed since 1811, can still be traced in field boundaries and green-side farmsteads. On the opposite (west) side of the road, in the grazing meadow known as Further Barn, earthworks could be seen that suggested house platforms, boundary ditches and sunken ways. These were surveyed and recorded in hope of future excavation, the area showing no signs of recent cultivation.

Excavation of the site began in 2005 with the digging of test trenches on each of the platforms and across one of the sunken features. All produced 13th- to 14th- century pottery, charcoal spreads, spreads of clay and evidence of burning. Two clay surfaces were unearthened, along with a large area of compacted flints suggesting a possible yard. Among the finds were two spindle whorls, one of

which was particularly fine and possibly of Saxon or even Roman origin.

Despite the site having been pasture for a long period, the medieval pottery, which was present in reasonable quantities, was mainly abraded and there was a dearth of other domestic debris, particularly oyster shells and animal bones. Although the cobbled 'yard' lay between the road and the pond, there is no evidence that it connected with either. It may be that these missing sections have been robbed out, or perhaps it just provided a small hard-standing between outbuildings. The meadow appears to be sectioned by a series of ditches running the full width from east to west. Each had its own raised platform towards the east end, which may have contained a house, barn or outbuilding.

Button Haugh Green was shared or 'intercommoned' by the parishes of Great Ashfield, Elmswell, Hunston and Norton and the sites investigated lie close to one of the entrances to the green. The farmstead called Whitegates was called *Gate Farm* in the 19th century and this name probably refers to its position next to a gate onto the green. The sites suggest relatively small properties on the approach to the green, with a similar group on the west side of the road, as indicated by the fieldwalked material from Road Field. There was no evidence for any reoccupation of the sites after they were abandoned towards the end of the 14th century.

(Mel Birch for the Suffolk Deserted Medieval Settlement Field Team).

Barham, Barham Quarry Phase 3 (TM/1351; BRH 043). Further excavations were carried out immediately south-east of last year's Phase 2 excavations. The Phase 3 site area measured around 120m (SW-NE) x 95m (SE-NW) and was centred around a small peak in the natural topography. The excavation revealed more of the large ditched enclosure, which covered most of the Phase 2 site. The enclosure ditches continued along the same south-easterly orientation and appear to extend yet further beyond the present excavation limit. An additional, much more substantial ditch, 3.50m. wide, crossed the extreme south corner of the site. This ditch lies at a similar orientation to an enclosure, which had previously only been seen as a cropmark from the air (BRH 028). Preliminary interpretations suggest that this is an Iron Age feature; while an initial examination of the pottery from other features within the Phase 3 area indicate a similar date. Other features excavated within the site include a small ring-ditch, with a diameter of around 6m. which had been severely truncated and a concentrated group of pits and post-holes towards the western corner of the site. This group of features suggests that a substantial post-built structure stood within the centre of a concentration of pits and smaller post-built structures. The structure was probably circular; evidence of which came from a number of apparently integral curvilinear features. The building was also probably associated with the outlying ancillary structures and pits. The curvilinear features may have contained supporting components for walls, which are likely to have surrounded a large central post. Although severely truncated by plough damage, there appeared to be remnants of an occupation spread. This was indicated by pottery lying in depressions within the area of the main structure. Although no specialist pottery identification has yet been carried out, the general impression obtained from on site examination is that the finds material is predominantly Iron Age in date. One of the characteristics of the site was the relatively high quantity of pottery found within most of the features, but also as part of a general spread across much of the excavation, including the north-east area. Equally large quantities of worked flint were also found. Fragments of lightly-fired clay, which may be the remains of thatch weights, were also found in a number of contexts. No coins were located, in spite of thorough metal detecting searches, but the remains of two brooches which probably date to the 1st century AD were found. A copper-alloy skillet handle was excavated from a small pit, which cut through one of the small enclosure ditches.

(Robert Atfield, S.C.C.A.S., for Brett Aggregates).

Beccles, Beccles Town Marshes (TM/2964; BCC 043). An excavation in April 2006 across the floodplain of the River Waveney, as part of bank refurbishment works, uncovered upright posts and associated wooden remains. The nature of the tool marks on the timbers suggested a prehistoric date. After an initial evaluation a full excavation of 20 x 5m area was undertaken by a joint team of

archaeologists from the University of Birmingham and Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service. Well-preserved worked timbers including large upright posts, planked wood, working debris and brushwood were collected. The wet environment also required full palaeoenvironmental analyses (pollen, plant macrofossil, diatom and coleoptera), with an auger survey to establish the depth and character of the sediments around the site. An Assessment Report (Chapman *et al.* 2007) has already been completed, and it is hoped that full report will be completed by the end of 2007.

Preliminary results indicate that the earliest structure was a narrow brushwood trackway constructed of coppiced rods with associated pegs, orientated east to west across the site. The depth of this feature (-1.5m AOD) means that it is located within one of the lower peat units, which represent a sedge, grass and reed dominated marsh type environment with evidence for grazing activity. The next construction was a large causeway or trackway formed from three parallel rows of posts orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment (Fig. 104). These posts were all of *Quercus* spp. (oak), possibly derived from overgrown coppice, and were sharpened using iron tools prior to use. A number of the posts submitted for assessment displayed 'halving lap joints' at their upper ends. These notches may have been cut to facilitate transportation, but it is also thought that they were designed to support a superstructure, however in only one location on the eastern edge of the trench, was there a structural relationship between a vertical post and a horizontal plank. In addition, a large quantity of worked wood was situated between the post alignments. Preliminary tool-mark analysis and radiocarbon dating (Beta-216739, 2150±40BP, cal.BC 360-280 and 240-60 and Beta-216738; 1940±40 BP cal.BC 30-cal.AD 130) has indicated an Iron Age or Roman date, but this is being refined by dendrochronology as part of the full report. Early results (I. Tyers, pers. comm.) suggest that the construction of the triple post row could be as late as 75 BC, making this site one of the latest dated Iron Age trackway structures in Britain. Similarly to the earlier brushwood trackway, the wood remains were located within a reed swamp or reed fen environment, but one which was apparently somewhat wetter than the previous peat unit. By the Roman period *in situ* tree trunks were recorded suggesting that the surface of the peat had been dry enough to permit tree growth. A substantial proportion of a single Roman pottery vessel was collected from within this context. The vessel, a narrow-mouthed flask or bottle of mid or late 1st to early 2nd century may have been deposited deliberately as part of a religious/votive offering on the water's edge (Tester and Goffin 2007).

Although brushwood trackways are relatively common in both the Britain and Ireland timber causeways are less frequent, and other examples e.g. Flag Fen, Peterborough (Pryor 2001) or the causeway at Fiskerton, Lincolnshire (Field and Parker Pearson 2004) do not provide convincing or direct structural parallels. The site however does fall into a general pattern of prehistoric post alignments and associated walkways from later prehistory, with use extending into the Roman period. (Henry Chapman and Ben Gearey, Birmingham Archaeo-Environmental, University of Birmingham, and William Fletcher, S.C.C.A.S.).

Botesdale, Simonds Garage (TM/0475; BOT 025). A first stage of monitoring following an evaluation identified a large feature, possibly a ditch alongside Chapel Lane. This work is ongoing. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Anglia Secure Homes Ltd).

Bramford, Blood Hill (TM/1148; BRF 068). Monitoring of topsoil stripping in advance of quarrying was undertaken. Two crouched burials of probable Bronze Age date were excavated and recorded. Both contained ceramic vessels, one of which was recovered whole. A large number of pits, also thought to date from the Bronze Age period, were recorded across much of the site. Three further graves, believed to date from the Roman period, were also identified and excavated. Two contained single inhumations whilst the third contained three skeletons, two juveniles laid either side of an adult. This grave also contained bronze rings and bracelets, glass beads and a ceramic vessel. Full analysis of the finds from this site is still underway.

(Mark Sommers, S.C.C.A.S., for Woody's Skip Hire; report in preparation).

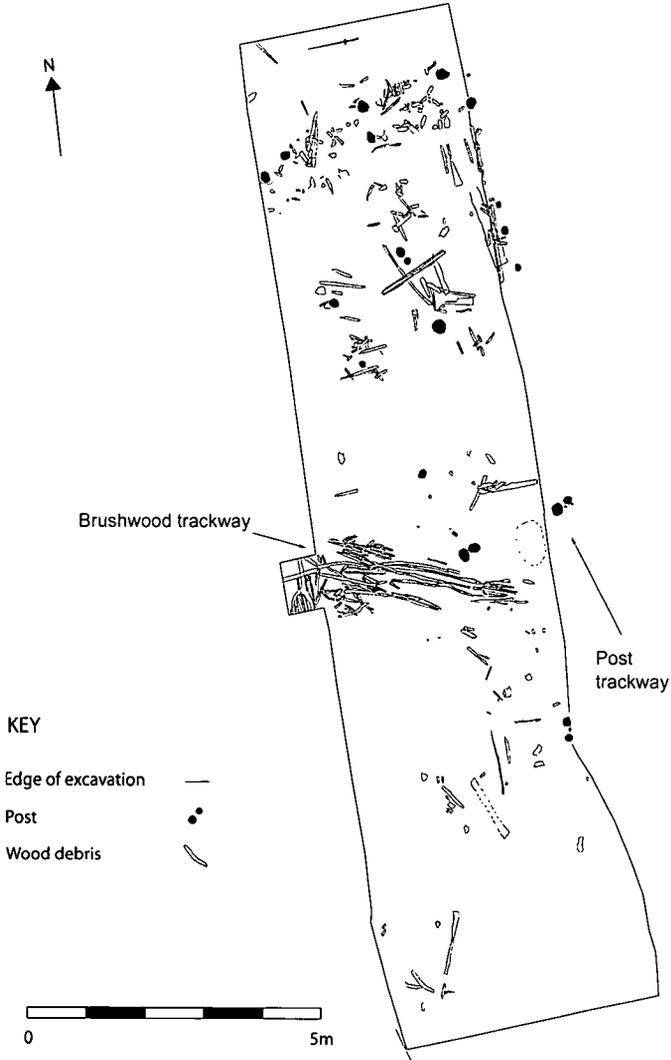


FIG. 104 – Town Marshes, Beccles, (BCC 043). Plan of the excavated area of two prehistoric timber walkways.

Brandon, Fengate Drove (TL/7887; BRD 189). Excavation confirmed the presence of a substantial boundary ditch on the county border between Norfolk and Suffolk at Fengate Drove, Brandon. The ditch was recut several times, gradually shifting several metres to the north, with the final phase closely matching the modern boundary. The final stages of its infilling appear to have been in the late medieval/post-medieval period but firm dating evidence was very limited. By the late 19th century only a belt of trees and possible fenceline marked the boundary. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for PIP Developments; report no. 2006/165).

Bungay, rear of Castles Bar and Restaurant (TM/33489; BUN 067). A former cowshed of 18th-19th-century date that had been extended as garages during the 20th century was evaluated prior to conversion to domestic use as it has sections of flint-and-mortar wall fabric incorporated in its structure. A visual examination of the flint-and-mortar walls revealed no evidence that contradicts the interpretation that they are medieval in date. However, the exposed internal structure of the blocks confirmed that none were *in situ*, all exhibiting steeply angled or even vertical coursing. In addition, excavated test-pits beside the walls revealed that they did not continue down significantly below the existing ground surface and were not found to be sitting on any contemporary footing.

On that basis, all of the walls were considered to represent the slighted remains of walls that once formed part of the Inner Bailey wall of Bungay Castle. Going by existing topography, this wall should have been located immediately to the south of the fallen blocks at a marked break of slope. However, this appears to contradict evidence from Keepers Cottage to the east where the line of the Inner Bailey has purportedly been preserved by a surviving stretch of wall. The Keepers Cottage wall was not examined as part of this project and it is entirely possible that it too represents a fallen block with the actual wall-line lying to the south.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr Robert Long; report no. 2006/126).

Bury St Edmunds, Abbey Church West Front (TL/8564; BSE 010 and 263). A small excavation and survey was undertaken as part of the restoration of the 16th-17th century house built into the West Front of the Abbey Church. The excavation was alongside the pier of the central arch, the main door into the building. This exposed the footings and an *in situ* block of ashlar; the only survivor seen thus far of the dressed stone that faced the west front of the building. This is the first indication of both the medieval ground level and the true front of the building. Evidence of an early courtyard surface fronting the church and overlying demolition layers, all below the level of the footings demonstrated that the West Front has been rebuilt over a previous incarnation of the abbey church.

The survey recorded evidence of the development of the abbey church and architectural details revealed during the restoration work. These including flagstones of a triforium walkway along the top of the south wall of the south aisle and the springers of a barrel vault over a recess in the south aisle. (David Gill, S.C.C.A.S., for Hawes and Southgate Ltd and St Edmundsbury Borough Council).

Bury St Edmunds, 86 Hardwick Lane (TL/8562; BSE 279). An evaluation did not identify any archaeological deposits, indicating that the potential Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery, known from several nearby burials and which is thought to lie in the vicinity, does not extend under the property. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mrs M. Swenson; report no. 2006/65).

Capel St Mary, The Driftway (TM/0838; CSM 027). A small evaluation revealed evidence for the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval use of the site. The prehistoric system of ditches was likely to be of Iron Age date and was on a separate alignment from those of the Roman period. The Roman phase of use was represented by another series of parallel ditches, perhaps indicating expansion or contraction of fields or other boundaries. Between the laying down of the prehistoric and of the Roman features, a thick deposit of silty subsoil had accumulated within the south-western corner of the site. This was probably due to down-slope soil-creep filling a slight dip or depression. A small

concentration of post-holes within the north-eastern corner of the site was likely to be of post-medieval date.

(Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for Planbuild Services; report no. 2006/014)

Carlton Colville, land off Beccles Road, Persimmon Homes Phase 5 (TM/5190; CAC 037). A small open-area excavation resulted from an evaluation conducted across this small parcel of heavy clay land to the north of the Carlton Colville Bypass. Within the excavation area a prehistoric ditch cut through an earlier large pit (of probable Bronze Age date) containing abundant fire-cracked flint. At least 5m in diameter, this pit had been severely truncated by the ditch on one side and on another side was too close to the field hedge to extend the excavation area. This feature was quarter-sectioned to reveal that its gentle sloping edges gave way to a vertically-sided, rectangular 'tank' at its centre. The lower fills of this part of the pit produced very profuse quantities of fire-cracked flint and an abundance of flint splinters suggesting that hot stones had been dropped into standing water, causing the stones to shatter. The feature is probably related to a class of monuments called 'burnt mounds' that are often found away from settlements and could be associated with cooking and feasting or with steam baths such as saunas. The best preserved comparative example from Suffolk was from Swales Fen (Martin 1988) where a wooden revetment and lining still survived.

(Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for Persimmon Homes).

Chevington, Chevington Hall (TL/7860; CHV 021). A bonded flint wall, probably the dwarf wall of an immense timber-framed building was found during excavations as part of the ongoing refurbishment work at the Hall. The full extent of the building went beyond the limits of the excavation but was 10m wide and in excess of 19m long. It was sealed beneath the remains of a floor and double-hearth chimney of a demolished 16th-century building and part overlaid by the present 17th-century Hall (Fig. 105). The layers associated with the later building were left intact, but evidence from the evaluation, suggests that the earlier timber-framed building was aisled; possibly a barn and associated with the Abbot of Bury St Edmund's palace that once occupied the site. The medieval pottery assemblage dates from 12th to 13th centuries, and consists mainly of coarse wares but also included a glazed Hedingham-ware jug and from the early post-medieval occupation an imported Raeren drinking jug.

(David Gill and Richenda Goffin, S.C.C.A.S., for Sir G. Winter).

Copdock, Eight Elms Farm (TM/1140; COP 011). A local metal detectorist discovered a hoard of Late Bronze Age metalwork in a ploughed field. The majority of the hoard was subsequently excavated by S.C.C.A.S. The hoard included a blade, bronze axe fragments and pieces of bronze 'cake'. The material was buried in a small oval pit and a brown fibrous layer on the base of the feature was interpreted as the vestiges of a container, possibly a leather bag into which the objects had been placed. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S.; report no. 2006/1)

Debenham, Crows Hall, (TM/1962; DBN 124). A major refurbishment of the surviving elements of Crows Hall, a brick-built Tudor building, and the landscaping of its moated platform required a programme of archaeological work that included evaluation, building recording and the recording of any structures revealed during groundworks. While most interventions were on a small scale, the results provided information with regard to various building phases of the hall. The principal findings were as follows:

- 1) A combination of evaluation trenching and monitoring of groundworks confirmed that the building complex had once included an east and south range.
- 2) The removal of the existing floor in the room immediately to the north of the gatehouse revealed that the original gatehouse had been smaller. The flanking rooms were a later development, a fact that was confirmed by examination of the extant external wall fabric to the

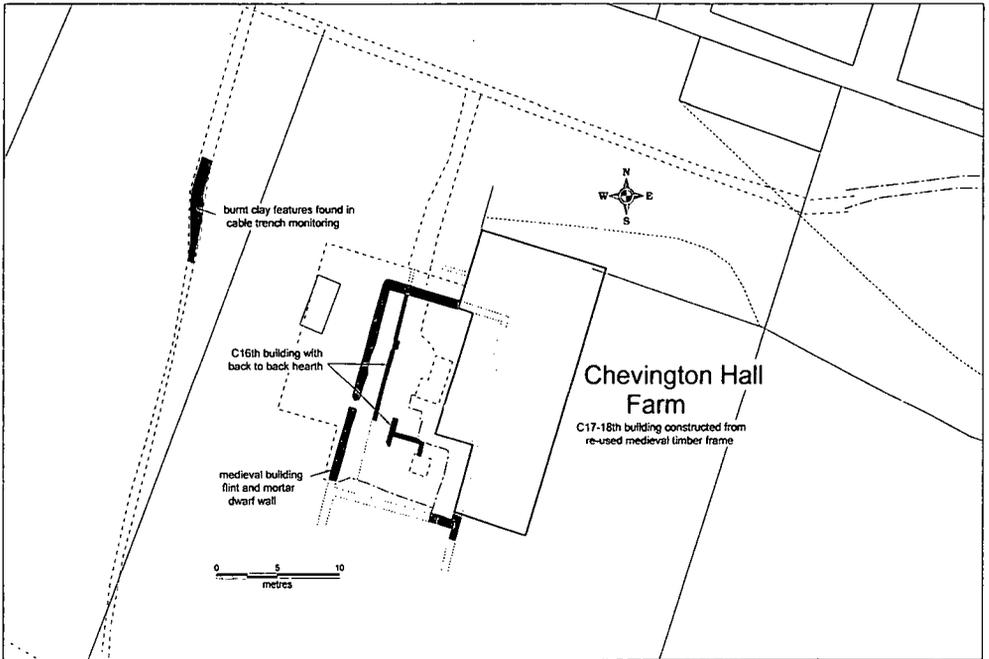
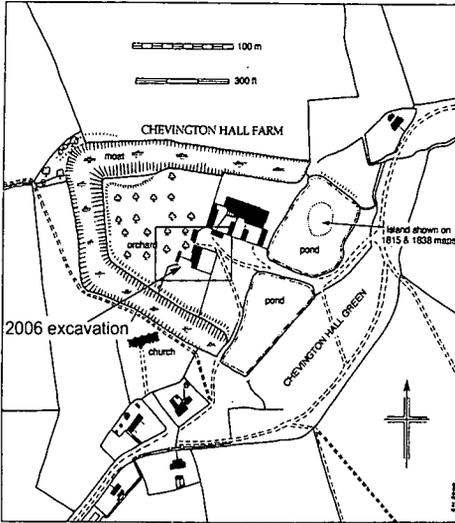


FIG. 105 – Chevington Hall Farm, (CHV 021). Plan showing excavated buildings and their location on a map of the site in the 19th century.

north of the gatehouse.

- 3) Wall stubs of both red-brick and flint and mortar construction were recorded to the north of extant building suggesting that a further complex of buildings were present with the latter possibly of earlier, medieval date.
 - 4) While there was clear evidence for some brick revetting of the moat contemporary with the Tudor building phase, particularly at its corners, later, probably 19th century, phases of walling was identified on the northern side of the platform.
 - 5) A complex of below-ground brick structures and wall stubs, located immediately north of a later phase extension on the north side of the surviving wing, were interpreted as latrines of 'thunderbox'-like construction with brick-lined chutes emptying into chambers that would have been periodically emptied. While Tudor-type bricks had been used in their construction, these appeared to have been re-used and a 19th-century date is thought to be the most likely, although the original structure may have been slightly earlier. The latrines were either external to the main building or accessed through the extension.
- (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Ms C. Spurrier; report no. 2006/125).

Eriswell, Waste Water Treatment Plant, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7980; ERL 152). Monitoring during improvement works identified Roman features in the eastern half of the site which indicate a continuation of the occupation previously identified to the south of the site and to the north of Caudle Head Mere. Excavations in the western half of the site showed waterlain and peaty deposits. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Eriswell, RAF Lakenheath, Sweeper Dump Site (TL/7280; ERL 160). Monitoring in advance of construction identified ditches and a Roman buried soil containing pottery dating from the 2nd to 4th centuries AD. These finds represent a continuation of the Roman settlement identified to the east and south of this site and on the north side of Caudle Head Mere. The features and soil layer were sealed by windblown sand that appeared to have been worked, probably in the medieval or post-medieval period. The eastern end of the site had been truncated by levelling for a heavy vehicle compound, but evidence from the monitoring suggests that archaeological horizons on this side may have been previously truncated by ploughing. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Exning, 7 The Highlands (TL/6265; EXG 082). Evaluation identified a large ditch containing Iron Age pottery within the proposed site of a new house. A small scale excavation dug three sections through this ditch and recovered large quantities of Iron Age pottery including fine Darmsden-style bowls as well the more standard flint-tempered coarse wares. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr T. Peak).

Flixton, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086; FLN 011 and FLN 086). Soil-stripping at the eastern end of the quarry to provide material for a bund revealed a previously known ring-ditch (FLN 011) which was subsequently excavated under the site code for the whole area, FLN 086.

The 19m-diameter ring-ditch was found to be 1m wide and 0.8m deep and had a V-shaped profile. The ditch did not describe a perfect circle, but was made up of a series of straighter sections that together formed an angled shape with approximately eight facets. Finds recovered from the fill were limited to generally undiagnostic worked flints and a few sherds of prehistoric pot. No associated burial or other features were identified internal to the ring-ditch although it is still presumed to represent the ploughed-out remains of an Early Bronze Age round barrow.

Other features recorded included a large pit, probably of post-medieval date and the flanking ditches and rutted metalled surface of the pre-late 19th century Flixton to Homersfield Road. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Cemex Ltd).

Freckenham, Highfields, Chippenham Road (TL/6671; FRK 029). Monitoring of extension footings identified a scatter of pits containing Iron Age material and the intact foundations of a post-medieval smock mill which is known to have been demolished c.1910. This octagonal foundation wall, which measured 0.7m deep and 0.5m thick, was set within a circular footing trench. It was built from irregular clunch blocks set in a rough creamy mortar, the interior edge being faced. Parts of the lower two courses of brick, from the above ground structure, also survived. Approximately 15% of the foundations were removed by the development, the remainder was left *in situ*. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs Bone).

Friston, Barber's Point, River Alde (TM/4357; FRS 001). 2006 saw the second and final season of excavation on this Early Roman and Middle Saxon occupation site. With the permission of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust (the site owner), the project was run as a training excavation for volunteers. It was commissioned by the Aldeburgh and District Local History Society, funded by the Local Heritage Initiative and supervised by S.C.C.A.S. staff. Guided by a magnetometry survey of the site (by Aline and David Black of Colchester Archaeological Trust) two trenches were targeted on aspects of the large double-ditched enclosure identified. Trench 3 was located within the interior of the enclosure (thus enlarging Trench 1 of 2004) and was designed to investigate a line of post-holes and other possible structural remains. Trench 4 investigated the eastern corner of the enclosure (only vaguely discernible in the magnetic survey) and a large anomaly further to the east and external to the enclosure.

Within Trench 3, the inner enclosure ditch was revealed and excavated sections through this feature showed that despite yielding a large amount of residual Roman pottery it was probably of Middle Saxon date, containing Ipswich Ware and imported continental pottery. Internal to the ditch, the partial remains of possibly three post-built structures have been identified. The 'soft' corners of at least two of these structures suggesting a Saxon date. The third structure, only partly showing in the eastern corner of the trench, consisted of large and closely spaced post-holes. It was within this area that two graves were identified. No conclusive dating evidence was gathered from either the post-hole structure or the graves, although the graves and the building are on the same alignment. It is hoped that radiocarbon dates from the bone will be obtained. Nearby, a dense spread of Roman pottery contained an iron blade of c.150mm length. Expanding the area previously seen in Trench 1, it was shown that the chalky clay patches, previously thought to be large post-pads, were actually of natural origin and were mixed in with the underlying sand and gravel geology.

In Trench 4, both enclosure ditches were uncovered, with the outer ditch cornering and cutting the inner ditch. Initial assessment of the pottery suggests that the outer ditch was also of Middle Saxon date. Internal to the ditches was a thick build-up of a midden-type deposit containing both Saxon and Roman artefacts. Fired clay briquetage was also recovered, likely to be associated with Roman salt production. Under this layer was revealed a large shallow Saxon pit, a Roman ditch and an area of scorching on the underlying natural sand. Outside the enclosure ditches the large circular 'anomaly' was quarter-sectioned and excavated to a depth of c.1m before waterlogging made further digging impossible. Clearly a cut-feature, this large pit of over 8m in diameter could have served as a pond or fresh-water source. A small amount of highly abraded Roman pottery was found in its upper fill, but conclusive dating evidence was not recovered.

The 2006 season of excavation has shown that the enclosure ditches are of Middle Saxon date and contain at least two structures of this date. A larger and more substantial building, possibly associated with burials, has not as yet been dated. Much of the Roman assemblage is likely to be residual and in features and deposits of later date, but some *in situ* Roman material survives and might be extending further to the north and outside the present excavation areas.

(Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for the Aldeburgh and District Local History Society)

Gisleham, Household Waste and Recycling Centre, Hadenham Road, South Lowestoft Industrial

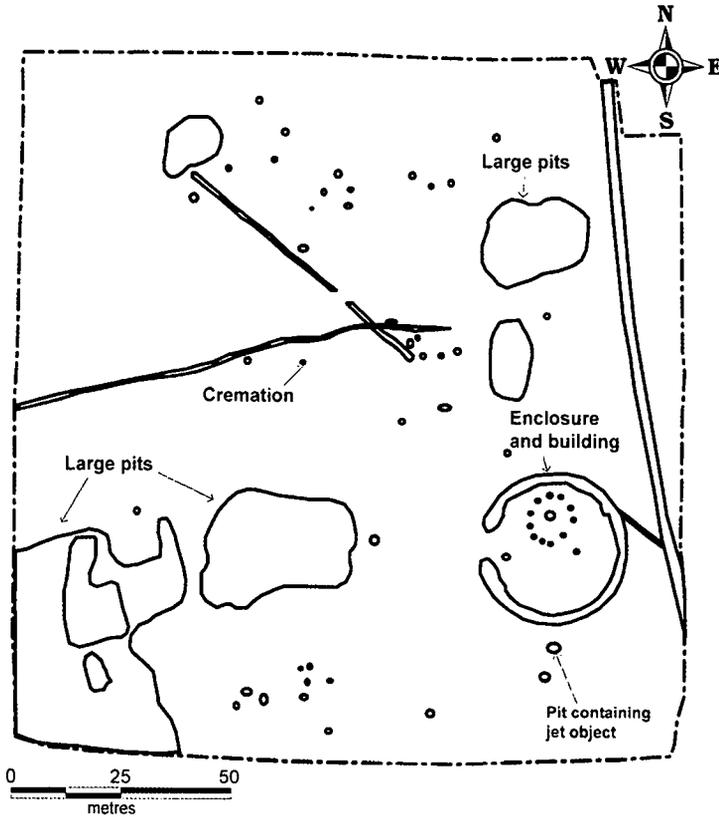


FIG. 106 – Gisleham, (CAC 035). Plan of the excavated prehistoric features including a circular post-built house within a circular enclosure.

Estate (TM/5289; CAC 035). Trial trenching in November 2005 in advance of an industrial development revealed scattered prehistoric features – pits, post-holes and ditches including a probable Neolithic pit and an Iron Age ditch indicating a multi-period occupation site.

Subsequently the entire area was excavated in February and March 2006. A circular ditched enclosure was found with a roundhouse within it. The enclosure was *c.*22m in diameter and had an entrance to the west: a 4.5m gap in the ditch with a post-hole to one side, indicating a probable gate post and entrance-way. The building inside was *c.*7.5m in diameter with a probable entrance to the south-east and a central hearth (Fig. 106). Although dating for this enclosure and house is still ongoing, it would appear to be an early Iron Age settlement, perhaps representing a small farmstead early in the 1st millennium BC.

In addition a series of large pits containing a very clayey, stoneless, fill were identified and machine sectioned as one, for example, was over 20m across and 2m deep. These enigmatic features appeared to be ‘old’ as their fill was very clean and some of the field ditches of probable early date appear to respect their location. Initial interpretation was that they were a form of natural hollow, as the fill was so clean and they did not ‘feel’ archaeological. However after a visit from, and discussions with, a soil scientist, it was suggested that that they were possibly clay quarry pits, and that they were backfilled very rapidly – hence the paucity of finds and lack of any homogenised layers (R. McPhail, pers. comm.). It is thought they could be of a similar date to the enclosure and structure and radiocarbon dating may confirm or deny this. It is worth noting that in places on the site, the natural Lowestoft



FIG. 107 – Hitcham, (HTC 013). Location of the six excavated trenches on the magnetometer survey, by GSB Prospection Ltd, of the Roman villa.

Till is particularly fine and would have provided easily-workable clay.

Evidence for earlier activity was sparser but two pits, in particular, were noteworthy. Both were of Bronze Age date, with one producing a small lozenge-shaped jet plaque with geometric decoration and a fine flint knife. The jet object's purpose is unknown, but was probably for clothing or a neck ornament. Jet, which comes from Whitby in Yorkshire, is a relatively common find in Early Bronze Age contexts in the north of England and in Scotland but is much rarer in East Anglia. Closer analysis of this jet piece is currently ongoing but traces of a copper-rich sediment have been discovered within the holes around the edge, suggesting possible copper rivet attachment onto an organic base. The other pit proved to be an isolated cremation burial also of earlier Bronze Age date. (Clare Good, S.C.C.A.S., for Suffolk County Council Waste Management).

Gisleham, 1 Pinbush Road, South Lowestoft Industrial Estate (TM/5289; CAC 036). Five evaluation trenches were excavated in connection with a factory extension. Four produced no archaeological evidence, but one, Trench 4, had a buried soil horizon with scattered flints of

Mesolithic to Bronze Age date, as well as some probable Iron Age pottery in association with a small burnt area, a possible domestic hearth, within this soil horizon. Occupation evidence is of a similar age was found at the adjacent CAC 035 site and suggests a small area of prehistoric activity. Subsequent monitoring revealed no further archaeology.

(C. Good, S.C.C.A.S., for Harrod UK Ltd.; report no. 2006/102).

Haverhill, land north of Apple Acre Road, Hanchet End (TL/6546; HVH 058). An evaluation identified a single ditch containing Roman pottery sherds of 2nd-3rd century date. Five other ditches were of a relatively modern date and probably relate to field boundaries removed during the 20th century. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for H. C. Moss Ltd; report no. 2006/78).

Haverhill, land off Chalkstone Way (TL/6845; HVH 059). An archaeological evaluation and excavation identified a phase of prehistoric occupation, consisting of a scatter of isolated pits. A system of eleven parallel ditches, spaced 5m apart are probably of a post-medieval or later date. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Abbey Developments Ltd).

Hitcham, Roman Villa Local Heritage Initiative Project (TL/95; HTC 013). Six trenches were excavated by volunteers from the Hitcham community, supervised by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, in the second phase of this Local Heritage Initiative-funded project. The trenches were positioned to answer specific questions arising from the geophysical, metal-detecting and fieldwalking surveys carried out in the first phase, which had identified possible structures, a ditched enclosure and other features (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2005').

Of the six trenches, two were placed within a pasture field and the remaining four within a cultivated field. These trenches confirmed the presence of two Roman buildings and the presence of enclosure ditches and an intense area of Roman activity, including ditches and pits, away from the buildings on the south edge of the site (Fig. 107).

Trench 2, in the pasture field, revealed a probable bathhouse indicated by east-west and north-south flint-and-mortar walls, the presence of subterranean mortar and fired clay surfaces and extensive deposits of charcoal-rich sands. That there had been alterations to the structure during its life was evidenced by the presence of *in situ* fragments of flint and mortar wall fabric sealed beneath the later surfaces. Square pads of mortar on these surfaces suggest the former presence of hypocaust pilae but this could not be confirmed. The area clearly identified as being within the building covered up to 50sq m on the eastern side of the trench, but the area excavated was too limited to enable interpretation of the functions of the room(s) identified or to be certain that the other area was outside the building. Extensive post-use robbing of the fabric of the bathhouse could be seen with a number of large robbing pits that cut through walls and surfaces and contained substantial amounts of building rubble. However whilst indicating that this was a masonry building with a tiled roof and some painted plaster on the walls, the rubble material was so mixed that it was not possible to speculate, from this small excavation, about the decorative schemes in individual rooms.

Trench 4, in the ploughed field, uncovered the northern end of a second domestic building surviving under the ploughsoil as a single course of unbonded flints, the surviving remnants of probable footings for a timber-framed structure. These walls represent the north-western corner of a rectangular building, almost certainly the main house. Using the combination of excavation and geophysical evidence it was probably in the region of 15m x 20-25m and perhaps a small corridor-type villa layout. Both the buildings were at the northern, elevated end of the fields, but at the bottom of the slope Trench 3 uncovered pits and ditches all apparently contemporary with the use of the villa. This has been tentatively interpreted as lower status domestic occupation, possibly that of the servants and estate workers. Of the remaining three trenches, Trench 5 confirmed the presence of a pair of northwest-southeast aligned parallel ditches that had been suggested by the geophysical

survey; these may have been part of a rectilinear enclosure surrounding the main villa complex. Trench 6, on the top of the hill, north of Trench 4, contained no features and may have been outside the villa enclosure. Trench 1, situated within the enclosure, roughly between the bathhouse and the villa, was also relatively empty and may have been in the area of the villa gardens. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Hitcham Parish Council and the Local Heritage Initiative).

Ipswich, Ice House Project, St Joseph's College (formerly Birkfield Lodge) (TM/1543; IPS 481). A previously unrecorded ice house, presumably associated with Birkfield Lodge, and dated to c.1800, was confirmed by excavation in 2005. A second season of excavation was undertaken in 2006 by students from St Joseph's College, Stoke High School and Beacon Hill Special School, funded by a grant from the Department for Education and Skills (DfES). This concentrated on removing sludge from the inside of the underground ice chamber, having recently been used as a soakaway from the road. Over 1.5m of deposit was removed from the chamber to reveal the beginnings of a sloping, conical base. The washed in silts contained finds of 20th-century date, with occasional fragments of older building material likely to be associated with the Lodge. These could belong to an above-ground superstructure to the ice house, evidence of footings for which were revealed in 2005. Also emerging from under the wet silts were a bundle of iron rods or rails that might have been internal to the structure. A final phase of excavation is planned for 2007, when it is hoped to fully reveal the rods, the base of the chamber and the presumed drain in the bottom. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for St Joseph's College and DfES)

Ipswich, Highfield Nursery, Chesterfield Drive (TM/1446; IPS 496). Monitoring identified a single, small, Roman pit. The only other feature recorded was the northern side of a modern extraction pit previously seen in the footings for an earlier extension. There was no evidence for the significant Roman building investigated by Basil Brown, c.1946, that was said to have been located on the northern edge of an extraction pit. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for V. A. Marriott Ltd; report no. 2006/53).

Ipswich, Holywells Park (TM/1743; IPS 497). A trenched evaluation was carried out within the moated enclosure in advance of the installation of new play equipment. Long believed to be the site of the Ipswich residence of the bishops of Norwich, excavation showed that no substantial structure stood within the moat and that settlement within the moated area itself was unlikely. Documentary research by Anthony Breen has indicated that the bishops of Norwich were very infrequent visitors to Ipswich and that a large residence was doubtful. Rather than thinking in terms of a bishop's palace, it is more probable that the bishop's interests were served by his representative or bailiff who had a more modest dwelling. A quantity of pottery, tile and oyster shell of late medieval to early post-medieval date indicates nearby settlement during this period. Glazed and imported pottery and early roof-tile might suggest that a high status dwelling could be within the vicinity. Local schools, youth organisations and community groups were invited to site and helped with the recovery of finds from selected layers and from the spoil heaps. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for Ipswich Borough Council; report no. 2006/107).

Ipswich, former NCP Car Park, St. George's Street (TM/1644; IPS 502; IAS 7017). A trial-trenching evaluation of the site has provided evidence regarding the natural topography of the site and the surviving archaeological deposits. The existing level floor surface in the standing building has been attained by truncating the northern end of the site and by building up the south. Archaeological features were recorded in two of the trial-trenches. A ditch in a trench located towards the eastern end of the site was parallel to the existing road (St George's Street) and was found to cut a pit that had 10th/11th century pottery in its fill. One of the trenches towards the southern edge of the site, in the built up area, had two pits cut into its base, the larger of which included medieval (12th-14th centuries) pottery in its fill.

The evaluation has confirmed that truncation was limited to the northern end and that elsewhere there was evidence of occupation deposits dating from the Late Saxon and medieval periods. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for SHE Developments Ltd and David Wilson Homes Eastern; report no. 2006/153).

Ixworth, former Mulleys Garage (TL/9370; IXW 060). An evaluation identified a phase of Roman activity consisting of preserved remnants of a soil horizon, pits, postholes and a ditch. A flint built post-medieval well was also located. Post-excavation is still continuing. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mothersole Builders).

Kirton, farm reservoir at Kirton Lodge (TM/2941; KIR 055). A trenched evaluation was conducted within the area of a proposed farm reservoir on an east-to-west running ridge overlooking Kirton Creek to the north. This revealed a high concentration of features within the north-west corner of the site. Some of these are likely to be of prehistoric date, with some features containing pottery of the Early Bronze Age. Although a hearth and possible structural remains suggest settlement, the presence of urn fragments within the pottery assemblage might point to a funerary use of the site. Outside the main concentration, some isolated archaeological remains were identified. A pit of Bronze Age date was recognised towards the south-east corner of the site and three sections of ditch, one prehistoric, one medieval and one undated, ran along the site's eastern edge. The ground along the southern edge of the area was far heavier and contained more clay than that to the north and field drainage must have been a concern to earlier farmers. A large undated ditch, in some places of 3m width, cut across this area from east to west. A more comprehensive system of field drains, including ditches containing ceramic pipes, was laid out across this area of clay in the 19th or early 20th century. Open area excavations are planned for 2007. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for G.H. and J.G. Paul; report no. 2006/122).

Lakenheath, Base Water System Phase 4, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7381; LKH 259). Continuing monitoring of the improvement of the Base water system saw ditches in pipe trenches within the Roman settlement north of Caudle Head Mere. (Jo Caruth, SCCAS for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Lakenheath, Munitions Area 1 and 2, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7282 and TL 7382; LKH 266). Monitoring during road widening identified a low density of undated features and evidence for an ancient landscape of dunes and hollows. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF)).

Lakenheath, Refueler Facility, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7480; LKH 267). Monitoring of the construction of a new road located dispersed evidence of prehistoric occupation, consisting of two small pits, one containing Iron Age material, and one larger, disturbed, undated pit. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF); report no. 2006/74).

Langham, Langham Hall Estate Project (TL/9868; LGH 009). Work continued on excavating a settlement site in an area of rough pasture immediately south of St Mary's Church and just above the flood plain of a tributary of The Black Bourn. The site has produced evidence of occupation from the Middle Saxon period down to the 14th century, in the form of clay and cobbled surfaces, postholes, hearths, a possible 'oven', some Ipswich Ware and a large amount of medieval pottery, oyster shells, cut animal bones, quern fragments and metal slag. The flint foundations of the former rectory, known from documentary records to have existed near the church, were discovered in 2006, showing several phases of rebuilding and possible evidence for a medieval origin. From the excavations it would appear to have been of no great size, probably in a poor state of repair and a

possible eyesore at the time of its demolition by Sir Patrick Blake, *c.*1760, as part of his creation of a park around his new hall. Sir Patrick achieved this *coup de grace* by exchanging the glebe land, on which the rectory stood, for land elsewhere where a replacement was built.

The excavation finished at the end of 2006 and that on the adjoining moated site, now sometimes called 'The Hallimote' (LGH 009), is planned to end in April 2007. (Mel Birch for the Suffolk Deserted Medieval Settlement Field Team).

Long Melford, Conduit House, The Green (TL/8646; LMD 164). Monitoring of extensions located a post-medieval ditch marking a former garden boundary and rubbish deposits containing post-medieval ceramic building materials, both probably predating the early 19th century property. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs Pearson; report no. 2006/72).

Long Melford, land off New Road (TL/8645; LMD 165): An evaluation in advance of three new houses revealed four or five pits of Roman date, sealed below a preserved Roman soil layer. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs Farthing, Mr and Mrs A Palmer and Mr and Mrs N Palmer).

Mildenhall, Washington Street, Beck Row (TL/6877; MNL 570). An evaluation identified evidence of Late Iron Age and Roman occupation, consisting principally of ditch systems together with occasional pits. The dense scatter of features indicates a high level of activity, which is clearly an extension of the multi-period site MNL 502 that lies directly to the north. The evaluation also identified a natural, peat-infilled hollow, a typical feature of the natural fen-edge landscape. There was no indication of any recent waterlogging and the peat deposits were desiccated and of limited potential for environmental analysis.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Ministry of Defence, Defence Estates (USF); report no. 2006/187).

Norton, Little Green, (TL/9766; NRN 017). An evaluation on part of the medieval green was completed in advance of a small housing development. A group of small features and an extensive hollow, the result of clay extraction, were recorded, these were all post-medieval and the whole pottery assemblage was 17th century or later. The southern green edge is preserved in the existing field ditch, medieval pottery was recorded on the surface of the adjacent field but none on the green itself. Despite building infill, the line of the south edge of the green can be traced by the position of the older houses, this shows that the green was linear in plan and was probably originally a continuation of the much larger Buttonhaugh Green to the west.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr Terry Lucas; report no. 2006/93).

Palgrave, St John's House Hospital (TM/0977; PAL 024). An excavation, following an evaluation in 2005, revealed further evidence of a phase of Roman activity, consisting of a series of ditches and scattered rubbish pits. The remnants of a disturbed, undated human burial were also recovered and a post-medieval structure more fully investigated. The excavation also confirmed the absence of any activity relating to the medieval chapel of St John the Baptist that is believed to lie in the vicinity. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Care Perspectives).

Sapiston, land adjacent to Park Grove, Euston Estate (TL/9276; SAP 012). An evaluation was carried out in advance of the construction of an 8ha reservoir. Trenching identified three areas containing a very broad and sparse scatter of pits and postholes, relating to phases of Bronze and Iron Age occupation. The two smaller areas were subsequently subjected to a programme of small-scale excavation. The third area of interest, which occupied 2700sqm, was excluded from the topsoil strip and has been preserved *in situ* below the reservoir bund. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Euston Farms).

South Elmham St. Cross, Batemans Barn (TM/3389; SEC 002). Archaeological recording was carried out in connection with conservation and modification to Batemans Barn, a building forming part of the South Elmham Hall moated complex. Examination of the flint-and-mortar walls incorporated in the existing building confirmed their medieval date and identified constructional features (lift-lines), but no architectural detail. Later phases of patching, rebuilding and surface treatments were also recorded. Monitoring of two trenches excavated by the contractors, one to the west of the barn and one inside, failed to identify any archaeological deposits. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr John Sanderson; report no. 2006/138).

South Elmham St. Margaret, The Barn, Wash Lane (TM/3283; SEM 024). A desktop survey and trial-trenching evaluation successfully recorded the location of the house that, prior to its burning down in the later 19th century, occupied the south-west end of the moated/ditched enclosure (SEM 002). Documentary sources suggested that the house burnt down during the 1870s prior to the survey for the 1st-edition Ordnance Survey Map of the 1880s. By this time, the layout of the extant barns had already been established, although later infilling with additional structures clearly occurred during the early 20th century. These barns replaced a more extensive complex of buildings that were detailed in an earlier document and plans that probably date to the 1870's and were also shown on the title map of 1838 and an earlier estate map of 1705.

Test-holes within the central area of the existing barn revealed that the interior had once been excavated out to a level marginally below that of the naturally occurring subsoil. This is a common occurrence when livestock are to be kept seasonally indoors to facilitate the build up of manure and straw bedding. The floor of the small central room on the north side of the barn had subsequently been raised up to that of the outside ground level. The initial lowering of the floor levels would almost certainly have destroyed shallow archaeological deposits within the interior of these barns.

The structural evidence for the house, elements of which survived at only 0.2m below the current ground surface, had been constructed on a 0.4 metre-thick platform of clean boulder clay. Documentary evidence and surviving structural features recorded in the trial-trenches suggest that the building had been timber-framed with a substantial central chimneystack of brick (probably 2in Tudor-type). The sill beams of its timber frame would have rested upon dwarf brick walls, the remains of which were identified in the trenches along with a brick threshold for one of the internal doorways. While no direct dating evidence was recovered for the building it is likely to have been of later medieval or earlier post-medieval date (15th or 16th century). (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr Roger Davis; report no. 2006/152).

Stanstead, Stanstead Hall (TL /8449; STS 018). A desk-based assessment, topographic survey and trial-trenching evaluation was carried out prior to development. The documentary survey confirmed the location of an earlier hall, probably originally within a moated enclosure, that is indicated on the 1st-edition Ordnance Survey map. This early hall was replaced in the 1830's by the current house, contrary to its Listed Building description, which gives it 16th-17th century origins. Trenching identified foundations for a small range of 19th-century outbuildings to the current hall and a large undated feature that may be part of a former pond. No archaeological deposits relating to the earlier hall were seen.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr Faleh Al Rashidi; report no. 2006/61).

Stanton, Wyken Hall (TL/9671; SNT 046): A watching brief on the construction of a reservoir located a single ditch containing sherds of Roman pottery and an undated pit.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S; report no. 2006/75).

Wattisfield, Henry Watson's Potteries, Pottery Hill (TM/0174; WSF 056): An evaluation, excavation and monitoring was carried out in advance of housing development. The bulk of the site did not contain any archaeological deposits and had evidently been open land until being covered by a modern clay dump. The remainder of the site had formerly been occupied by a 19th-century yard

and bottle kiln, bordered by three ranges of buildings. Subsequent changes saw a still extant kiln built in 1940/41 and then a modern factory after a devastating fire in 1963. Fieldwork identified traces of the 19th-century buildings but showed the bottle kiln had been wholly removed.

Two previously unknown structures were located, the first being the possible base for a 19th-century kiln. This has been preserved *in situ*. The second structure, a quadrant of a circular brick pad, was of unknown date and function. The main area of excavation identified the flues of a drying floor connected to the still standing down-draught kiln and chimney constructed in 1940/41. Following the fire in 1963 these flues were infilled and covered by the new factory concrete floor. These have also now been preserved *in situ*.

Post-excavation work relied heavily upon material provided by Mr Jeremy Watson and this has demonstrated the potential for a full study of the history of pottery manufacture on the site using the private archive of the Watson family.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Baker Construction; report no. 2006/98).

Worlington, Elevenways, Freckenham Road (TL/6873; WGN 030). Monitoring located an undated pit and possible peat-filled hollow but did not locate a former green boundary or indications of associated medieval settlement.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Kopec Construction Ltd; report no. 2006/99).

CHURCH RECORDING

The Gosnold DNA Project. Following on from the excavation in Shelley Church in 2005 to recover samples from a body thought to be that of Elizabeth Tilney, further tests were carried out to compare the teeth of that body with those of a body excavated in 2003 in Jamestown, Virginia, thought to be her brother, the American settler Bartholomew Gosnold. This involved a comparison of the strontium and oxygen isotope composition of the tooth enamel of both bodies. The oxygen isotope data is in broad agreement that these two individuals came from the warmer, i.e. southern, parts of Britain. The strontium isotope data from the two individuals is, however, not consistent with their have been raised under the same conditions, specifically with the same diet at the time of formation of their teeth. The Shelley body could be reasonably assigned to a person brought up on a chalk-dominated terrain, the Jamestown body cannot, its tooth enamel is too radiogenic. The Jamestown body's strontium values are typical of many of the non-chalky deposits in south-east England. Otley in south-east Suffolk, where Bartholomew and Elizabeth are likely to have been brought up, is situated on chalky glacial till, which would match the results from the Shelley body. There are deposits south of Otley that could have engendered the Jamestown body's strontium 'signature' however they lie outside the areas where Anthony Gosnold (Bartholomew and Elizabeth's father) is recorded as living.

(Jane Evans and Carolyn Chenery, NERC (Natural Environment Research Council) Isotope Geosciences Laboratory (NIGL) of the British Geological Survey at Nottingham, for Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service and the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities; NIGL report 213).

Suffolk Church Chests Project. As part of a study of Suffolk church chests being undertaken by David Sherlock, several were assessed for dendrochronological potential and a detailed study was carried out on three chests, as below.

St Mary's Church, Earl Stonham (TM/110580). One core was extracted from the front right stile, and a second from the front centre board. The first yielded a 103-year sequence to the heartwood-sapwood boundary and the second a 76-year sequence, also to the heartwood-sapwood boundary. The two series matched each other very well and the plots suggest that the two boards were derived from the same tree. The series were combined into a 103-year master sequence. This however failed to give consistent acceptable matches with dated reference material and remains undated.

St Mary's Church, Mendlesham (TM/108655). Two pine chests in the chamber above the north porch of the parish church were investigated. The chest lying north-south against the north wall retained the outer edge of the sapwood which would have been immediately below the bark on its right-hand end board. A core was taken through this board and the outer 1-2mm was lost in this operation. The core yielded a 143-year sequence, with very narrow outer rings. A photographic record was made from this board to extend the core series towards the inner part of the tree, and also of the other end board, and the end boards of the second chest.

A 171-year sequence was formed for the first chest, although the inner 21 rings were exceptionally wide. When edited out, the remaining 150-year sequence matches three independent Polish pine chronologies with the outermost year retained having been formed in 1417. Taking a maximum loss of 2mm of outer rings, the outer 20 rings have a mean ring width of 0.37mm, this could represent five or six rings at most, and the likely felling date of this timber is therefore in the 1420s.

The photographically-derived mean sequence from the two boards of the second chest is 140 years long, and matches the edited sequence from the first chest with the outer ring retained having been formed in 1388. No sapwood is evident on this second chest so it is not possible to derive the felling date of the parent tree dendrochronologically.

It seems likely the two very similar chests were made at about the same time, using pine felled in northern Poland. I thank the originators of the Polish pine chronologies (Tomasz Wazny and Andrzej Zielski) for very kindly sending their data for use in this project.
(Dr Martin Bridge, Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory)

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2. 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.
 - c. To promote interest in local Archaeological and Historical matters.
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4. The subscriptions to be paid by Ordinary Members, Associate Members and such other categories of membership of the Institute as may be prescribed by the Council shall be at the rates determined from time to time by the Council. Every Member shall be considered to belong to the Institute until he withdraws from it by notice to the Secretary in writing or is more than twelve months in arrears with his subscriptions, in which case he shall be deemed to have resigned.
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27th April 2002