

# ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2007

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*Object Drawings by* DONNA WREATHALL

THIS IS a selection of the new discoveries reported in 2007. Information on all these has been incorporated into the county's Historic Environment Record (formerly 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](http://www.finds.org.uk)) and for selected finds listed here the P.A.S. reference number is included in the text. During 2007 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:*

E.C.S. East Coast Searchers detecting club

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

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**Pa** Palaeolithic

**Me** Mesolithic

**Ne** Neolithic

**BA** Bronze Age

**IA** Iron Age

**Pr** Prehistoric

**Ro** Roman

**Sx** Saxon

**Md** Medieval

**PM** Post-Medieval

**Un** Period unknown

## INDIVIDUAL FINDS AND DISCOVERIES

*Badley* (BAD 020). **IA, Ro, Sx.** A heavily burnt fragment of a knobbed terret ring, a late Iron Age type (SF-F55093). 3rd- and 4th-century coins and a fragment of an 11th-century bronze link from a horse bit (SF-F51F43). (M.d.f.).

*Barking* (BRK 079). **Ro.** Pottery including late wares (Nene Valley, Oxford), building material, coins and bronze objects including two fragments of an unusual P-shaped type of brooch, probably of Continental origin (SF-F96AF4 and SF-F8F4F5). (M.d.f.).

*Barking* (BRK 116). **Ro.** Pottery, coins and a 'propellor-shaped' late Roman belt mount (SF-A69941). (M.d.f.).

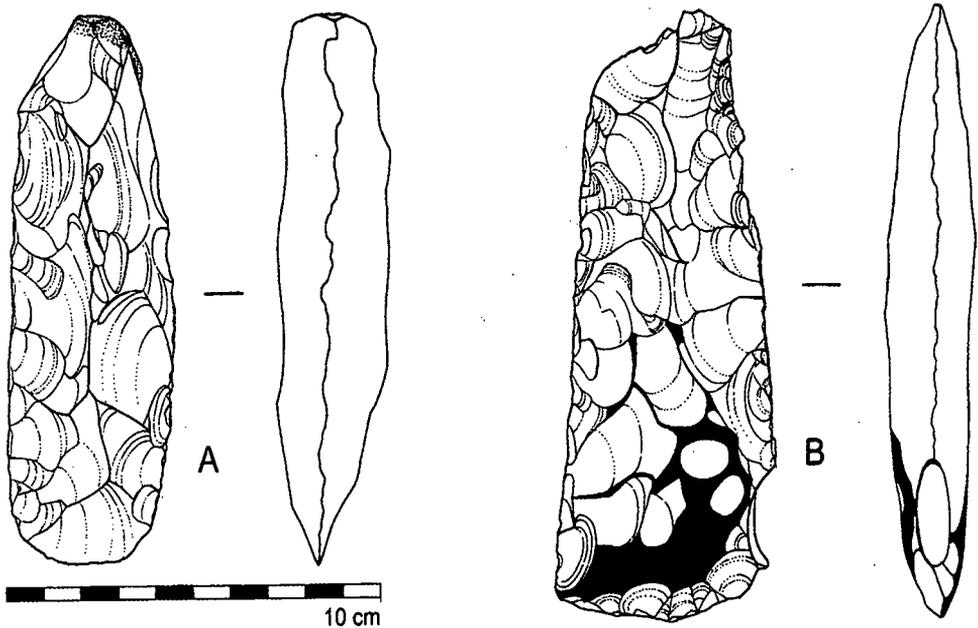


FIG. 142 – Prehistoric flint axes from (A) Little Cornard and (B) Great Finborough.

*Barrow* (BRR 043). **BA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Fragment of a late Bronze Age gouge (SF-13F3D4). Roman coins, bronze box stud (SF-1AA6C4) and an ‘amphora-shaped’ strap-end (SF-149C21). Fragments of a bronze 8th- or 9th-century Viking mount (SF-14BB23) and of an 11th-century horse bit link (SF-457AB1). Circular lead seal matrix, central fleur de lis and inscribed S’WIL:I:CARTERE (seal of William Carter), 13th century (SF-464D58). (M.D.D.C.).

*Battisford* (BAT 014). **Ro.** Coins (mid 2nd to mid 4th-century), pottery including samian, Colchester colour-coated and Much Hadham wares, bronze finger ring (SF-0E4DA5), twisted wire bracelet (SF-D55964), hairpin (SF-0E28A2) and a probable cosmetic grinding set, both centre-looped pestle (SF-0E0233) and mortar with enamelled triangles (SF0DD8B6)(Fig. 144, C). (I.D.D.C.).

*Brockley* (BKY 020). **IA.** Silver coin, early, large flan face-horse Icenian type (SF-931B15). (M.d.f.).

*Bures St Mary* (BSM 051). **Ne.** Flint scatter, predominantly long flakes and blades. (M.J.Mathews).

*Burgate* (BUR 023). **Sx.** Silver pyramid-shaped mount with inlaid garnets from a sword (SF-9242E2)(Fig. 145, A), a bronze ansate brooch (SF-515D23) and an earlier Anglo-Saxon small-long brooch (SF-169476). (M.d.f.).

*Butley* (BUT 002). **Ro, Sx, Md.** Two bronze 11th-century stirrup-strap mounts, *Williams* Class A type 11 and Class B type 3 (SF-9841E0, SF-988056) and medieval bronze objects including a pointed oval seal matrix inscribed MATER DEI MISERERE MEI (Mother of God have mercy on me) (SF-EA4140) and a harness pendant (SF-4734F3). Also an eagle head shaft terminal, of a type usually identified as a Roman cart fitting (SF-9CC792) (Fig. 144, F). (I.D.D.C.).

*Butley* (BUT 072). **IA.** Bronze coin of Cunobelin, mint Camulodunum, *Van Arsdell* 2107 (SF-09E354). (I.D.D.C.).

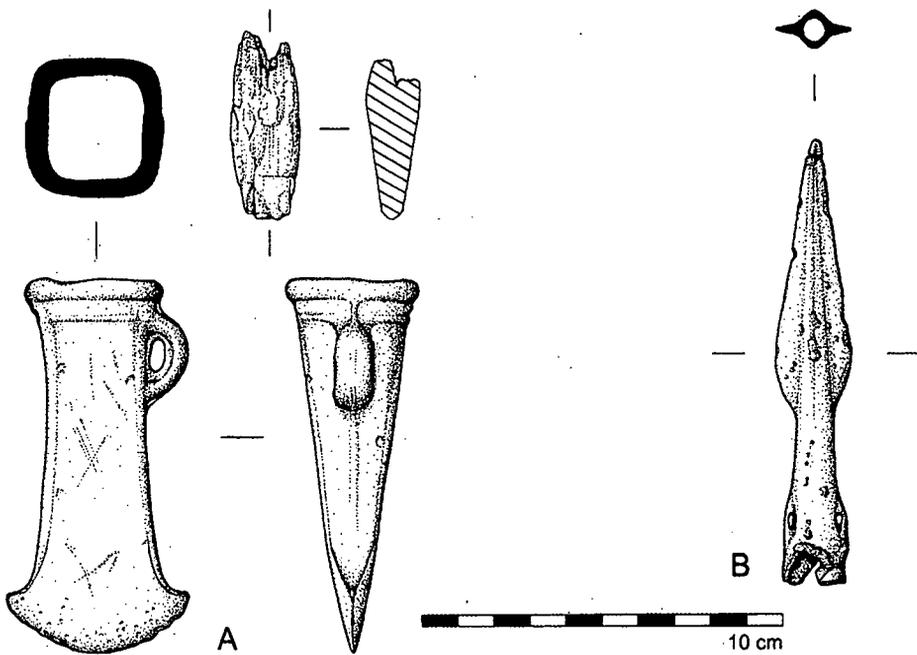


FIG. 143 – Bronze Age objects, (A) socketed axe from Mildenhall and (B) spearhead from Lakenheath.

*Charsfield* (CHA Misc). **Md.** Openwork bronze harness pendant, perhaps 12th century, with a backward-looking animal design (SF-951660) (Fig. 146, C). (M.d.f.).

*Clare* (CLA 053). **BA.** Fragment of a small bronze socketed hammer (SF-50F922). (M.d.f.).

*Clare* (CLA 057), **Ro.** Pottery, tile, window glass fragment, coins (mainly 2nd to mid 4th century) and bronze objects including a phallic pendant (SF-4EA7C4, Fig. 144, D), terret ring (SF-EC2B43), brooches including Langton Down, early star-shaped, Colchester and Colchester derivative types. (M.d.f.).

*Combs* (COM 033). **Me, Ne.** Flaked flint axe of either Mesolithic or Neolithic date, the flaking technique perhaps more likely Neolithic (SF-A70E90). (M.d.f.).

*Cotton* (COT 022). **BA.** Very small bronze chisel or axe, in the form of a small low-flanged axe, possibly *Needham* axe class 4E, (SF-1234D2). (M.d.f.).

*Dallinghoo* (DLL 012). **Ro.** Pottery including samian ware and amphora sherds, glass bottle fragment and tiles found fieldwalking. (W.Todd).

*Elmswell* (EWL 023). **IA.** Silver Icenian coin, boar-horse type (SF-5FA033). (M.D.D.C.).

*Eriswell* (ERL 206). **Sx.** Two bronze hooked tags, one with punched hole decoration (SF-4AD434) the other larger and more elaborately decorated (SF-6F6D46, Fig. 145, E), probably 9th century. (M.D.D.C.).

*Euston* (EUN 031). **BA.** Fragment of a bronze rapier blade (ESS-B38E63). (M.d.f.).

*Eye* (EYE 085). **IA.** Silver Icenian coin, face-horse type (SF-0D6FD3). (M.d.f.).

*Eye* (EYE 086). **IA.** Contemporary forgery of a Gallo-Belgic E stater, gold covered on a possibly silver core (SF-213046). (M.d.f.).

*Eye* (EYE Misc). **Md.** Circular lead seal matrix, central 5-petal flower, inscribed S'W[ ]MARTIN, the seal of W Martin, 13th century. (M.d.f.).

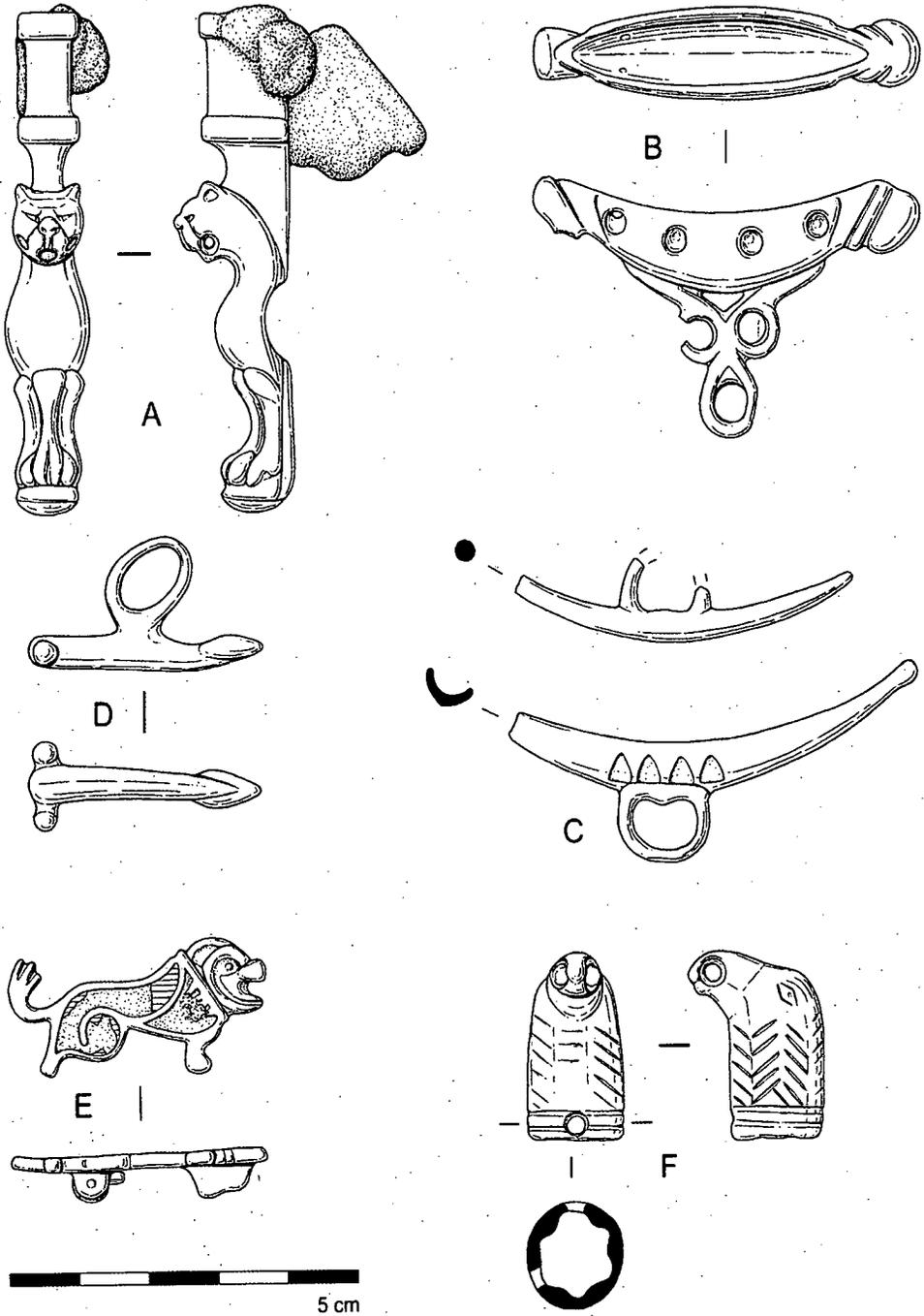


FIG. 144 – Roman objects: (A) knife handle from Wickham Skeith, (B), (C) cosmetic grinders from Sutton and Battsford, (D) pendant from Clare, (E) brooch from Gedding and (F) terminal from Butley.

*Felixstowe* (FEX 276; TM/32423629). **BA**. A large hollow-based arrowhead in a cream flint, possibly Irish, certainly both the form and the flint are unlikely to be native to East Anglia and it is thus either an ancient traded object or a modern collected item (SF-ADEB92). (B.Butterworth).

*Felsham* (FHM 022). **Me**. Flint tranchet axe (SF-DD4FC4). (E. Hitchcock).

*Finningham* (FNN 017). **Sx**. Fragments of two bronze small-long brooches and a wrist clasp of *Hines* form B20 (SF-315D95, SF-311B60, SF-317D94). (M.d.f.).

*Flixton* (FLN 071). **Ro, Md**. Two bronze Roman military fittings, a harness mount (NMS-05A782) and a pendant (NMS-86D004). Lead seal matrix, pointed oval shape, inscribed +S' hELENE:WIGGE, the seal of Helen Wigg (NMS-87DC81). (M.d.f. per N.M.S.).

*Foxhall* (FXL 056). **BA**. Fragment of a Middle Bronze Age bronze rapier or knife (SF-C96D18). (M.d.f.).

*Freckenham* (FRK 032). **IA, Ro, Sx**. Two silver Icenian coins: an early, large flan face-horse type (SF-6EE668) and a normal face-horse type (SF-3F7661). Roman coins, bronze Nauheim derivative type brooch, finger ring (SF-2D5C27). and a vessel mount with a suspension loop (SF68F3F1). Early Anglo-Saxon wrist clasp, *Hines* Class B12, (SF-2D49F0). (M.D.D.C.).

*Friston* (FRS 050). **Sx**. A gilded bronze chip-carved mount, probably late 6th century (SF-01C966, Fig. 145, C). And a fragment of a 10th or 11th-century strap end, *Thomas* class E (SF-020FE7). (M.d.f.).

*Wedding* (GDD 010). **Ro**. Enamelled bronze brooch, a small area of blue enamel survives, perhaps intended to portray a lion (SF-404EC6, Fig. 144, E). (M.d.f.).

*Great Barton* (BRG 025). **Md**. Bronze bell, possibly incomplete, decorated with shields displaying the arms probably of Ralph de Monthermer, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford and his first wife, Joan of Acre (m.1297, d.1307), probably from horse harness (SF-A43191 Fig. 146, B). (M.d.f.).

*Great Barton* (BRG 036). **Sx**. Lead nummular brooch, 9th or 10th century (SF-C76146, Fig. 145, I). (I.D.D.C.).

*Great Finborough* (FNG 014). **BA**. Fragment of a bronze socketed spearhead, with two small fragments of a ring or bracelet from inside the socket; probably part of a previously recorded Ewart Park Phase hoard (SF-A6BE92). (M.d.f.).

*Great Finborough* (FNG 034). **Ne, BA**. Part-polished flint axe, with possible later re-use (SF-AC8838, Fig. 142, B); flint flakes and a scraper of probably Bronze Age date. (M.d.f.).

*Great Glemham* (GLG Misc). **Md**. A bronze harness pendant with a crowned M on red enamel background, the M signifying the Virgin Mary (SF-E38038). (I.D.D.C.).

*Hawstead* (HWS 016), TL/863589. **Me**. Half of a perforated quartzite pebble-hammer (SF-BB41D4). (J.Carr).

*Hoo* (HOO Misc). **Md**. Pointed oval shaped lead seal matrix, inscribed S'WILL'IFIL'ROC'HERM, the seal of William, son of ?RocHerm. (M.d.f.).

*Ixworth* (IXW 066). **IA**. Icenian coin, early pattern-horse type, possibly a contemporary forgery (SF-C4FCB5). (M.d.f.).

*Lakenheath* (LKH 180). **BA, Sx**. Middle Bronze Age small bronze side-looped spearhead (SF-A75A56, Fig. 143, B). Bronze ansate brooch of unusual form, middle or late Saxon (SF-3D7650, Fig. 145, H). (M.D.D.C.).

*Lakenheath* (LKH 188). **Sx**. Silver mount with two animal head design, no indication of attachment method (SF-3EC0E3, Fig. 145, B) and a plain silver hooked tag (SF-3A5BC0). (M.D.D.C.).

*Little Cornard* (COL 035). **Ro, Sx**. Coins, 3rd to late 4th century including a pierced *siliqua*, and a bronze brooch of 5th-century supporting arm type (SF-913EB3, Fig. 145, G). (M.d.f.).

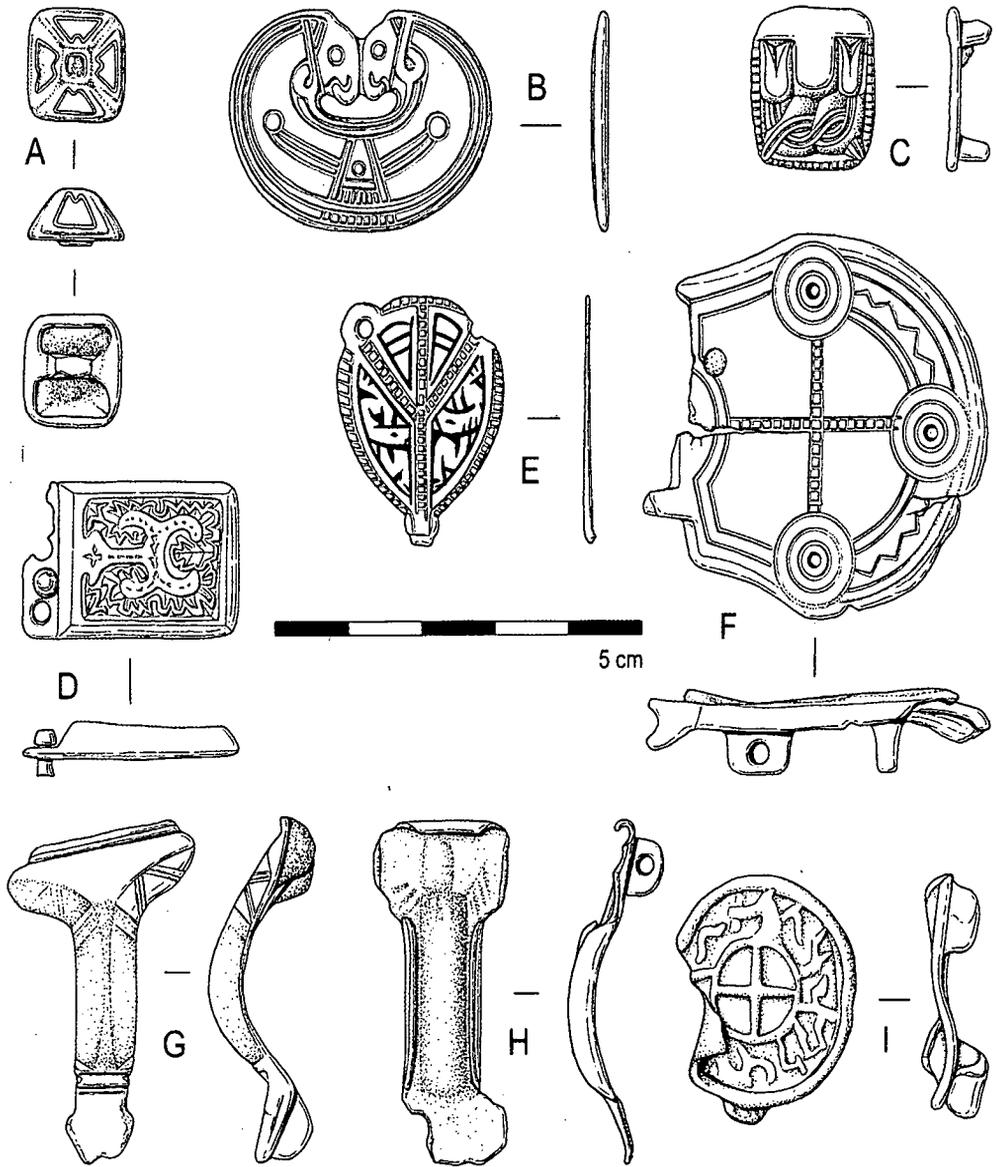


FIG. 145 – Anglo-Saxon objects: (A) sword mount from Burgate, (B), (C) mounts from Lakenheath and Friston, (D) strap end from Rushmere, (E) hooked tag from Eriswell, (F) buckle plate from Melton, (G), (H), (I) brooches from Little Cornard, Lakenheath and Great Barton.

*Little Cornard* (COL 009). **Me, IA.** Dark grey flint *tranchet* axe, with a small area of cortex at the butt (SF-A735A0, Fig. 142, A). Gold Gallo-Belgic DC type quarter stater, *Van Arsdell* 69-1 (SF-8792B0). (M.d.f.).

*Melton* (MTN 055). **Sx.** Bronze buckle plate, D-shaped, with incised and punched decoration, probably later 6th or 7th century (SF-118BD1, Fig. 145, F) and a mount with applied silver and gold foil, probably also early Anglo-Saxon (SF-11FB73). (M.d.f.).

*Mendlesham* (MDS 132; TM\108638). **Me.** Flint *tranchet* axe with recent damage to the blade end. (R.Colchester).

*Mildenhall* (MNL578). **BA.** Bronze socketed axe, Late Bronze Age, with a fragment of wood, probably the mineralised remains of part of the haft found within it (SF-267541, Fig. 143, A). (M.D.D.C.).

*Mildenhall* (MNL 582). **Ne.** Polished flint axe (SF-60D448). (M.D.D.C.).

*Mildenhall* (MNL 583). **Ne.** Partly polished flint axe, with areas of gloss in the flake scars of the central part, perhaps the residue of adhesive from the handle attachment. (SF-60C586). (M.D.D.C.).

*Mildenhall* (MNL 587). **BA.** Bronze socketed axe of South-Eastern type, Late Bronze Age (SF-C21571). (M.D.D.C.).

*Mildenhall* (MNL 594). **BA.** Small bronze narrow-butted flat 'axe-chisel' (SF-618EF2). (M.D.D.C.).

*Mildenhall* (MNL 604). **Ne.** Polished flint axe (SF-6176A6). (M.D.D.C.).

*Newmarket* (EXG 085). **Ro, Sx.** Bronze button and loop fastener (CAM-206438) and early Roman bracelet fragment (CAM-5AAAF3). Anglo-Saxon objects suggesting an inhumation cemetery include three iron spearheads (CAM-6C3893), razor (CAM-6D6011), bronze brooches of small long, great square-headed (CAM-216591, 5AFCE2) and disc types, and wrist clasps. (M.d.f.).

*Redisham* (RSM 003). **IA.** Gold *stater*, Freckenham type, variant of *Hobbs* no.3384 (NMS-E979). (M.d.f.).

*Ringshall* (RGL 016). **Sx.** Cast silver ingot, probably Viking Age (SF-E8A3A6). (M.d.f.).

*Risby* (RBY 035). **Sx.** Late Saxon or Viking bronze objects include a fragment of horse bit link (SF-00B1A2), a possible sword guard (SF-1AA037) and another possible harness fragment (SF-00F7E4). (M.d.f.).

*Rushmere* (RMR 010). **Sx.** Silver strap end, Thomas Class E type 5, probably a Carolingian import (SF-1E8422, Fig. 145, D). (M.d.f.).

*Sutton* (SUT 022). **Ro.** Bronze cosmetic mortar with unusual centre loop and possible enamel settings along the sides (SF-E4FCD6, Fig. 144, B) from an extensive multiperiod site. (M.d.f.).

*Thorington* (TNG 029). **BA.** A small Late Bronze Age hoard including fragments of two socketed axes, a possible chisel and metal working debris (SF-C98115). (M.d.f.).

*Thornham Magna* (TMM 009; TM/1071). **Ne.** Polished flint axe, found in garden works (ESS-B3CF23). (L.Calkin).

*Tostock* (TCK 013). **Ro, Sx.** A small group of Roman bronze coins, late 3rd and 4th century, and an early Anglo-Saxon flat bronze disc brooch with ring and dot motifs (SF-5F9593). (M.D.D.C.).

*Waldringfield* (WLD 063). **IA.** Gold *stater*, late Whaddon Chase type, *Van Arsdell* 1509-1 (SF-E21F14). (I.D.D.C.).

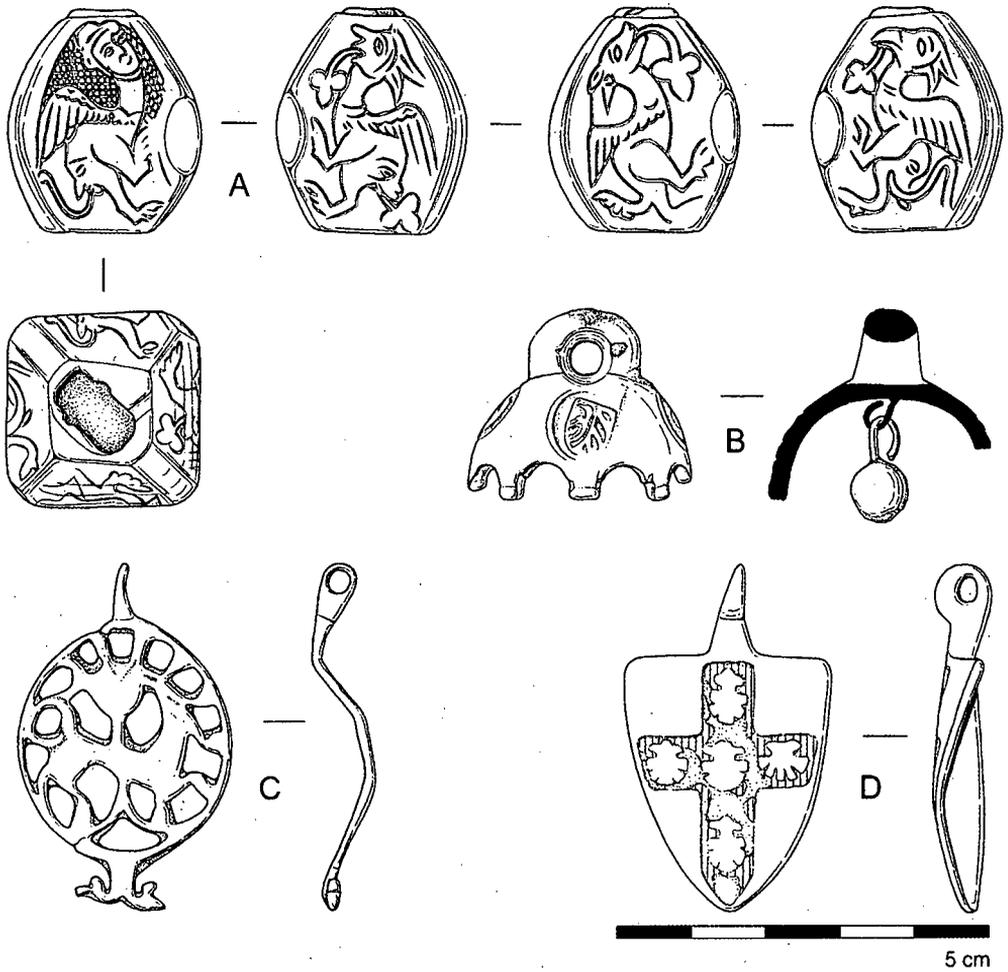


FIG. 146 – Medieval objects: (A) sword pommel from Wetheringsett, (B) bell from Great Barton, (C), (D) harness pendants from Charsfield and Waldringfield.

*Waldringfield* (WLD Misc). Bronze 14th-century shield-shaped harness pendant bearing the arms of the Weyland family: argent on a cross gules five escallops or (SF-F5B3C8, Fig. 146, D). (I.D.D.C.).

*Wetheringsett cum Brockford* (WCB Misc). **Md.** 14th-century bronze sword pommel decorated with incised grotesque figures (SF-15A447, Fig. 146, A). (E.C.S.).

*Wickham Skeith* (WKS 003). **IA, Ro.** Uninscribed bronze coin, *Van Arsdell* 154-3, a type usually found in Kent and south Essex (SF-DABE83) and a bronze coin of Cunobelin, probably *Van Arsdell* 1971-1. Various Roman objects include a bronze handle from a folding knife in the form of a standing panther (SF-CA2A74, Fig. 144, A). (I.D.D.C.).

*Worlington* (WGN 023). **IA.** Silver Icenian coin, boar-horse type as *Hobbs* 3455-3472 (SF-1C80F6). (M.D.D.C.).

*Wyverstone* (WYV 010). **IA.** Potin coin, 'Thurrock' type (LON-AC1914). (M.d.f.).

## SURVEY

*Freston.* Causewayed Enclosure (TM/1638; FRT 005). A geophysical survey was conducted over the N.E. quadrant of this presumed Neolithic monument to investigate aerial photographic evidence for a large rectangular, post-built, structure of possible Neolithic or Anglo-Saxon date. Although corroborating evidence was recorded, little further detail was revealed that was not already known from the cropmarks.

(Louise Martin for English Heritage; English Heritage Research Dept. Report no. 109/2007).

*Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey.* Work for this English Heritage commissioned survey to improve understanding of the Suffolk coast and estuaries included a historic landscape characterisation study of the reclaimed marsh areas by Professor Tom Williamson of the University of East Anglia and the comparative scoring of the archaeological sites throughout the coast zone. Some targeted fieldwork was also carried out to improve the site records and obtain scientific dates.

A large V-shaped timber fish trap (STU 067) in Holbrook Bay on the River Stour was re-visited and sampled. This yielded a radiocarbon date of cal.AD 680–850 for the main structure. Five other post-built structures in Holbrook Bay (STU 038, STU 050, STU 068, STU 079 and STU 080), all circular or partial circles, were radiocarbon dated to the post-medieval period.

A series of posts, laid timbers and possible wattle fragments at Barber's Point on the River Alde (FRS 047) were planned and dated. Whilst the plans hinted at the possibility of trackways or a fish trap, no function for the structure was confirmed. Radiocarbon samples dated the feature to cal.AD 650–780), a date which ties in with known Anglo-Saxon activity on the banks of the river (see below, *Friston*).

(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S., for English Heritage).

*Wyverstone* (TM/0467; WYV 010). A magnetometer survey was carried out as a training project on a site which had produced surface finds of late Iron Age and Roman metalwork and Roman pottery and tile suggesting buildings. The survey shows that a sub-rectangular enclosure, 95m by over 100m with entrance to the east and a possible related trackway running north-east, contained 12 circular buildings. Overlying the trackway is a rectilinear structure, about 28m by 13m with several rooms and a hypocaust, perhaps a small villa or a bath house.

(Helen Woodhouse for Cambridge University Faculty of Classics, with funding from Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History and the Council for British Archaeology, East Anglia Region).

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

*Barsham*, Barsham Marshes (TM/3991; BAR 045). A timber post-row or alignment of Roman date was exposed during the excavation of a soke dyke as part of flood alleviation works. The timbers were preserved within a complex floodplain matrix consisting of riverine alluvium and peat deposits in a former channel of the River Waveney. Following preliminary assessment, a joint team from Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service and Birmingham Archaeo-Environmental undertook a full archaeological excavation of the 25m x 8m 'development footprint'. A total of 30 upright posts in 3 rows, on an approximate north-south alignment, were identified in a 30m x 4m band running diagonally across the excavated area. Much of the upper timber of the posts had decayed leaving only the lower ends and points preserved *in situ*. The timbers, which have yielded a radiocarbon date of cal.AD 130-240, all show clear signs of woodworking and there is evidence for the use of timber from coppiced woodland. It is clear the posts continue outside of the excavation but the full extent of the feature is unknown. Its importance lies in the fact that it is without parallel in the Roman period, and in the relatively good state of preservation of the tool marks and the lower parts of the timbers. Sections were excavated across the alignment and individual posts were recorded and removed. No other finds or features were identified. In addition to the excavation, an auger survey was carried out to assess the stratigraphy across the site, and a single 'master sequence' was sampled from the edge of the trench for palaeoenvironmental assessment (pollen, diatoms, beetles and plant macrofossil). Further palaeoenvironmental analyses, including radiocarbon dating of the stratigraphic sequence, and full analysis of the structure is being undertaken.

The coring survey identified the presence of a large natural gravel island to the south of the site, which may have been more a prominent feature in the past, particularly before the river was canalised. The post alignment appears to be originating from, or heading towards this feature. Unlike the post alignment recently discovered at Beccles (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 2006' and below) only episodic estuarine inundation was identified this far up the Waveney. Floodplain sedimentation accumulating from riverine processes is likely to have been responsible for the development of the matrix in which the site was found.

The function of the feature is unclear but interpretations have been suggested which range from functional, such as a fish trap, bank revetment or waterfront structure, to the more exotic, such as a 'ritual' causeway or ceremonial monument. The proximity and similarity to the site at Beccles is significant, for although the two structures have some key differences and are separated in date by several centuries, this new site appears to represent continuity of the monument form and type.

(William Fletcher, S.C.C.A.S, Kristina Krawiec, Dr Tom Hill, Dr Ben Gearey and Dr Henry Chapman, BA-E, and Michael Bamforth, L-P Archaeology, for BESL/Halcrow on behalf of the Environment Agency).

*Beccles*, Town Marshes (TM/2964; BCC 033). Students from the University of Birmingham's Institute of Archaeology, in conjunction with S.C.C.A.S. and local volunteers, excavated a 20m x 5m trench immediately to the south of the post alignment discovered in 2006. This revealed 25 wooden posts in a replication of previous pattern, that is three lines of single or double posts, approximately a metre apart. Along the length of the feature however it is apparent that there is much more spatial variation in the interval between the posts. Large amounts of worked timber, and wood-working debris have also been recovered, and several of the new posts were fully excavated, to enable the tool marks to be recorded and an analysis made of the woodworking methodology.

Alongside the excavation, a program of public events was undertaken, including a public lecture in Beccles and a site open day. Work has also continued from the previous year in the analysis of the

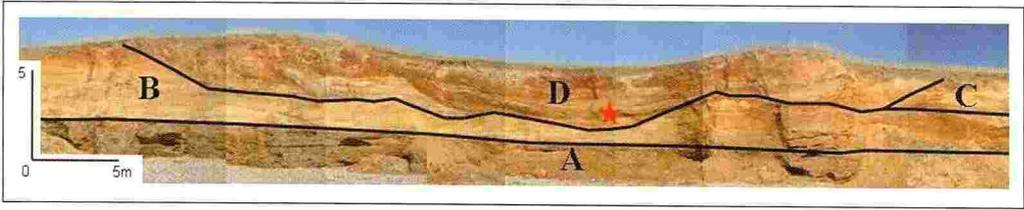


FIG. 147 – Benacre. Cliff section showing the four major lithofacies (A-D). The red star indicates the source of the Palaeolithic handaxes.

form, date and function of the trackway, and it is hoped to publish these results fully in 2008. The feature can now be traced for over 100m and the dating of the timbers presents a strong case for a single-phase construction in the spring of 75BC. Some worked wooden material has been recovered that is thought to represent an earlier phase of activity at the site, and a range of Iron Age and Roman pottery has also been identified. It is clear that although the structure was built in a single phase there was activity at the site that both precedes and post-dates construction of the post alignment. In spite of the success of the dating and timber analysis, it is still proving difficult to establish the function of the feature: a more complex walkway or bridge structure has been ruled out as no evidence of supporting material or structural timbers has yet been identified. A timber post alignment or causeway is currently the favoured interpretation, but the wider significance and purpose of the construction is still being debated.

(William Fletcher, S.C.C.A.S., Kristina Krawiec, Dr Ben Gearey and Dr Henry Chapman, U. of B., for the University of Birmingham's Institute of Archaeology).

*Benacre* (TM/5383; BNC 081). In early 2007 several handaxes and flakes were discovered by David Padfield following coastal cliff collapse at this locality (Fig. 147). The discovery prompted two days fieldwork. Initial indications were that the handaxes originated from a gravel-filled channel (Lithofacies D, below), clearly visible towards the top of the cliff section. The aim of the fieldwork was to confirm the context of the archaeological remains, record and interpret the stratigraphy of the cliff section and to take samples for dating and palaeoenvironmental analyses.

The c.6m high section is divisible into four major lithofacies (A-D). Lithofacies A, at the base of the cliff, consists of up to 2m of laminated sands, silts and clays. This is overlain by three separate lithofacies of sands and gravels (B-D). Lithofacies B consists of up to 4m of cross-stratified sands and gravels, containing predominantly rounded flint pebbles, many of which display chatter marks on their surfaces, suggesting a marine origin for the gravel. Lithofacies C is composed of tabular cross-bedded gravels and is fluvial in origin. The palaeoflow direction is towards the north east. Lithofacies D forms the filling of a c.40m wide channel feature cut into Lithofacies C. It consists of massive and bedded gravels and cross stratified sands.

Lithofacies A and B are interpreted as estuarine and shallow marine deposits respectively and both are considered to be part of the Norwich Crag Formation. Lithofacies A is possibly equivalent to the Easton Barents Member, a fine-grained marine sediment laid down under cold conditions exposed some 5km to the south of Benacre. Lithofacies B is equated with the Westleton Member and is a marine beach deposit. Both these facies are Early Pleistocene in age.

Lithofacies C and D are both fluvial deposits. The lithology of the gravels and palaeoflow direction suggests a Thames origin and they are provisionally interpreted as part of the Kesgrave Formation, which are deposits of the pre-diversion ancestral Thames. Heavy mineral analysis, currently being undertaken by John Catt, may clarify the attribution of these gravels to the Kesgrave Formation. If this interpretation is correct then both facies are pre-Anglian in age, and date to at least 450,000 years ago.

Samples were taken for palaeoenvironmental analysis, however, no faunal or floral evidence has survived. A programme of luminescence dating on the sand horizons in Lithofacies C and D is planned to attempt to obtain an absolute age estimate for the site.

The fieldwork was also able to confirm the origin of the handaxes to Lithofacies D. Sieving of this gravel produced several flakes, one of which was probably from the manufacture of handaxes. At least ten handaxes were collected prior to the fieldwork at the site. They are generally in quite fresh condition, with only slight abrasion, and with variable amounts of patination and staining. There is no consistent shape to the handaxes, varying from elongated ovals to more pointed forms.

This locality adds to the increasing tally of Lower Palaeolithic sites along the coastal cliffs of Norfolk and Suffolk and may provide further evidence for human presence prior to the Anglian glaciation.

**Acknowledgements:** We would like to thank Lady Gooch, Edward Vere Nicoll and the Benacre Estate for permission to carry out the fieldwork. We are also grateful to Adam Burrows of Natural England for help and permission to work on the Benacre National Nature Reserve. The project was part of the Ancient Human Occupation of Britain Project, funded by the Leverhulme Trust. (Nick Ashton, Dept of Prehistory and Europe, British Museum, London, Simon Lewis, Dept of Geography, Queen Mary University of London, Simon Parfitt, Dept of Palaeontology, Natural History Museum, London, and David Padfield).

*Blythburgh*, The Priory, Priory Road (TM/4575; BLB 070). Monitoring of a rear extension revealed part of a human burial, thought to be at least late medieval or post-medieval in date. The house called The Priory is made up of several elements: a medieval chapel at the west side, and a 17th-century farmhouse, a rebuilt 15th-century timber-framed property and early 20th-century additions making up the rest. A small ruined medieval priory is located in the gardens. The skeleton was encountered at the base of the hand-dug footings, beneath a layer of 19th-century pottery and waste. This was re-covered and left in situ, as the whole body could not be exposed without further excavation, and would not be directly affected by the subsequent raft foundations. No medieval evidence was revealed, despite the location of the site in relation to the priory and the church.

(Clare Good, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs Nick Haward; report no. 2007/214).

*Bury St. Edmunds*, former Cattle Market (TL/8564; BSE 252). The excavation exposed the surviving surfaces of the market and associated features, including a late 19th-century weighbridge. To the south of the market a series of buildings dating from the 17th through to the 20th century were identified, showing the post-medieval development of the St Andrew's Street frontage. There was little evidence of medieval activity as the site lay outside of the medieval town defences and was likely to have been farmland at this time.

(John Duffy, S.C.C.A.S., for Centros Miller).

*Bury St Edmunds*, 39 Crown Street (TL/8563; BSE 283). Monitoring of a small development within the early medieval planned town identified four pits: two 19th century or later and two undated. Also found was a possible post-medieval flint footing showing that a wall of a small brick out-building probably extended beyond its current line. The earliest feature was a clean silt-filled sloped edge, function unknown, which underlay all the other features. Its clean fill suggests that it may predate the early medieval urban occupation of the town.

(Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs Lawfield; report no. 2007/078).

*Bury St Edmunds*, 57-59 College Street (TL/8563; BSE 290). An evaluation identified the remains of a cellar with flint and mortar walls. The cellar had been infilled and a small trench exposed brick

fragments that were medieval in date. It is uncertain how rare stone-lined cellars were within the medieval town but it seems reasonable to suggest that this was from a high status building and may be related to Jesus College, which was dissolved during the Reformation. A flint surface with a mortar spread may have been contemporary. A sequence of brick foundations are thought to be the remains of the former workhouse which was sold in 1884.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for BT plc).

*Bury St Edmunds*, 15-17 Eastgate Street (TL/8564; BSE 292). Monitoring was carried out on a housing development alongside the River Lark beyond the site of the medieval town's Eastgate. Up to three wells were uncovered and the remains of five clay-lined troughs towards the rear of the property that are interpreted as tanning pits. This is supported by a large collection of animal horn cores, which are a waste product of tanning. The finds suggest that at least one of the troughs is 17th century. Documents confirm the presence of tanners here from medieval times.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S. for Phelan Group Ltd).

*Carlton Colville*, Bloodmoor Hill (TM/5189; CAC 042). An area of 8494sqm was excavated carried out in advance of residential development on a site on relatively high ground on the southern slope of Bloodmoor Hill, to the west of the important Anglo-Saxon settlement and cemetery (CAC016). An evaluation in 1996 (CAC014) produced evidence for Neolithic and Iron Age activity. The excavation confirmed that the earliest use of the site was in the Neolithic period – a shallow pit contained part of a polished axe head. Occasional occupation of the site continued into the Bronze Age, as demonstrated by a localised spread of ashy soil and fire-cracked flint containing pottery of that period. Activity increased in the Iron Age with the establishment of a settlement in the southern half of the site, represented by two small roundhouses about 30m apart, on either side of an E-W hollow-way that is likely to be contemporary, as well as several four-poster buildings and scattered pits. The settlement extends beyond the western boundary of the site. There is no evidence to suggest that occupation continued into the Roman period, though a single sherd of Roman pottery came from a SW-NE ditch that cuts one of the roundhouses. Other ditches are of post-medieval date (a field boundary) or are undated (a possible E-W track-way).

(Kieron Heard, S.C.C.A.S., for Persimmon Homes).

*Carlton Colville*, Carlton Hall (TM/5090; CAC 043). This evaluation revealed a multi-period concentration of archaeological features. A substantial pit of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date was revealed towards the N.W. corner of the site and a large ditch of possible defensive nature was encountered running east-west along the southern edge. This ditch was of likely Late Saxon date and pits and post-holes of this period were also encountered, suggesting a settlement of this period. Medieval pits and ditches were also revealed.

(Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr G. Baxter; report no. 2007/229).

*Chilton*, Pipeline Scheme (TL/8842 to TL/8941; CHT 019). An extensive fieldwalking survey, monitoring and localised excavation programme was carried out in a 2.4kmx100m corridor ahead of the construction of a water pipeline. Artefacts were generally thinly dispersed except in one area N.E. of Chilton Hall, which produced high concentrations of Roman pottery and ceramic building material. Subsequent excavation revealed a small pit and part of a curved shallow ditch.

(Robert Atfield, S.C.C.A.S., for Water Services Ltd).

*Clare*, 22 Nethergate Street (TL 7645; CLA 054). Monitoring identified two pits and a small assemblage of 11th-13th century pottery recovered by the builders during their work in and around the pits. This street is one of the medieval routes into Clare and this monitoring indicates occupation that pre-dates any of the existing buildings along it.

(Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr Geoffrey Bray; report no. 2007/079).

*Corton*, Broadland Sands Holiday Park, Coast Road (TM/5398; COR 052). An evaluation was undertaken immediately adjacent to a medieval church. A number of ditches with Thetford-type ware pottery were identified the N.E. corner of the plot, and so furthest from the church. Late Saxon pottery has not been found previously in this area and may relate to the lost Domesday vill of Newton, which existed somewhere in this area.

(Clare Good, for S.C.C.A.S., for Broadland Sands Holiday Park; report no. 2007/104).

*Culford*, Culford School (TL/8370; CUL 045). An evaluation within the former walled gardens of Culford Hall, in advance of a new tennis centre, revealed Iron Age and post-medieval features and finds. A subsequent excavation uncovered a range of post-medieval ditches, a sand-extraction pit, a number of probable Iron Age pits and a small group of post-holes of uncertain date. An unexpected find was a Bronze Age burial amongst a group of around 14 Iron Age pits in the eastern half of the site. Teeth and fragments of a smallish skull survived, but most of the other bones had decayed. An Early Bronze Age food vessel was found to the north of the teeth and skull fragments, and, to the east, a group of four worked flint objects carefully laid within the burial. The vessel was lifted as an intact block for further study. The burial appears to be isolated, as no contemporary finds or features were found.

(Robert Atfield S.C.C.A.S., for Culford School; report no. 2007/049).

*Elveden*, Elveden Forest Holiday Village (TL/8080; ELV 067). Excavation ahead of three new blocks of holiday villas, identified areas of prehistoric and early Roman activity, with a series of ditch networks and scattered pits.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Center Parcs Ltd).

*Exning*, land adjacent to Beech House Hospital (TL6366; EXG 083). Monitoring of soil stripping for a carpark exposed evidence of late Roman settlement. There was no early Roman activity on the site but a significant later occupation including building remains.

(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S., for The Exning Estate Co. and Care Principles Ltd).

*Eye*, Hartismere High School (TM/1373; EYE 083). 4.74 ha were excavated in advance of the construction of a new playing field on a south-facing slope in the Dove valley (Fig. 148). Nineteen Early Saxon 'sunken featured buildings' (SFBs) were identified, ranging in size from 2.5m x 2m to 5.5m x 4.5m, and with a variety of forms and structures. Central to the group of SFBs were two posthole buildings, the dates of which are still to be confirmed: a rectangular building 9.2m long x 6m wide and a long aisled building 17.4m long x 5.4m wide (Fig. 149). The aisled building had eight paired arcade posts, with the outer wall lines formed from closely spaced small postholes. Fourteen rectangular burnt flint, or fire-reddened stone filled features were also found, these are at present undated but appeared to be associated with the SFBs. In the extreme S.E. corner of the site a small pit was found containing *in situ* drip slag, the result of iron ore smelting on the margins of the site. Early Saxon finds from the site included pottery, objects associated with textile working, dress accessories and a vast amount of butchered animal bone. Post-excavation work is at a very early stage but initial interpretations suggest that both domestic and industrial activities were being undertaken here.

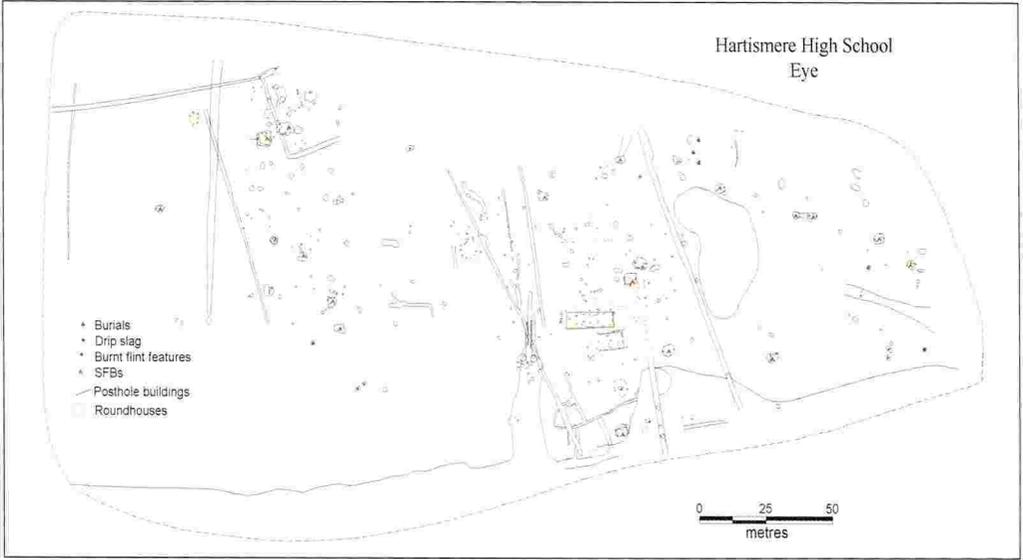


FIG. 148 - Hartismere High School, Eye (EYE 083). Plan showing the whole of the excavated area, with the Bronze Age burials indicated in lilac, the probable Iron Age buildings in green and the Anglo-Saxon buildings in red.

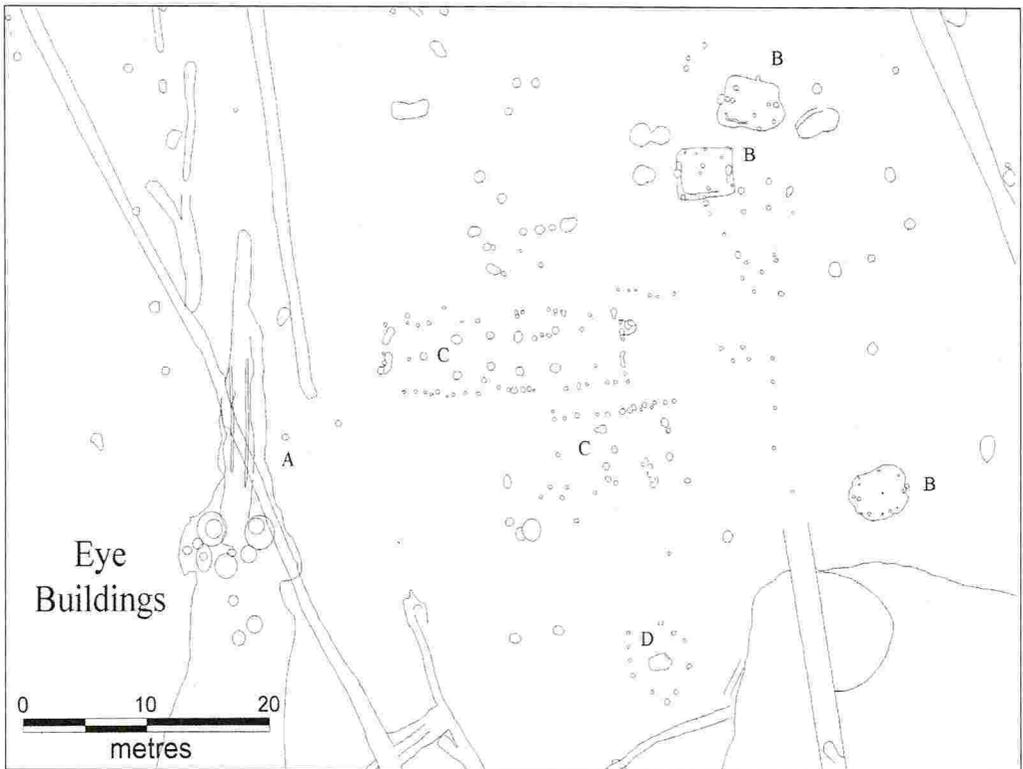


FIG. 149 - Hartismere High School, Eye (EYE 083). Detail of excavation plan showing: (A) cobbled surface and wheel ruts; (B) sunken featured buildings; (C) posthole buildings; (D) a burnt flint feature with a structure associated with it.

A cobbled surface with narrow wheel ruts, probably a sunken track within a deep linear hollow, passed close to the end of the aisled building. This ran down the slope towards the valley floor, the hollow had become infilled with brown colluvium and systematic metal detector surveys recovered a wealth of Saxon small finds from these deposits and extensive dump deposits of animal bone and Early Saxon pottery were visible on the surface. The south end of the trackway was removed by a cluster of intercutting pits which were partly overlain deposit of partially articulated animal (mainly pig and cow) remains. Initial interpretations are that these are all Saxon in date. The southern edge of the site extended 10m into the valley floor and the floodplain of the river where deep deposits of dark silts were found, the precise dating for this sequence of deposits has yet to be established.

In addition to the early Saxon occupation, four Bronze Age cremations and an undated, but probably Bronze Age, crouched inhumation were found. In the centre of the site was a group of pits containing earlier Iron Age pottery, and two, possibly Iron Age, round houses were also identified. (Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Suffolk County Council Education Department).

*Eye*, Hartismere High School (TM/1374; EYE 084): Excavation of test pits on the site of a new sports hall identified Early Anglo-Saxon features, a continuation of the settlement activity seen at the EYE 083 excavation immediately to the south.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Suffolk County Council Education Department).

*Flixton*, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/2986; FLN 057). New investigations at this active sand and gravel quarry operated by Cemex UK Ltd, have revealed the presence of fossiliferous and artefact-rich deposits, preserved within a channel cut into the early Middle Pleistocene shallow marine Wroxham Crag. The channel fill is a diamictic unit, consisting of dark organic sands with abundant wood fragments, overlain by silts, sands and gravels. The sequence reflects the gradual infilling of a peripheral channel feature with episodic inwashing of coarser material and represents a very short-lived period of deposition. Early Palaeolithic archaeology has been recovered from the channel and so far consists of 3 cores and 78 flakes. The material is mostly in mint fresh unpatinated condition, but with a minor (<5%) slightly rolled component. All artefacts have been produced by direct hard-hammer percussion, with no indication thus far of soft hammer or handaxe manufacture. Both cores and flakes are notable for very pronounced cones of percussion and pronounced ripple marks, giving the overall impression of very hard, heavy-handed knapping.

The pollen spectra indicate a mosaic of coniferous and deciduous woodland as well as open grassland with evidence for disturbance and fire in the regional landscape. Rare plant macrofossils were present including sedge (Cyperaceae) and knotweed (*Polygonum* sp.), together with wood fragments of oak (*Quercus*), elm (*Ulmus*) and Pomoideae (a group that includes hawthorn, apple and rowan). Occasional small vertebrate remains (shrews, voles and fish) and larger vertebrate remains uncovered so far include an extinct beaver-like rodent (*Trogotherium cf. cuvieri*) and *Hippopotamus* sp. Together, the mammals indicate a temperate episode of early Middle Pleistocene age, with mean summer temperatures warmer than today. The insect faunas indicate diverse local habitats with a mature river that flowed continuously throughout the year, bordered by damp, shady places with sedges as well as other reedy vegetation. The beetles also indicate predominantly open country with stands of deciduous trees including ash, elm and oak. Dung beetles reflect the presence of large mammals in the vicinity. All the insect taxa still live in England and indicate an interglacial climate at least as warm as at the present day.

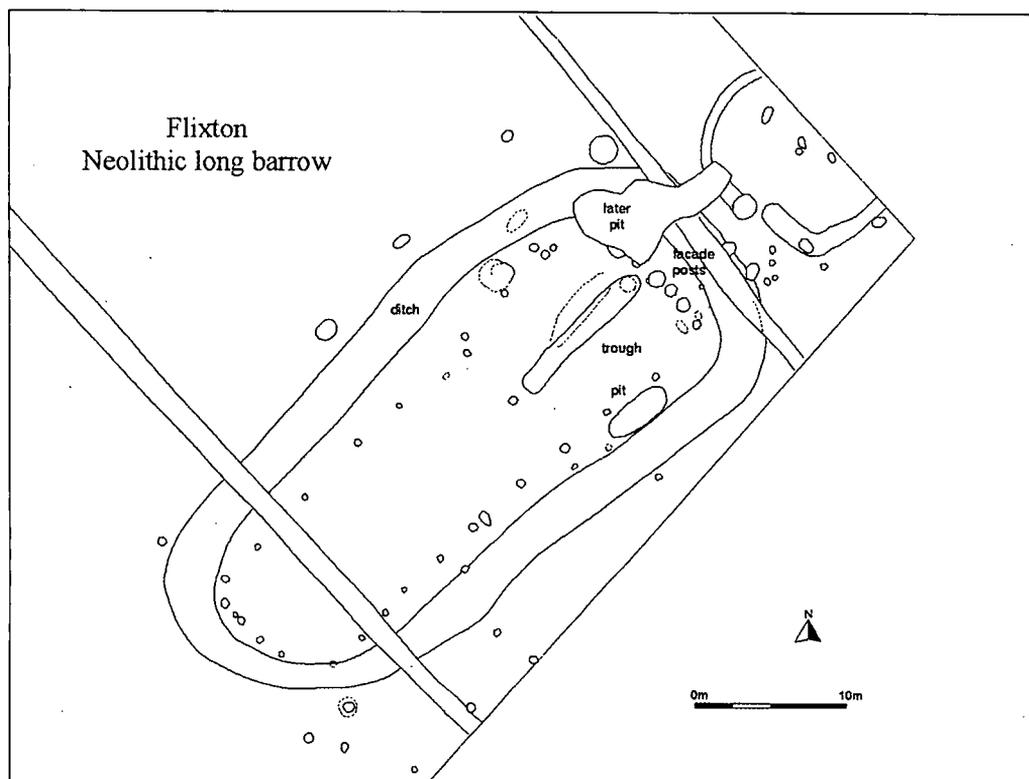


FIG. 150 – Flixton Park Quarry (FLN 069). Plan of the Neolithic long barrow, together with an adjacent circular monument and overlying and later field boundaries.

The fossiliferous and artefact-rich sediments are capped by a sandy diamicton attributed to the Happisburgh Till and then by the Happisburgh Sand and Gravel, itself overlain by Anglian Lowestoft Till. The archaeology and palaeontology of the Flixton channel is therefore of early Middle Pleistocene age and pre-dates either Marine Oxygen Isotope Stage (MIS) 12 or MIS 16, depending on the depositional model used. A minimum age of *c.*450 000 years old is therefore proposed on the basis of the stratigraphy, while palaeomagnetic samples taken throughout the section (all of normal polarity) indicate a maximum age of 780,000 BP. It is hoped that ongoing work on the biostratigraphy, combined with pioneering Optically-Stimulated Luminescence dating and cosmogenic nuclide dating will help to resolve the age of this important new locality.

Acknowledgements: Brian Beales and Cemex Ltd UK are gratefully acknowledged for site access and the Ancient Britain and its European Context (AHOB2) project is thanked for funding the excavations and ongoing analysis. Mark Lewis and Pierre Schreve are thanked for fieldwork assistance, preparation and sorting of samples, and Tom White and Scott Clifford for fieldwork assistance.

(D. Schreve, B. Silva, I. Candy, J. Rose and G.R. Coope, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway University of London, M. White, Department of Archaeology, University of Durham, and R. Barendregt, Department of Geography, The University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada).

*Flixton*, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086; FLN 068). 1ha was stripped at the northern end of New Quarry Phases 15 and 16 in the area known as School Wood. All of the ditches recorded represented the continuation of features previously identified during earlier work to the north, though the dating for some of these features was uncertain. However, at least one of the ditches was relatively recent, being linked to landscape features shown on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps and continuing in use until relatively recently. The earlier ditches included the southern end, together with a central entrance formed by opposed butt-ends, of a rectangular enclosure that had contained a small square enclosure with central pit. This had previously been interpreted as an Early Anglo Saxon shrine (John Blair *pers. comm.*) but its contrary alignment to the adjacent Early Anglo-Saxon buildings suggests that it was certainly not directly contemporary with their main period of occupation.

Five Early Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured buildings (SFBs) were recorded, all with an approximately east-west long axis, with the whole group being lined up on a similar east-west orientation over a distance of c.70m. Four of the SFBs had two internal posts central to their shorter sides, while one had no post-holes at all. Dimensions varied considerably with the largest measuring 4.5m x 3m with a depth of 0.6m and the smallest 3m x 2m with a depth of 0.3m. The entire fills of the buildings were sieved, producing a significant quantity of pottery (mainly EAS but some Roman sherds), Roman tile, animal bone, daub, iron nails and spindle whorls, the latter made from a number of different materials. Other positively dated Early Anglo-Saxon features were limited to a few isolated pits, although one of the ditches, forming an enclosure that would have contained the EAS hall buildings previously recorded to the north, has tentatively been proposed as belong to this phase.

Two four-post structures were recorded. These are usually prehistoric in date, but in this instance were not found in association with other prehistoric deposits and with the absence of artefactual evidence must, at this juncture, remain undated. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Cemex Ltd).

*Flixton*, Flixton Park Quarry (TM/3086; FLN 069). An area of c.0.5ha, completing New Quarry Phase 10, was stripped. The features included the continuation of at least two phases of previously recorded rectilinear field boundary systems, one of which was almost certainly post-medieval in date and included elements demarcating the southern edge of the former Flixton to Homersfield road. The second series of ditches were consistent with others tentatively dated to the earlier Roman Period. Other feature included isolated pits, some with black fills that included small quantities of calcined bone. While not thought to represent whole cremations, they may have been generated during the cremation process, possibly as sweepings from the pyre.

However, the most significant archaeology identified in this area was a Neolithic long barrow and its associated features (Fig. 150). A continuous ditch that was up to 3m wide and 1.5m deep defined a slightly eccentric oval shape that measured 45m S.W.-N.E. x 20m N.W.-S.E. Features enclosed by and thought to be directly associated with the ditch included post-holes parallel to its internal edge, forming a rectangular structure which was divided into two. The larger section to the S.W. encompassed about two thirds of the interior area. The post-holes running across the eastern end of the smaller, square, eastern section were much larger than those elsewhere and were thought to represent a formal façade/entrance providing access to a linear, 11m long x 2m wide trough-like feature immediately to the west and aligned on the long axis of the monument. No artefacts were recovered from the trough, but a large number of flint cobbles had been collected and deposited in a pile and in linear arrangements towards the eastern end of the feature. A pit excavated into the eastern end of the trough also contained flint cobbles. Also thought to be directly associated with the long barrow, due to its location between the line of post-holes on the southern side of the enclosed area and the ditch itself,

was a large oval pit measuring 5m x 2m, with a depth of 1m. Two significant finds from the pit fill were a broken, but complete Mildenhall Ware bowl and a large shale bead, the latter identified as a Monster Bead (Alison Sheridan *pers. comm.*). These finds, if contemporary with the monument, suggest an Early Neolithic date with a period of use during the 4th millennium BC.

Immediately to the east of the long barrow, the opposed butt-ends of two curving ditches were recorded, both continuing on beyond the eastern edge of the stripped area. While the eastern side of the feature was beyond the edge of the site, it was consistent with it representing a single circular monument with a diameter of 13m. The recovery of Beaker pottery in the upper fill of the adjacent long barrow ditch combined with the presence of the circular feature is suggestive of a second phase of activity, possibly during the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, that was directly focussed on the earlier monument. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Cemex Ltd).

*Freckenham, Isleham to Mildenhall Water Pipeline* (TL/6874-6975; FRK 092). A fieldwalking survey, aerial photograph analysis, palaeoenvironmental survey, trial trenching, excavation and watching brief were carried out along the proposed route of the pipeline. Fieldwalking finds consisted of Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery, as well as ceramic building material, worked flint, metal artefacts and coins. These were found throughout the pipeline route and a concentration of Roman finds, including a number of coins, was discovered at the eastern end of the fieldwalking corridor (Field 10; TL/6975).

A possible flint surface discovered to the north of the River Lark (Field 7; TL/6874) was found to probably be naturally deposited colluvium. A human mandible and a number of pits and linear features were also found during this excavation. Remains of parts of a Roman co-axial field system were found in the vicinity of the northern bank of the River Lark and at the eastern end of the pipeline route (Field 10; TL/6975). The excavations at the eastern end of the pipeline route also uncovered Roman beam-slots, post-holes and pits.

(Stephen Morgan, N.A.U. Archaeology for Anglian Water; report 1497 in prep.).

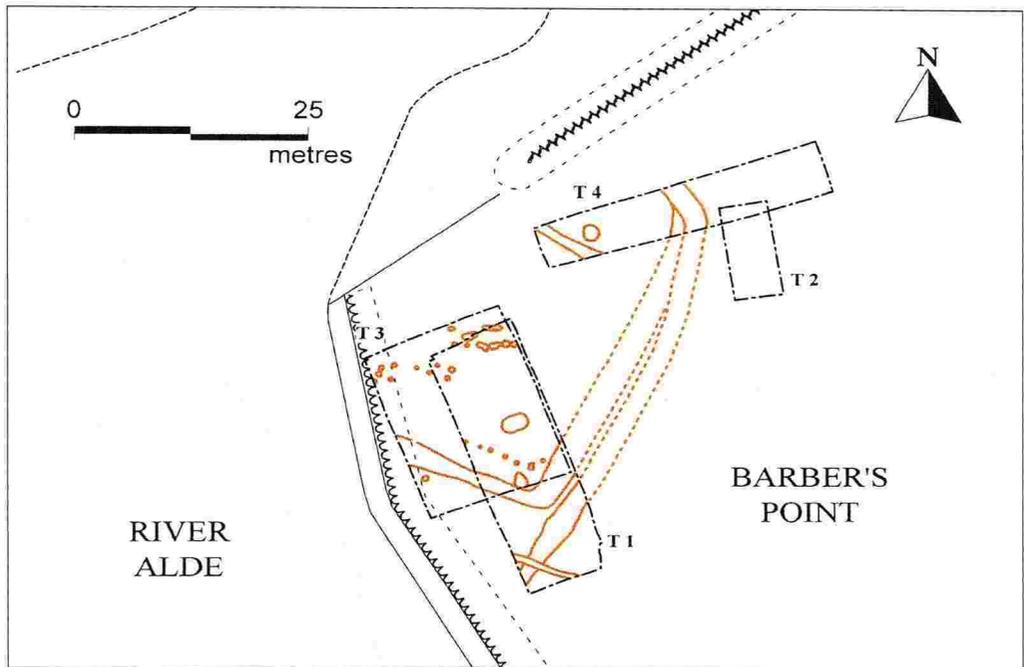


FIG. 151 – Barber's Point, Friston (FRS 001). Plan of the excavations showing the Middle Saxon features in red.

*Friston*, Barber's Point (TM/4357; FRS 001). Excavations in 1907 on this slight promontory on the northern bank of the River Alde had indicated that the site was of Roman origin and that a Saxon element was also present. Members of the Aldeburgh and District Local History Society, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, organised a detailed survey of the area coupled with excavation of the site in 2004 and 2006, assisted by members of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service and other freelance specialists.

A detailed magnetometry survey of the site conducted by David and Aline Black showed some substantial buried features, including a pair of rectilinear enclosure ditches. A contour survey of the same area indicated that these ditches surrounded a pronounced rise in the ground surface. Away from the immediate vicinity of the site, an auger-hole survey and subsequent palaeoenvironmental analysis was conducted by Mike Godwin. His research indicated that tidal channels and salt marsh had originally separated Barber's Point from the high ground of the river edge and that the site had previously been an island. He also suggested that sea-level changes probably accounted for the discontinuity between the Roman and Middle Saxon occupation of the site.

Excavations in 2004 and 2006, targeting features defined by the magnetometry survey, revealed a complex, multi-period site represented by four distinct periods: later prehistoric, Roman, Middle Saxon and medieval. Prehistoric flint tools were recovered from across the site, mainly from unstratified and later contexts, although two prehistoric pits were identified. A Neolithic element, consisting of two leaf-shaped arrowheads and other fine flintwork, and a slightly coarser flint assemblage, of probable Bronze Age date, were represented. Unusually two Lower Palaeolithic hand-axes and a flint flake of the same period were also recovered, but these were likely to be brought to the site at a later period.

Despite the majority of the pottery and other finds belonging to the Roman era, few features of this date were identified. It seems likely that the Roman layers were heavily reworked and truncated in the Middle Saxon period. The finds assemblage indicates occupation during the 2nd and 3rd centuries, of fairly humble nature and probably associated with salt-extraction, as indicated by the presence of briquetage (salt-working debris). The paucity of the finds record is in contrast to the material recovered during the 1907 dig, which included some high status metalwork and ceramics, perhaps the more prestigious areas of the site had been lost through river erosion.

Most of the excavated features proved to be of Middle Saxon date (Fig. 151), including the two phases of the large enclosure ditch (a third phase is possible). This enclosure defined a number of structures, although variability in the natural geology across the base of the trench made it very difficult to trace alignments of post-holes. The gable ends of two small buildings, with characteristic rounded corners, could in reality be either ends of a long thin building of probable specialist function. Another structure, partly revealed in the trench and constructed from larger and more closely placed post-holes, appeared to be closely associated with two human burials. This building might have been a church. Only one of the graves was excavated, this individual was likely to be a young female. Bone samples from both burials were taken and radiocarbon dates of the mid 8th to the early 9th centuries obtained.

Recently, preserved wooden structures have been located and surveyed on the edge of the river adjacent to Barber's Point (see above: *Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey*). These timbers, representing trackways, quay edges or a possible fishtrap, have also been dated to the Middle Saxon period.

During the medieval period a large freshwater pond with a revetted edge was constructed towards the north-east corner of the site, off the higher land of the earlier occupation. This raises the possibility that reclamation of the salt-marsh for animal pasture might have occurred earlier than the assumed date of the post-medieval period.

(Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for the Aldeburgh and District Local History Society; report no. 2007/185).

*Gosbeck*, Church Farm (TM/1455; GOS 001). Excavations have started on a double moated site to the north of Gosbeck Wood and east of the Roman road from Coddendam to Peasenhall. It is possible that the site may contain the original hall of the de Gosbeck family and a later residence of the Jermy family. Adjoining is the remaining section of what is shown on an aerial photograph to be a circular moated mound with the crop marks of another 'ring ditch' a short distance away. Early indications suggest the moated site was occupied from the 12th to the 14th century. (Mel Birch for the Suffolk Deserted Medieval Settlement Field Team).

*Great Blakenham*, waste transfer facility off Addison Way, Bramford Road (TM/1249; BLG 024). An evaluation revealed a series of pits and ditches with early medieval pottery along the western edge of Bramford Road. Other finds included a single sherd of Thetford-type pottery, fragments of lava quernstones; animal bone, shell, and a worked flint object. (Robert Atfield, S.C.C.A.S., for David Clarke and Associates; report no. 2007/172).

*Great Cornard*, land off Bures Road (TL/8839): An excavation in advance of a housing development identified a sparse scatter of small pits and a small ring ditch, 11m in diameter, with a central pit. These are probably prehistoric and may relate to a possible nearby Bronze Age barrow cemetery. Two post-medieval field ditches were also identified. Post-excavation work is still continuing. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Persimmons Homes (Anglia) Ltd).

*Haverhill/Little Wratting*, land at N.W. Haverhill (TL/6746; HVH 064 and WTL 008): An evaluation in advance of potential development on c.45ha of agricultural land identified isolated and insubstantial pre-medieval deposits and a network of post-medieval drainage ditches and field boundaries, as partly seen on 19<sup>th</sup>-century mapping. The evaluation also identified an area, c.1.5ha in extent, of medieval settlement activity of the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries, with a possible Late Saxon or Early Medieval origin. A further part of this occupation was seen in the adjacent WTL 009/HVH 065 evaluation (see below). Identified features demonstrated the presence of possible buildings, rubbish pits and subdivision of land extending along either side of the access track to the former sites of *Alderton* or *Alverton* Chapel and Chapel Farm. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for North West Haverhill Landowners Group).

*Haverhill/Little Wratting*, land at Boyton Hall (TL 6746; HVH 065 and WTL 009): An evaluation in advance of potential development identified two Roman features and part of a substantial phase of medieval settlement activity in the 12th-14th centuries, with a possible Late Saxon or Early Medieval origin. The larger part of this occupation evidence was seen in the adjacent evaluation WTL 008/HVH 064 (see above). (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr R. Maidment).

*Hoxne*, The Old Vicarage (TM/1877; HXN006; SAM 30603). The dredging of the moat and excavation for a sunken paved area on the moat platform were monitored. The site is believed to have been a former palace of the bishop of Norwich dating from at least the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The monitoring demonstrated that the moat had last been cleaned out in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and no medieval deposits survived. In one corner the moat was substantially deeper with steep sides and may have been used as a swimming pool. The excavation recorded an alignment of postholes, probably part of a small building, pits and a small ditch, containing 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery. (David Gill and Richenda Goffin, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs Searle; report forthcoming).

*Icklingham*, 35 The Street (TL/7772; IKL 166). Rubbish pits concentrated alongside the road frontage were excavated during an evaluation in advance of a small housing development. The pottery in the pits indicates occupation in 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries and in the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The medieval pottery included a fragment of a Grimston glazed ware jug of late 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century date. A single Roman sherd and a fragment of Late Saxon Thetford-type ware were also found. 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century bricks and degraded clay lump were found but the site of a building was not identified. (David Gill and Richenda Goffin, S.C.C.A.S., for TSC Developments; report no. 2007/134).

*Ipswich*, land between Star Lane and College Street, the 'Western Triangle' site (TM/1624; IAS 5804). A further site has been excavated at the former Cranfield's Garage site to the north of Key Street. It was not thought that much evidence of waterfront features would be found this far to the north, but initial impressions suggest the contrary. Substantial septaria-built walls were found, currently thought to be c.14<sup>th</sup> century in date. These were later reused/incorporated in other buildings, but initially appear to have stood right on the water's edge. To the southern side were typical waterlogged foreshore deposits while to the north there was an area of very dense pitting and other occupation evidence of broadly contemporary date to the earliest phase of wall construction. The evidence was once again very complex and will require considerable further work, but does suggest that the area known as 'The Wash' was larger than previously thought. This in effect pushes the S.E. corner of the town boundary slightly further to the N.W. It also raises questions about the construction of St Mary Quay Church, which would appear to be founded on marshland rather than sound gravel.

(Rhodri Gardner, S.C.C.A.S., for Wharfeside Regeneration Ltd; report in prep.)

*Ipswich*, 333a-389 Bramford Road (TM/1445; IAS 7931). An evaluation and small excavation in advance of residential development was carried out on a gravel terrace on the north side of the Gipping valley. This revealed that it was quarried intensively for gravel in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A small area in the SW corner of the site contained a number of closely spaced pits or postholes, some of which produced worked flints of Mesolithic/Neolithic to later prehistoric date.

(Kieron Heard, S.C.C.A.S., for Redrow Homes (Eastern) Ltd).

*Ipswich*, land at Hayhills Allotments, Woodbridge Road (TM/1745; IPS583). This site remained as fields until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century when it was turned into allotments. Roman burials have been found 300m N.W. of it, but this evaluation revealed only a moderate number of features, principally modern rubbish pits and water pipe trenches associated with the allotments. A single sherd of Thetford-type ware may indicate late Saxon/early medieval activity in the area.

(Phillippa Sparrow and Tom McDonald, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Crest Nicholson (Eastern) Ltd; report no. 2944).

*Ixworth*, 12 Stow Road (TL/9370; IXW 063). An evaluation was carried on a vacant lot between no. 12 and 'The Blooms' (a former open hall building that has stood on the site since at least the 15<sup>th</sup> century). Two phases of archaeology were found: one consisting of horizons of building rubble associated with the major remodelling of the timber-framed house that occurred between the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries and earlier rubbish pits that predated the building. Finds dated the pits to between the mid-12<sup>th</sup> and the mid-13<sup>th</sup> centuries and included sherds of glazed Hedingham Fineware.

(David Gill and Richenda Goffin, S.C.C.A.S., for Hardwick Developments; report no. 2008/001).

*Kesgrave*, land off Ropes Drive/Bell Lane (TM/2145; KSG 032). An evaluation revealed two undated burnt pits and one abraded sherd of medieval pottery. A standing earthwork, comprising a bank and ditch, was present in the wooded north east corner of the site. Documentary evidence suggests that this is the boundary of a wood that was established by 1723.

(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S., for SEH (Developments) Ltd and Persimmon Homes (Essex) Ltd; report no. 2007/167).

*Lakenheath*, new roundabout and car park, junction of Norwich and Richmond Roads, R.A.F. Lakenheath (TL7380; LKH 302). An evaluation and monitoring revealed further evidence of the Roman settlement in the form of ditches and pits containing some pottery and animal bone fragments. Unfortunately the site had suffered a lot of modern disturbance and in addition, where archaeological levels survived, they were well below the development levels. However evidence that appears to support existing theories about the presence of a band of enclosure ditches on the east and north edges of the settlement was found.

(Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for MOD Defence Estates (USF); report no 2007/138).

*Leiston*, Old Abbey Chapel (TM/4765; LCS 002). An English Heritage grant was obtained by the R.S.P.B. to cover the consolidation of the ruined chapel in their Minsmere Reserve. This is the last remaining structure on the first site of Leiston Abbey, founded in 1182. The specified work included minor excavation, photographic recording and an architectural analysis of the chapel.

The building stands on shallow prominence in a pasture. Aerial photographs and a geophysics plot indicate that it is a secondary structure constructed within the footprint of the much larger original abbey church. The building clearly revealed three major structural phases as follows:

*Phase I:* The lowermost 2.5m of the standing building. Comprising well-coursed round beach cobbles and common flat pieces of ferruginous sandstone. Architectural features associated with this included diagonal buttresses at all four corners, a large east window, a low doorway towards the eastern end of the south side with an internal niche at ground level immediately to the east two windows, one on the south side (later blocked) and one to the north. The obvious truncation of these window openings suggests that the Phase I building had originally been higher, but was subsequently partially dismantled down to a flat consistent level around the whole structure from which Phase II was built.

*Phase II:* Comprising all of the wall fabric above Phase I to a maximum surviving height of c.5m. The fabric was coursed, again including beach cobbles. However, the ferruginous sandstone was absent, and there was a significant use of red frogless bricks (9 x 2 1/4 x 4 1/4 in) sometimes in discrete courses with some large exotic stone pieces and re-used limestone masonry, particularly on the north side. Some courses exhibited herringbone pattern. Architectural features associated with this phase included two windows, one on each of the north and south sides and a series of putlock holes immediately above the junction with the Phase I fabric.

*Phase III:* During World War II the structure was refurbished to hold a disguised pillbox built into its eastern end, facing the sea.

The dating of the Phase I and Phase II fabrics relies largely on the background historical data. The Phase I fabric was not inconsistent with a medieval date, but must post-date the translocation of the Abbey in 1363 to its new location. The Phase I building may have been constructed with salvaged materials from the dismantled first abbey, possibly in the later 14<sup>th</sup> century. The Phase II structure is clearly later in date, but had almost certainly gone out of use by the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century

when probably contemporary drawings show it as a shell without a roof. One possibility is that Phase II represents the refurbishment of the Phase I building to house John Green who, on his resignation as abbot in 1531, became an anchorite in the chapel of St Mary on the old abbey site. A combination of drawings, engravings and photographs then suggest that the structure suffered a gradual, but continual decline until, during the 2nd World War, the Phase III pillbox structure was incorporated into its eastern end, possibly not without some damage to the structure.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for English Heritage and the R.S.P.B.).

*Long Melford*, land off New Road (TL 8645; LMD 165): Monitoring of footing trenches for three houses identified a series of substantial Roman rubbish pits, 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).

*Mellis*, Treetops, The Common (TM/0974; MLS 019): Monitoring of footing trenches for an extension identified a large undated ditch, thought to be an infilled part of the medieval or post-medieval water management systems of moats, ponds and drains that are still seen within the settlement surrounding the medieval green.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr M. Young).

*Mildenhall*, land at Washington Street, Beck Row (TL/6877; MNL 570): An excavation in advance of a housing development identified substantial evidence of Late Iron Age to early Roman activity, a continuation of site MNL 502 to the north-east. This consisted of several phases of intercutting ditches and occasional pits. A single inhumation of an adult male was recovered from one of the ditches. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Mansells PLC on behalf of MoD Defence Estates).

*Mildenhall*, 65 The Street, Beck Row (TL/6977; MNL 576). Evaluation revealed colluvial deposits of up to 1.1m over much of the site. Two ditches and seven small pits were identified, all of which contained finds of a late medieval or post-medieval date.

(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S., for CgMs Consulting; report no. 2007/40)

*Mildenhall*, 5 Wildmere Lane, Holywell Row (TL/7077; MNL 580). Monitoring of footing trenches for two new houses identified a typical fen-edge scatter of multi-period deposits, preserved at depth with the natural topography under windblown sands. Post-excavation work is still continuing.

(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S. for Mr G. Madgewick).

*Mildenhall*, 70 The Street, Beck Row (TL 6977; MNL 589). Monitoring identified two NW-SE aligned ditches, one of which may relate to an extensive Roman field system which lies to the N.W. of the site. The second ditch was stratigraphically later and may relate to a post-Roman field boundary. A single sherd of possible Roman pottery, an animal bone fragment and a flint flake were recovered from the fill of the earlier ditch.

Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr K.F. and Mrs P.B.J. Olsen; report no. 2007/094).

*Mildenhall*, Parkers Mill, Mill Street (TL/7074; MNL 590). The mill is situated on the north side of the River Lark, on a leat running roughly parallel to the river. Domesday Book refers to a mill in

Mildenhall, possibly in this location The site is located on the edge of, and extends into, the Lark floodplain, straddling the divide between loam over chalk (to the north) and fen edge peat deposits to the south. The trial trench evaluation found features ranging from Saxo-Norman (c.AD 850-1150) to late-medieval/ early post-medieval (1400-1600) date. These were concentrated mainly in the northern corner of the site and comprised ditches, gullies, pits and postholes. There were generally few finds, suggesting that the area was on the periphery of the medieval settlement. However, one later-medieval (c.1400) rubbish/cess pit yielded a large animal bone assemblage including articulated elements from at least six cattle. The centre of the site was found to be heavily-truncated from the buildings which formerly occupied the site. The southern edge of the site, adjacent to the mill stream, was devoid of archaeology, although only a small portion was investigated due to modern disturbance and an electricity substation in this area. A palaeo-environmental assessment revealed that peat deposits adjacent to the mill channel were relatively shallow and no waterlogged deposits were encountered.

(Phillippa Sparrow, Phil Weston and Tom Woolhouse, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Freshwater Estates U.K. Ltd.; report no. 2930)

*Mildenhall*, Street Farm, The Street, Holywell Row (TL/7077; MNL 591). An evaluation in advance of a housing development identified two undated ditches, possibly relating to prehistoric or Roman activity, sealed at depth below substantial windblown sand deposits.  
(John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Swallow Mead Developments Ltd).

*Newmarket*, land off Moulton Road (TL/6664; MUN 023 and 025). The excavations focused on areas of archaeological potential identified during a previous evaluation, including the findspot of a Bronze Age collared urn. The excavation found three archaeological features, all in Area A. All were shallow and contained little dating evidence. A moderate assemblage of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age pottery recovered from the subsoil in the area suggested that prehistoric features had been truncated by post-medieval agricultural activity. The Area D excavation, centred on the urn find, revealed no archaeological features and no further evidence of Bronze Age funerary or settlement activity.  
(Andrew Mundin, Tom Woolhouse and Tamlin Barton, Archaeological Solutions Ltd, for Moulton Paddocks Estate Ltd; report no. 2163)

*Norton*, Three Bridges, Norton Little Green (TL/9766; NRN 018). An evaluation in advance of a housing development located two segments of the boundary ditch of the medieval green. Unfortunately very few finds were recovered from the the ditch and no associated occupation features were located.  
(Robert Atfield S.C.C.A.S., for Mr and Mrs Adams; report no. 2007/067).

*Pakenham*, Gemeed, Ixworth (TL/9269; PKM 056). Monitoring within the area of the Roman fort identified Roman features and a buried soil.  
(Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr N. Babington).

*Pakenham*, Nosredna (TL/9369; PKM 057). Monitoring of an extension exposed a dark soil and a series of pit fills containing Roman pottery and animal bones. These features are consistent with the location of the building within the limits of the Roman town, which evidence suggests is centred towards the south and west of the site.  
(Andrew Tester, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr Newman).

*Southwold*, Buss Creek (TM/4976; SWD 045). Monitoring in advance of the construction of a new bund and flood defence revealed a well-preserved medieval timber revetment. The site lies very close to sea level (just above 0.5m OD) in an area with evidence for an early medieval harbour. Previous finds include four boats, one of which has been dated to the Middle Saxon period. Hodkinson's *Map of Suffolk* shows that this part of the Buss Creek was still known as the 'Old Key' in 1783. Only a small area of the site was disturbed and the bulk of the feature have been left *in situ*.

The revetment consisted of series of vertical squared timber planks, set side by side, orientated east to west, along the northern side of the creek. The timbers were butted flush and appear to have been part of a much larger and complex structure. The tops of all the timbers were heavily desiccated due to fluctuations in the water table and it is probable that the uppermost parts of the structure have been lost. In contrast most of the lower parts of the timbers were well preserved. Four timbers were removed for analysis prior to the reburial of the site. These were tangentially-sawn fast-grown oak (*Quercus* spp.) planks, all of which were 65mm thick. The timbers were well preserved, rectangular in cross section with waney edges and all retained clear tool marks, both from axe hewing, sawing and drilling with augers. All of them had short tenons 35mm thick, and were varied, in that three were bare faced, two were of reduced width and one had an edge lap cut at one side. Two were also without peg holes. At least one of the timbers had been reused, and had been burnt prior to its use in this structure. The bulk of the large structure remains deeply buried, preserved in the waterlogged alluvial soils. In particular, there is evidence that a sill beam with a mortise slot or holes for tenons may still remain buried. The timbers were submitted for dendrochronological analysis, but it was not possible to establish a date for the timbers, however the study made of the woodworking suggested a medieval date. The tool marks and modification in particular suggest they were later than AD 1200, however due to the fact they had been re-used the actual date of construction may be even later.

The revetment could be part of a quay or wharf structure or be associated with the reclamation of this area and the stabilisation of the land and is not dissimilar to one from Trig Lane in London (Milne 1978, 1992). Although the present Buss Creek site is only a small one, this part of Southwold and Reydon should be considered as a significant harbour with evidence spanning from the Saxon to the post-medieval period.

(William Fletcher and Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S., and Ian Tyres and Richard Darrah for the Environment Agency; report no. 2007/222).

*Stoke Ash*, The Old Rectory. (TM/1170; SAS 017). As part of the Thornham Estate survey, the Field Group set out to examine why there is a deviation in the A140 Ipswich to Norwich road at a point west of Stoke Ash Church. A resistivity survey carried out in garden on what was thought to be the line of the original Roman road, showed ditch lines and a possible road surface. A subsequent trial trench revealed the remains of a road surface, now mostly robbed or ploughed out, and two ditches 1m deep – the eastern ditch being much wider than the western ditch. The ditches are 32m metres apart, with the another possible ditch at the centre of this wide span, indicating perhaps movement of the road in the Roman period. The amounts of Roman pottery in the two outer ditches suggest that there was a domestic dwelling close by. Appreciation is extended to Mr and Mrs Laurie for allowing this work to be carried out in their garden.

(Gilbert Burroughes for the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group).

*Stowmarket*, Cedars Park Phases 4B and 4C (TM/0658; SKT048). Previous work at Cedars Park has revealed a middle to late Iron Age settlement, a late Iron Age and Roman farmstead and several areas of dispersed medieval settlement. This evaluation revealed features belonging to four different

phases. The earliest features were a series of parallel N.E. to S.W. aligned gullies that were thought to be prehistoric on the basis of struck flint and a few sherds of flint-tempered pottery. The next phase was dated to AD 900-1300 and comprised two ditches, two gullies, a pit and a posthole. These yielded moderate quantities of pottery and other material consistent with domestic rubbish and may indicate a late Anglo-Saxon or medieval settlement in the vicinity. All the features were concentrated in the far S.E. of the site (Phase 4B). Post-medieval and modern ditches and gullies were also identified and almost certainly represent field boundaries.

(Tim Schofield, Tom Woolhouse, Archaeological Solutions Ltd for Crest Nicholson Residential (Eastern) Ltd; report no. 2925)

*Sudbury*, The Old Vicarage, Church Street (TL/8641; SUY 077). Monitoring of groundworks for a garage revealed pits and layers of overburden to a depth of 1.7m. Medieval pottery and a fragment of human bone were recovered from the upcast spoil.

(Linzi Everett, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr. and Mrs. W. Liddell; report no. 2007/48).

*Sudbury*, Priory Stadium (TL/8740; SUY 082). An evaluation in advance of residential development revealed a sequence of sediments deposited by the River Stour and at least one former N-S watercourse that remained open until the 19th century. In places layers of cultivation soil and former topsoil sealed the sediments, demonstrating agricultural use of the site in the post-medieval period.

(Kieron Heard, S.C.C.A.S., for Knight Developments Ltd, report number 2007/108).

*Suffolk*: Test pit excavations within Currently Occupied Rural Settlements. These were carried out within three rural settlements as part of the University of Cambridge Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA)'s Currently Occupied Rural Settlements (CORS) project. This commenced in Cambridgeshire in 2005 (Lewis 2006a) with the aims of (a) raising the educational aspirations of teenagers (mostly from non-university-educated backgrounds) by enabling them to excavate, record and write up their own test pit (under professional archaeological supervision), thereby developing a range of new transferable organisational, interpersonal and academic skills and build their academic self-confidence; and (b) increasing the number of occupied rural villages and hamlets to have seen research-oriented archaeological investigation. The HEFA project expanded in 2006 to cover four East Anglian counties and included three settlements in Suffolk. Work continued on these sites in 2007. In 2007 a total of 13 Field Academies were carried out across six counties in eastern England. These involved nearly 400 young people digging scores of test pits, which raised the numbers interested in going to university to more than 75% of those attending (Lewis 2006b).

*Hessett* (TL/9361). A small rural village c.6 miles S.E. of Bury St Edmunds at 64-69m OD. The northern, lower-lying, end of the present (and 19<sup>th</sup> century) village takes the form of a linear settlement along a single central north-south-oriented street with a church in the centre on the east side. The southern end of the village is c.5m higher and arranged around a former small rectangular green (longitudinally bisected by the road) whose lines are clearly visible on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6in map, and survive today as sharply cut ditches. There are several extant farms of pre-Victorian date origin in, or within 500m of, the village, some of which are associated with moats. Two other deserted moated sites also lie within 500m of the main village street.

Six test pits were dug here in 2007, bringing to 15 the total dug in 2006 and 2007. As most of the 2006 test pits had been in the south of the village, work in 2007 focussed primarily on its northern end. No Roman pottery was found in any of the 2007 test pits, leaving the total of Roman finds from the village over the two years amounting to just one single small sherd of very abraded greyware, found in HES06/8 in the south of the village on the edge of the green. On its own, this cannot be of any significance, and the absence generally of Roman pottery from Hesselton to date is interesting to note. Pottery of late Anglo-Saxon date has been found in five test pits, all near the church, suggesting that this is the main area of occupation at that date. The high medieval period seems to see an extension of settlement, as four locations to the north-east, south and south-west of the late Saxon focus yield pottery of this date, including three sites which may have been farmsteads and one on the east side of Hesselton Green, perhaps hinting that medieval settlement away from the area around Hesselton church at this date may have taken a rather dispersed form. The distribution of the evidence from the late medieval and post-medieval periods appears essentially similar to that of the 11th-14th century. Further test pitting will be carried out in 2008.

*Coddenham* (TM/1354). A small village c.10km north of Ipswich, mostly lying on the east side of a small stream valley between 25 and 45m OD. The settlement today is arranged along School Road and Church Road (both running along the stream valley) and a third route (High Street) which leads east and steeply upwards out of the valley and the present village. The church lies c.100m S.W. of the point where these three roads meet, on the southern edge of the present settlement. Much of the housing along School Road has been built within the last 100 years. Excavation by a local amateur group has produced substantial evidence for Iron Age and Roman activity nearby, but much less is known about the village itself.

11 test pits were dug in Coddenham in 2007, bringing the total dug over 2006-7 to 21. Unusually, one of the test pits (COD06/7) contained a sherd of late Iron Age pottery, while perhaps more unexpectedly, given the proximity of known Roman occupation, only one sherd of Roman pottery, has been found, in the very south of the village. Two test pits west of the church in 2007 yielded early/middle Anglo-Saxon pottery, supporting the evidence from 2006 in indicating a clear focus of activity in this period in this area, probably predating any church on the site. Pottery of late Anglo-Saxon date was also found in this area and also immediately north of the church, suggesting that this area remained a focus of activity which expanded in the 9th-11th centuries. The distribution of pottery of 11th-14th century date suggests further expansion of settlement, with the first evidence from the moated site of Hall Farm dating to this period. There is, however, no evidence to suggest a spatially continuous pattern occupation at this date along either School Road or the High Street. In contrast with the large number of test pits producing 11th-14th century pottery recovered, just two contained any pottery of 15th-15th century date, which could plausibly be interpreted as evidence for marked contraction, perhaps even temporary desertion, at this date. By way of contrast, almost all the test pits produced pottery of post-medieval date, indicating a revival in the fortunes of the settlement in this period, and ultimately a substantial expansion. Further test pitting will be carried out in 2008.

*Chediston* (TM/3577). In eastern Suffolk c.2km west of Halesworth on clay and alluvial deposits between 19m and 46m OD. The village today comprises two quite separate elements. One settlement cluster surrounds the church on the north side of the valley of a small tributary of the River Blyth while, 0.5km to the N.W. on higher ground away from the stream valley, Chediston Green consists of a string of properties along both sides of a former green, all set well back from the road which bisects the green along its long axis. Several outlying farms are located within 500m of these two main

settlement foci, with others further away within the parish. Local amateur archaeologists have been active in the parish (although they have given less attention to the village itself), having identified and excavated a Roman settlement site immediately beyond the eastern limits of the present settlement around the church; made numerous finds of prehistoric and Roman date during field-walking and metal detecting elsewhere in the parish (*pers comm.* Gilbert Burroughes); and discovered and excavated a late 15th century kiln site in Chediston Green (*ibid.*), near the site of HEFA test pit CHE06/10.

9 test pits were excavated in 2007, bringing the total excavated in 2006-7 to 21. Roman pottery has now been discovered on both Chediston and Chediston Green, although only in very small quantities (just one sherd from each pit), which is surprising considering the close proximity of test pit CHE06-7 to a known Roman settlement site. Two test pits near the church in Chediston have produced pottery of late Saxon date, with CHE06-2 yielding four sherds of Thetford Ware from an undisturbed level which also contained burnt daub (tentatively interpreted as part of an oven or possibly a burnt building) and lay directly on top of a floor surface cut by a post hole. This was interpreted as the site of a structure of some sort near the church in the late Anglo-Saxon period. Only four of the test pits around the church produced pottery of 11th-late 14th century date, and none of these produced more than one or two sherds, and this is a pattern which persists into the post-Black Death period, perhaps indicating that 11th-16th century settlement here was of very limited extent. The earliest evidence for activity at Chediston Green dates to the 1100-1400 AD, with a substantial number of Early Medieval Ware sherds (33) recovered from undisturbed levels 40-80cm below the surface, from CHE06/8. This activity predates the production of pottery in this part of the settlement by at least a century or so. CHE06/9, 10 and 11 all produced 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century pottery, mostly in small amounts, contemporary with production at the nearby kiln site adjacent to CHE06/10, although notably no pottery from this period was recovered from the test pit at Ash Farm.

*Conclusion.* 57 test pits in three Suffolk settlements were excavated in 2006-7 in Suffolk, continuing and expanding investigations into currently occupied rural settlement in East Anglia. Detailed consideration of the further implications of the results are beyond the scope of this paper and would in any case be premature in the case of those sites where few test pits have so far been excavated. Some sites have been published in more detail elsewhere (Lewis 2007a, 2007b). Archive reports (held by the Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge) have been prepared for each settlement, and details of the 2006 test pit sites and the pottery reports for each site are available on [www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/fatpf/evidence.html](http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/fatpf/evidence.html).

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(Carenza Lewis, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge)

*Walsham le Willows*, Elmside Farm (TM/0071; WLW 095). An evaluation in advance of a housing development identified unstratified evidence of Roman activity, with possible associated truncated features. A medieval phase of activity, consisting of unstratified material and a pair of parallel ditches in broad alignment with the adjacent Townhouse Road, was also identified. (John Craven, S.C.C.A.S., for Hopkins Homes Ltd).

*Wangford with Henham*, Wangford Quarry Extension (TM/4777; WNF 023). This evaluation revealed a scattering of archaeological features in two concentrations. Towards the north of the site a group of prehistoric features appear to cluster around the location of a possible ring-ditch. Nearby post-holes and pits containing Early Bronze Age pottery and fire-cracked flint suggest that prehistoric settlement activity might also have taken place at this location. Across the south of the study area a double set of undated ditches ran east-west before turning to the south. These linear features are on a similar alignment to the field boundaries recorded on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 and are thus possibly post-medieval. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S., for Cemex Ltd; report no. 2007/236).

*Willingham*, land north of Sotterley Park (TM/4585; WSM 005). An excavation was carried out ahead of the construction of a farm irrigation reservoir. A previous evaluation (S.C.C.A.S. report no. 2003/121) had revealed concentrations of features within the S.W. part of the reservoir footprint, together with 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery and a sherd of possible Thetford-type ware. The pottery from the excavation appears to be of a similar date range, as do the small number of metal finds and coins. The excavated features consisted predominantly of ditches, some very substantial, forming a complex of enclosures and probable field boundaries extending along Church Road. A range of pits and gullies were also excavated, mainly within the enclosure formed by the more substantial ditches. A large right-angled ditch found towards the north end of the site may have performed a more protective role for a small settlement site, rather than simply an agricultural function. An extremely large pit, excavated within this enclosure, was unusual not just in terms of size, but also profile. The feature had exceptionally steep sides, a near flat base and an almost square plan. The discarded pottery and bone finds from the pit were plentiful, but did not occur in quantities to suggest a primary function of rubbish disposal. Equally, the symmetrical character of this neatly and laboriously dug feature does not seem typical of an extraction pit. At present this pit seems most likely to have fulfilled some form of specific storage or processing function. A medieval silver coin and a lead seal matrix were found firmly stratified within the fill of this pit. (Robert Atfield S.C.C.A.S., for Sotterley Farms Partnership).

*Woodbridge*, land adjoining Notcutts Garden Centre, Warren Hill, Woodbridge. (TM 2648; WBG 067). An evaluation undertaken in advance of a residential development revealed an early medieval ditch and a pit. (Clare Good, S.C.C.A.S., for CgMs Consulting Ltd; report no.2007/153).

## BUILDING RECORDING

*Hasketon*, barn at Willow Farm (TM/2449). A largely intact 16<sup>th</sup>-century timber-framed barn of three bays was recorded prior to demolition (Fig. 152). The original building was 15.3m long x 6.1m wide (50 x 20ft) and contained 1.1m (6ft) wide central northern entrance. Its studs rose by 3m (10 ft) between the ground sill and roof-plate and in this respect was identical to a 15<sup>th</sup> century barn at Bradfield for which a detailed contract survives (Cambridge University Library Add. 7318). The Bradfield barn was also to contain 20ft 'in wideness' but at 42ft was slightly shorter. (Leigh Alston for S.C.C.A.S. and Mr J.W. Nunn).

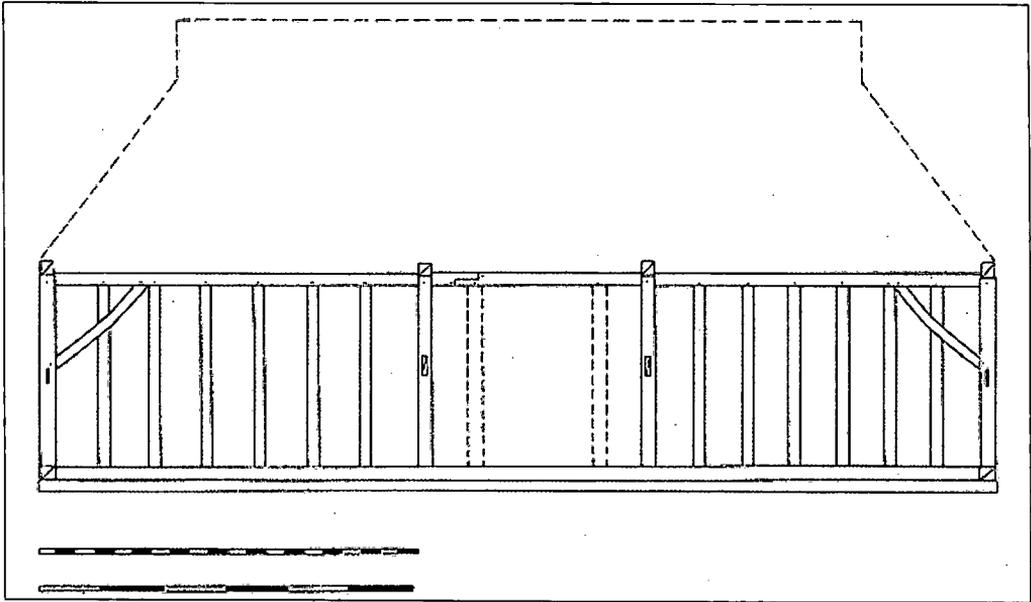


FIG. 152 – Barn at Willow Farm, Hasketon. Reconstruction of northern (front) internal elevation. The original roof had been replaced in the 19th century: (Scales in feet (top) and meters).

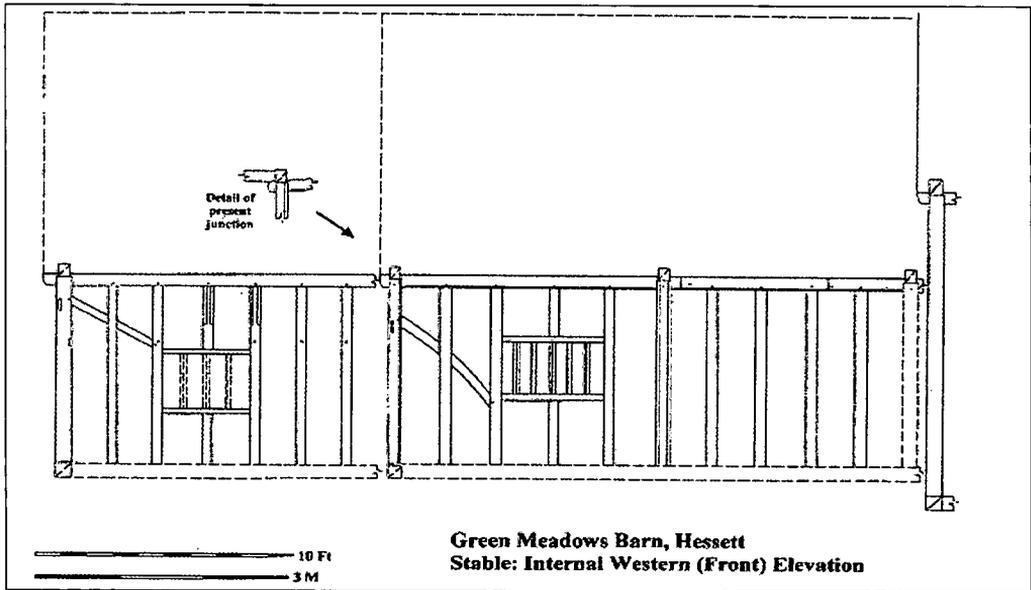


FIG. 153 – Barn at ‘Green Meadows’, Hasset (HTT 031). Western (front) internal elevation.

*Hasset*, barn at Green Meadows (TM/9361; HTT 031). Recording prior to domestic conversion revealed an early-17<sup>th</sup>-century timber-framed stable adjoining the gable of an 18<sup>th</sup>-century barn (Fig. 153). An original structure of two bays, each with its own entrance, was provided with a hayloft and a diamond-mullioned window which survived intact. A third bay with its own window and entrance was added in the mid 17<sup>th</sup>-century. The extended hayloft was lit by low windows which contained

chamfered studs in lieu of mullions. The loft was removed or raised in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the windows blocked by hay racks and mangers, suggesting the horses were originally stalled axially. The secondary tarred weatherboarding preserved an earlier coating of red ochre. (Leigh Alston for S.C.C.A.S. and Mr Hawes).

*Needham Market, The Granary, Hill House* (TM/0855; NDM 025). Recording in advance of domestic conversion revealed the two-storied redundant brick granary to be a rare mid-17th-century 'stately stable' comparable to the example at Boundary Farm, Framsdon, 11km to the N.E. (Martin, Easton and McKechnie 1993). Formerly in the parish of Creeting St Mary, it flanked the base court of a demolished 13-hearth mansion belonging to Jacob Garrard Esq. The ground-floor of the building contained a stable with a cross-entry and five ovolo-mullioned windows in its façade and gables (Fig. 154). The 'blind' rear elevation probably accommodated a hayrack but any such fittings have been removed, although apotropaic 'daisy-wheels' remain on the ceiling. The upper storey may have been reached by an external stair and was lit by six ovolo-mullioned glazed windows suggesting it was intended for social functions such as banqueting rather than a hay loft. A second stair gave access to an attic chamber lit by four large dormer windows offering fine views over the garden and Gipping valley. The present 'Dutch' gables are 19th-century reconstructions.

Subsequent monitoring identified earlier floor surfaces within the building. One of these is constructed of flint and some brick and probably represents the original stable floor. The second, earlier floor is constructed of compacted chalk and cut by the existing wall footings, indicating that this may be a floor relating to the late-16th-century structure identified in the building survey. (Leigh Alston and Jo Caruth, S.C.C.A.S., and Mr and Mrs J. Bolton; report no 2008/097).

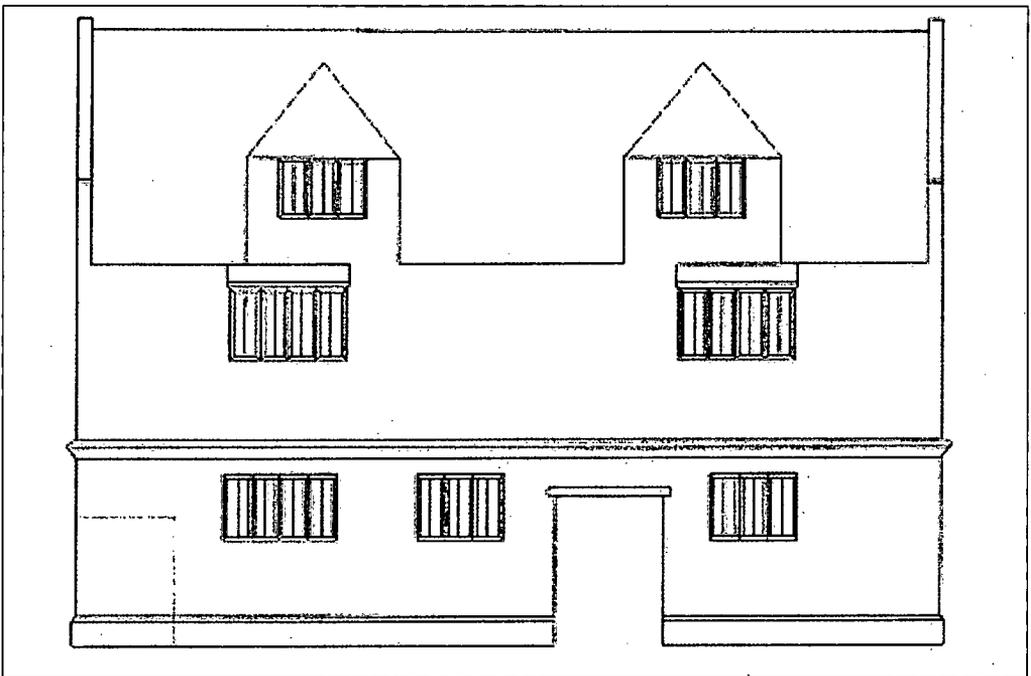


FIG. 154 – The Granary, Hill House, Needham Market (NDM 025). Reconstruction of the original south-eastern (front) elevation of the mid-17th-century brick stable.

*Nettlestead*, Nettlestead Chace (TM/0849; NTT 015). A watching brief and building survey were carried out during alterations and extensions to this 19th-century house that occupies the site of a Tudor mansion. The building survey confirmed that the house incorporates major elements of the Tudor mansion and the watching brief revealed foundations and cellars of the original structure suggesting that it extended to the south and east of the present building. (Kieron Heard, S.C.C.A.S.).

*Preston St Mary*, Old Thatches, Rookwood Lane (TL/9451; PSM 031). A building survey and excavation were undertaken on this early-17<sup>th</sup>-century timber-framed cottage, following a fire and the building's subsequent demolition. It was an early-17<sup>th</sup>-century farmhouse of unusual 'transitional' layout with a central cross entry passing immediately in front of the hall fireplace (Figs. 155 and 156). A narrow rear service wing had been retained from the 16th-century house on the site to form an L-shaped three-cell property. The frame in the southern elevation of the service wing was originally exposed externally to the adjacent road, but its northern elevation, like the later hall range, was rendered from the outset. Dendrochronological analysis by Ian Tyers of Sheffield University failed due to the fast-grown nature of the timber.

The excavation discovered that this was the site of a previous building aligned differently to Old Thatches and recorded evidence of postholes, clay walls, internal floors and external cobbled yard surface. Finds dated this occupation to the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Within the yard an oven and associated deep, square-sided pit suggested that some form of small scale industrial processing was occurring on the site. Old Thatches was constructed over an infilled boundary ditch suggesting that it straddled two former properties.

(Leigh Alston and David Gill and Richenda Goffin, S.C.C.A.S., for English Heritage, Wincer Kievenaar Architects and Mr N. Short; report forthcoming).

*Redgrave*, Moneypot Farm, Moneypot Hill (TM 0478; RGV 045). A building survey and excavation was carried out on a former timber-framed cottage that was irreparably damaged by fire. The building was modest, constructed in two main stages in the mid and late 16<sup>th</sup>-century. A chimney was added and building extended in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>-centuries, and at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup>-century part of the original mid 16<sup>th</sup> century building was demolished. All of the archaeological evidence for the 16<sup>th</sup>-century ranges was ephemeral and without the prior knowledge gained from the study of the standing building would have been impossible to interpret. All of the building evidence below ground occurred within the depth of the 16<sup>th</sup> century topsoil and would be lost to any agricultural activity or reworking of the soil and therefore would have been invisible in the course of most archaeological excavations. The house constructed in the 16th-century had been built on a fresh site with no evidence of former occupation. (David Gill, S.C.C.A.S., for Mr S. Tarrant; report no. 2007/120).

*Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet*, St Margaret's Chapel, Old Chapel Farm (TM/4076; WMH 003; SAM Suffolk 69). A survey to record the elevation and plan of the chapel ruins was undertaken in advance of urgent repairs to stabilise the structure. The early 12<sup>th</sup> century chapel has a two-celled plan with an apsidal end, but has been robbed completely of all its valuable building material and has had lost every piece of dressed stone. Documentary records indicate that the chapel was out of use from 1465 and it was a ruin by the time of J. Kirby's *Suffolk Traveller* of 1735. The excavation of a test hole showed that the original floor had been removed, but a brick surface laid post 17<sup>th</sup> century was uncovered. The extent and function of the surface is unknown but it may have been a previous attempt to consolidate the arch or present the ruin as a picturesque folly.

(David Gill, S.C.C.A.S., for English Heritage and Mr D. George; report no 2007/122).

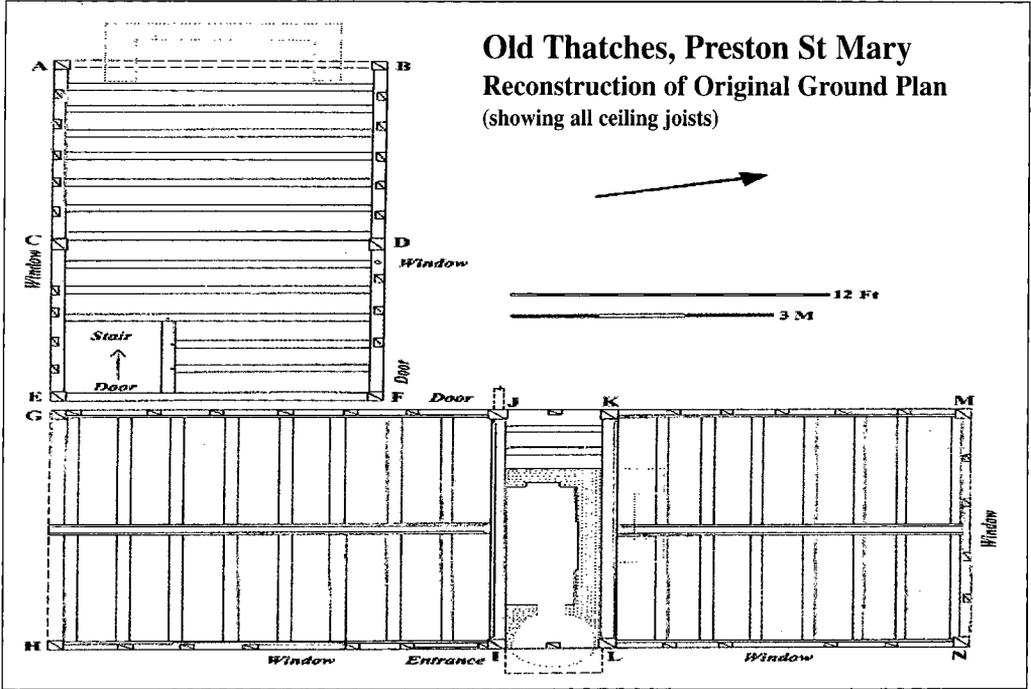


FIG. 155 – Old Thatches, Preston St Mary (PSM 031). Reconstruction of the original ground plan, showing all the ceiling joists.

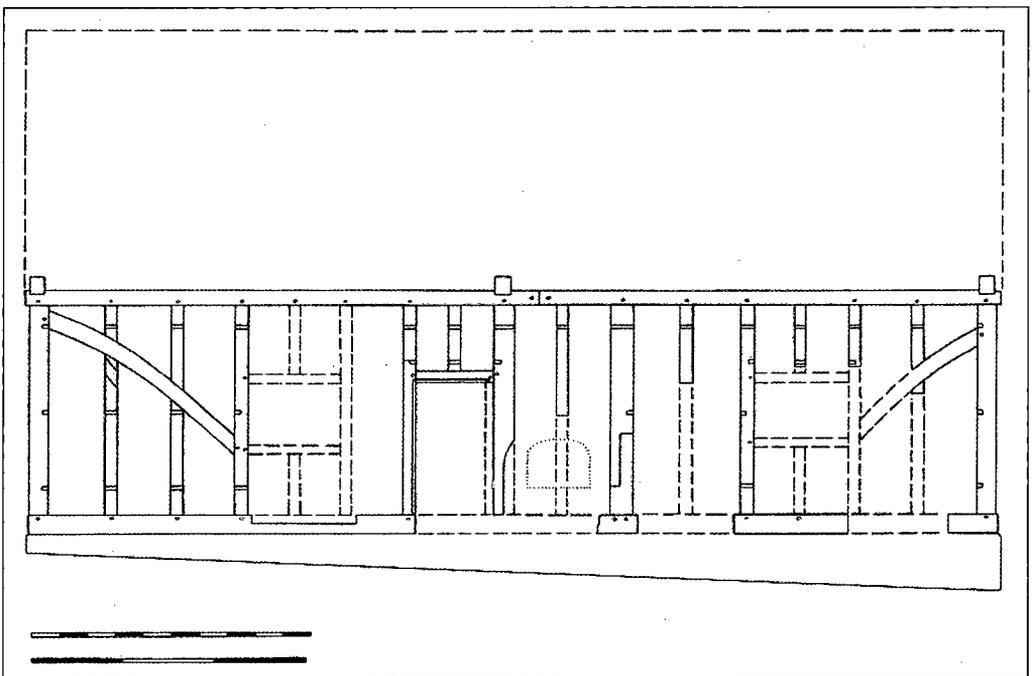


FIG. 156 – Old Thatches, Preston St Mary (PSM 031). External elevation of the eastern façade (H-N on the ground plan), showing the external lath trenches. (Scales in feet (top) and metres).

*Wyverstone*, barn at Lodge Farm (TM/0367; WYV 011). Recording of a farm complex in advance of domestic conversion included a timber-framed 'barn' of three bays that was interpreted as an exceptionally small guildhall or market house of the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Just 8.2m in overall length by 3.9m in width (27 x 13ft) it originally contained two ground-floor chambers, each entered by a narrow arched door, and a first-floor chamber spanned by arch-braced queen-post trusses that was reached by an external stair. There is evidence of seven windows with diamond mullions in all elevations. The structure was moved to its present site after 1838 and converted into a neathouse or stable, when a number of apotropaic circles were incised into its internal plaster (Fig. 157). (Leigh Alston for S.C.C.A.S. and Dr S. Bennett).

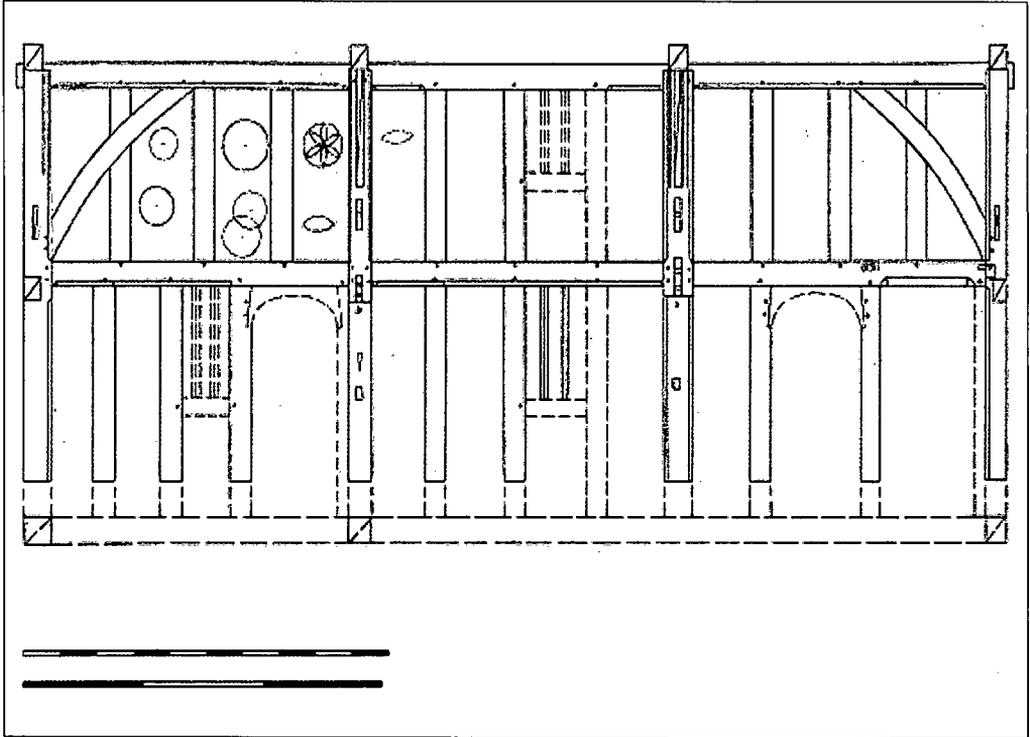


FIG. 157 – Barn at Lodge Farm, Wyverstone (WYV 011). Internal elevation of the original façade, showing apotropaic circles and stair door to right. The roof was replaced in the 19th century. (Scales in feet (top) and metres).

## CHURCH RECORDING

*Bramford*, St Mary's Church (TM/1246; BRF 024). A dendrochronological survey was carried out as part of a programme of repairs to the spire of the church. Two timbers matched each other, but neither was dated. One of the two large north-south beams retained complete sapwood and was felled in the winter of 1810/11. This date is over a decade later than inscriptions (1737, 1749, 1788 and 1796) on some of the other timbers and probably represents another phase of repair or rebuilding. (Dr Martin Bridge for English Heritage; English Heritage Research Dept. Report no. 78/2007).

*Gazeley*, All Saints' Church (TL/7164; GAZ 017). A dendrochronological survey was carried out as part of a programme of repairs to the roof of the south aisle of the church. Three sequences, all from the west end of the roof, cross-matched, giving a 92-year site sequence dated to 1312-1403. Only one timber retained sapwood, giving a likely felling date of 1371-1403, whilst a second timber retained the heartwood-sapwood boundary, giving a likely felling date range of 1412-44. A third timber had a sequence that ended in 1380, but without a positive heartwood-sapwood boundary. Altogether, this suggests an early-15<sup>th</sup>-century date for the roof. (Dr Martin Bridge for English Heritage; English Heritage Research Dept. Report no. 28/2007).

*Great Bealings*, St. Mary's Church (TM/2348; BEG 016) The insertion of the below ground pipe-work for a new toilet in the tower of the church required the excavation of trenches both internal and external to the standing building. The floor level in the tower was found to be 0.8m higher than the external ground-level and comprised successive layers of fill. While the top 0.4m were interpreted as later deposits, the lower layers were thought to have been associated with the original construction of the tower and the result of the need to provide a consistently level floor throughout the church on what was a sloping site. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Great Bealings Parochial Parish Council).

*Ipswich*, St. Lawrence's Church (TM/1644; IAS 2501) Recording work was undertaken as part of a programme of works for the refurbishment of this redundant church for community use. The inscriptions on the floor monuments, all of which would be covered by a new floor, were transcribed. Many of these were thought to have been moved during earlier reorderings and, as a consequence, were probably not *in situ*. Removal of the existing pews and the underlying rubble in the chancel revealed a lower pavement of grave ledger stones, although from their fragmentary nature it was unclear whether this represented a genuine earlier floor level or simply a convenient way of keeping disturbed monuments within the confines of the church. A small brass plate in the shape of a shield was recovered from the rubble beneath the pews on the north side of the chancel, its size and shape consistent with it originally being attached in one of the empty rebated areas present on the surviving ledger stones.

Two of the ledger stones recorded were of historical significance. The first, lying at the level of the present floor surface on the south side of the chancel and partially underlying the pews was that of Edmund Daundy (1515), a former M.P. of Ipswich (1511) and founder of a chapel in the church. Originally this stone was inlaid with brass, but this had all been lost. The most unfortunate thing about the stone was that it had been broken in the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century in order to insert a gas pipe. All of the fragments have been removed from the church with a view to future conservation work and display. The second, fragmentary stone was recorded under the rubble in the secondary pavement on the north side of the chancel. While transcription was difficult, the slab was clearly that of Ann Daundy, Edmund's first wife.

Other miscellaneous observations and recordings were as follows:

- a) Removal of various fixtures and fittings in the nave revealed that the present Beatitudes text replaced an earlier version with slightly smaller lettering.
- b) Remnants of ?medieval wall paintings were revealed above the chancel arch. These clearly depicted cloth and may have represented the clothing of figures (?angels) or drapery flanking the rood.
- c) A 19th-century brick-built tomb in the N.E. corner of the chancel had been breached when the substantial base for the existing pulpit had been inserted. While some bone fragments were present (including one leg long-bone) the tomb had essentially been emptied.
- d) Excavation for new man-holes in the organ chamber recovered a quantity of disarticulated bone and one intact burial at shallow level, that of a small child.
- e) The lowering of ground levels on the north side of the church revealed two charnel pits only just below the present ground surface. These had been used to re-bury the bones from a number of burials disturbed either during the insertion of later tombs or other landscaping works. (Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Ipswich Borough Council).

*Suffolk Church Chests Project.* As part of a study of Suffolk church chests being undertaken by David Sherlock, further chests have been assessed and a detailed study was carried out on two of the chests as below:

*Church of St Mary the Virgin, Poslingford (TL/769481).* Micro-cores were extracted from the front and rear left hand stiles, the front top board and the right hand top board. The two stiles were found to have come from the same tree and yielded a 159-year ring sequence, the other boards giving 165 and 201 rings respectively. A 205-year chronology was derived for the chest which dated to the period 1067-1271, the oak having grown in the Baltic region, probably in modern Poland. All the timbers retained the heartwood/sapwood boundary and allowing for some brief seasoning and transport the most likely period for construction of the chest is the final quarter of the thirteenth century.

*St Lawrence's Church, Little Waldingfield (TL/924451).* Micro-cores were extracted from the three boards on the left hand end, the upper board on the front, and a cleat on the right hand side. One board retained some sapwood, but the core stopped 9 rings short of the heartwood/sapwood boundary. A 209-year chest chronology revealed that the trees used grew in the Baltic region, probably in modern Poland, and the chronology dated to the period 1131-1339. Allowing for some seasoning and transport, the most likely date for the construction of this chest lies in the third quarter of the fourteenth century.

(Dr Martin Bridge, Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory).

*Walberswick, St. Andrew's Church (TM/4874; WLB 014).* The provision of a new disabled toilet involved considerable ground disturbance within the ruined nave of the medieval church. Three trenches were manually excavated as an evaluation on the line of the proposed sewer, and subsequently the sewer trench itself was archaeologically excavated. No medieval floor surfaces were encountered, although pammments had been re-used and lain as a semi-formal surface immediately south of the doorway. Generally, the soil profile comprised 0.2-0.3m of sandy loam topsoil over a further 0.2-0.3m of brown stony sand, with localised sandy layers and inclusions of tile, brick and lime mortar, with the naturally occurring podsolised sand subsoil encountered at a depth of 0.6m. A linear feature crossing the evaluation trench was not subsequently identified in the sewer trench itself. However, the cuts for three presumed burials were recorded continuing on down into the subsoil beyond the excavated depth of the trench. These remained undisturbed. One other feature, with evidence for *in-situ* burning, was recorded towards the northern end of the sewer trench and was

interpreted as a hearth used to melt lead during the partial demolition of the nave and north aisle. The flint rubble and lime mortar footing for the north wall of the nave was found to continue uninterrupted across the north doorway, the vestiges of a sandstone threshold was recorded during the evaluation stage of the project.

(Stuart Boulter, S.C.C.A.S., for Walberswick Parochial Parish Council).

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  - 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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7. The Officers of the Institute shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Chairman (who shall remain in office for a term of four years), a General Secretary, a Financial Secretary, such additional Secretaries as may from time to time be required, and an Editor, who shall, if necessary, be assisted by an Editorial Committee made up of the Officers and any persons co-opted by them. The Officers, with the exception of the Chairman, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for the ensuing year. Nommations of new candidates for office must reach the General Secretary at least two weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
8. There shall be an independent examiner, elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for the ensuing year.
9. The general management of the affairs and property of the Institute shall be vested in the Council, consisting of the Officers, two *ex officio* members representing the Suffolk Archaeological Service and the Suffolk Record Office, and twelve members elected from the general body of the Subscribers. The ordinary members of the Council to be elected to serve for four years, being then ineligible for re-election for a year. No Officer or Member who has been absent from all the Council Meetings during the previous year shall be eligible for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting, with the proviso that the Council may waive this where special circumstances have prevented an Officer's or Member's attendance.
10. The Council shall meet to transact the ordinary business of the Institute. They shall have power to appoint Committees and Local Secretaries, recommend Hon. Members for election at the Annual General Meeting, supply vacancies which may occur during the year in their own body or among the Officers and to make arrangements for excursions and other Meetings. They shall also annually prepare a report and a statement of accounts for submission to the Annual General Meeting. At the Meeting of the Council six Members shall be a quorum.
11. The Annual General Meeting shall be held if possible before the end of April.
12. A Special General Meeting, apart from and in addition to Annual General Meeting, may be called at any time on the demand of the President, or of the Chairman, or of the Council, or of not less than five Ordinary Members of the Institute, who shall signify their demand to the Secretary in writing. At least one week's notice of such Meeting shall be given to all Members of the Institute, together with a statement of the proposed agenda.

13. At all Meetings, both of the Institute and of the Council, and of any Committee thereof, the Chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to his own vote.

14. All papers accepted for publication in the *Proceedings* shall thereby be considered its property and the decision of the Editorial Committee shall be final.

15. Should any dispute or difference arise concerning the interpretation of the foregoing rules the decision of the Chairman for the time being shall be final.

16. No alteration shall be made in these rules by way of addition, omission or otherwise except at a General Meeting and after at least one week's previous notice of such proposed alteration has been sent to every Member of the Institute. No such addition, omission or other change shall be made to any rule which would have the effect of causing the Institute to lose its status as a charitable institution.

27th April 2002