ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK, 1961


The effectiveness of this annual report on the archaeology of the county is dependent on the goodwill and enthusiasm of a large number of correspondents. Thanks are due to them all and the writers may perhaps ask indulgence if they single out for special mention the activities of some regular contributors. Mr. Basil Brown, though now retired from the staff of the Ipswich Museum, continues his survey of the Rickinghall and Pakenham areas and works in close touch with the Museum. Farther to the N.W., Lady Briscoe keeps active control of work in the vicinity of Lakenheath and Mildenhall, many finds going to the Mildenhall Museum. Mr. Edwardson, Curator of the Moyse's Hall Museum at Bury St. Edmunds, has many new finds to his credit. In East Suffolk, the County Surveyor and his staff regularly report new finds; the Felixstowe Archaeological Movement under its energetic organiser, Mr. Richard Mann, is making a systematic survey of that area, and has the valuable co-operation of Miss Joan Jeffery, who has produced a detailed list of finds in recent years; this has resulted in some slight revision of grid-references of sites reported by the F.A.M. and Miss Jeffery and published in this series in the last few years, but the variations are so slight as hardly to warrant re-publication. The Ipswich Museum continues work throughout the county; early reports of new finds from all sources are appreciated, and wherever possible will be checked by the writers. Excavation follows where this is deemed necessary, but it cannot be too strongly stressed that this should only be undertaken under trained supervision, and full reports prepared with a view to publication, even where lack of editorial space makes this a remote contingency.

The names of those originating reports appear in brackets, and the following abbreviations are used:

C.M. Clare Museum.
I.M. Ipswich Museum, the reference number following if the material is in the Museum.
M.H. Moyse's Hall Museum, Bury St. Edmunds. The material is in the Museum unless otherwise stated.
Mild.M. Mildenhall Museum.
F.A.M. Felixstowe Archaeological Movement.


3. Bawdsey (TM/335381 approx.). A follis of Maximianus (A.D. 286-305) was found at Bawdsey R.A.F. Camp in 1953, and has been presented to the Ipswich Museum. (Mrs. J. O. McWade). (I.M. 961-93).

4. Baylham (TM/10805285 and TM/11045245 approx.). Two round barrows seen as crop marks and photographed from the air. (Reported by R. H. Farrands).

5. Beccles (TM/434895 approx.). Sherds of a grey cooking-pot (Romano-British) were found at a depth of 3 feet by Mr. J. Brighton. (C. Elliott, who retains the finds).

6. Bentley (TM/125373). A Neolithic flint axe was found on Rookery Farm. (J. Southgate). (I.M. 961-76).


8. Brettenham. Sherds of Romano-British pottery collected by the Rev. F. L. Long, F.S.A., during his 34 years as Rector, are presumed to have been found in the parish, but precise localities are unknown. (C. Beadsmore Smith). (I.M. 961-155).

9. Bungay (TM/344880). Digging by the informant and boys of the Bungay Grammar School revealed sherds of Romano-British date including ‘castor’ ware and one colour-coated sherd of the 4th century, a mediaeval brick tile, sherds of 11th/12th century ware and glazed sherds dating from 13th-15th centuries, also flint cobbles. (P. Roe, per Norwich Museums).

10. Burgh Castle (TG/474045). A small pit, dug from an apparently early Saxon level, contained a bronze bowl in which were six glass vessels and a small bronze bell. Also in the pit, side by side with the bowl, were five glass vessels, making eleven in all. They comprised three conical beakers with flanged rims (the rim of one is missing); two flanged-rim beakers with pedestal foot; two one-handled flasks with globular body and long slender neck; two small rimmed bowls with pedestal foot and two simple beakers.

Three of the vessels are complete and unbroken, five more are nearly complete and have been rebuilt and three are incompletely restored. The bronze bowl is badly decayed, but the bell is substantially complete (clapper detached). Dr. D. B. Harden dates the group as c. A.D. 375-425.
Two iron axes of early Anglo-Saxon ‘francisca’ type were also found and a third has more recently been brought up by winter ploughing, just outside the excavation area. Many late coin-hoards should date the desertion of the fort. (C. Green & Ministry of Works).


16. Chediston, Chediston Grange (exact location?). A sherd of Belgic pottery indicates an earlier occupation than that confirmed by more accurately located sites on this farm. (G. E. Burroughes). (I.M. 961-150).

17. Chediston, Chediston Grange (TM/34607685). A ditch 2 feet 9 inches deep and 5 feet wide, revealed by ploughing and later excavated by the Ipswich Museum staff, produced sherds including samian. A stamp on F18, South Gaulish, is identified by Brian Hartley as probably of GERMANVS, early Flavian, A.D. 70–85. (G. E. Burroughes). (I.M. 961-113).


19. Chediston, Chediston Grange (TM/35107729). Samian sherds were ploughed up by the donor. (G. E. Burroughes). (I.M. 961-115).

20. Chediston, Chapel Farm, The Grove (TM/33537820). Pottery sherds including rims and sagging bases, 13th century, came from black silt at 3 feet in a ditch on a large moat site. (J. Ingate, who retains the finds).

21. Clare (TL/77404546). The upper stone of a puddingstone quern, with groove for iron band, was found during building operations. (T. H. Wells). (C.M.).

22. Coddenham (TM/113529 approx.). Various features apparently related to the Roman road and occupation site were photographed from the air. (R. H. Farrands).
23. **Debenham** (TM/19256306). A groat of Edward IV (1461–83), Coventry Mint, was ploughed up on farm land near Crow’s Hall. (V. H. I. Knowland, who retains the coin).

24. **Debenham**, Gracechurch Street (TM/17206327). Pottery sherds of the 15th century, a bronze belt-end, dagger-fitting and buckle, with bones of food animals, were found in the footings of a rectangular building in the garden of the donor. (W. H. Peck). (I.M. 961–120).


26. **Euston** (TM/8988795 approx.). Saxon bones and pottery were found on land belonging to Mr. Bird (Jr.). (B. W. J. Brown). (I.M. 961–147).


28. **Felixstowe**, Chepstow Road, Walton. An ‘early Bronze Age burial’ is recorded in a notebook of S. D. Wall, with photographs of pot. (S. D. Wall, per F.A.M.).

29. **Felixstowe**, Park Farm (TM/31003584). Ploughing revealed Neolithic and Bronze Age scrapers, identified by G. J. Wainwright. (Miss J. M. Jeffery).


34. **Felixstowe**, Cliff Road (TM/31763550). A trench cut by the Electricity Board yielded Romano-British sherds including samian forms 31, 33, 37, 45, amphorae, mortaria, reeded-rim bowl, colour-coated ware, late coarse ware, tegulae, imbrices and septaria fragments, animal bones and shells. (F.A.M.).

35. **Felixstowe** (TM/32053560-32173578). A small scatter of Romano-British pottery was found on the beach. (F.A.M.).


37. **Felixstowe**, 9 & 11, Foxgrove Gardens (TM/31163519). Numerous Romano-British sherds, mostly second half of 1st century, bronze brooch of same date (M. R. Hull), 2nd century sherds and possibly later, unstratified; rubbish pits; septaria
foundations of 2(?) walls at right-angles; earlier hearth(?) in shallow pit; spread of pink-buff tiles and tegulae; box-tile fragments and tile tesserae; coloured wall-plaster and window-glass, came from an excavation in gardens of A. E. Boothroyd. (F.A.M.).

38. Felixstowe, Ferry Road (TM/32213641-32133640). A Gas Board trench to Red House revealed a row of 'mudstone' piles (?) 2-3 feet long by 10 inches square, under south hedge-bank for 10 yards, bases 1 foot 6 inches to 2 feet below road level; the west end of row was found. (Miss J. M. Jeffery & Eastern Gas Board).


40. Felixstowe, Gulpher Farm (TM/30143682). Sherds of 13th/14th century were found in drainage trenches. (F.A.M.).

41. Felixstowe, Gulpher Farm (TM/30303690). Successive field-drainage systems were disclosed, including ‘shingle’ drains (pre-17th century), and three different pipe-drain types including 18th century ‘pipe-and-tile’. (T. Robinson & others. F.A.M.).

42. Felixstowe, Monksbarn, Foxgrove Lane (TM/312351). Mediaeval pottery came from front and back gardens. (F.A.M.).


44. Felixstowe, Lodge Farm, Foxgrove Lane (TM/313351). 13th century sherd and clay pipe-stem. (F.A.M.).


46. Felixstowe, ‘The Old Hall’, Colneis Road (TM/30503566). The site of the former Royal Manor of Walton: see especially:—

Walton Court Rolls 1291: work on the ‘Stone Room’.

Walton Court Rolls 1386: repairs to the Manor House.

Two parallel walls running N.W./S.E. were discovered under the south side of Colneis Road during road construction:—

North-east wall, opposite 23, Colneis Road. Wall-core of septaria and hard white mortar, approx. 2 feet wide; all facing stones robbed out. Top of wall surviving: 6 inches below modern road surface; 2 feet 6 inches height of wall observed, but foundation depth not reached.

South-west wall, opposite 21, Colneis Road. Wall-core of stone (limestone(?)—definitely not septaria) and bright yellow mortar, approx. 3 feet 6 inches wide; possibly more than one phase of construction.

Later, after the removal of the facing-stones from the south-west face, the wall was widened a further 2 feet to the S.W. with septaria and hard white mortar, similar to that used in the north-east wall; at least one facing-stone of this addition survives.
Top of wall surviving (both periods): 9-12 inches below modern road surface; 2 foot height of wall observed; workmen said that a depth of more than 4 feet had been exposed and destroyed by a mechanical excavator without reaching the foundations. These two walls were an estimated 70 feet apart; accurate measurement was not possible.

At approx. 2 feet 6 inches below the modern road surface the remains of a very well-constructed curving feature were visible (latrine shaft(?)) built in the south-west wall; apparently a projecting feature of the ‘yellow’ wall, rather than part of the ‘white’ addition, but the relationship was not clear, due to the mechanical excavator’s disturbance. Workmen said that the feature was complete when first discovered, and appeared ‘like a narrow well-shaft’; they had not reached the bottom.

Local residents also reported:—a wall under the front garden of No. 23, in front of the garage; walls under the back garden of No. 24, ‘cwts. of stone’ having been removed. (Plan and sections, and one mediaeval rim-sherd: J. M. Jeffery, 5th October 1961, following notification by Mr. Bowd of the Gas Board. The walls were almost re-covered when observed; considerable thanks are due to the foreman concerned for immediately rearranging his work, and for practical assistance).

47. Felixstowe, Rue’s Farm (TM/31703690). Surface scatter of worked flint flakes, scrapers and cores. (Miss J. M. Jeffery).


52. Hadleigh, East House (TM/02954287). A portion of a small Anglo-Saxon cinerary urn found during the last 30 years by Dr. Style was loaned to the Hadleigh Town Council. (W. A. B. Jones).

53. Hadleigh, Secondary Modern School (TM/02904220). A half-groat of Henry VI, Group I (1422–1425), Calais Mint, was dug up in the school grounds. (C. A. Cook, who retains possession).

54. Helmingham, Bocking Hall (TM/182592 approx.). A mace-head of quartzite, probably Neolithic, was ploughed up. (J. A. Styles). (I.M. 961–143).
55. *Hinderclay*, S.E. of Hinderclay Wood (TM/025756). Sherds of Iron Age ‘A’ pottery, including portions of carinated bowls with grooved and slashed decoration, a bone point, and timber were recovered from a layer of peat below 4 feet of clay during drainage operations. (B. W. J. Brown). (I.M. 961–148).


59. *Ipswich*, Cox Lane (TM/16634452). In January 1961, during excavation for the foundations of the Co-operative Society’s new building, a number of Anglo-Saxon kilns were exposed. Through the courtesy of the Co-operative Society, the architects and the contractor, the Museum staff were enabled to carry out excavations, and in all five kilns were examined, four of which had been manufacturing Thetford ware (9th-12th centuries) and one apparently making Ipswich ware (7th-9th centuries). A full report is being prepared and will be published in ‘Medieval Archaeology’. Besides a considerable quantity of pottery, a silver penny of Aethelred II was recovered from a rubbish pit and a skeleton showing indications of violent death was recovered from a (?) well. (I.M.). (I.M. 961–3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 20, 31, 32).


61. *Ipswich*, Beverley Road (TM/17874564). A cloth merchant’s lead seal of late medieval date was found in the donor’s garden. (G. J. Scoging). (I.M. 961–50).


65. *Kessingland*. The tip of a Bronze Age spear-head was recovered from fallen material on the beach. (Mrs. N. Brambleside, who retains possession; per Norwich Museums).
66. *Kettleburgh*, Church (TM/26556062). Excavations outside north wall of chancel showed slight traces of the chapel formerly existing there, the presence of which was known from the existence of a piscina. (I.M.).


69. *Lakenheath*, North Fen (TL/736843). Greenstone axe (Neolithic). The report on the petrology places this as typical Group I; the uralitized gabbro is believed to come from the Penzance district. (Grace, Lady Briscoe). (Mild. M.)

70. *Lakenheath*, Joist Fen (TL/693855). On the site of the 1960 hoard, a sand island, an additional 13 Icenian and Roman (republican and early imperial) coins were located by mine detector. (Grace, Lady Briscoe). (Fitzwilliam M.).

71. *Lakenheath* (TL/727834). Deep ploughing disclosed a Romano-British kiln of burnt clay, 250 yards from kiln noted in 1957. Pottery included grey sherds with external rilling (4th century), and a colour-coated flat bowl. Rough plates with grass and finger-markings, 10-12 inches diameter, may have been supports. Outside the kiln were many pieces of thin bronze sheets, probably a box. (Grace, Lady Briscoe). (Mild. M.).


75. *Levington*, Red House Farm (TM/23953955). A founder’s hoard of the Late Bronze Age was ploughed up on land belonging to Fisons, Ltd., and presented to the Ipswich Museum by Sir Clavering Fison. The hoard comprised socketed axes, fragments of palstaves and swords (including ‘carp’s-tongue’), a chape, harness ornament and finger-rings. (J. Pemberton & I.M.). (I.M. 961–103).

77. **Lowestoft** (TM/542910 approx.). Romano-British sherds including a late flanged bowl in grey ware, a rim in calcite-gritted ware and sherds of colour-coated ware were found in a modern tip at Kirkley Cliffs. (Miss A. C. Davis, per Norwich Museums).

78. **Mildenhall**, West Row (TL/655775). Sandstone slab used for polishing axes, Neolithic. (M.H.).

79. **Mildenhall** (TL/722748). A palaeolith of Acheulean type was found in chalk diggings. (Grace, Lady Briscoe). (Mild.M.).

80. **Mildenhall**, County Farm (TL/638800). Two large flint cores were found with the frontal bone of *Bos primigenius* in shelly marl below peat. Specimens in private possession. (Grace, Lady Briscoe).


82. **Mildenhall**, Beck Row (TL/684784). The plough upturned numerous sherds, mainly 4th century, of flanged grey bowls, colour-coated bases of small lamps and flat bowls, large mortaria of white clay with wide flanges and rouletting, pink gritted ware, a rouletted castor bowl, dotted ware, tiles (flat and roof), oyster shells, and a large iron hook with ring. (Grace, Lady Briscoe). (Mild.M.).

83. **Mildenhall**, Rookery Farm, Beck Row (TL/690785). Ploughing revealed Romano-British sherds, colour-coated ware with barbotine, a large amphora handle, and a core of red deer. (Grace, Lady Briscoe). (Mild.M.).

84. **Newbourne**, near Newbourne Hall (TM/27384295). A Neolithic flint adze was found whilst digging. (S. Somerville). (I.M. 961-42).

85. **Newton, Old** (TM/05526198). A sixpence of Elizabeth I (1575) was dug up in a field. (Mrs. B. F. Boon, who retains possession).


88. **Otley**, Church Farm (TM/20395491). Romano-British sherds were found on a field behind Otley Church. (A. N. Friend, per A. Coupe). (I.M. 961-110).


Other sites at Grimstone End producing material were:

- 149. Samian and colour-coated ware. (I.M. 961-64).
- 150. Imitation F38, colour-coated mortars and bowl with combed decoration on flange. (I.M. 961-69).
- 151. Base of F33 with stamp INVARIS, and mortar with stamp REGALIS, retrograde. (I.M. 961-72).
- 152. Top of castor box lid, and samian including stamp PRISCI.IMP on F33 (Lezoux), POT TACVS on F18/31, and base of F27 with stamp SO . . . . (I.M. 961-74).
- 153. Sherds including one of F38 from storage pit. (I.M. 961-71).
- 164. Storage pit with grey ware and samian including F37 and F18/31 with indecipherable stamp, and flagon base: (I.M. 961-67).
- 166. Coffin nails and Romano-British sherds including part of face urn from burial. (I.M. 961-136).
- 168. Greater part of grey beaker and coffin nails from burial. (I.M. 961-133).

+34. Skull from Anglo-Saxon burial. (I.M. 961-129).
+35. Fragmentary skeleton. (I.M. 961-130).


92. **Rickinghall Superior** (TM/04817583). 13th century sherds were found in a sewer trench in the garden of Tudor House. (B. W. J. Brown): (I.M. 961-137).

93. **Rickinghall Superior**, Facons Hall (TM/043736). Sherds of 13th and later centuries were excavated from the foundations of the earlier manor-house. (B. W. J. Brown). (I.M. 961-156).
94. Rushmere (near Kessingland) (TM/49188691). Iron Age sherds, some with impressed shoulder decoration and finger-tipping at rim, were found with the skull of an ox (*Bos longifrons*) whilst digging for bridge foundations, 13-14 feet below road level and approximately 4 feet below the level of the river bed. (J. B. Lund, County Surveyor and G. F. Alderson and E. A. Mobberley, Roads & Bridges Dept., E.S.C.C.). (I.M. 961–96).

95. Stoke Ash (TM/11287066). A Neolithic stone axe was found in the river near the bridge. Nearby (TM/11287065) were Romano-British sherds of grey and colour-coated ware and samian. (J. B. Lund, County Surveyor). (I.M. 961–23 & 24).

96. Stowupland. A late mediaeval dagger was found in a field. (W. A. K. Rednall who retains possession). (per Norwich Museums).

97. Thorndon (TM/13976975). A 16th century reckoning counter was found in a field near the mill. (C. Lock, who retains possession).

98. Thrandeston (TM/10577576). A Neolithic polished flint axe was found on the railway line by a plate-layer digging a drainage ditch, but probably came from field ditch recently drained. (R. H. Smith, who retains possession).


100. Trimley St. Mary (TM/28673694). Mediaeval sherds including one with 13th century thumbed decoration were found in a field west of Egypt Wood. (F.A.M.).

101. Trimley St. Mary, Stratton Hall (TM/25113928). In a field south of Walk Barn Farm an apparent round barrow was observed by Miss J. M. Jeffery in 1959, and confirmed by G. J. Wainwright. Subsequently reported independently by F.A.M. Examined by I.M. staff who regard the evidence of a barrow as inconclusive; if of artificial origin it is probably one of two.


103. Walberswick, Manor Farm (TM/490740). A 16th century Nuremberg reckoning counter was found on land belonging to R. J. Mortier, by D. Kett, who retains the coin. (Major T. E. Skewes-Cox).

104. Westhall (TM/40928161). Fragment of Belgic tazza, (identified as of shale by British Museum) found on edge of pond near Mill House. (Miss L. de M. Rudolf, who retains possession).

105. West Stow (TL/808745). Sherds of beaker and rusticated ware, calcined flints and scrapers, with stain traces of inhumation burial in sand under turf mound. (M.H.).

107. Wingfield. Early mediaeval pottery was found in a pit in a trench on the road, in 1960, and now reported. (C. Pearce, per Norwich Museums). (I.M. 961-25).


109. Wortham, Wortham Hall (TM/08337904). Four skeletons in the side of an enlarged gravel pit, at a depth of 4 feet (found 1960) were identified by Dr. Calvin Wells as Late Anglo-Saxon or early mediaeval. (R. Rash and I.M.).