ARCHÆOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 1958

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In the following brief summary of archaeological finds in Suffolk for 1958, notes contributed by members of the staff of the Ipswich Museum are marked (I.M.), and the reference number given where material is in the Museum. Material in the Moyses Hall Museum at Bury St. Edmunds is marked (M.H.).

1958

Badwell Ash (TL/99496921). A small bronze ring with raised red-enamelled boss on bezel, found in the gravel pits, is probably Pagan Saxon. (I.M.). (I.M. 958-179).

Bealings, Little (TM/228464). Pagan Saxon sherds, a bead, and fragments of loomweights were found in excavating three apparent hut sites overlying the Late Bronze Age urnfield previously reported (I.M. 958-191).


Brantham (TM/10523375). Sherds representing probably ten cinerary urns (Romano-British) of the 2nd century, were found when making up the drive to The Gables. (A. Logan-Wood). (I.M. 958-62).

Burgh Castle (TG/474045). Deep ploughing exposed painted wall-plaster and small clay floor tiles (Middle Saxon) and Roman remains. Excavation revealed Roman buildings and over 100 4th-century coins, and also later work presumed to belong to St. Fursey's monastery (6th century). (Ministry of Works and C. Green).


Capel St. Mary (TM/084372). Romano-British pottery sherds exposed by mechanical digger during road widening at Lattinford Hill. (Colin Campbell). (I.M. 958-122).

Cavendish (TL/80584654). A Roman amphora of early type, with the handle of another, other pottery sherds, remains of two brooches, and a terret-ring, were found during the digging of a sewage trench in the main street. (I.M.). (I.M. 958-63).

Chediston, Chediston Grange Farm (TM/352771). Romano-British pottery sherds were turned up by the plough on Budd's Close, on heavy clay land. (I.M.). (I.M. 958-40).
Coddenham, Baylham House Farm (TM/115527). The cutting of a water-main across a field, in which a Roman camp has been noted from an air-photograph, sectioned a number of pits with numerous Romano-British pottery sherds of early date, and one with a Pagan Saxon bowl associated with skull fragments. (I.M.). (I.M. 958-214).

Dennington, Parkgate Farm (TM/288665). Romano-British pottery sherds, orange-red with incised decoration, were found. (G. E. Mann).

Eriswell (TL/731773). A semi-polished Neolithic celt of greenstone (Borrowdale volcanic ash). (Lady Briscoe).

Exning, Landwade (TL/612676). The Roman villa, partly excavated 1904-6, was more completely excavated in 1957 and 1958 revealing a large block of tri-partite plan with flanking corridors and a smaller north block including hypocaust, stoke-hole, and bath. Following a Flavian occupation as discovered in a small ditch, a 2nd century timber building over 100ft. long, with post-holes 18ft. apart was succeeded by a building with flint and mortar wall bases in the late-2nd or early-3rd century, a channelled hypocaust being added in the 3rd century. (Ministry of Works and E. Greenfield).

Farnham, Croft Farm (TM/381598). Ploughing brought to light a Late Bronze Age socketed axe, with the remains of the wooden haft still in the socket, and a small Romano-British pot. (A. H. Gillett). (I.M. 958-226a/b).


Gipping, Hill Farm (TM/08156340). Following the discovery of pottery sherds of the 13/14th century during removal of soil, excavations were carried out on a moat-enclosed mound. (I.M.). (I.M. 958-193).


Hacheston, Rookery Farm (TM/31305858). Several fragmentary and disordered skeletons had probably been re-buried, as long-bones of both limbs were found in ‘bundles’. (C. J. S. Walker).

Hadleigh, Town House Fruit Farm (TL/044411). Continuation of excavations carried out since 1954 on the site of a Romano-British villa revealed a furnace, dated by the Cambridge University Department of Geodesy and Geophysics as late-2nd/early-3rd century. (I. Richardson and Woolverstone L.C.C. School). (I.M. 958-243).

Hetpworth, New Hall Farm (TL/97947466). The widening of a watercourse brought to light a scatter of Romano-British pottery. (J. Blake).
Hinderclay, Pump Farm (TM/025767). Large quantities of pottery sherds and collapsed kiln-roof material appear to indicate the presence of a kiln of the 15th century. Some sherds with lattice decoration may be earlier. (A. Scott & I.M.).

Hollesley Bay (TM/376432). A lead cistern of the 13th century, bearing the arms of Clare, Richard, Duke of Cornwall, and de Ufford, was dredged up in a trawl at approximately the position indicated. (G. M. Read).

Hoxne (TM/186771). Sherds of Iron Age 'A' pottery were recovered from a disused gravel pit. (I.M. 958-232).

Icklingham, Wetherill Farm (TL/785716). An iron wool-comb has been dated as Romano-British. (A. R. Edwardson).


Icklingham (TL/787718). Romano-British iron comb, 9 in. long, with two-pronged handle. (Lady Briscoe) (Mildenhall Museum).

Icklingham (TL/783719). Red and white tesserae were found close to Romano-British kiln sites. (Lady Briscoe).

Icklingham (TL/779722). Ploughing revealed a spread of Romano-British sherds, tiles, brick, oyster-shells, iron and pewter. (Lady Briscoe).

Ipswich (TM/195445). A partly-polished, probably unfinished, Neolithic flint axe, was dug up in the garden of 2 St. Andrew's Close. (Miss Joan Treacher).

Ipswich, Orwell Place (TM/16554438). A Neolithic polished flint axe was found near the Unicorn Inn, during road-widening. (R. C. Spatchett). (I.M. 958-202).

Ipswich (TM/18124180). A barbed and tanged flint arrow-head (Neolithic/Early Bronze Age), was dug up in the garden of No. 2 Chesapeake Road. (M. J. Peck). (I.M. 958-46).


Ipswich, Chantry Estate (TM/145428). During the cutting of a new road near Birkfield Lane, pits were sectioned containing Ipswich ware pottery, fragments of loom-weight and lava quern. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-124).

Ipswich, Cox Lane (TM/166445). During excavations on the site of the Co-operative Society’s car park, a further six pits, three with Ipswich ware, and three with Thetford ware, were examined. (M. of W. and S. E. West).

Ipswich, Blackhorse Lane (TM/16024471). A flint-lined well, revealed during building operations, contained Thetford ware and other sherds, (12th century), and human and animal remains. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-47).
Ipswich, Queen Street (TM/16214447). During excavations for a cellar for John Pratt & Co., Drapers, Ipswich ware, Thetford ware, and later material up to the 17th century were found. (R. J. Pratt & I.M.). (I.M. 958-45).

Ipswich, Fore Street (TM/16864414). Pottery sherds of the 13th/14th, 17th centuries, and later, were found on the site of Thomas Eldred's house, 99 Fore Street. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-12, 32, 33).

Ipswich, Fore Street (TM/16904414). During digging for the foundations for a petrol-filling station, 50 feet east of Eldred's house, there were found pottery sherds of the 13/14th and 17th centuries, with bones of ox, sheep, fowl and fish from the upper layer of a small midden. Filled trenches also exposed contained blocks of clunch with decayed mortar, evidently from a still earlier building. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-22).

Ipswich, Old Foundry Road (TM/16664461). Thetford ware, and some later (17th century) pottery were found during excavations for a new building for the Co-operative Society. (I.M. & S. E. West) (I.M. 958-38, 178).

Ipswich, Civic College site (TM/171443). Thetford ware, a 17th century stone-ware jar, and later material were unearthed, with coins of Geo. II & III. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-134, 135, 144).

Ixworth, Street Farm (TL/935713). Bronze penannular brooch, with pin. (Romano-British). (A. R. Edwardson).

Ixworth, Street Farm (TL/935715). Iron Age spearhead. (A. R. Edwardson).

Kesgrave, Grange Farm (TM/230456). Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead (flint) found on field surface. (T. A. Smyth).

Knettishall, Knettishall Heath (TL/949797 approx.). Sherds of pottery, probably Late Bronze Age, from Nick's Hill. (I.M.).


Lakenheath (TL/718840). Small black pit with over 200 sherds, including 19 different rim-sherds. Giant Beaker rim of diameter 12 in.; rusticated pot rim 13 in. Small bone implements. (Lady Briscoe).


Lattinford (TM/07953685). Base of TS form 18/31 with stamp (undecipherable), sherd of TS form 33, amphora neck, mortarium rim, bones of horse, sheep and cattle (Bos primigenius type, B. longifrons and hybrid), found during excavation of sewage trench. (G. W. Good and I.M.) (I.M. 958-209/10).
Long Melford, Liston Lane (TL/86064512). A tessellated pavement of white limestone tesserae enclosing red tile, and bounded by margin of black tesserae of bituminous limestone, with quarter-round moulding of red brick, was revealed during the cutting of a sewage trench. A row of tesserae projecting vertically from the moulding indicated a tessellated wall, and therefore probably a bath. Other floors were also sectioned in the vicinity. Pottery was here mostly of the 2nd century, but a ditch bounding the raised platform associated with the pavement area yielded 1st century sherds including Belgic forms.

Further examination of the sewerage system brought to light an extensive Romano-British occupation, stretching the length of the main street, and mostly to the west of it. Pottery included many examples of stamped and figured Samian, metal work and beads, some associated with burials. A full report must await further examination of the finds. Meanwhile the pavement area has been scheduled as an Ancient Monument. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-50, etc.).

Lound (TM/517995). Circular soilmark, c. 60ft. diameter, with fired soil in centre, possible site of barrow. (F. S. Benthorpe).

Lound (TM/520993). Polished flint axehead and other Neolithic flint implements, and a spread of Medieval sherds. (C. Wright).

Martlesham, Sluice Wood (TM/259469). Iron Age 'A' and Romano-British pottery sherds, with worked flints and 'pot-boilers', were found on a small shelf below the bank of the creek. (Colin Campbell) (I.M. 958-120).

Mildenhall (TL/655760). Fine Middle Bronze Age palstave with vestigial bow below stop ridge. (Lady Briscoe).

Mildenhall (TL/664756). Flint axe (Neolithic) patinated brown, chipped and polished, 6 in. long. (Lady Briscoe).

Mildenhall, Beck Row (TL/688798). A Neolithic axe/adze of brown flint, 5 in. long, was found after cultivation. (B. V. Jarman).

Mildenhall, Beck Row (TL/675790). Worked flint flake, Neolithic or Bronze Age. (B. V. Jarman).

Mildenhall, West Row (TL/654772). A large flaked flint chisel (Neolithic) was found at Hayland's Drove, (A. R. Edwardson).

Mildenhall, West Row (TL/655774). Barbed flint arrow-head (Beaker) and small bronze dagger (Middle Bronze Age). (A. R. Edwardson).

Oakley (TM/173779). Three human skulls, undatable, recovered during dredging operations in the river. (East Norfolk and Suffolk River Board).

Orford (TM/422498). A silver siliqua of Theodosius I (A.D. 379-395) (M. & S. 55a) was found in the garden of Elliott's shop. (J. Steuart-Gratton).

Pakenham, Priory Farm area (TL/93136995). Romano-British and Samian sherds were found during the cutting of a sewage trench for Bungalow No. 2. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-177).

Pakenham, Grimstone End (TL/936693). Quarrying operations continue and are watched by the Ipswich Museum. In addition to further Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon hut-sites, with considerable material including potsherds, bone and bronze pins, and a stylus, 'A' Beaker pottery has been recovered.

Two mortarium stamps of REGALIS, and Samian stamps of CIPPUS and MARCELLINUS were found, and coins of Antoninus Pius and Hadrian, the latter in VF condition. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-c. 30 numbers).


Pakenham, Priory Farm area (TL/932700). During digging of drainage trench for Bungalow No. 3, Samian sherds were found including TS form 37 with stamp of JANUS in scroll decoration, TS form 29, and flange of TS form 38. (I.M. & J. Froude) (I.M. 959-1).

Rickinghall Inferior, West Hall Farm (TM/03307427). Deep ploughing revealed kiln-wrappings and potsherds from two kilns (Romano-British). (I.M.).

Rickinghall Inferior, West Street Farm (TM/024745). Ploughing showed up a blackened area with pottery of Iron Age 'A'. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-244).

Sproughton, Church Lane (TM/129446). Trenching for a sewage system exposed pits with flints of both Mesolithic (Magle-mose?) and Neolithic type, and Beaker pottery. (I.M.) (I.M. 958-123).

Sproughton, Valley Farm (TM/116432). Clearance by bulldozer uncovered a pit with sherds of Late Bronze Age (?), 3 pits with Iron Age 'A/B' pottery, including a hanging bowl, a Romano-British (probably 1st century) cremation in an urn, with bases of two other pots. (I.M., Clarke Demolition Co., & A. R. Wiseman). (I.M. 958-229).

Stratford St. Mary (TM/052348). A scatter of flint flakes and 'pot-boilers' were found on fields west of A.12, between Higham Road and the river. (Colin Campbell) (I.M. 958-121).


Sutton, Lower Farm (TM/296454). Sherds of Iron Age 'A' pottery were found during ploughing. (J. Warner) (I.M. 958-20).

Thelnetham, Gipsy Lane (TM/00357848). A late Romano-British pot was found in the road-ditch. (A. Talbot) (I.M. 958-112).
Troston (TL/900719). Middle Bronze Age spearhead with side-loops. (A. R. Edwardson).

Walberswick (TM/496744). Romano-British potsherds found on field surface. (R. Wynyard).

Walberswick (TM/501744). A pitcher and other 13/14th and 17th century sherds were exposed at low-tide. (Kilns were exposed during erosion following floods of 1953). (R. Wynyard).

Wattisfield, Wranglands Field (TM/015747). A disc brooch of the 2nd century (Romano-British), of bronze with white enamel, was found on the perimeter of the Anglo-Saxon site. (J. Blake).

West Stow (TL/797714). Excavations intended to test the extent of the Anglo-Saxon and Iron Age settlements proved extensive Anglo-Saxon occupation, with Pagan Saxon stamped sherds, and Ipswich ware, with evidence of a number of buildings. (M. of W. and Miss V. Evison).


Grateful thanks are due, and are here offered, to all those who have reported finds, and especially to those who have submitted them for inspection, or presented them to the Museums concerned. Real appreciation is also expressed to the farmers, landowners, contractors and others who have co-operated by allowing investigation and excavation, often at considerable inconvenience to themselves.