

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK, 1966

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The archaeology of East Anglia from the earliest times has not infrequently been concerned with the movements of populations; now another proposed influx has rendered it more than ever imperative that archaeological evidence, especially in certain areas, should be collected diligently, before it is swept away for ever. Whatever the views on the increasing urbanisation of rural Suffolk, there can be no question that the areas scheduled for development must receive first priority so far as archaeological investigation is concerned.

This does not mean that indiscriminate digging should be encouraged; far from it. It is all the more necessary that excavations should be carefully and accurately carried out, under experienced leadership, and that full records should be kept, and if at all possible, published.

The amateur in archaeology can do a great deal to make this annual report of discoveries effective. By keeping a watch on the fields, particularly after ploughing, hitherto unrecorded sites may be observed. The same applies, of course, to all activities which entail breaking into the surface of the ground which conceals so much past history—quarrying, the cutting of trenches for drainage, pipe-lines or sewers. In the towns, demolition in preparation for re-building can bring to light a whole series of earlier occupations.

The exact location of the site is important, and it is usually possible to determine this by reference to the 6 in. Ordnance Survey Map of the area. Most museums have a coverage of these maps for the field of their operations.

It is, of course desirable that archaeological material, whether recovered during the course of excavations or as casual finds, should be deposited in the appropriate museum, where it can be made available with the rest of the collections for study by specialists. There is, however, a natural desire to retain possession of objects of interest, and however unsatisfactory this may be from the point of view of the archaeologist, there is no compulsion to surrender finds, except of course those which are covered by the Law of Treasure Trove. It is, nevertheless, urged upon those retaining possession of such material, to consider seriously whether they would not be doing a greater service by giving them to the museum; at the very least they should take careful note of every circumstance of the find, exact find-spot with Grid Reference taken from the Ordnance

Survey Map, nature of the deposit in which they are found and the relationship to any known archaeological site.

Proposals for development will also affect many existing field monuments, such as tumuli, mounds and other earthworks, moated sites, etc. Appropriately at this stage, the Minister of Public Building and Works has appointed a Field Monuments Committee with the following terms of reference:—

‘To consider whether in the light of present-day conditions, changes are needed in the scope and/or use made of the existing powers and arrangements for the protection of field monuments; and to make recommendations.’

Certain bodies which have been invited to express views on this subject have asked for guidance, and the following suggestions have been made.

It is recommended that the County Councils should, as has previously been urged by the Council for British Archaeology, appoint County Archaeology Officers, whose duties should include following up any indications of the presence of sites of archaeological significance, and should also provide for a survey of existing known field monuments, whether scheduled for preservation or otherwise. It should then be decided which of these it is desirable to preserve at all costs, and these should be subject to much stricter controls than is now the case, and should not be disturbed in any way. At present, for example, there is nothing to prevent a barrow of the Neolithic, Bronze Age, or later periods from being ploughed over, thus gradually reducing and spreading it, although it may not be deliberately removed by bull-dozing or other means. Gradually it is lowered until the primary burial itself is in danger from the plough. Nor is the plough the only threat to such mounds. A most important and extensive complex of barrows in Suffolk was completely cut through many years ago by a main road, leaving thirteen barrows divided into two groups. The largest of these has a footpath running right over it.

Where it is decided, on the other hand, that a barrow or other monument is dispensable, it should remain under a preservation order until it has been thoroughly excavated by an archaeologist approved by the Ministry (the excavation of tumuli is a task for a specialist in this type of investigation). Once this is satisfactorily completed, the land should be free for agriculture or other use.

A definite ruling of this sort would make for better relations between farmer or land-owner and archaeologist (although these could hardly be bettered in Suffolk), and would ensure at least that all available information was gleaned before the monument disappeared.

It only remains to stress once again that the value of this list depends on the extent to which excavations and finds are reported to the writers. The abbreviations used for the Museums in which finds have been deposited are as follows:—

- I.M. Ipswich Museum, the reference number following if the material is in the Museum.
- M.H. Moyse's Hall Museum, Bury St. Edmunds; material is in the Museum unless otherwise stated.

1966

1. *Aldham* (TM/04554384). Silver penny of Edward I, Canterbury Mint, found in garden of Wolves Farm Cottage. (G. Wigg). (I.M. 966-118).

2. *Ashbocking* (TM/173200). Upper stone of Romano-British puddingstone quern, found in plough-soil. (J. D. Treherne, who retains possession).

3. *Barham* (TM/119518). Palaeolithic tongue-shaped Acheulean hand-axe, found in the valley gravels, Broomfield Pit. (H. E. P. Spencer, who retains possession).

4. *Barham* (TM/120512). Flaked flint with Middle Palaeolithic affinities, found during gravel-working in Broomfield Pit. (J. Aldous). (I.M. 966-125).

5. *Barham* (TM/120512). Collection of Mesolithic and later flints, including small pick, 12 scrapers, some microliths and numerous flakes. (J. V. Todd). (I.M. 966-127).

6. *Bealings, Little* (TM/23174660). Remains of Pagan-Saxon pot containing cremated bones, accompanied by shield boss, two spears (one bent), javelin. Found with sherds of Roman pottery during gravel-working in the pit of Messrs. Hall & Co. Ltd. (G. K. Lloyd, material retained by Messrs. Hall & Co. Ltd.).

7. *Botesdale* (TM/060752). 13th century sherds found after deep ploughing near Botesdale Lodge. (Frank Garnham *per* B. J. W. Brown, who retains possession).

8. *Boxford* (TL/97453947). Belgic cemetery of the first half of the 1st century A.D., found while digging the foundations for a house in White Street Green; some 5 burials were represented and the remains of at least 13 pots were recovered. One urn contained fragments of 2 bronze brooches, and another a bronze toilet set consisting of ear scoop, tweezers, and nail cleaner. (Dr. J. A. R. Debenham). (I.M. 966-122).

9. *Boyton* (TM/36854646). Late Bronze Age socketed axe containing fragment of sword blade, presumably part of a founder's hoard. Found in the plough-soil. (F. G. Storey). (I.M. L. 966-5).

10. *Brantham* (TM/13083457), (TM/13083460), (TM/13053457). Three oval crop-marks (24 feet by 22 feet, 60 feet by 30 feet, and 24 feet by 18 feet) where virtually nothing grows, have been observed over a period of 15 years. (J. Keeble).

11. *Bury St. Edmunds*. 17th century bellarmine bottle found when demolishing an old house on the corner of Looms Lane and Northgate Street. It was found under the floor, and lodged in its neck was a clot of rusted nails, so it had presumably been used as a witch-bottle. (A. R. Edwardson). (M.H.).

12. *Capel St. Mary* (TM/08243842). Glass tessera decorated with gold foil, found in a garden on Windmill Hill which, in 1963, produced numerous tesserae of blue and green glass with fragments of glass cakes. (W. Ratford). (I.M. 966-25).

13. *Chelmondiston* (TM/203383). Sherds of mediaeval pottery and tiles, found beside the footpath. (B. Clarke *per* Barbara Green).

14. *Clopton* (TM/21055455). Late Bronze Age socketed axe-head, found in the plough-soil at Catts Hill Farm. (P. A. Bye). (I.M. L.966-3).

15. *Coddenham* (TM/11285270). As of Faustina II (R.I.C. 1395) found near Baylham Mill. (Mrs. C. M. Parry, who retains possession).

16. *Copdock* (TM/10944029). 3Æ of early 4th century, probably VICTORIAE LAETAE PRINC. PERP. two Victories holding shield over altar. Constantine I or Crispus A.D. 317-20, found in garden. (J. Beckett, who retains possession *per* S. J. Macfarlane).

17. *Copdock* (TM/11724195). Pottery, probably 13th century, found at a depth of about 3 feet during excavations for a drain on School Hill. (L. W. Hawes). (I.M. 966-73).

18. *Creeling St. Mary* (TM/11225535). Dupondius of Vespasian dug up in finder's garden. (J. Clover, who retains possession).

19. *Eriswell* (TL/746770). Tumulus under plough excavated by D. Dymond, produced a primary cinerary urn containing cremation in pit under wooden bier. The barrow also contained a contracted inhumation and the collar sherds of two secondary cinerary urns; an underlying spread of Neolithic pottery sherds with flint flakes (some worked) was also found. (A. R. Edwardson). (M.H.).

20. *Fakenham Magna* (TL/905773). Neolithic bored mace-head. (A. R. Edwardson). (M.H.).

21. *Framlingham* (TM/28896361). Long-cross penny of Henry III, Class IIIc, NICOLE ON CANT. (W. G. Flemming). (I.M. 966-131).

22. *Hacheston*, Bridge Farm (TM/312561). Further finds made at Lower Hacheston include a 3Æ of Constantinopolis A.D. 330-335, a 3Æ of Gratian GLORIA ROMANORVM (C. H. & K. 1022) A.D. 367-375, and a small bronze statuette of a female (head missing), probably furniture mount, also sherds of Iron Age and Roman pottery including part of a terra nigra dish. (M. J. Campen). (I.M. 966-1).

A pottery face mask in Celtic style was also found but retained by Mr. Campen.

23. *Hacheston*, Bridge Farm (TM/312569). Excavations by the Ipswich Museum revealed a clay floor with stone wall footings on three sides, a small furnace and a hearth. Finds include a bronze brooch, a silver spoon, an iron stylus, and two bronze ligulae. Coins found included a follis of Constantine I, SOLI INVICTO COMITI (R.I.C. 34) A.D. 315-316; Constantine II as Caesar, GLORIA EXERCITVS (C. H. & K. 68) A.D. 330-335; 3Æ of Helena PAX PVBLICA (C. H. & K. 112 or 128) A.D. 337-341; 3Æ of Constans VICTORIAE DDAVGGQNN (C. H. & K. 148) A.D. 341-346; 4Æ of Arcadius SALVS REIPVBLICAE (C. H. & K. 1107) A.D. 388-395. (I.M. 966-93).

24. *Higham* (TM/031363). Sherds of 13th century cooking pot and one sherd of Thetford ware, found in shallow pit some 20 feet in diameter and 2 feet deep filled with black earth and oyster shells; one sherd had what looked like '1408' incised in the rim, but this presumably is not a date. (D. Doyle Jones). (I.M. 966-109).

25. *Hinderclay* (TM/02257661). Small carved stone finial found washed out 6 feet south-west of 15th century kiln excavated in 1964. (B. J. W. Brown, who retains possession).

26. *Icklingham* (TL/790720). Late Neolithic barbed flint arrow-head and polished discoidal flint knife. (A. R. Edwardson). (M.H.).

27. *Ipswich*, Chantry (TM/141430). Late Bronze Age socketed spear-head found by workmen near Chantry Community Centre. (R. E. Boustred, retained by Castle Hill Junior School).

28. *Ipswich*, Cox Lane (TM/16614456). Sherds of Thetford ware including wasters, lumps of iron slag, and the remains of at least three individuals, found in a pit behind the Co-operative Fish Shop. (The Ipswich Co-operative Society Ltd.). (I.M. 966-90).

29. *Ipswich*, Westgate Street (TM/16084471). Mediaeval and Saxon pottery, including Thetford and St. Neots ware, from the site of the Barley Mow. (J. Gerrard & Sons Ltd.). (I.M. 966-22).

30. *Ipswich*, Old Foundry Road (TM/16624466). Trial excavations on the building site revealed a mediaeval pit containing a bronze sceatta of about 700 A.D., with a blundered runic 'epa' inscription (Fig. 44); also a contemporary forgery of a silver penny of Edward I, Canterbury Mint. (J. Gerrard & Sons Ltd.). (I.M. 966-129).

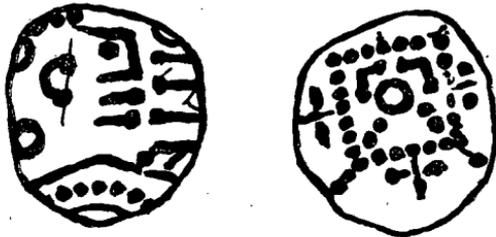


FIG. 44.—Bronze sceatta from Ipswich (?).

31. *Ipswich*, Sproughton Road (TM/14184547). The remains of two human skeletons said to be lying at a depth of about 4 feet, feet to the east, revealed in a sewer trench. (T. J. Pearson).

32. *Ipswich*, Waterworks Street (TM/16864425). Some 15 human skeletons were found lying east-west just outside the churchyard of St. Clements. As they were evidently originally included in the churchyard they were re-buried. (—, Parkis).

33. *Ipswich*, Lacey Street (TM/172448). Three human skeletons lying east-west at a depth of about 5 feet found during the erection of flats. The site is marked as an old burial ground on a tithe map of 1849. (Elliston, Steady and Hawes).

34. *Ipswich*, Henley Road (TM/163466). Square tile, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches square and $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches thick, with elaborately moulded top, possibly 15th or 16th century wall tile. (Squadron/Leader F. Holman). (I.M. 966-128).

35. *Ipswich*, Portman Road (TM/158452). Three clay pipes of the second half of the 17th century embedded in hard baked clay, presumably kiln debris, found during the construction of the Telephone Exchange in 1957. (M. J. Lockwood). (I.M. 966-21).

36. *Ipswich*, St. Matthew's Street (TM/15884480). Bellarmine bottle (mask Holmes type VIII) found during building operations on the site of the Queen's Head. (J. A. Bedford). (I.M. 966-2).

37. *Ixworth*. Coin of Constantine I, BEATA TRANQVILLITAS VOTIS XX, found on Priory Farm. (—, Compton *per* B. J. W. Brown).

38. *Kelsale* (TM/39256683). 13th/14th century sherds found in trench 1 foot deep during construction of path on Town Farm. (C. Volz). (I.M. 966-47).

39. *Kenton* (TM/20276522). Glass bottle found buried in an upright position under hearth in old cottage. The contents were thrown away so it is not possible to say whether it had been used as a witch-bottle. (W. Barrett, who retains possession).

40. *Kettleburgh*, Rookery Farm (TM/272606 and TM/273605). Sherds of mediaeval cooking pots and flint spread, found in plough-soil. The owner states that one of the sites was surrounded by ditches, now filled in; presumably a moated homestead. (Major H. G. Lee-Smith). (I.M. 966-24).

41. *Letheringham* (TM/27455788). The timbers reported in 1965 as lying at a depth of 8 feet, 84 feet from the bank of the Deben, in the garden of Little Holm, were excavated by a party from Cambridge under the direction of Ian Kinnes, who concluded that they were probably part of a jetty. (See *Archaeology in Suffolk*, 1965, No. 44).

42. *Mildenhall*, High Lodge (TL/73897540). Excavations were continued on the Palaeolithic site, conducted for the British Museum by G. Sieveking.

43. *Old Newton* (TM/05146255). 15th century iron key (London Museum type VIIa) dug up in a bungalow garden. (H. C. Martin). (I.M. 966-97).

44. *Orford*. Silver penny of Edward II, Canterbury Mint, Class XI, found in Front Street; silver penny of Henry V, Durham Mint, found in Reydon Road. (—, Goddard *per* D. Sherlock, who retains possession).

45. *Rickinghall*, Broom Hills (TM/04307600). Excavations continued on the site of the Saxon manor house. Over a thousand Mesolithic and Neolithic flints have come from the excavation area. Iron Age and Pagan-Saxon occupations have also been discovered. (B. J. W. Brown).

46. *Rickinghall* (TM/045753). Rickinghall token SAMUEL FITCH IN RICKINGHALL 1665, found in chicken-run at Garden House. (—, Granger, who retains possession *per* B. J. W. Brown).

47. *Ringshall* (TM/047516). Fragments of handled jar from mediaeval moated site at Chapel Farm. (Mrs. G. C. Hitchcock). (I.M. 966-72).

48. *Risby* (TL/775682). Neolithic polished stone axe and barbed flint arrow-head. (A. R. Edwardson). (M.H.).

49. *Sizewell* (TM/476632). Chipped flint axe slightly rolled, found on Sizewell beach. (K. Hobbs). (I.M. 966-31).

50. *Snape* (TM/38645974). A section was cut across a bank running parallel to the road across a field opposite Swanley House. The bank was just under 1 foot high and 12 feet wide. Sherds of Iron Age pottery were found in a layer of purplish sand which rose slightly under the bank.

(TM/38645972). Sherds of Iron Age pottery were found in a small pit 1 foot 6 inches wide and 1 foot deep containing burnt sand and charcoal. The pit lay on the western lip of a shallow depression about 10 feet wide, 50 feet away from and parallel to the bank. (M. J. Campen and I.M. excavations 966-30).

51. *Snape* (TM/38755967). Sherds of hand-made ware of Ipswich type, pinkish buff in colour, and one sherd of Thetford ware with quantities of charcoal were found in a rubbish-pit 6 feet 3 inches by 2 feet, and 4 feet 3 inches deep, in field opposite Swanley House. (M. J. Campen and I.M. excavations 966-30).

52. *Snape* (TM/146332). Mediaeval pottery roof finial, indication of hole on one side, found on Abbey Farm. (M. J. Campen). (I.M. 966-26).

53. *Sproughton* (TM/13274453). Upper Palaeolithic flint blade 8 inches long, found on north bank of the River Gipping after the site had been bulldozed. (J. V. Todd). (I.M. 966-126).

54. *Stoke-by-Nayland* (TM/01880262), (TM/01840242), (TM/01840239), (TM/01880228). Four circular crop-marks seen in air-photograph near Nether Hall. (F. H. Erith).

55. *Stutton* (TM/15543623). Circular crop-mark (?) barrow seen in air photograph north of Alton Hall. (F. H. Erith).

56. *Stutton* (TM/146332). Three joining fragments of mediaeval cooking pot with frilled rim, found on foreshore. (C. Campbell). (I.M. 966-48).

57. *Sudbourne* (TM/44565445). Romano-British sherds and fragment of flue tile, also mediaeval pottery, found in plough-soil near Ferry Cottage. (J. Moorman). (I.M. 966-23).

58. *Sutton*, Sutton Hoo (TM/288487). The burial ship excavated in 1939 was re-excavated with a view to obtaining more detailed measurements. Prehistoric occupation was also revealed near the mound. The excavation was under the direction of Dr. R. L. S. Bruce-Mitford on behalf of the British Museum.

59. *Thornham*. 15th century sherds found in drain during building operations on the site of a moated house near the Rectory. (J. E. Blake per B. J. W. Brown, who retains possession).

60. *West Row* (TL/665725). Late Middle Bronze Age rapier with two rivets. Parts of wooden scabbard adhering to the blade. Found in wet peat. (A. R. Edwardson). (M.H.).

61. *West Stow* (TL/797714). A further 2,400 square yards of blown sand and top-soil were removed mechanically, revealing a further series of post holes, structures and pits. The underlying Iron Age occupation was more fully revealed as consisting of a group of small circular huts with associated enclosure ditches.

The Pagan-Saxon structures included two plank-built weaving sheds, five deeply cut storage or domestic huts, and one different structure which may be interpreted as a wool-carding shed, containing, as it did, ten double-sided bone combs. Three small buildings were defined by post hole groupings only. An important series of 35 bone combs were recovered together with a large quantity of pottery in associated groups, loom-weights, and many small finds. A large collection of food bones is expected to produce important economic data.

Provisional dating for the site indicates an occupation from the early 5th century to the mid 7th century. (S. E. West).

62. *Woodbridge* (TM/268481). Late Roman pottery sherds found in top-soil of Notcutt's Nursery. (R. J. Downie, who retains possession).

63. *Woolverstone* (TM/189393). Polished flint axe found on bed of River Orwell about low-water mark. (J. Marks). (I.M. 966-69).