OBITUARY

JOHN DAVID GATHORNE-HARDY,
4TH EARL OF CRANBROOK, CBE, FLS, 1900-1978

When, as the 'Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History,' we resumed activities in 1946, Lord Cranbrook joined, was elected a Vice-President, and signalled his involvement by contributing to the first post-war Proceedings (Vol. xxiv) his definitive revision of the earlier standard works on Suffolk's 17th-century trade tokens. It diffused light, still unexploited, on widespread village and town trade, in Acton as in Yoxford. In Vol. xxv, he located the 'Great Glemham House' in which Crabbe lived, 1796-1801. He was specially moved by the archaeology of Glemham, his own village, and was careful to describe it, for the practical benefit of all his neighbours, in a series of articles in the parish magazine.

With no formal scientific training, in his 30s he turned his attention to local natural history. As with all his successive interests, he applied himself with total commitment. The long history of nature, including mankind, is not always what naturalists mean by 'Natural History.' It is what he meant. In an essay on 'The Flora of Suffolk', he noticed the Water Fern (Azolla filiculoides) introduced accidentally from South America into the marsh ditches of Orford, and then added: 'Spores of the plant have lately been found fossilized in the interglacial deposits at Hoxne.' In 1959, he found a portion of tooth of a fossil leopard at Easton Bavents—the first trace of a leopard found in the Norwich Crag. His archaeological studies ranged from small mammals from excavations at Niah, in Malaysia, to the band-patterns on snails associated with Roman and later material uncovered in Snape, Farnham, Hacheston and Glemham.

In 1953, his major work of local history, an anthology of Suffolk verse 1327-1864, revealed the range and depth of his scholarship and taste. His illuminating notes on the authors is the nearest thing we have to a biographical dictionary of Suffolk literature. The book, Parnassian Molehill, was over ‘got-up’, and perhaps mis-titled, the reading public not sharing the compiler's partiality to those tiresome small mammals. Simply produced, it would do much better now.

Founder-President of the Suffolk Records Society in 1958, he took the chair at almost every A.G.M. Respect for history and its records underlay his many public activities. Writing on 'The Suffolk Trinity of Breeds', he began with their archaeological forbears—Equus gmelini, etc. On the distribution of deer in Suffolk in 1969, he looked back to 1892. His brilliant essay on the essentials of 'Change Ringing' began with the 5th-century campana. Seeing the historic 'scatter' of East Suffolk parishes threatened with extinction by planning policies suited to Midland parishes, he succinctly analysed the Suffolk structure of parishes and clinched it by quoting Crabbe's son's description of his childhood idyll at Glemham: 'We generally took a walk through the green lanes around Glemham; where, at every turn, stands a cottage or a farm, and not collected into a street, as in some parts of the kingdom.'

Lord Cranbrook's loss is felt as keenly by Suffolk's archaeologists and historians as it is by her naturalists and by those countryfolk whose life he understood.

Norman Scarfe

211
ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS, 1978

compiled by C. J. Balkwill

Abbreviations :

I.M. Ipswich Museum
L.A.S. Lowestoft Archaeological and Local History Society
M.H. Moyses Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds
N.C.M. Norwich Castle Museum
O.S. Ordnance Survey
S.A.U. Suffolk Archaeological Unit

Pa Palaeolithic
Me Mesolithic
Ne Neolithic
BA Bronze Age
IA Iron Age
RB Romano-British
AS Anglo-Saxon
MS Middle Saxon
LS Late Saxon
Md Medieval
PM Post-Medieval
UN Period unknown

Barham (TM/1351). IA. A pit containing a small oven, a large portion of a hand-made storage vessel, and many sherds was excavated in the presently worked pit at Sandy Lane (I.M.).

Barham (TM/1351). RB. A further series of 22 coins and various objects of iron and bronze were found. A full list of identifications, December 1978, recorded at I.M., and covering the reigns of Vespasian, Domitian, Commodus, Caracalla, Severus Alexander, Gallienus, Claudius Gothicus, Carausius, Constantine I, Constantius II, Constans and Magnentius; the latest date in this group is A.D. 353. There are now identifications of 41 coins from this site, having a date range as shown (Fig. 31). (Found by Mr T. Marsh and retained by the landowner, Mr L. P. Scott).

Barton, Great (TL/8866). BA. Bronze palstave and bracelet found while digging a post-hole for a fence. (A. B. Fuller; S.A.U. BRG 006).


Bury St Edmunds (TL/8763). Ne. Chipped flint axe, greyish white. Length 21cm, width 8.4cm maximum. Found while hoeing sugar beet. (M.H. Retained by finder).


Butley Burrow Hill (TM/390485). AS. Excavation in advance of gravel extraction on crown of hill has revealed cemetery and traces of iron working of 8th–9th-century date. Carbon 14 date (HAR-2897) for an early phase of the cemetery is 1170 ± 80 yrs B.P. (a.d. 780). (Valerie Fenwick).

Fig. 31—Date range of Barham coins.
Carlton Colville (TM/5189). Ne. Fabricator in grey flint discovered while gardening by Mr J. James, who retains it. (L.A.S.).

Coddenham (TM/1254). RB. Four coins: Constantinian, not specifically identifiable. Also objects: pendant, boss, etc., and sherds on field surface, not collected. (I.M. Retained by finder, Mr T. Marsh).


Covehithe (TM/5382). Md. Remains of a timber-lined well were examined in Jan. 1978 after a cliff fall. Lower section of shaft lined with 26 oak boards about 3ft high, and no sign of timbers in upper part. Remains of 8 vessels contained in silt, including glazed flagon, two-handed tripod and semi-glazed jugs. (L.A.S.).

Denson (TL/7553). UN. Circular mound (?round barrow), 1.2m high, 20m diameter. Local legend has it that the mound covers the dead from a Civil War battle at Wickhambrook. (O.S.; S.A.U. DNT 002).

Earsham (TM/8830). Ne. Polished axe of green-brown flint, patinated (Fig. 32a). The butt end resharpened in more recent times, with chips cut into the patina up to 4cm from the butt. There is a thick edge on only one side of the axe. Found on surface of a cultivated field. (I.M. Retained by Mr G. Squirrell).


Hadleigh (TM/0242). LS. Pottery from spoil below a basement, mostly Thetford Ware. (H. Budd per L. Elmhirst; S.A.U. HAD 028).

Hadleigh (TM/0144). Me. Tranchet axe found in a field while chopping sugar beet. (I.M. 1978.33).


Fig. 32—a, Neolithic axe from Earsham; b, Neolithic axe from Leiston; c, Bronze Age palstave from Levington.

Heptonworth (TL/9875). RB. Pottery scatter and debris probably from a pottery kiln. (Mr Clarke; S.A.U. HEP 009).

Hitcham (TL/9953). RB. Fibulae of 1st-century type and coins of the 2nd to 4th centuries. A list of 10 identified coins at I.M., covering the reigns of Antoninus Pius, Commodus, Tetricus, Gallienus, Allectus, Constantine I and Constantius II. Two fibulae are Colchester types II and III; latest coin is A.D. 341. (I.M. Retained by finder).


Honington (TL/9174). Md. Horse pendant with traces of blue enamel, bearing the three crowns and arrow of St Edmunds. (M.H. Retained by finder).


Icklingham (TL/7772). PM. Civil War sconce, 65m square, central mound 20 x 12m and 0.8m high, with four angle bastions, c. 10m square by 0.5m high. A shallow outer ditch 7m wide by 0.4m deep surrounds the bastions, with a further ditch 3m wide by 0.3m deep lying about 10m beyond. The earthwork was partially levelled after World War II and has a pill box on its S. edge. (O.S.; S.A.U. IKL 071).


Kedington (TL/7045). RB. Tile and pottery scatter, also tesserae. (B.B. Charge; S.A.U. KDG 007).


Lackford (TL/7670). RB. Occupation layer and rubbish pit observed in trial holes. (D. Stimpson; S.A.U. LKD 019).


Leiston. Ne. Polished axe of grey flint with all-over patination. Polished edges; both ends rechipped (Fig. 32b). Found on Minsmere beach. (I.M. Retained by finder).

Levington (TM/2339). BA. Three flanged palstaves with stop-ridges found in loose earth in a garden, all close to the surface; probably displaced when the adjacent house was built. One palstave (Fig. 32c) retained by finder. (I.M. 1978.6A, b, lent by Mr W. Newman).

Lowestoft (TM/5395). Me. Tranchet axe discovered at a depth of 3ft on a building site. (L.A.S.).


Market Weston (TL/9877). Md. Surface scatter of sherds which included a Middle Saxon rim and others of Late Saxon/Medieval date. (M.H. Retained by finder).


Mildenhall (TL/6575). BA. Patch of burnt flints and charcoal in Mildenhall Fen has produced a Carbon 14 date of 1770 ± 70 b.c. (HAR-1876). (S.A.U. MNL 124).

Mildenhall (TL/6979). BA. Tip of a bronze spearhead. (Mrs Rains; S.A.U. MNL 136).
Mildenhall (TL/6778). Ne, BA and IA. Grimston-Lykes Hill pottery, flint scrapers, arrowheads, borers and fabricators; also BA and IA pottery. (J. King; S.A.U. MNL 139).

Orford (TM/4249). RB. Two cremation urns and part of a beaker found in new housing construction work. (Major Steuart-Gratton; S.A.U. ORF 011).

Pakenham (TL/9368). Pa. Small, brown flint handaxe, found in an allotment. (M.H. Retained by finder).

Pakenham (TL/9069). RB. 35 coins, listed at M.H., covering the reigns of Decius, Claudius Gothicus, Carausius, Maximian, Constantine I, Crispus, Theodora, latest date A.D. 346. Also a fragment of a late 1st-century brooch. (M.H. Retained by finder).

Pakenham (TL/9069, as above). RB. A further group of 14 coins, also recorded at M.H., which include the reigns of Gordian, Marius, Victorinus, latest date A.D.341. (M.H. Retained by finder).


Polstead (TL/9738). Ne. Partly polished axe of grey flint, found in ploughsoil, near one recovered in 1975. (M.H. Retained by finder).


Rushmere St Michael (TM/4987). Me. Thames pick found while cutting beet. (L.A.S.).

Shotley (TM/2533). IA. Large portion of a pot found in tidal mud without other material. Hard grey clay, evenly fired inside and out to medium grey finish. Flint inclusions up to about 1 mm. Also small red lumps (grog?) up to 4 mm. Shallow vertical tooling. Indentations on shoulder to 2 mm depth, apparently gouged out with blunt tool (Fig. 33). (I.M. Retained by finder).

Somerton (TL/8152). RB. Two or three black areas, possibly kilns, removed in construction of a duckpond below a spring-line. One pit remaining in section was cut back and drawn, producing pottery of late 1st-2nd-century type. Finds recovered from bulldozing include kiln fabric with wattle impressions, samian, grey-ware jar fragments, white-ware mortarium (Nene Valley?), colour-coat mortarium and several pieces of orange mortarium, soft fabric, possibly produced at the site. (I.M.).

Sotterley (TM/5395). Ne. Leaf arrowhead found on ploughland. (L.A.S.).

Spexhall (TM/3880). RB. Scatter of pottery, including samian and colour-coated wares. (M. Meek; S.A.U. SPX 008).


Stanton (TL/9673). IA, RB. and Md. Sherds found in a footings trench for an extension to a cottage. (S. Cady; S.A.U. STN 005).

Stoke Ash (TM/1170). **RB.** 8 coins, of which one each of Domitian, Antoninus Pius, Julia Domna; 3 radiates; 2 Constantinian. Details at I.M. (Retained by finder).


Thorington (TM/4172). **IA.** and **RB.** Small area excavated across the line of the parish boundary. Slots, post-holes and a rubbish layer were found, containing tile and pottery. (P. Warner; S.A.U. TNG 005).

Wenhaston (TM/4275). **RB.** Large scatter of pottery, tile, glass and brooches. (J. Tacon; S.A.U. WMH 005).

West Run (TL/6675). **BA.** Bronze spear tip found in a field. (M.H. Retained by finder).

West Stow (TL/7971). **BA.** Layer of burnt flints and charcoal, from which a Carbon 14 date of 1990 ± 80 b.c. (Har-2484) has been obtained. (R. Darrah & P. Murphy; S.A.U. WSW 027).

West Stow (TL/8170). **Md.** Bronze roundel from free-standing altar cross, engraved with figure of Christ giving blessing. (M.H. 1978.489).

Wetheringsett (TM/1266). **Md.** Scatter of 14th–15th-century pottery over an area of about 30 sq ft. (Mrs B. E. Thurston; S.A.U. WCB 008).

Weybread (TM/2481). **Pa.** Small triangular handaxe, 8.2cm long × 6.2cm wide, found in a gravel pit. (R. Elliston per N.C.M.; S.A.U. WYB 014).

Whatfield (TM/or46). **?IA.** About 50 small sherds of handmade, gritty pottery. (Mrs J. Durant per J. Wymer; S.A.U. WHA 006).

Whatfield (TM/or47). **RB.** Pottery of 1st century onwards found in a feature on the edge of the southern arm of a moat. (J. Burfield; S.A.U. WHA 008).

Woodbridge (TM/2649). **RB.** Miniature pot with carinated shoulder, red colour-coat on upper half, also two clay lamps found separately in same garden. (I.M. 1978.31).

Worlingham (TM/4589). **Ne.** Partially finished leaf arrowhead and small scatter of flakes. (L.A.S.).

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