

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 1991

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

This is a selection of sites and finds discovered or reported in 1991. Information on all these has been incorporated into Suffolk County Council's Sites and Monuments Record, which is maintained by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit at Bury St Edmunds; the Record number is given at the beginning of each entry. 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:

G.M.D.C.	Gorleston Metal Detector Club
I.M.D.C.	Ipswich Metal Detector Club
M.d.f.	Metal detector find
N.A.U.	Norfolk Archaeological Unit
S.A.U.	Suffolk Archaeological Unit, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR (tel. Bury St Edmunds (0284) 722023).

Pa	Palaeolithic	Ro	Roman
Me	Mesolithic	Sx	Saxon
Ne	Neolithic	Md	Medieval
BA	Bronze Age	PM	Post-Medieval
IA	Iron Age	UN	Period Unknown

Alderton (ADT003). **IA, Ro.** Scatter of pottery, a few coins (Claudius I–Valentinian), Colchester-derivative brooch fragment. (M.d.f.).

Alderton (ADT021). **Md.** Scatter of 12th–16th/17th-century pottery, one piece of Thetford-type ware, but mainly 13th–15th century, also a few metal items. (M.d.f.).

Alderton (ADT024). **Sx, Md.** One piece of ? Ipswich ware, a few Thetford-type ware sherds, a Middle Saxon bronze hooked tag, 12th/13th–14th/15th century pottery, and 2 Nuremburg tokens. (M.d.f.).

Badingham (BDG028). **Ro.** Bronze nail cleaners, pottery, Hod Hill type brooch, bronze cosmetic grinder with centre loop. (I.M.D.C.).

Barham (BRH026). **Sx, Md.** Fragment of an Early Saxon cruciform brooch and a small group of medieval metalwork, including a shield-shaped horse-harness pendant (bearing a ? lion passant with a red, blue and green enamelled body on a gilt background), and a late 15th/16th-century bronze dagger chape (I.M.D.C.).

Barham (BRH027). **IA, Ro, Sx, Md.** Two Iron Age silver coins – a diadem type (*Mack* 438, *Van Arsdell* 80–81) and another related diadem type; a thin scatter of Roman coins (Julius Caesar 46–44 B.C., Antoninus Pius 161–80 and Constantinian 330–35), nail-cleaner and key handle; Middle Saxon bronze strap-end with interlace decoration; thin scatter of medieval items, including two shield-shaped horse-harness pendants – one with a red enamelled field with three gilded crowns (for the Bishopric of Ely; Fig. 57A), the other with formerly enamelled eagle displayed (no colour now surviving) on a gilded background (? for

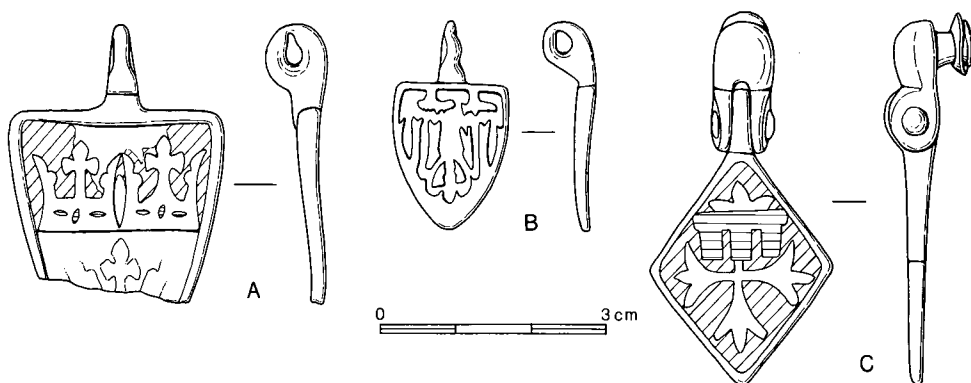


FIG. 57 – 14th-century heraldic horse-harness pendants: (A) from Barham, with the arms of the Bishopric of Ely; (B) also from Barham, probably with the arms of Monthermer; (C) from Hinderclay, with the arms of Latimer.

Ralph de Monthermer, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford, died *c.* 1325; Fig. 57B) (I.M.D.C.).

Barnham (BNH042). **Ro.** Three Roman coins, range Allectus–Valentinian I. (*per* M.H.).

Barsham (BRS006). **Sx.** Bronze openwork disc brooch, possibly 9th-century (Fig. 58A). (I.M.D.C.)

Battisford (BAT Misc). **Md.** Very fine bronze seal matrix, pointed oval shape, with Virgin and Child beneath an architectural canopy, with a kneeling figure below, inscribed + RENOVABITVR : UTA/qVILE : IVVENTVS TVA. Probably 14th-century.

Bentley (BTY011). **BA.** Small bronze chisel with low side flanges and only a faint hint of a stop-ridge, 5.8cm long; Early Bronze Age. (I.M.D.C.)

Bentley (BTY012). **Sx.** Middle Saxon silver *sceat*, Porcupine type G, possibly from Frisia. (I.M.D.C.).

Blythburgh (BLB018). **Ro, Md.** Roman Colchester-derivative brooch and two coins, also a medieval lead pilgrim's *ampulla*, scallop-shell shape. (I.M.D.C.).

Bramford (BRF036). **Sx, Md.** Scatter of Ipswich ware and Thetford-type ware, also a fragment of Middle Saxon caterpillar brooch and a Late Saxon hooked tag. Medieval finds include 13th–14th-century pottery and various metal items. (J. Newman, S.A.U. and M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD036). **BA.** Tip of a bronze spearhead. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD075). **Md.** Scatter of pottery, mainly 11th–13th century, but continuing until 15th/16th century, also a bronze finger ring with a merchant's mark. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD076). **Ro.** Brooch with a tinned surface and black inlaid decoration, hinged Colchester-derivative brooch, bronze cosmetic palette, *denarius* of Vespasian and a *siliqua* of Valentinian I. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD078). **BA.** Barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead. (T. West).

Brandon (BRD080). **BA, IA, Ro.** Fragment of a bronze spearhead, probably Middle Bronze Age; a silver Icenian coin, Pattern-Horse type (*Allen* 109–13, *Van Arsdell* 675–1); and an unusual Roman brooch, possibly related to the Hod Hill type. (M.d.f.).

Bredfield (BFD026). **Ro.** Five coins, late 3rd century–350s. (I.M.D.C.).

Bromeswell (BML013). **IA.** Fragment of a bronze tankard handle. (I.M.D.C.).

Bungay (BUN027). **Ro.** Scatter of coins, 2nd century–330s. (M.d.f.).

Burgate (BUR019). **Sx.** Middle Saxon bronze caterpillar brooch and a Late Saxon disc brooch with relief decoration. (I.M.D.C.).

Bury St Edmunds (BSE Misc). **Md.** St Nicholas or Boy Bishop lead token – appears to

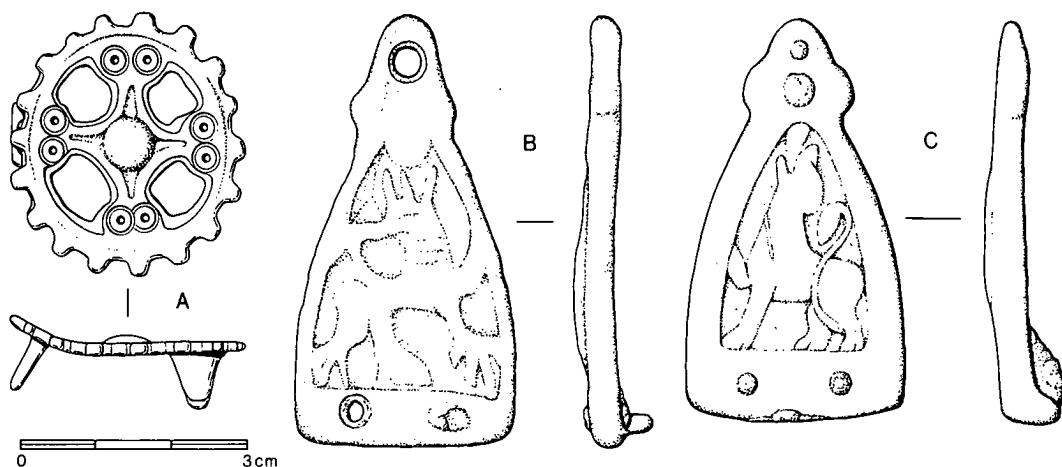


FIG. 58 – (A) Bronze disc brooch from Barsham, possibly 9th-century; (B) and (C) 11th-century bronze mounts from Hartest and Mendlesham. These have been variously interpreted as book clasps or as stirrup-fittings.

be from the one known mould (see *Proceedings* vol. XXXIV pt. 2, 1978, pl. viii). A large number of Boy Bishop tokens have been recorded recently and rather than list them all in this finds list, a supplement to S.E. Rigold's articles will be prepared. (M.d.f. per M.H.).

Charsfield (CHA011). **IA, Ro.** Small wheel-shaped bronze mount with two strap loops on the back, possibly Late Iron Age. Also scatter of 12 Roman coins, one a *denarius* of 42 B.C., the remainder Vespasian–mid 4th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Chediston (TM/3477; CHD002). **BA.** Barbless tanged arrowhead made of translucent golden-orange flint. (G. Burroughes).

Chediston (TM/3576; CHD056). **BA.** Shield-pattern unlooped bronze palstave, 15cm long, Middle Bronze Age (Fig. 59A). (G. Burroughes).

Chelsworth (TL/9747; CHW005). **Ro.** Light scatter of grey ware pottery. (B. and H. Quinlan).

Chelsworth (TL/9848; CHW006). **Sx.** Two sherds of Middle Saxon Ipswich ware. (B. and H. Quinlan).

Clare (CLA022). **BA.** Blade end of a bronze palstave. (M.d.f.).

Flempton (FMP Misc). **Md.** Circular lead seal matrix with a central fleur-de-lys, inscribed + S' GALFIDI.DE THORP (the seal of Geoffrey of Thorp). Probably 13th-century. (M.d.f.).

Flixton (FLN Misc). **Ro.** Upper stone of a puddingstone quern, with a central iron socket ring and an iron stain on the exterior from a handle band. Found c. 1988. (G. Morris).

Flixton (FTN006 & 007). **Sx.** Sherd of Ipswich ware and, 150m away, a silver *sceat* (series C), probably Kentish or East Anglian c. 705–10. (M.d.f. per N.A.U.).

Fornham All Saints (FAS Misc). **Md.** Bronze seal matrix with pyramidal handle, two doves drinking from a chalice or fountain, inscribed * IE SU SEL DAMVR LEL (I am a seal of true love); 14th-century. Lead seal matrix, pointed oval shape with cast foliage decoration on the reverse, obverse has a central 6-rayed star or flower, inscribed S'ISABELAE FIL WILLE.[C?]OCHE (the seal of Isabel the daughter of William [C?]oche); 13th-century. (M.d.f.).

Fornham St Martin (FSM Misc). **Md.** Lead *bull*a of Pope Innocent VIII, 1484–92. (M.d.f.).

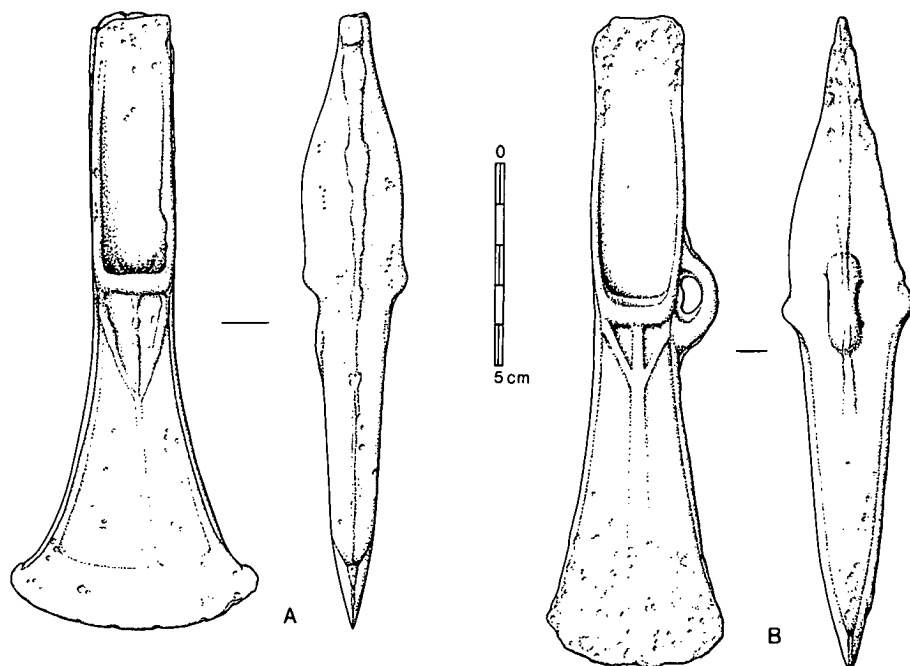


FIG. 59 – Middle Bronze Age palstaves from Chediston (A) and Layham (B).

Framlingham (FML015). **Ro.** Scatter of pottery and a coin of Gallienus, A.D. 260–68. (M.d.f.).

Harkstead (TM/2033; HRK040). **Md.** Scatter of pottery eroded from the low cliff on the edge of the Stour. (J. Newman, S.A.U.).

Hartest (HRT006). **Sx.** Bronze mount, roughly triangular, bearing a backward or upward looking beast (Fig. 58B), probably from a stirrup-fitting, 11th-century (see *Norfolk Archaeol.* xxxix, pt. III, 1986, 323–27). A similar mount has also been found at Mendlesham. (M.d.f.).

Hasketon (HSK016). **BA.** Bronze palstave, broken in two pieces, Rowlands' Class 2 side-flanged type, Middle Bronze Age. (I.M.D.C.).

Hinderclay (HNY022). **Md.** Scatter of pottery, coins and a gilded and enamelled horse-harness pendant, lozenge shaped, bearing the arms of the Latimer family (gules, a cross patonce, overall a label of three points azure), probably 14th-century (Fig. 57C). (M.d.f.).

Hopton (TL/9979; HPN008). **Md.** Scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery. (E. Savery).

Icklingham (IKL Misc). **Md.** Continental near forgery of an English penny by Count William of Namur (1337–91), *obv.* + G[VLI]ELMVS [COM]ES, *rev.* CIVI/TAS/C[.]N/TOR. This copying of the English legend carries William a stage further in the progression from imitator to forger – until this coin was found William was not known amongst the continental counts etc. who copied English legends (M.d.f. *per* M.H., commentary by N. Mayhew, Oxford).

Lakenheath (LKH021). **IA.** Icenian silver coin, Face-Horse type, late series, also bronze La Tene 1 brooch, Hawkes and Hull type 1Bc, with a leaf-shaped bow (Fig. 60B). (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

Layham (LYM025). **BA.** Bronze palstave with side loop, narrow blade with trident decoration, 16cm long, Rowlands' Narrow Bladed 1 group, late Middle Bronze Age. (Fig. 59B) (M.d.f.).

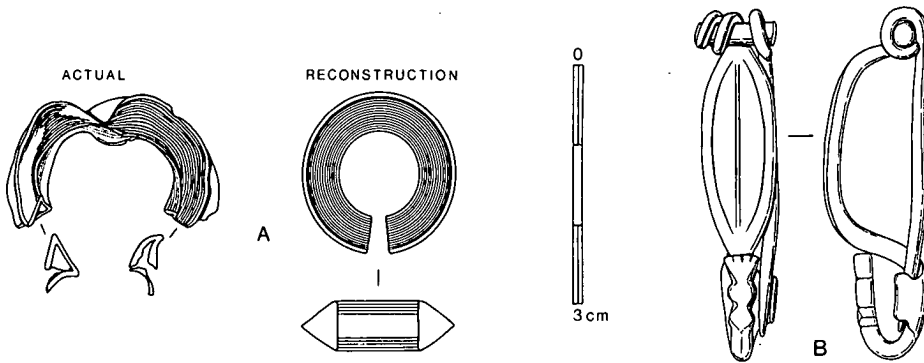


FIG. 60 – (A) Late Bronze Age gold 'hair-ring' from Trimley St Martin; (B) rare Iron Age brooch, La Tene I, from Lakenheath.

Leiston (TM/4463; LCS010 and 014). **Ro, Md.** Two scatters of Roman and medieval pottery, also one Thetford-type ware rim sherd. (G. Barker).

Letheringham (LRM008). **Ro, Md.** Grey ware pottery and a bronze scoop with moulded shaft, also medieval pottery and a 13th-century penny (I.M.D.C.).

Long Melford (LMD074). **IA, Ro.** Bronze coin, apparently unique, but with some similarity to Trinovantian issues of Addedomaros and Cunobelinus, also Belgic and Roman pottery. Nine Roman coins, range Claudius I–Gratian (378–83). (K. Jackson).

Market Weston (TL/9878; MKW008). **Ne.** Part-polished flint axe. (J.B. Sarson *per* M.H.).

Mendham (MDM091). **Sx.** Middle Saxon bronze hooked tag with incised concentric circles, also a cast bronze fragment with an elongated bearded human head in low relief, probably Late Saxon. (G.M.D.C.).

Mendlesham (TM/1164; MDS007). **Sx.** Roughly triangular bronze mount bearing a beast, probably a lion, with its head in the air (Fig. 58C), probably from a stirrup-fitting, 11th-century. See Hartest for a similar mount. (D. Colchester).

Mendlesham (TM/0964; MDS062). **BA.** Haft end of a bronze palstave: Class I shield-pattern type of the early Middle Bronze Age. (D. Colchester).

Mildenhall (MNL173). **Ne.** Scatter of pottery and flint, including two leaf arrow-heads. (T. West).

Mildenhall (MNL338). **IA, Ro.** Flint-tempered pottery and an Icenian Boar-Horse silver coin, also a scatter of Roman pottery and coins (Vespasian–Tetricus). (M.d.f.).

Mildenhall (MNL340). **BA, Ro, Md.** Tip of a bronze spearhead, probably Late Bronze Age, a scatter of Roman coins (Trajan–Tetricus) and 3rd–4th-century bronze brooches, also various medieval items, including an 11th-century bronze *foliis* of the Byzantine Empire, minted at Constantinople. (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

Mildenhall (MNL351). **Sx.** Silver *sceat*, English copy of 2 continental issues: obv. from a Frisian porcupine type, rev. from a runic type with cross and pellets reverse. (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

Mildenhall (TL/6778; MNL445). **Ne.** Part-polished flint axe. (C. Barton *per* M.H.).

Mildenhall (MNL Misc). **Ro.** Lead/pewter medallion with bust of Antoninus Pius. (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

Offton (OFF007). **BA.** Blade end of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe. (I.M.D.C.).

Orford (ORF Misc). **Md.** Lead seal matrix, circular, with central many petalled flower and the inscription + S' IOhIS LE POer (the seal of John le Poer). 13th-century. (M.d.f.).

Otley (OTY020). **Sx, Md.** Sherds of Ipswich and Thetford-type ware, also a silver inlaid bronze strap-end, also medieval sherds, a bronze seal ring inscribed 'He' and 'E', and a tubular dagger chape. (I.M.D.C.).

Palgrave (TM/1077; PAL011). **IA.** Scatter of flint-tempered pottery. (E. Savery).

Parham (PRH005). **Ro.** Scatter of pottery, mainly 2nd–3rd-century grey wares, and tile fragments.

Preston St Mary (PSM004). **BA.** Blade end of a small Late Bronze Age socketed axe, found within a medieval pottery scatter. (M.d.f.).

Preston St Mary (TL/9350; PSM016). **Md.** Scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery. (A. Thorpe).

Ramsholt (RMS020). **Md.** Scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery.

Rattlesden (TL/9858; RAT019). **Ro.** Pottery scatter. (A. Ball *per* P. Northeast).

Ringsfield (RGD006). **Ro.** Three *denarii*, range A.D. 96–125, found in a limited area. (G.M.D.C.).

Rishangles (RLS004). **Ro, Md.** Mainly medieval pottery scatter with a few Roman pieces.

Little Saxham (SXL005). **BA.** Tip of a bronze spearhead. (M.d.f.).

Shelley (SHY003). **Md, PM.** Gold angel of Henry VII and coins of Elizabeth I to Charles I from a possible fair site. (M.d.f.).

Shotley (SLY053). **Ro.** Three 2nd-century coins. (I.M.D.C.).

Shotley (SLY054). **BA.** Blade half of a miniature flat axe with a crescentic blade 3.2cm wide, probably Early Bronze Age. (M.d.f.).

Shotley (SLY Misc). **PM.** Probable lead bale seal, circular, bearing a merchant's mark incorporating the initials ME, with the letter N on the reverse. The same merchant's mark appears on a lead seal in Moyses Hall Museum. Probably 16th–17th-century (M.d.f.).

Sibton (SBT014). **Sx.** Cruciform bronze brooch, late 6th-century developed type with humanoid type knobs. (M.d.f.).

South Elmham St James (SEJ Misc). **Md.** Circular lead seal matrix of John Fitzherbert.

Spexhall (SPX010). **Md.** Pottery scatter and circular lead seal matrix with a central 8-armed star or flower, inscribed + SIGIL. RICARDI. FILI WARINI (the seal of Richard the son of Warin), 13th-century. (I.M.D.C.).

Stratford St Andrew (SSA002). **Ro.** Scatter of grey ware pottery, 1st–4th-century in date. The presence of several wasters in a distinctive sandy fabric of 3rd–4th-century date suggests that this is possibly a kiln site. 117 coins, ranging in date from Marcus Aurelius (161–80) to Constantius (353–54), bronze brooches, the leg from bronze human figurine, a stud with *millefiori* enamelling and a possible miniature terret ring fragment also found. (I.M.D.C.).

Stratford St Andrew (SSA Misc). **PM.** Two gold angels of Henry VIII found about 8m apart. (I.M.D.C.).

Stratton Hall (TM/2438; SNH007). **Ne.** Part-polished flint axe, 15.1cm long. (P. Compton).

Thelnetham (THE016). **Sx.** Silvered bronze strap-end fragment with animal head terminal, Middle Saxon. (I.M.D.C.).

Trimley St Martin (TYM Misc). **Md.** 14th-century bronze seal matrix with pyramidal handle, circular die with a curled-up lion, inscribed * WAKE ME: NO MAN: (I.M.D.C.).

Trimley St Martin (TYM Misc) **BA.** Badly distorted and damaged gold ornament of the type termed 'hair-rings'; reconstructed diameter 2.5cm; Late Bronze Age (Fig. 60A). (I.M.D.C.).

Tuddenham St Martin (TDM013). **Ro.** Four coins, range Lucilla (164–80) to Constantian (330–37). (I.M.D.C.).

Wangford (WNG Misc). **Md.** Lead seal matrix, circular, with a central 8-rayed star, inscribed * [S?] ECARDI DE LIVIRM[R?] (the seal of Ecard of Livermere); 13th-century. (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

Wenhaston (WMH004). **IA.** Silver Icenian coin, Face-Horse type, and a gilded bronze (?) forgery of a Middle Whaddon Chase type *stater* (*Van Arsdell* 1485, 1487). (G.M.D.C.).

Wenhaston (WMH005). **IA.** Silver Icenian coin, Boar-Horse type. (G.M.D.C.).

Wetheringsett (WCB Misc). **Md.** Pointed oval seal matrix bearing a bird wounding itself in the chest above a nest containing three chicks, inscribed + SVM PELLICANVS DEI (I am the pelican of God) – an allegorical reference to Christ's sacrifice for humanity. Probably 14th-century. (M.d.f.).

Whepstead (WHP010). **Ro.** *Denarius* of Antoninus Pius (138–61). (M.d.f.).

Whitton (WHI003). **Ro.** Three bronze coins: a *sestertius* and coins of Victorinus (268–70) and Valens (364–78). (I.M.D.C.).

Willisham (WLS001). **Ro.** Two enamelled head-stud brooches and part of a disc brooch. (I.M.D.C.).

Withersfield (WTH009). **BA.** Blade end of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe; ancient saw marks clearly visible on the break. Found just outside the area of a Roman and medieval scatter. (M.d.f. *per* H.D.A.G.).

Witnesham (WTN013). **IA, Ro.** Gold quarter *stater* of Trinovantian type, attributed to Addedomaros (*Mack* 271, *Van Arsdell* 1608–1), also 6 Roman coins, range 1st/2nd century to 330–37. (I.M.D.C.).

Woolpit (WPT017). **BA, Md.** Tip of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe, also a medieval lead *ampulla*, scallop-shell shaped, with a 6-petalled flower on the front, and a triangular pierced lug on each side, the neck sealed by crimping. (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

Woolpit (WPT Misc). **Md.** Lead *bullae* of Pope Gregory IX, 1227–41. (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

Woolverstone (TM/1839; WLVO18). **Md/PM.** Tile kiln exposed on the edge of the River Orwell, with large quantities of peg-tile spread over the beach. This may be the area referred to in a later 15th-century document as 'Old Tileyard'. (J. Newman and S. Laverton).

Woolverstone (WLVO19). **Sx.** Silver *sceat*, Kentish series B type, ? minted in London. (I.M.D.C.).

Worlington (TL/6974; WGN014). **Me.** Leaf-shaped microlith point (C. Mycock).

FIELDWALKING SURVEYS

Fressingfield (TM/2878; FSF033–5 & 040–4): Fieldwalking has revealed the sites of six medieval farmsteads/houses on the southern edge of the former Great Whittingham Green, spaced at about 100m intervals. Most of the pottery from these sites is unglazed 13th–14th-century wares, with a relatively small amount of part-glazed late medieval pottery, and a few possible 12th-century sherds. This seems to indicate a foundation for this green-edge settlement in the 12th century, a period of maximum activity in the 13th–14th centuries and gradual desertion in the 15th–16th centuries. The green was probably enclosed by 1646, certainly by 1702, when a map shows it divided up into nine fields. Roman pottery was noted on one of these sites – mainly grey wares, but also a piece of Antonine samian with the stamp of Casurius of Lezoux. (Michael Hardy).

Ixworth Thorpe (TL/9272; IXT010–13): Two multi-period sites, 500m apart, beside the Black Bourne were located. Both had scatters of Iron Age flint-tempered pottery,

Roman grey wares (including Belgic-influenced 1st-century types on one site) and handmade Early Saxon pottery. The latter included sand- and organic-tempered wares and one sherd bore a circular stamp with a rectangular grid pattern. A clay spindle whorl fragment was also found. One site lies a few hundred yards from where Saxon graves were found in the 1940s. A third Roman scatter, including tile and daub, was found 400m away in the same area as a previously noted medieval scatter. (Edward Savery).

Kedington (TL/7047; KDG006): During a training session for a new fieldwalking team, a flint tranchet axe was recovered from the ploughsoil over the line of the ditch of the Neolithic causewayed enclosure. Although the site is scheduled, it is clear that ploughing is cutting into the underlying gravels.

A watching brief on the digging of post-holes for an electricity supply-line nearby, which crossed the site of a possible cursus (KDG017), failed to reveal anything more than a few flint flakes.

(Brian Charge for the Haverhill and District Archaeological Group).

South-East Suffolk – Survey on Forestry Commission Land: Over the last few years it has been possible to examine areas that the Forestry Commission is re-planting thanks to the co-operation of their local officers. The fieldwork has covered parts of Dunwich, Rendlesham and Tunstall Forests and to date 600 ha. have been examined. The main objective has been to locate surviving earthworks on these old heathland areas that now make up the forestry plantations. Earthworks tend to have survived here because these heaths were such poor, dry, marginal land that, until recently, they escaped extensive arable cultivation. Once identified, the earthworks can be incorporated into management plans which ensure their future protection.

During this survey scatters of flint and pottery have also been located which give some clues as to the past use and settlement of this marginal land. Amongst the more significant sites located were an Iron Age and Roman pottery scatter at Capel St Andrew (CSA008), a large Roman site at Iken (IKN012) and another Roman site at Sudbourne (SUE021). The Sudbourne site also produced evidence of possible Early Anglo-Saxon activity. The only other site with signs of an Early Anglo-Saxon presence was at Boyton (BOY011) – this site appears to have continued in use through the Middle and Late Saxon periods, before being finally abandoned in the 13th–14th century. A settlement (SUE020) that appears to start in the Middle Saxon period was located near the now isolated church at Sudbourne. Interestingly, a bronze *stylus* found near here in 1961 has recently been shown to be of Middle Saxon date (paralleled by examples from such major sites as Brandon and Whitby), and not Roman, as originally thought. The presence of *styli*, significant indicators of rare literacy, on Anglo-Saxon sites seems to be largely confined to those of special status, such as monasteries. A possible source for the Sudbourne *stylus* is St Botolph's 7th-century monastery at Iken, 3 miles to the north of the findspot; in their later history Iken and Sudbourne were closely linked (Martin 1978). Before it passed to the Abbey of Ely in the second half of the 10th century, Sudbourne (and Brandon) had formed part of the possessions of a man called Scule (variously referred to as a *comes*, *dux*, or *eorl* in the 930s and 940s) who may have been an 'under-earl' with jurisdiction over the 5 half Hundreds that were later termed the Liberty of St Etheldreda (*pers. comm.* E. Martin). Sudbourne may have been an early administrative centre associated with this territory.

A range of medieval pottery scatters was also found: of particular note were 5 sites situated around the northern and western edges of Capel Green (CSA012–016). These were all of 12th/13th–14th century date and their siting on the edge of a small green is a

good example of a settlement pattern more commonly found in the clay lands of central Suffolk.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

Stanton (TL/9772; SNT019–28): Fieldwork in the southern part of this parish has revealed a scatter of Iron Age pottery and prehistoric flintwork, and a small amount of similar material on another, mainly Roman, site. Two Roman sites, 700m apart, were identified: the larger of the two produced pottery of the 2nd–4th centuries, including small amounts of samian, shell-tempered and colour-coated wares. A daub fragment with abundant organic inclusions may be a pointer to a kiln in the vicinity. A number of medieval pottery scatters were also found: one on the Wyken Road and four in the hamlet of Upthorpe – two on Wash Lane and two on Upthorpe Road. Most of the pottery dates from the 13th–14th centuries, but a small amount of possible 12th-century material is present on the Upthorpe sites. One of the latter also produced an iron barbed-and-socketed arrowhead of the type used for hunting in the 13th–14th centuries. (Edward Savery).

Weybread (TM/2480; WYB034–41): One Roman site with late 2nd–4th-century pottery and tile was found. A scatter of 14th–16th-century pottery over part of the area shows that the site was reoccupied in the medieval period. Kiln wasters of part-glazed Late Medieval and Transitional pottery were identified on four sites, probably indicating the presence of pottery kilns. There is now a growing body of evidence for an important potting industry in the Weybread area in the 15th–16th centuries. All four of the sites produced similar material: a well-fired grey fabric with dark green to purple-black glazes of varying coverage. Forms include jugs and pancheons. Further evidence of clay pipe manufacturing was also found: the material dates from the late 17th–early 18th centuries, but no makers' stamps were seen. (Michael Hardy).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Barnham, East Farm Pit (TL/8778; BNH013): Excavations continued for four weeks in August in the disused clay-pit. The present work was the first major season after a preliminary two week excavation in 1990. There were three primary aims: 1, to recover Lower Palaeolithic flint assemblages with potentially refitting material; 2, to establish the stratigraphy of the site; 3, to locate undecalcified deposits with potential for preservation for faunal material.

Three areas were excavated around the edge of the clay-pit showing that chalk at the base of the sequence is overlain by till attributed to the glaciation of the Anglian Stage (Fig. 61). These deposits are cut by a deeply incised channel that is infilled with sands and gravels which may be glacial outwash. This sequence is overlain by solifluction deposits and a thin, fluvial grey silty-sand with a probable lag gravel ('cobble band') at the base, all of which produced artefacts. A black silty-clay, probably a buried soil horizon, overlies the grey silty-sand and up to 4m of colluvial/fluvial clayey-silts cap the sequence.

At the western end of the pit calcareous silts and clays preserved bone and shell material, critical for environmental reconstruction and for dating the site. It is known that they overlie the till, but their precise relationship with the artefact-bearing deposits needs further work. Initial examination of the shells (M. Seddon, *pers. comm.*) and the bone

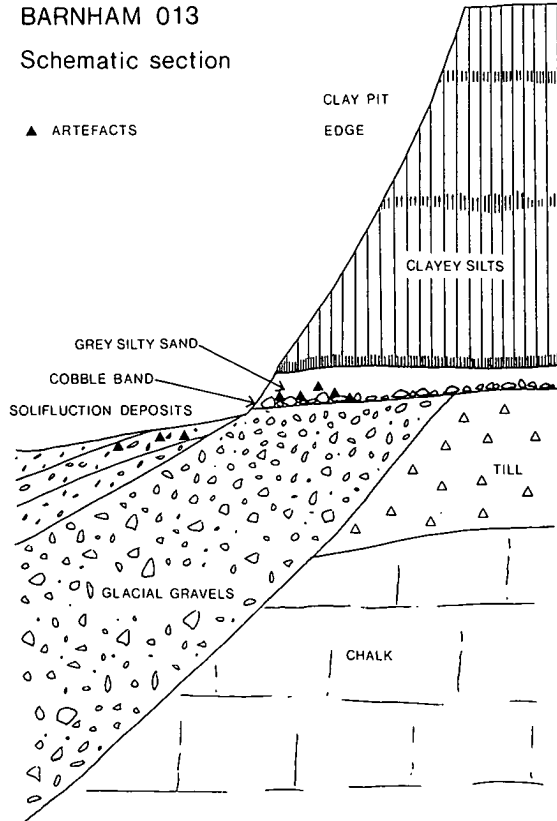


FIG. 61 Barnham 013: schematic section at the East Farm clay-pit, based on preliminary fieldwork.

(S. Parfitt, *pers. comm.*) suggests a temperate, fluvial environment. The deposits are likely to be broadly contemporary with the clayey-silts and may be immediately post-Anglian.

The archaeological area, on the south side of the pit, covered 30 sq.m and at the northern edge cut Paterson's previously unlocated excavations from the 1930s. The artefacts and the geological information from his excavations can now be related to the present work. The flint assemblage excavated this year consists of thirty pieces from the solifluction deposits, sixty-eight from the cobble band and 350 from the grey silty-sand. The artefacts are mainly rolled and abraded from the soliflucted deposits and the cobble band, while those from the grey silty-sand are often in a much fresher condition. Initial examination of the artefacts suggests that there are no differences in the technology between the different contexts. This may suggest that the artefacts represent a continuum of activity and became incorporated into different deposits over a period of time. The cores were worked mainly by alternate platform technique producing flakes, some of which were modified into notches and flaked flakes. Many of the nodules have simply been tested as only one or two flakes have been removed. This type of industry is very similar to those found at the Clacton sites and those from Swanscombe Lower Gravels and Lower Loams. Two possible handaxe thinning flakes have been found, but there is no definitive trace of handaxe manufacture.

Future work will investigate further the archaeological area and establish more clearly the exact stratigraphic position of the calcareous deposits.

We thank the British Academy, the British Museum, the Royal Archaeological Institute,

the Society of Antiquaries, Center Parcs and the Thetford Industrial Committee for funding the project, Mildenhall Museum for generous help and His Grace the Duke of Grafton and Mr David Heading for permission to excavate.

(Nick Ashton, Quaternary Section, British Museum and Simon Lewis, Department of Geography and Geology, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education).

Brightwell, Round Barrow (TM/2444; BGL008): A limited excavation was undertaken following the partial flattening of this Scheduled Ancient Monument. During the 2nd World War a pill box had been erected on the barrow and it was encircled by a ditch with a revetment wall.

The excavation revealed that the barrow survived to a height of 1.7m adjoining the pill box and probably about 0.9m beneath it. It was also possible to determine the original width of the mound, which was in the region of 16.5m; there was no evidence for an encircling ditch.

A single sherd of Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the mound material. (Andrew Tester, Joanna Caruth, David Gill for English Heritage and Suffolk County Council).

Bucklesham to Alton Water Raw Water Main: The laying of this 14km long pipeline entailed the removal of a 5m wide strip of topsoil along its whole length. This gave an opportunity to examine a transect across the countryside and a continuous watching brief was maintained, leading to the identification of several archaeological sites. The more important of these were:

Bucklesham (TM/2441; BUC 029): Here the pipeline cut diagonally across a substantial quadrilateral enclosure that forms part of a large complex of cropmarks. Interestingly, two sides of this enclosure seem to be followed by elements of the modern topography, including Levington Lane. A section adjacent to the lane revealed the ditch bounding the eastern side of the enclosure, which proved to be approximately 4.5m wide and 1.56m deep. Amongst the few finds from this ditch were two probable Iron Age sherds. However more pottery was recovered from a large pit, various smaller ones, and the subsoil within the enclosure. Most of the material is late Iron Age in date, including fragments of fine ware pots decorated with pendant triangles and dimple stamps (*cf.* Elsdon 1975), and a small amount of Belgic pottery. Very little Roman pottery was found, but a detector search did recover a coin of Claudius I and fragments of an early Roman bronze brooch. The material from this site should prove to be an interesting comparative sample to that from the Foxhall enclosure (see below).

Bucklesham (TM/2641; BUC 031): A ditch forming part of a cropmark complex was located and sectioned. One prehistoric pottery sherd was recovered from the fill; a Roman sherd was found nearby.

Bucklesham (TM/2441; BUC 033): A series of small pits of Early Bronze Age date were located and excavated. Finds include a good range of beaker pottery, with both comb-stamped and rusticated types being present. Part of an adjacent cropmark complex (BUC013) was also examined, but this proved to be a modern field boundary.

Wherstead (TM/1540; WHR 021): Two parallel ditches were located which appear to form a driveway associated with a known cropmark complex. The ditches were sectioned and one of them produced pottery sherds of Iron Age date.

Wherstead (TM/1641; WHR 040): On a promontory overlooking the River Orwell, which had been largely destroyed by the Ipswich eastern by-pass, the pipeline cut through a series of ditches and pits over a 45m stretch. This area represents an unknown proportion of what appears to have been an extensive settlement spreading over a S.E. facing slope.

The dating evidence points towards occupation in the Iron Age, although a few Early Bronze Age beaker sherds were also recovered.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water Services Ltd).

Bury St Edmunds, Boby Trading Estate (TL/8564; BSE095): An assessment excavation was undertaken prior to a planning application. Ten trial trenches 1.5m wide and of varying lengths were machine dug across areas of potential archaeological interest, principally sites marked on the Warren map of 1791 (*Watch House, Lime Kiln and Combing Sheds*) and the St Andrew Street frontage.

The trenches showed serious disturbance of the ground by Victorian or more recent structures, and no sign of the *Watch House* or *Lime Kiln* were found. The street frontage was relatively undisturbed, but showed no evidence of occupation. The only substantially undisturbed area was under the Victorian road which crossed the site. Underlying it were flint and mortar wall footings plus a brick floor 4.4m wide and 3.1m long which sloped either side to a central gutter. This was interpreted as the floor of part of James Oakes's *Combing Sheds*, as marked on the 1791 map.

(Joanna Caruth and David Gill for Suffolk County Council and 3i Commercial Properties Ltd).

Bury St Edmunds, East Close (TL/8664; BSE026): A series of trial trenches were mechanically excavated and a small excavation conducted in advance of redevelopment work on a site situated approximately 500m from the Abbot's Bridge along Eastgate Street.

The excavation material has not been fully processed, but in excess of twenty pits were excavated producing pottery dating from the 13th to the 19th centuries. Mortar foundations were uncovered indicating the position of a medieval timber building which probably stood on the site into the 19th century. It was not clear from the limited area excavated whether this was an isolated property or part of an early terrace.

(Andrew Tester, Joanna Caruth, David Gill for Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council).

Euston to Cambridge Pipeline: The laying of this pipeline has involved the removal of a 9m wide strip of ploughsoil over a distance of 30km. Fieldwalking prior to the commencement of the work revealed a number of potential sites which were then further investigated when stripping took place. The whole stripped surface was also monitored for additional sites. The sites excavated so far are:

Barnham, Icknield Way (TL/8277; BNH036): No traces of a trackway or ditches were noted at the point where the pipeline crossed the projected line of the Icknield Way. However in excess of forty features, mainly small pits and hollows, were excavated over a length of 130m immediately to the east of this line. These produced charcoal, burnt and struck flint, and pottery – mainly grog-tempered wares of the Early to Middle Bronze Age. An unstratified bronze rivet from the area may be from a Bronze Age knife. The siting of this settlement is unusual, in that it appears to be far from a water source. It lies on dry former heathland on the top of a Breckland plateau, 2.4km from the nearest spring and 1.4km from the nearest pond. Natural ponds or meres are however a feature of this area (the well-known group of ponds at Rymer Point lie 4.5km to the east) and it is possible that there was once a pond near the settlement, but if so no trace of it now survives.

Barnham (TL/8778; BNH037): thirty-four features located over a 150m length of the pipeline on the top of a hill – all containing charcoal and burnt flint. The features were predominantly small pits except for 0014, a large shallow feature, possibly an oven, and 0032, which contained a partially fired clay structure which may also have been an oven or

hearth. Many of the features contained pottery of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date, with some sherds of Darmsden-type fine wares. Struck flint was also recovered from most of the features.

Barnham (TL/8878; BNH039): this comprised four small charcoal-filled pits: three within 1m of each other and the fourth 4.5m further west. All contained considerable quantities of burnt flint and Iron Age pottery.

Barnham (TL/8377; BNH041): This site was within 300m of the Icknield Way and consisted of twenty-four charcoal and burnt flint filled features. Amongst them it is possible to discern the likely outline of a round house approximately 5m in diameter, consisting of a ring of six post-holes together with an internal off-centre post-hole (Fig. 62). On the east side the post-holes are set in a shallow charcoal-rich depression. Another charcoal-rich feature lies nearby to the east. An arc of five post-holes on the west side may be related in some way to the house, perhaps a screen or fence, or may in fact be the remains of another house. Ninety-one pieces of pottery, probably of Middle Bronze Age date, were recovered, mostly from the remnants of an occupation layer in the area. Most of this was coarse wares with large flint and grog inclusions. A quantity of worked flint was also recovered. This site lay 600m to the north-east of site BNH036 (see above) and was similarly sited far from an obvious water source – in this case the settlement was positioned near the head of a dry valley, 1.7km from the nearest spring and 1.4km from the nearest pond.

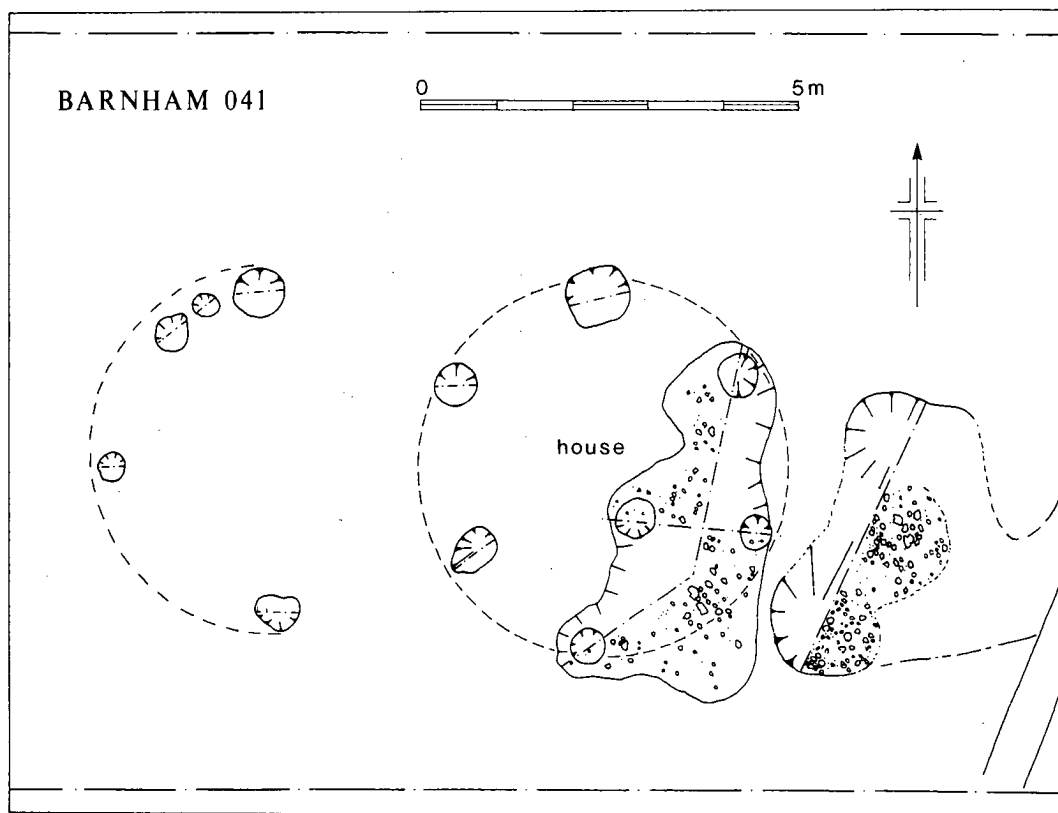


FIG. 62 – Barnham 041: Bronze Age round house revealed during work on the Euston–Cambridge water pipeline.

Euston (TL/8979; EUN017): This was a medieval site adjoining the Euston to Thetford road (B1088). A sequence of ditches produced late Saxon and medieval pottery. Further features and a wider scatter of medieval and post-medieval pottery were observed.

Euston (TL/8878; EUN018): This consisted of three adjacent pits containing charcoal and Early Bronze Age comb-stamped beaker pottery. This group was situated 190m east of BNH039.

Icklingham (TL/7946; IKL111): twenty pits were found over a 300m stretch of the pipeline beside tumulus IKL028: nine contained charcoal and burnt flint and one had several sherds of flint-gritted Iron Age pottery. Occasional sherds of Roman and prehistoric pottery were recovered from the subsoil surface.

This pipeline is turning out to be a very interesting transect across the various landscape zones in the Breckland and is revealing much new data on the location and density of settlements. So far there has been a close correlation between the surface scatters observed during fieldwalking and the occupation sites later exposed. The severity of plough damage observed on these sites is however worrying.

(Andrew Tester, Joanna Caruth, David Gill for Suffolk County Council and The Cambridge Water Company).

Great Finborough, West End Farm (TM/0156; FNG009): A week was spent surveying and trial trenching an undated earthwork in a pasture field. The earthwork consisted of a more or less level platform, 36m N.-S. × 21.5m E.-W., cut into a south facing hill side, bounded on the west side by an existing hedge and by a silted-up ditch, 2.4m wide × 1.1m deep, on the east. A northern continuation of this ditch can be traced as a dip in the field for about 100m.; a less-marked southern continuation runs for 20 to 30m in the direction of a seasonal watercourse at the bottom of the slope. The ditch was cut through boulder clay and the outer, eastern, face was lined with large flint and chalk pebbles. Dating evidence for the ditch was unfortunately very sparse: a medieval sherd was recovered from one cutting, while another produced two small sherds of flint-tempered Iron Age pottery, with a further two small sherds and two larger Roman sherds on the slope above the ditch.

No traces of structures were found on the platform and no dating evidence for it. A small group of fired daub fragments was found near the south-west corner. Occupying the south-west corner of the platform is a pond measuring approximately 10m N.-S. × 6m E.-W. × 90cm deep, with a stone kerb on the west side and a cobbled base.

On the higher ground immediately to the north of the platform a trial trench revealed an unsuspected ditch, 1.2m wide × 57cm deep, containing sixteen flint-tempered Iron Age sherds, nine Roman sherds and five medieval sherds, nearly all of them being small and eroded. This indicates the presence of a hitherto unknown Iron Age/Roman settlement somewhere in the vicinity, the ditch probably being an agricultural boundary of some sort. It is likely that the Iron Age and Roman pottery in and around the platform ditch is secondary material, which has eroded out of earlier features and layers nearby. The platform itself remains an enigma, both in terms of date and function. The field is recorded as *Hoggett Lay* in 1840 and as *Haggerts* in 1656, but adjoined the east side of *Camps hall meadow* and *Campshall Yard* (1656; *Council Meadow* and *Yard* 1840).

Grateful thanks are due to Mr and Mrs J. Williams for allowing the work to take place and to the volunteers who did the work.

(Edward Martin for the Suffolk Archaeological Field Group).

Foxhall (TM/2343; FXL013): Aerial survey work in 1977 revealed a large square enclosure, as well as other rather indistinct cropmarks, on a field close to Foxhall Hall. As the complex was likely to be affected by a water purification project associated with the

nearby Foxhall Landfill site, an area of some 15,000 sq.m. was extensively investigated between November 1990 and March 1991. Of this, just over 12,000 sq.m lay in a large block which contained the enclosure and part of an adjacent field system. The remainder consisted of pipe trenches to the north east and east of the main excavation. The site overlooks a tributary of the Deben known as the Mill River and is situated on the crest of the slope on the northern side of the valley. The underlying drift geology is made up of well drained sands and gravels.

The first phase of activity is represented by two pits of Neolithic date. One of these is especially noteworthy as it contained a substantial part of a large Grooved Ware pot. This is highly decorated in the 'Clacton' style, with multiple grooved chevrons, horizontal lines of pellets and horizontal grooved lines. The pit is notable for its size, being barely 4m long and over 1m deep, and for the lack of other finds.

The main phase of activity on the site was in the Iron Age and most of the cropmarks dated from this period, including the large, almost square, enclosure (Fig. 63). This had an internal platform that measured 65 × 55m, surrounded by a ditch that was up to 3.6m wide and 1.5m deep. The sections that were excavated across the enclosure ditch all indicated a

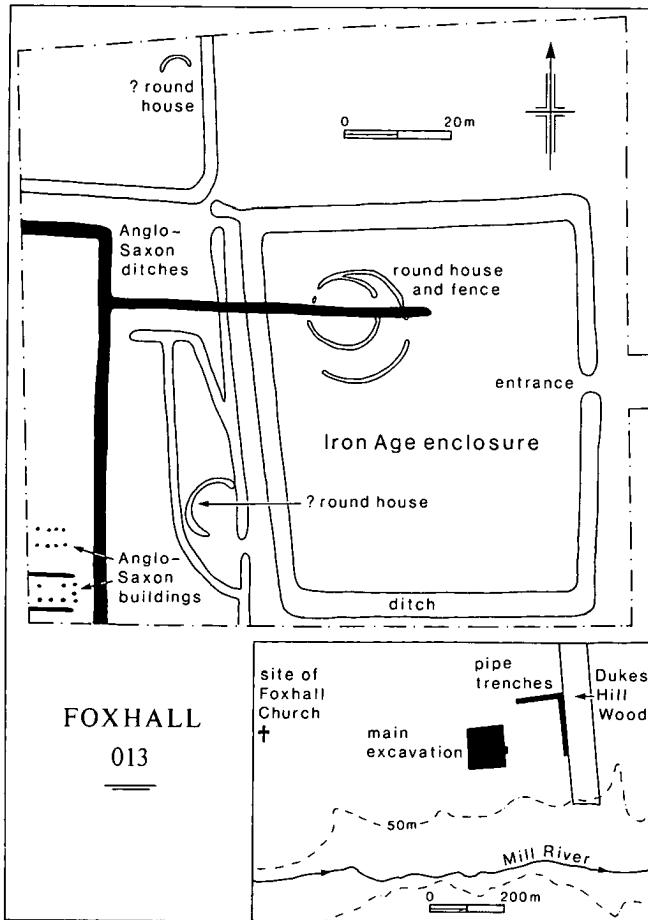


FIG. 63 – Foxhall 013: simplified plan of the Iron Age enclosure and adjacent Anglo-Saxon settlement.

one phase ditch which originally had a bank on the inner side. The entrance lay in the middle of the east side, but no evidence was found for any gate structure. The interior of the enclosure was totally excavated and the penannular ring-trench (up to 60cm wide and 30cm deep) of one roundhouse was located in the north-west corner. This had an internal diameter of 11m with an entrance on the eastern side. The house lay within a semi-circular trench, perhaps representing a fence or screen, which appears to have separated the house from the remainder of the enclosure, in which there were numerous pits and one or two possible four-post structures, perhaps representing above-ground granaries.

The adjacent areas to the north and west of the main enclosure were also examined and various ditches of probable Iron Age date were investigated, which appear to form part of a field system which may, in part, have been contemporary with the main enclosure. Two slightly smaller Iron Age round houses were also found within the field system. Both of these were defined by remnants of ring-trenches; one being two-thirds complete, with an internal diameter of 9m; the other consisted of half of a ring with an internal diameter of 4m. Whether these smaller houses are contemporary with the main enclosure is, at present, impossible to say.

No direct evidence was found for Romano-British settlement in the area excavated. However, part of a field system of this date was located in the pipe trench to the east of the main site, indicating that a Roman site must lie somewhere in the vicinity. A few small pits of probable Roman date were also excavated close to these field ditches.

The final phase of activity came in the Middle to Late Saxon period and consisted of field boundary ditches containing Ipswich and Thetford-type ware pottery. These were mainly to the west of the Iron Age enclosure. Two rectangular buildings were found within this field system and are probably contemporary with it, one of simple post-hole construction and the other a more sophisticated post-in-trench type with internal posts to support the roof. These buildings lay on the edge of the excavated area and therefore the extent and nature of the Saxon occupation could not be properly determined.

The work at Foxhall represents the first total excavation of an Iron Age enclosure in Suffolk, though similar-looking sites have been explored in Essex. Sites that have been completely excavated are always of great value, in that they offer the chance of reconstructing the whole settlement layout and the hope of understanding how it functioned as an entity. The excavation has also shown the long history of settlement along this part of the Mill River. The story is not a simple one of continuity on one site, but of slight movement up and down the valley. The latest stage in this settlement drift seems to be marked by the present Foxhall Hall, which lies adjacent to the remains of Foxhall's medieval church, 550m to the west of the Iron Age enclosure (Fig. 63).
(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

Gislingham, St Mary's Church (TM/0771; GSG019): The removal of medieval pews for restoration revealed the remains of the original medieval floor. Breaks in this surface indicated the original and Victorian pew positions, graves and a large disturbance in the south-west corner of the nave. Pieces of worked stone recovered from this disturbance were identified as being from the tracery of the window immediately above the disturbance, where the missing pieces had been replaced by plain stone.
(Joanna Caruth and David Gill for Suffolk County Council and Gislingham Parochial Church Council).

Halesworth, Barclays Bank Site 2 (TM/3877): A third trench (3m × 4m) was excavated adjacent and north-east of that excavated in 1990, revealing a similar sequence of activity, from the 11th/12th century to the 18th century. Features uncovered in 1991

included a rectangular brick structure, 0.94m × 2.85m, displaying evidence of burning and presumed to be a furnace connected with the metalworking activity found in the 1989 and 1990 trenches (see Fordham 1992, available from Halesworth Museum). (Michael Fordham and the Halesworth Museum Excavation Team).

Haverhill, Site of St Botolph's Church (TL/6645; HCH005): A series of exploratory trenches were mechanically excavated in advance of housing development to locate the site of the church and to establish the limits of the medieval cemetery.

The cemetery was found to continue over the whole site, being contained along the northern edge by a medieval ditch which produced four sherds of 12th-century pottery. No evidence was found to indicate the likely position of the church, which must lie beyond the site.

(Andrew Tester, Joanna Caruth, David Gill for Suffolk County Council and Tanner and Wicks Ltd).

Henham, Henham Park (TM/4476; HAM013): A watching-brief was held on the excavation of a large ornamental lake on the southern edge of Henham Park, creating the lake proposed by Humphry Repton in 1791, but not previously executed. Two areas of archaeological interest were noted and investigated. The main area, covering 1,200 sq.m, contained an extensive scatter of medieval pottery sherds. A few boundary ditches and pits were excavated; however any shallow features would have been destroyed by the mechanical stripping of the topsoil. Therefore no evidence was found for any structures on what appears to have been a small settlement site of 13th–14th-century date. The spoil-tips were extensively metal-detected by two local enthusiasts but this work only recovered a cut halfpenny of Henry III (A.D. 1247–72), a key fragment and part of a Roman brooch. The topographical setting of this medieval site was exceptional as it occupied the edge of a very low-lying valley bottom, its height above sea level being just 3m O.D. Such an area would probably have been liable to flooding in the past and this excavation evidence points to the exploitation of marginal land in the 13th–14th centuries, a time of high population.

In the second area a large pit had been cut by a contractor's trench. This contained a large amount of charcoal and numerous heavily-burnt flints. No dating evidence was recovered, but parallels elsewhere suggest that this was probably a cooking pit of prehistoric date. It was dug into the valley bottom to take advantage of the high water table, and heated by throwing hot flints into the water, hence the numerous cracked and burnt stones in the fill. A smaller and much shallower pit with a similar fill was excavated close by the larger one. This may have been where the flints were heated before use in the cooking pit. Another scatter of heavily burnt flints was located further down the valley as the lake excavation progressed, probably indicating the site of another cooking pit. (John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

Ipswich, The Albany, Tuddenham Road (TM/1746; IPS240): Part of a small Roman settlement was excavated prior to residential development of the area. Only those parts of the site directly affected by the development were examined, in total an area of 1,300 sq.m. The site is situated on heavy boulder clay at the head of a small valley that drains southwards towards the River Orwell. The well-known Castle Hill villa lies 1.1km to the south-east.

No buildings were found, but a series of relatively large ditches (up to 1.7m deep) were located. These formed three sides of a large enclosure which measured 53m N.–S. The E.–W. dimension could not be determined as the west edge was not found. An entrance,

flanked by two large post-holes that presumably held some type of gate structure, was found on the southern side.

The settlement within was sub-divided by numerous small ditches which may have acted as divisions between different 'activity areas', such as gardening plots, as well as providing drainage on the heavy clay soil. Around the enclosure further ditches were located which formed part of the field system that was contemporary with the settlement. From an initial analysis of the pottery and other finds it appears that the settlement flourished in the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D. before declining in the later Roman period. It probably represents the site of a moderately prosperous farmstead which may have had its origins in the late Iron Age or the initial phase of Roman occupation.

While the excavation did not reveal any definite evidence for post-Roman settlement, an intensive metal detector search of the spoil by a local enthusiast did recover numerous medieval coins. In all twelve silver pennies, nine cut halfpennies and twenty-one cut farthings were found, with a date range from Stephen (1135–54) to Edward III (1327–77), together with a Flemish *petit denier* of c. 1220–50 from the Lille mint. This unusually large number of coins may indicate that some sort of fair or informal market was held in the Albany area between the late 12th and the mid 14th centuries. (John Newman for Suffolk County Council and J.S. Bloor Services Ltd).

Snape (TM/4059; SNP007): Based on the results of the 1989–90 evaluation of the pagan Anglo-Saxon cemetery, a management plan has been devised in co-operation with Suffolk County Council and English Heritage. Its aim is to secure the site's future preservation by the redefinition of the Scheduled area, the conversion of arable to grassland under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme and further excavation.

The area earmarked for further excavation lies to the south of the A1094 road, where evaluation showed the damage from ploughing and subsoiling to be too serious to merit preservation *in situ*. In 1991 the first stage of this excavation was undertaken by a team provided by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit, supervised by John Newman, and funded by English Heritage. An area of 50 × 30m immediately to the west of the surviving tumulus (Suff. 43b) was examined. Plough damage was, as expected, serious and there were no cremation burials, though a group of pottery sherds and fragments of cremated bone found deep in a rabbit burrow testify to their former existence. One possible and six definite inhumation graves were excavated. The most remarkable of these was a small boat burial. The boat survived as an excellent stain and was of almost identical size (3m) to that excavated in 1988. The grave also contained a sword, three spears and a shield with iron studs, food offerings, a knife, spindle whorl and an iron bound bucket. The body stain was poorly preserved but may have been that of an adolescent. A horse's head with bridle and bit had been buried in an adjacent pit and may be Anglo-Saxon. In addition to the inhumation graves there were six 'burnt stone features'. These consisted of an oval or rectangular pit, containing a layer of charcoal beneath a packing of fire-crazed flints. No datable objects were found in them, though the fact that one was cut by an inhumation grave, together with their position in the cemetery, indicates that they are probably Anglo-Saxon. It is suggested that they were a form of oven, used either to cremate bodies or to prepare food for a funeral feast. Similar structures were excavated by Stanley West at West Stow but have not been noted in an Anglo-Saxon cemetery before. Limited excavation around the fringe of the surviving tumulus at the eastern end of the cemetery (Suff. 43b) indicated that it is not surrounded by a ditch, but may have had quarry pits. A further mound, still partially standing on the field edge, was identified immediately adjacent to the Scheduled mound.

The second stage of the excavation will take place in 1992 and will complete the examination of the cemetery south of the A1094 road. This area is known to contain the

ploughed out and almost certainly robbed remains of a tumulus which in 1862 had a diameter of 25.5m.

(William Filmer-Sankey for the Snape Historical Trust, Suffolk County Council and English Heritage).

Southwold, Buss Creek (TM/5076; SW0006): A mechanical digger clearing part of Buss Creek lifted a number of timbers from the sub-bottom of the creek. The material recovered proved to be an assortment of strakes and frames, probably from two different ships: one possibly a merchantman and the other a much finer vessel. There was also what appeared to be an unfinished side rudder (two side rudders have been found in the area in the last decade). The fastenings were of particular note, with evidence of clenched nails complete with roves, as found in early medieval vessels. A radiocarbon date of cal. A.D. 970–1155 was obtained from one timber.

A survey was subsequently carried out to locate the remains of the vessel in the creek and its alignment.

(Stuart Bacon for Suffolk Underwater Studies).

Stanstead, Anglian Water Services Pipeline (TM/8450; STS007–8): The stripping of a 7m wide belt of topsoil along the route of the pipe revealed two medieval sites. At site 007 a series of post-holes and a shallow pit beneath a stone and flint surface were excavated. The overlying occupation layer produced large amounts of pottery dating from the 12th–14th centuries. At site 008, small pits were recognised: two were found to contain fired clay, and one produced medieval pottery.

(Andrew Tester for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water Services Ltd.).

Sutton, Sutton Hoo (TM/2848): The final full season of work on the Anglo-Saxon cemetery and underlying prehistoric settlement was carried out in 1991, but no report has been received.

Thornington, (TM/4272; TNG 014): An Iron Age and Roman pottery scatter was revealed during top-soil stripping for a new phase of the quarry and a small-scale salvage excavation was carried out. One area of just over 500 sq.m. was extensively investigated and a much larger surrounding area was selectively examined as archaeological features appeared during the soil-stripping. As up to a metre of soil was being mechanically stripped, only the largest and most obvious archaeological features were located. These included the base of a possible pottery kiln, probably making late second- or third-century grey wares, and two ditches containing fairly large amounts of first- and second-century pottery. There were also at least five pits containing Iron Age pottery (mostly late Iron Age) including one with a burnt clay hearth (?) in it. An extensive metal detector search was made over the area, but this only recovered one coin of probable Roman date.

The site is adjacent to the line of the old East Coast main road which was re-routed in this area when Thornington Park was created. This is of particular interest as the old road may be Roman in origin, running between major settlements at Hacheston and Wenhaston (*pers. comm.* J. Plouviez). Close to this site the old road makes a dog-leg which may indicate that a settlement was in existence here before the route was laid out. Such an idea is supported by the Iron Age pit in the area examined which points to a pre-conquest origin for the settlement. The fields to the south of the quarry were examined for surface evidence of other sites in the area. No more Roman sites were found, but six medieval pottery scatters of 13th–14th-century date, lying close to the old main road, were located.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

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