

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 1993

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object drawings by SUE HOLDEN AND DONNA WREATHALL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

This is a selection of sites and finds discovered or reported in 1993. 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
H.D.A.G.	Haverhill and District Archaeological Group
I.M.D.C.	Ipswich Metal Detector Club
M.d.f.	Metal detector find
M.H.	Moyses Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds
N.A.U.	Norfolk Archaeological Unit
N.C.M.	Norwich Castle Museum
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
Pr	Prehistoric		

Badwell Ash (BAA024). **Ro, Md.** 23 coins, 3rd century to Gratian (A.D. 368–78), also English and French jetons. (M.d.f.).

Barham (BRH030). **Sx, Md.** 6th-century bronze small-long brooch, decorated. Bronze seal matrix, flat disc with worn lamb-and-flag emblem, inscribed SIGILLVMFRIDI GELIEST ('the seal of Humphrey Geliest'), 14th–15th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Battisford (TM/0254; BAT Misc). **Md.** Bronze key, cast in one piece, lozenge-shaped bow containing an openwork animal, possibly a lamb (Agnus Dei), solid shaft with a double bit. (P. Wallis).

Benacre (TM/5383; BNC019). **Md.** Lower part of a well shaft excavated on the beach, 20ft east of the present cliff face. Cut into orange clay, 3ft 3in in diameter, unlined, surviving depth 5ft (? original depth about 20ft). Finds included parts of at least four pottery vessels, one partially glazed, a lead weight, a small leather fragment and two pointed wooden (ash) fragments. (P. Durbidge).

Benhall (BNL009). **Md.** Coins, Henry III to Elizabeth I, including a penny-sized sterling copy issued probably in the 1290s by Guy de Dampierre, Count of Flanders and Marquis of Namur (1263–97). Lead seal matrix, circular, inscribed * SIGILLVM ROGERI DE RINDHAM ('the seal of Roger of Rendham'), 13th century. Lead cloth seal with ? shield design. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD047). **BA**. Three bronze awls/chisels from the same general area: (1) 5.2cm long, chisel-ended; (2) 4.4cm long, double-ended awl and chisel; (3) larger awl, unseen. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD075). **Sx**. Two bronze strap-ends with moulded animal-head terminals. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (BRD081). **Sx**. Silver penny of Eadred, 946–55. (M.d.f.).

Brandon (TL/7886; BRD089). **Sx**. Sherds of Thetford-type ware and St Neots ware recovered from a foundation trench in Victoria Avenue. Subsequent excavation revealed a 4.3m wide pit and a possible post-hole. (S. Hinton and C. Pendleton, S.A.U.).

Bredfield (BFD026). **Sx**. Silver *sceat*, Series A (TIC), standard reverse – assumed to come from the Kingdom of Kent, c. 690–700. A small solder mark indicates that it was used as a pendant. Also a silver cut half-penny of Æthelred II, 978–1016. (I.M.D.C.).

Bury St Edmunds (TL/8563; BSE104). **Md**. Abbey precinct wall incorporated in No. 3 Honey Hill was exposed during ground-floor building work. Mortared flint rubble core with some surviving coursed-flint facing, approximately 1.1m thick. (R.D. Carr, S.A.U.).

Charsfield (CHA011). **Ro**. Bronze figurine of a dog, solid cast, 95mm long. Possibly a cult object – dogs were often associated with healing and with death (Fig.47). (I.M.D.C.).

Chelmondiston (CHL028). **IA**. Gold stater, Trinovantian ‘Late Clacton’ (British F) type (*Mack* 47). First example recorded outside the Clacton Hoard. (I.M.D.C.).

Clare (CLA026). **IA**. Potin coin. (M.d.f.).

Cockfield (COK020). **IA**. Bronze coin, corroded, probably a Trinovantian issue. (I.M.D.C.).

Cockfield (COK021). **IA**. Silver stater of Cunobelinus (*Seaby* 218) – CVNO in panel, CAMV in panel below griffin. (I.M.D.C.).

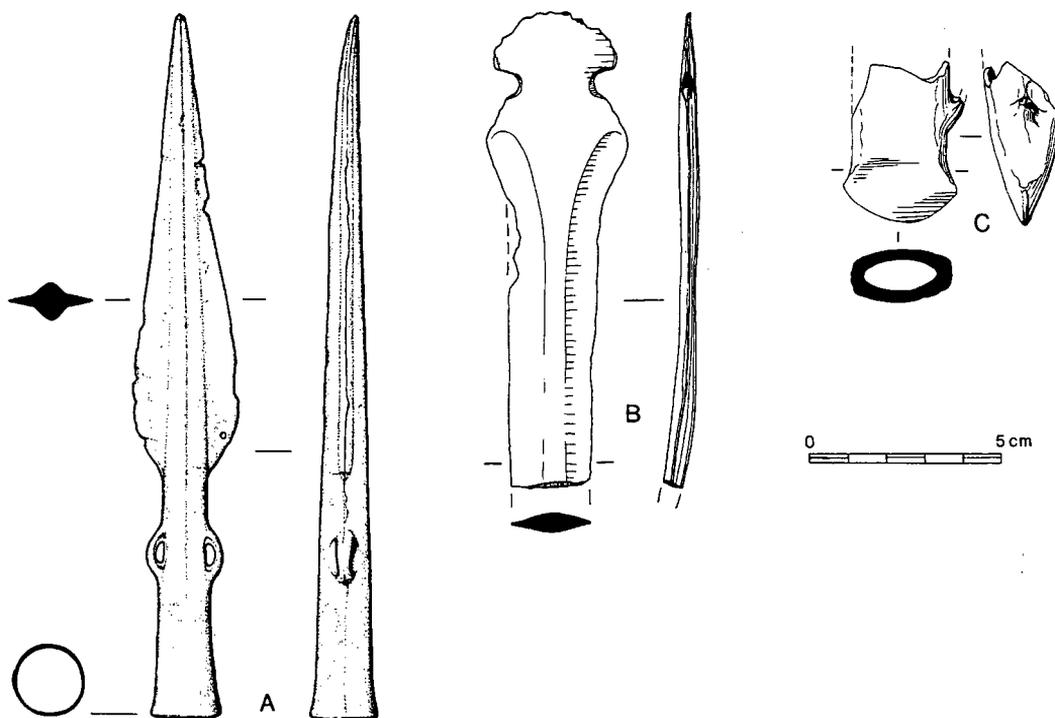


FIG. 46 – (A) Middle Bronze Age side-looped spearhead from Mildenhall; (B) Late Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age notch-hilted dagger from Rattlesden; (C) Late Bronze Age socketed axe from Wenhaston.

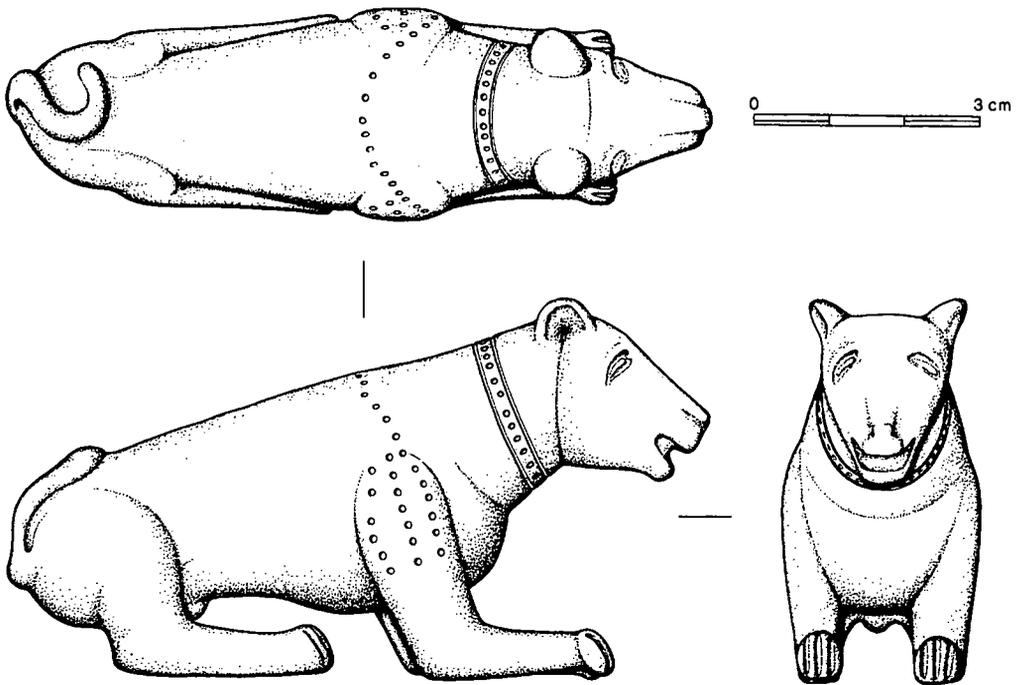


FIG. 47 – Roman bronze figurine of a dog from Charsfield.

Cockfield (COK Misc). **Sx/Md**. Bronze Key with elongated looped handle (*London Museum Medieval Catalogue* type I A), Late Saxon to late 12th century. (I.M.D.C.).

Coddenham (CDD017). **IA**. Gold coin, Icenian ‘Early Freckenham’ type (as *Van Arsdell* 640–4). Obverse appears to have been mis-struck and there are deep scratches on both sides. (I.M.D.C.).

Coddenham (CDD036). **Sx**. Early Saxon (5th-century) bronze supporting-arm brooch, spring and pin missing. (Fig.48, A). (I.M.D.C.).

Coddenham (TM/1153; CDD039). **Sx**. Silver *sceat* found during archaeological evaluation. (J. Newman, S.A.U.).

Coddenham (CDD042). **Sx**. Contemporary plated forgery of a *sceat*, probably of a Series R, East Anglian type. Obv. indistinct, rev. standard. (I.M.D.C.).

Little Cornard (COL009). **Ro**. Large fragments of *tegulae* and box-tile found in two separate areas, together with pottery, including samian, a coin (? 1st–2nd-century) and the foot of an unusual bow brooch, probably an early type. (M.d.f.).

Little Cornard (COL Misc). **Md**. Large (5.2cm diam.) lead seal matrix, circular, flat, with the stub of a suspension loop or lug on one side. Although badly eroded and damaged, it can still be seen that the die bears an armed knight on horseback (a design copied from royal and baronial seals of the late 12th–14th centuries) and the inscription + SIGILLVM SEMONIS F[? IL IOHANIS], ‘the seal of Semon (the son of John)’. Probably 13th-century. (I.M.D.C.).

Debenham (TM/1563; DBN030). **IA, Ro, Md**. Sherd of sand-tempered late Iron Age pottery, together with larger amounts of Roman (2nd–3rd century) and medieval (?12th–14th century) pottery, found in a garden. (E. Savery and B. Innes).

Debenham (TM/1563; DBN031). **Md**. Scatter of 13th–14th-century unglazed pottery found on the south side of Stony Lane. (E. Savery).

Debenham (TM/1762; DBN032). **Md.** Scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery, together with a late-medieval pancheon rim and a part-glazed jug sherd, found on the north side of Ipswich Road. (E. Savery).

Edwardstone (EDN010). **IA.** Corroded bronze coin of Cunobelinus, traces of CAMV inscription surviving. (I.M.D.C.).

Edwardstone (EDN013). **Sx, Md.** Fragment of a silver penny of Æthelred II, 978–1016, Cambridge mint. Also a Continental imitation of a sterling penny, issued by John the Blind, Count of Luxembourg, 1309–46.

Felsham (FHM014). **BA, PM.** Fragment of a bronze axe blade and the handle from a Late Bronze Age socketed axe. Also a silver seal matrix bearing the castle badge of the sheriffs of Suffolk, the initials I W and a small bird crest, indicating that this was the seal of John Wenyewe of Brettenham Hall, Sheriff of Suffolk in 1784. (M.d.f.).

Felsham (FHM015). **BA.** Two loop handles from Late Bronze Age socketed axes. (M.d.f.).

Freckenham (FRK030). **IA.** Dished bronze coin, possibly a quarter stater core. (I.M.D.C.).

Freston (FRT034). **BA, Un.** Small bronze chisel, 6.4cm long. (M.d.f.). Also a fragment of a clay mould with a smooth interior caked with bronze. (I.M.D.C.).

Gedding (GDD009). **Md.** Gilt copper/bronze openwork mount with spiral foliage decoration and applied small animal heads; corroded. Parallels are with 12th-century 'Limoges work'. (M.d.f.).

Gedding (GDD010). **IA, Ro.** Bronze coin of Cunobelinus (*Van Arsdell* 1977–1; *Mack* 230). Also scatter of Roman metalwork and pottery. (M.d.f.).

Gedgrave (GED Misc.). **Ro.** Bronze brooch, Colchester type. (I.M.D.C.).

Gosbeck (GOS009). **Sx.** Silver penny of Æthelred II, 978–1016, Ipswich mint, moneyer Lytelman. (M.d.f.).

Hasketon (HSK009). **Sx.** Early Saxon bronze wrist-clasp and a lozenge-shaped bronze brooch with a gilded front and a tinned reverse, perhaps related to a Viking type of the 9th century (Fig.48, D). (I.M.D.C.).

Hopton (W. Suffolk) (HPN014). **IA, Ro.** Small amount of flint-gritted Iron Age pottery together with a small scatter of pottery, five coins (late 3rd-century to Constantinian) and oyster shells. Small amount of medieval pottery also present. (M.d.f.).

Hopton (HPN015). **IA.** Small amount of Iron Age pottery. (M.d.f.).

Hopton (HPN016). **IA, Ro.** Small amount of flint-gritted Iron Age pottery, together with a larger amount of 3rd–4th-century Roman pottery, including a handle of Much Hadham ware, and a few coins. (M.d.f.).

Kettleburgh (KBG010). **IA, Sx.** Silver coin, Icenian boar-horse type. Also a 5th-century A.D. bronze brooch, supporting-arm type. (I.M.D.C.).

Knettishall (KNE018). **Sx.** Bronze dress-hook (hooked-tag type) with punched ring-and-dot decoration, Mid–Late Saxon. (I.M.D.C.).

Leiston (LCS Misc.). **Md.** Silver groat-sized coin of Heinrich V, Archbishop of Bremen, 1463–96. (M.d.f.).

Marlesford (TM/3257; MRF006). **Un.** Cropmark of double ring-ditch (outer ring *c.* 50m diameter, inner ring *c.* 30m diameter) in a field south of Ivy Farm. (D. Edwards, N.A.U.).

Marlesford (TM/3257; MRF007). **Un.** Cropmark of large ring-ditch (60–70m diameter), 150m S.W. of MRF006. (D. Edwards, N.A.U.).

Mildenhall (MNL465). **BA.** Middle Bronze Age side-looped spearhead, 17.8cm long, lozenge-shaped midrib (*Rowlands* Group 2). (Fig.46, A). (M.d.f.).

Newmarket (NKT Misc.). **Md.** Small hoard of about 12 silver pennies of King Stephen (1135–54), half of them cut, reputed to have been found. (M.d.f.).

Polstead (TL/9841; PLS018). **Ne.** Butt end of a polished flint axe. (W. Baker).

Postlingford (TL/7748; PSG009). **PM.** Dense concentration of broken bricks and peg-tile fragments in an area recorded as *Killyard* [i.e. kiln-yard] in a deed of 1705. The bricks seem to be

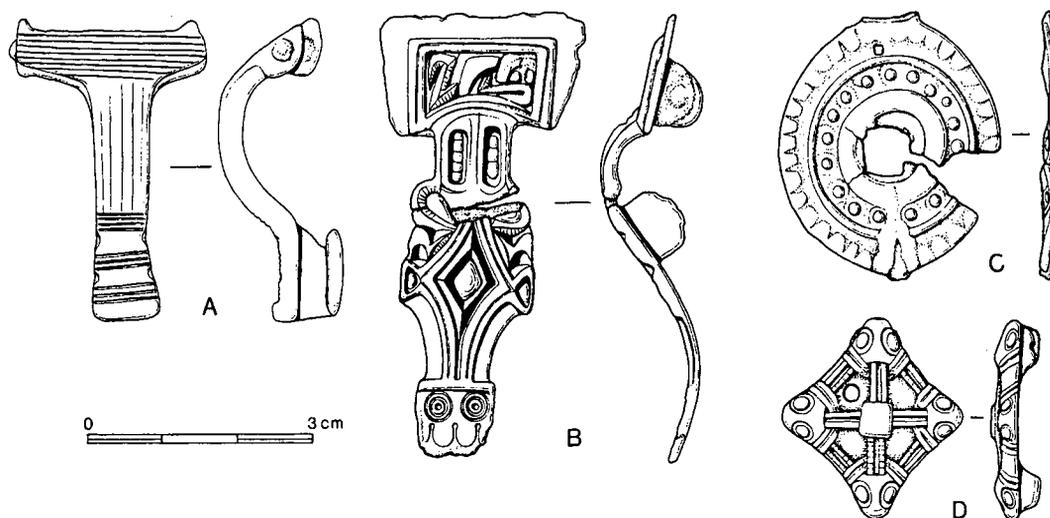


FIG. 48 – (A) Early Saxon supporting-arm brooch from Coddendam; (B) Early Saxon square-headed brooch from Stowupland; (C) Late Saxon disc brooch from Rattlesden; (D) Saxon lozenge-shaped brooch, perhaps related to a Viking type, from Hasketon.

under 2.5in thick, which would be in keeping with a 17th-century or earlier date. (E. Martin, S.A.U.).

Preston St Mary (PSM022). **BA**. Socket fragment of a Late Bronze Age socketed gouge. (M.d.f.).

Preston St Mary (PSM Misc). **Md**. Bronze horse-harness pendant, lozenge-shaped with a suspension loop at the top. Bears two arrows between three crowns against a blue-enamelled background – this being the badge of the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds. (M.d.f.).

Rattlesden (RAT021). **BA, Md**. Upper part of a bronze notch-hilted dagger. Domed hilt-plate with two large notches, flat midrib, surviving length 11.9cm; *Rowlands* Class 3, Late Middle Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age (Fig.46, B). Also a scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery and metalwork, including an iron socketed-and-barbed hunting arrow (13th–15th-century type), a bronze rumbler or harness-bell and two lead discs, probably weights. (M.d.f.).

Rattlesden (RAT026). **Sx**. Late Saxon (? 10th-century) bronze disc brooch with a square hole driven through it (Fig.48, C). (M.d.f.).

Redgrave (RDG029). **Sx**. Bronze strap-end with an animal-head terminal. Three panels of niello decoration with inlaid fine silver wires. Probably 9th-century. (M.d.f.).

Redgrave (RDG030). **Md**. Small group of unglazed pottery, also a small lava millstone, 19.5cm diameter, found built into a garden wall. (J. Sheehan).

Rushmere St Andrew (RMA015). **Sx**. Bronze small-long brooch, 8.6cm long, end and side terminals broken. (I.M.D.C.).

Santon Downham (TL/8187; STN033 and 034). **Pr**. Two scatters of worked flint (patinated and unpatinated) and fire-crackled flint found in an area overlooking the floodplain of the Little Ouse. (C. Pendleton, S.A.U.).

Shotley (SLY056). **Sx**. Bronze brooch with Urness style openwork in the form of a serpentine animal with interlaced tendrils. Anglo-Scandinavian type of the 11th century. (M.d.f. *per* N.C.M.).

Shotley (SLY Misc). **Md**. Lead *ampulla*, scallop-shell type with a small handle on each side, probably from Walsingham. (M.d.f.).

Snape (TM/3958; SNP035). **BA.** Barbed-and-tanged flint arrowhead of the Early Bronze Age. (M. Harrison).

Stowupland (SUP013). **Sx.** Early Saxon (6th-century) bronze square-headed brooch (Fig.48, B), a fragment of another brooch (? cruciform or small-long type) and the knob from a 5th-century cruciform brooch. (I.M.D.C.).

Wenhaston (WMH005). **BA.** Fragment of a small socketed axe. The squat, bag-shaped body and oval cross-section suggest a link with the Irish axes of the Dowris Phase (8th century B.C. – see *Proc. Prehistoric Soc.*, 30, 1964, 268–351). A similar but broader axe is recorded from the Lowestoft area (LWT Misc). Found on a Roman site which, together with its broken condition, suggests that it may have been in the process of being recycled as scrap-metal. (Fig.46, C). (M.d.f.).

Witnesham (TM/1749; WTN015). **Sx.** Sherd of stamped Ipswich ware. (J. Newman, S.A.U.).

Woolverstone (TM/1738; WLW025). **Ne.** Butt end of grey flint axe with slight traces of polishing. (T.I. Chivers).

Wortham (TM/0679; WTM021). **Md.** Small scatter of pottery, mainly unglazed. (Redgrave Fieldwalking Group).

FIELD SURVEYS

Clare, Clare Camp (TL/7645; CLA010): Following a request from Suffolk County Council, the R.C.H.M.E. undertook an earthwork survey of the Lower Common at Clare in October 1993. This area includes the probable Iron Age bi-vallate enclosure known as Clare Camp, and a large number of smaller remains which testify to the complex later development of the site. The survey confirmed that the enclosure is the earliest feature on the site. Remains in the interior, first commented on by Edward Martin in 1991, were shown to represent an extensive manorial complex, with evidence for at least four structures and possible fishponds. This can be linked with a degree of certainty to the Manor of Erbury, which was probably founded in the mid-13th century. The remains of two pest houses built in 1723 were also recorded. To the south-west of the main enclosure, a pair of parallel ditches are thought to be contemporary with the manorial complex, and seem to represent a continuation of the hollow-way known as Sheepgate Lane.

The land was made Common in the early 16th century by Katherine of Aragon, and the remains of post-medieval activity on the site also survive. A full account and plan of the R.C.H.M.E. survey will be published in the next issue of this journal; copies have also been deposited in the National Monuments Record in Swindon (ref. TL 74 NE 10) and the Suffolk Sites and Monuments Record.

(Alastair Oswald for the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England).

Coddenham (TM/1153; CDD039): A metal-detector search, carried out as part of an evaluation, recovered an Anglo-Saxon coin (*sceat*, series G) of early 8th-century date. The evaluation area in general revealed a low-density scatter of prehistoric, Roman and medieval ceramic, lithic and metal finds.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

Dunwich, Grey Friars (TM/4770; DUN016): In October 1993 archaeologists from the R.C.H.M.E. Cambridge Field Office carried out a preliminary survey of the Franciscan friary, concentrating on those areas most at risk from coastal erosion – the south-east corner of the precinct and adjacent features between the friary and the cliff edge.

The surviving stretch of the medieval town ditch, the Pales Dyke, was recorded south-east of Grey Friars. Only some 20m was still visible, but the course evidently continues northwards under the precinct walls. To the east of the precinct, two gravestones were noted in the remains

of All Saints churchyard. One of these, dated to 1796, had been moved from its original location in order to prevent its destruction, but the other was apparently *in situ*. A low earthen bank, 0.3m high and 2.0m wide, is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map of 1884 as the western boundary of the churchyard.

The R.C.H.M.E. will be carrying out a detailed survey of the entire Grey Friars precinct in April 1994. A copy of the report will be deposited with the National Monuments Record at Swindon and the Suffolk Sites and Monuments Record.

(Paul Struth for the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England).

Hoxne (HXN019): A geophysical survey was carried out in the area immediately around the findspot of the Roman gold hoard. Very few possible archaeological features were detected – one linear ditch (?) near the hoard and part of a rectangular enclosure probably relating to a medieval roadside plot. This sparse evidence tends to confirm that the hoard was buried at a distance from any contemporary settlement.

(Paul Linford for the English Heritage Ancient Monuments Laboratory (Archaeometry Branch)).

Icklingham (IKL020): A geophysical (magnetometer) survey was carried out over part of the scheduled Roman settlement. Numerous archaeological features were identified, including roads and property boundaries, confirming the main areas of activity within the Roman small town. Further work is planned to encompass the entire settlement area.

(Dr Andrew David for the English Heritage Ancient Monuments Laboratory (Archaeometry Branch)).

Ixworth Thorpe (TL97SW; Fig.49): The name indicates that this was regarded as being a dependant settlement (thorpe) of Ixworth, its larger neighbour. Old findings by Basil Brown in the 1940s and recent fieldwalking have shown that there were at least three areas of Early Saxon settlement/cemetery along The Black Bourne in the southern part of the parish, and one possible one in the north near Holms Wood, but none of these seem to have survived into the later Saxon period and, furthermore, they appear to have had no effect on the medieval settlement pattern (for similar findings in Northamptonshire, see Taylor 1992, 8).

By 1086, however, there were five separate land holdings in Thorpe. The two principal ones were held by Robert Blund (of Ixworth and Ashfield) under the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds (presumably part of the estate that came to the abbey through the gift of Thurketil, *dreing inclitus*, in the 1040s – Hart 1961, 67) and by a man called Saisselin, about whom little is known, except that he was the successor here to a thegn called Acwulf.

No church is recorded in Domesday, but one must have been built shortly afterwards as the existing small thatched church contains a Norman doorway. This church now stands alone on a hill in the centre of the parish, but fieldwalking has shown the presence of a vanished settlement of Late Saxon–Norman date close by, on the other side of the road.

In about the 12th century the settlement seems to have moved down the hill to small greens on either side. The larger one, called Thorpe Green or Thorpe Common, was on the north side, hard against the Honington boundary. It has now been enclosed and partly infilled with housing, but much of its outline still survives. A moated site at the N.E. corner of the green survived until recently, but has now been destroyed. The moat probably surrounded the manor house held in the 1280s by William de Pakenham, described as the chief lord of the vill of Thorpe and the successor to the Blund family (Powell 1910, 44). Fieldwalking along the northern side of the green (actually in Honington parish) has revealed two areas of medieval occupation, probably beginning in the 12th century and continuing into the post-medieval period. Two 18th-century maps (S.R.O.B. P554 and 719/4) confirm this by showing one or two houses along this edge, associated with strip fields. Another area of medieval occupation (mainly 13th–14th centuries,

but including a small amount of post-medieval earthenware) was identified just off the west side of the green, adjacent to a track leading to Oak Grove.

The other green lay on the southern edge of the parish and overlapped into Ixworth. Known as Easter Green, the Thorpe part seems to have consisted of a narrow strip along the Thetford Road. A map of 1725 marks a strip of 'Inter Common' (i.e. land common to both Ixworth and Thorpe), on the west side of the road, and fieldwalking has revealed a scatter of medieval (mainly 13th–14th-century) pottery on this edge, close to the one surviving house (which is just over the border in Ixworth). However fieldwalking suggests that there was a similar strip of green on the east side of the road, for a scatter of medieval pottery (again mainly 13th–14th-century) has been found there as well, set back slightly from the road edge. This material lies in a field that is named as *Thorpe Hall* in 1725, and at the northern end of this field and probably at the northern end of the original green as well, is another scatter of medieval pottery (yet again mainly 13th–14th-century) in an oval patch of dark soil, together with burnt flints and lava quern fragments. In view of the field name, it is possible that this was the site of the de Pakenham manor house – both this and the moat on Thorpe Green are within the area mapped as 'the manor of Ixworth Thorpe' in 1725, but the moat is perhaps, on balance, more likely to be the manor site.

A third area of medieval settlement adjoins the south side of Holms Wood. In the 18th century the wood formed part of a low-lying area bordering The Black Bourne called *Home Common* (probably from O.E. *hamm*, 'flat low-lying pasture', though ON *holmr* 'an island, a river meadow' is also possible). Along the southern edge of the common (and just south of the present wood), where the land rises, the 18th-century maps show a linear enclosure called *Angray Yard* (1725) or *Angry Yards* (1769) (possibly from O.E. *hangra* 'slope, wood on a slope', though the slope here is fairly gentle), bounded on the south side by a broad driftway that formed part of the old road between Thorpe Green and Bardwell. Fieldwalking here has revealed four scatters of medieval pottery in the area of *Angray Yard*, adjoining the driftway. Again, most of the pottery dates from the 13th and 14th centuries.

To the east of Holms Wood, outside the area mapped as 'the manor of Ixworth Thorpe' in 1725, but shown on an estate map of 1769, is a field called *Old Moat*. The map shows a linear pond in the S.E. corner of the field, which may be the remains of a moat, but this later disappeared under a barn and yard, which have also now disappeared. Fieldwalking revealed little in the area of the pond/barn, but to the north of them, two scatters of medieval pottery were found close to each other, but divided by a modern road. Both have the usual 13–14th-century pottery, but one also has some possible 12th-century sherds and fragments of lava querns. The fact that this field was not included on the 1725 map implies that this area was not regarded as belonging to the manor of Ixworth Thorpe, even though it belonged to the same man (Thomas Crofts Reed). Reed's estate extended into Bardwell and included the now-flattened moat of Bardwell Hall. The pottery scatter in *Old Moat* may therefore indicate a tenement belonging to the manor of Bardwell or the site of a separate small manor.

(Fieldwalking by Edward Savery and Allen Smith, historical notes by Edward Martin).

Stowlangtoft (TL/9570; SFT010–016): Fieldwalking revealed three scatters of Iron Age pottery, 120 to 130m apart, on the north-facing slope of a valley. One substantial concentration of heat-cracked flints and three smaller ones were also found in the same area.

(Edward Savery).

Tunstall (TM/3755, TUN009 and TM/3855, TUN010): Survey work in an area of recently replanted forest located a medieval pottery scatter (TUN009) of 12th–14th-century date and a probable barrow (TUN010). The barrow is about 1.3m high and traces of an encircling ditch are still apparent around the earthwork mound. A scatter of heavily-burnt flints was also noted in tree-root holes across the probable barrow.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

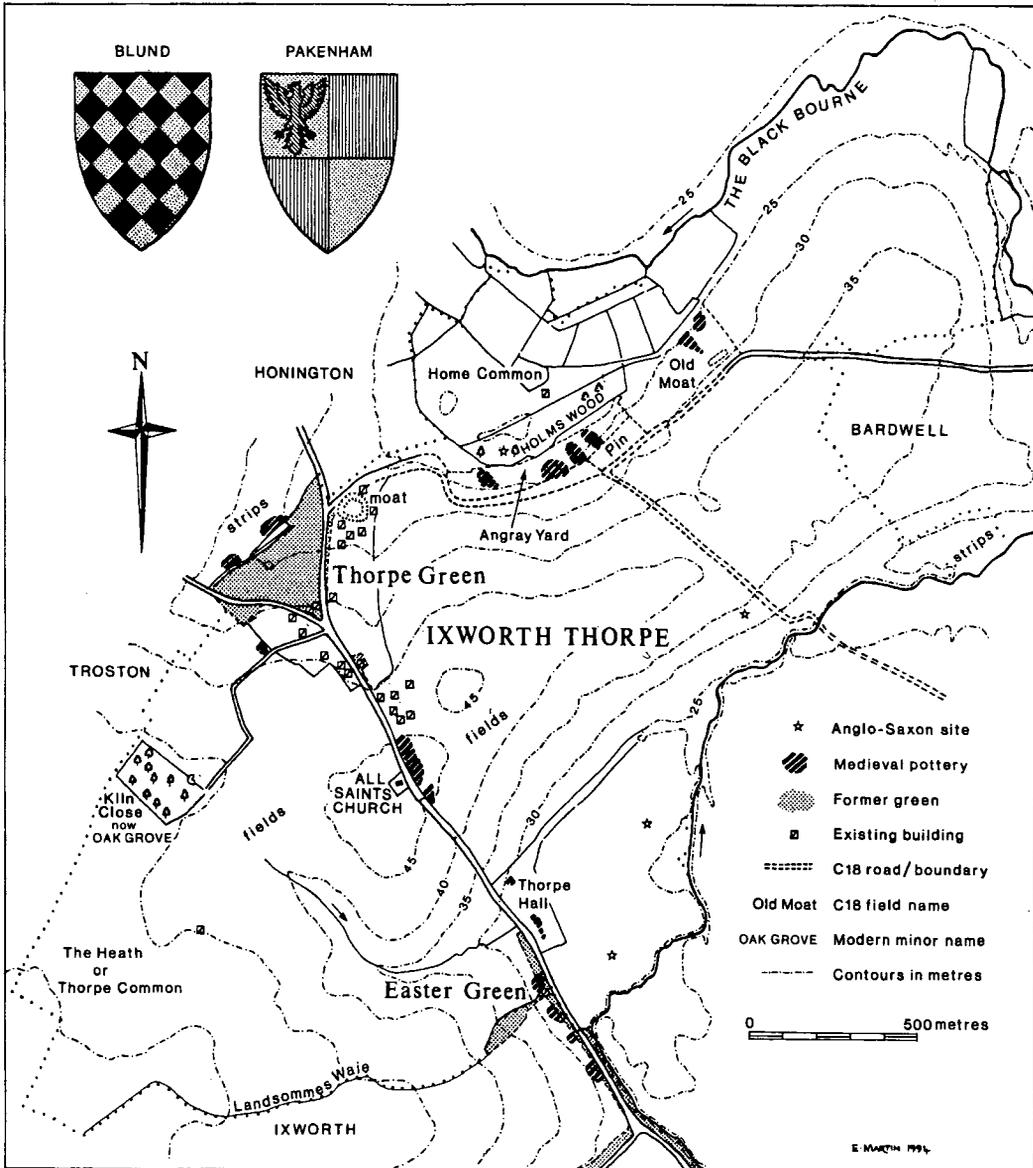


FIG. 49 – Ixworth Thorpe: map of medieval settlement, as revealed by recent fieldwalking.

Walberswick (TM/4974; WLB010, 012, 015–018): In order to throw more light on the origins of Walberswick village, a relatively large area around Stocks Lane and Seven Acre Lane was fieldwalked. This work confirmed the site of Walberswick's first church (WLB010; demolished in the late 15th century) with the location of an extensive scatter of flint rubble. A pottery scatter of Late Saxon/Early Medieval to Late Medieval date was also recorded in this area, which included sherds of Thetford-type ware (produced c. 850–1150). Over the remainder of the area examined, four extensive scatters of medieval pottery were recorded (WLB015–18) indicating a high level of

settlement activity around the southern edge of the present village in the 13th–15th-century period. The fieldwalking survey also recovered a small amount of Roman pottery and a few tile fragments, indicating some activity of that date in the general area.

It is of interest to note that no evidence of Middle Saxon activity was found around the site of Walberswick's first church, as this confirms historical sources which indicate that the nearby settlement of Blythburgh was a major centre of activity in this area in the 7th–9th centuries. Walberswick seems to have been a secondary settlement to Blythburgh, with origins in the Late Saxon period.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

Westleton (TM/4369; WLN021): A fieldwalking survey over an area to the north-west of St Peter's Church recovered ceramic evidence indicating an area of medieval settlement. Two or three sherds of Middle-Saxon Ipswich ware were also recovered from the site.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Barnham, East Farm Pit (TL/8778; BNH013): Excavations continued at the Lower Palaeolithic site from 26 July–22 August. The overall aims of the project have been to investigate the relationship between the Clactonian and Acheulian industries at the site, to recover further *in situ* artefacts, and to place the archaeology in a firm geological and environmental context.

Previous seasons (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk' 1991 and 1992, and Ashton *et al.* in press) have established that glacial deposits from the Anglian cold stage (*c.* 450,000 years ago) lie at the base of the sequence, which are cut by a fluvial channel at least 7m deep and infilled with sands, silts and clays (Area III). The top 2m of these deposits contain a rich fauna of fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals, which are similar on biostratigraphic grounds to Swanscombe (*c.* 400,000 years ago). The fauna has also shown that the channel was surrounded by a mixture of open grassland and woodland with a climate slightly warmer than the present day.

The evidence of human activity, consisting of cores, flakes and flake tools (previously termed Clactonian), lies in and on a lag gravel (Area I) at the margins of the channel. This is contemporary with the fauna. Much of the flint is *in situ* and can be refitted, and it is clear that the humans were using the lag gravel as a primary source of raw material. This deposit is overlain by light grey silty sands over which a probable palaeosol formed, followed by a sequence of 'brickearths'. In 1992 six biface thinning flakes were also discovered at the margins of the channel during section cutting in Area V on the surface of the light grey silty sands. This was the first evidence of the Acheulian industry.

The aims of the 1993 season were three-fold: 1, to complete the excavation of the core and flake industry from Area I; 2, to recover a bigger sample of larger mammalia in Area III, with the particular aim of finding evidence of butchery; and 3, further to investigate the evidence of biface manufacture in Area V (see Fig.50).

In Area I a further 720 cores, flakes, flake tools and chips were excavated, which confirm the findings from previous seasons and provide a complete assemblage from this area. In total 2,340 artefacts have been recovered, many of which refit, giving information about the technology and indicating that the final knapping events at the site are *in situ*. This now constitutes the largest assemblage of *in situ* material that has been described as Clactonian. The identification of the 'lag' gravel as the source of raw material suggests that the area was a primary manufacturing zone, while the rolled condition of some of the material indicates that this took place over a long period of time.

In Area III a 2m × 3m area was selected from the faunally rich deposits at the base of the pit. This area was taken down through the first 80cm of the deposits with over 150 bone and antler

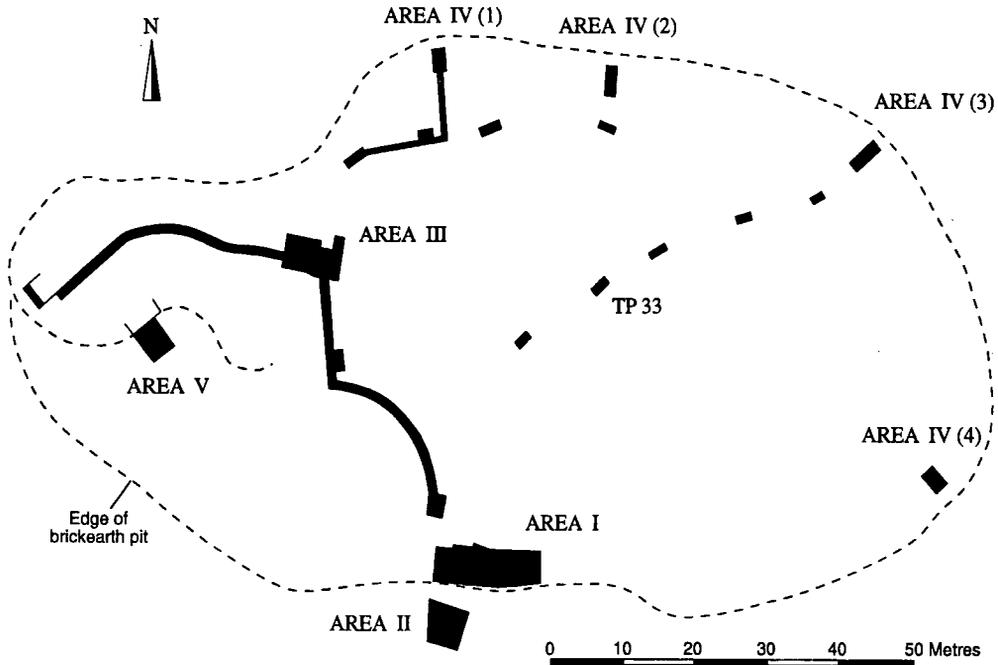


FIG. 50 – East Farm, Barnham: plan of excavated areas.

fragments recovered *in situ*. In addition, 32 flint artefacts in fresh condition were found in association with the bone, presumably derived from the channel margins. Although only initial identifications have been made, the bones recovered include elephant, lion, wild pig, red deer and European pond tortoise. So far there has been no positive identification of cut marks from butchery. At the top of the sequence in this area there was a black clay with abundant charcoal. This has tentatively been correlated with the palaeosol in Area I.

In 1992 six biface thinning flakes were recovered from the top of the light grey silty sands, stratigraphically slightly higher than the industry in Area I. To recover more of this industry a 3m × 4m area was excavated (Area V). In total, 45 artefacts, including biface thinning flakes, cores, flakes and flake tools were found *in situ* on the surface of the same sands. The high proportion of flake tools suggests that, unlike Area I, the surface was a distinct use area away from the source of raw material, where the final thinning of bifaces also took place.

Two sections and nine test pits were cut in the eastern side of the pit (Area IV (1–2) and test pits 26–34). These consolidated the geological interpretation of the site, in particular by providing confirmation of the position of the palaeosol and ‘brickearths’ at the top of the faunally rich silts and clays. In addition, the margins of the northern edge of the channels were identified in section.

A section was cut in Area IV (4) on the south-eastern side of the pit revealing a similar section to Area I. The deposits consisted of glacial sediments overlain by a ‘lag’ gravel, containing artefacts, and then by a possible palaeosol and ‘brickearths’. However, unlike Area I, the 50 artefacts consist predominantly of biface manufacturing flakes from the initial stages of production. Stratigraphically these artefacts are contemporary with those in Area I.

This season has drawn together the evidence to show how humans exploited an ancient landscape. The identification of the raw material source at the edge of a former river channel has

provided evidence of how proximity, quality and quantity of raw material affected the manufacture of flint artefacts. Three broadly contemporary manufacture and use areas have been identified: 1, a core and flake knapping area (Area I); 2, a biface knapping area (Area IV (4)); 3, a general use area (Area V). It is also clear that the division between Clactonian and Acheulian industries has little chronological or geographical significance. As they have been shown to be broadly contemporary at the same site, it is now difficult to regard them as culturally distinct. Instead these industries show the variation in flint-knapping by humans at a single site in response to the dynamics of an ancient landscape.

Thanks are due to the British Museum, the British Academy, the Royal Archaeological Institute and the Society of Antiquaries for funding the project, the Duke of Grafton for permission to excavate and David Heading for his help and full cooperation.

(Nick Ashton, Dept of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities, The British Museum; Simon Lewis, Dept of Geography and Geology, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education; and Simon Parfitt, Institute of Archaeology Field Unit, London).

Bramford, Bramford Hall (TM/1146; BRF038): During the preliminary stages of the building of an extension to the remaining wing of Bramford Hall it was possible to record the ground plan of the original Georgian house, which had been demolished in the 1950s. The structures recorded included drains, soakaways, hearths, wall stubs and a cellar.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Mr J.G. Sillett).

Great Bricett, Wattisham Airfield (TM/0351; BCG005): An archaeological survey was carried out on 9 ha. of land prior to its development for housing. The survey included trial-trenching (143.25 × 1.5m) in a grassed area (OS 3227) immediately to the south of the old Roman road, and fieldwalking in two arable fields (OS 4519 and part of 3000). Field 4519 produced significant amounts of predominantly medieval pottery, with a slightly higher concentration adjacent to the north-south running road, but Field 3000 was unproductive. The trial-trenching in Field 3227 revealed north-south running ditches of Roman date and a cobbled surface associated with medieval pottery. The features were mainly concentrated at the western end of the trench, close to the guardhouse which was built over the previously-known Roman site (BCG004). The results of the trial-trenching were significant enough to merit a follow-up excavation in the vicinity of the cobbled surface.

An area of 161 sq m was mechanically stripped and then excavated by hand. This revealed the expected Roman and medieval features, but also a totally unexpected prehistoric phase. A gently curving slot or gully, about 30cm wide and 10cm deep, that ran for about 15m across the site was found to contain sherds of comb-stamped beaker pottery of the Early Bronze Age and sherds of Neolithic Grimston ware. Beaker and Neolithic sherds were also found as residual items in some of the later features. This discovery is of great interest in that it demonstrates Neolithic and Early Bronze Age settlement on a high clay interfluvium at least 500m from the nearest watercourse, a setting which would not otherwise have been thought likely to attract settlement before the Iron Age.

The Roman features, despite the proximity to the Roman road, were limited to a ditch (2.4m wide × 0.9m deep) and slot (50cm wide × 0.1m deep), parallel to each other and at right-angles to the Roman road. Both features are dateable to the 1st or 2nd century A.D. and must relate to some land allotment laid out from the Roman road.

Although a number of medieval post-holes and small pits were identified, no structures could be deduced. The cobbled surface that partly overlay a shallow linear depression, approximately 2m wide, was probably a path or track. The pottery evidence suggests occupation from at least the 12th to the 14th century, with a possible piece of Thetford-type ware hinting at occupation by the 11th century. Of special interest is the presence of a number of sherds of glazed Stamford-type ware, probably of 12th-century date, as this is exceedingly rare on rural sites in Suffolk and rare even in towns like Ipswich.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and the Ministry of Defence Land Agent).

Bungay, Bungay Castle (TM/3389; BUN004): As part of a programme of renovation to the fabric of the keep and forebuilding, a small trench was placed in the base of the forebuilding to establish the depth of filling that had resulted from the weathering of the wall fabric since Hugh Braun's excavation in the 1930s. From this information a new base level, some 20cm higher than the original floor level, was established, with excess material being used to fill up the old excavation trenches within the keep. A photographic and drawn record was subsequently made of the walls of the forebuilding, prior to the repointing of the fabric.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council and the Bungay Castle Trust).

Bury St Edmunds, Northgate Street (TL/8565; BSE069; Figs 51 and 52): The replacement of the original Victorian storm drains over much of Bury St Edmunds in 1992–93 presented an opportunity to examine archaeological levels within the boundaries of the historic town.

The most significant discovery was a section of medieval masonry in a north–south orientated trench in the road to the east of the Northgate roundabout, in the vicinity of one of the former gates to the medieval town. Conditions for recording were not ideal, as steel shuttering obscured large sections of the trench to either side of the masonry and the entire east side of the trench had been disturbed by the construction of a Victorian drain.

The masonry consisted of a 1.4m wide × 60cm high rectangle of mortared flints (uncoursed) with ashlar facing-stones on one side, overlain by coursed flint walling that had been narrowed by erosion and robbing to a width of 80cm and which was truncated at a height of 40cm by the layers of hard-core and tarmac that made up the existing road. Beneath all this was a 30cm-deep foundation trench, cut through the natural gravel and filled with a mixture of sand and gravel (the walls of the medieval hospital of St Saviour's, nearby, had similar foundations – see 'Archaeology in Suffolk' 1989 and 1991). The soil immediately around the walling was disturbed, but an undisturbed soil profile was recorded 1.5m to the south: this showed that the top of the

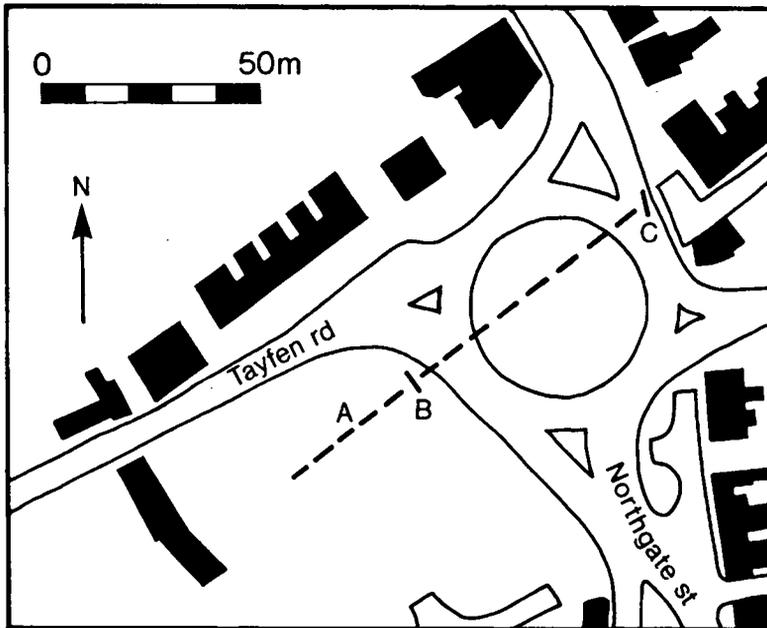


FIG. 51 – Bury St Edmunds: plan showing (A) the estimated line of the medieval town defences; (B) S.E. West's 1968 excavation; (C) the 1993 masonry find, close to the site of the North Gate, as surveyed by the Ordnance Survey in 1884.

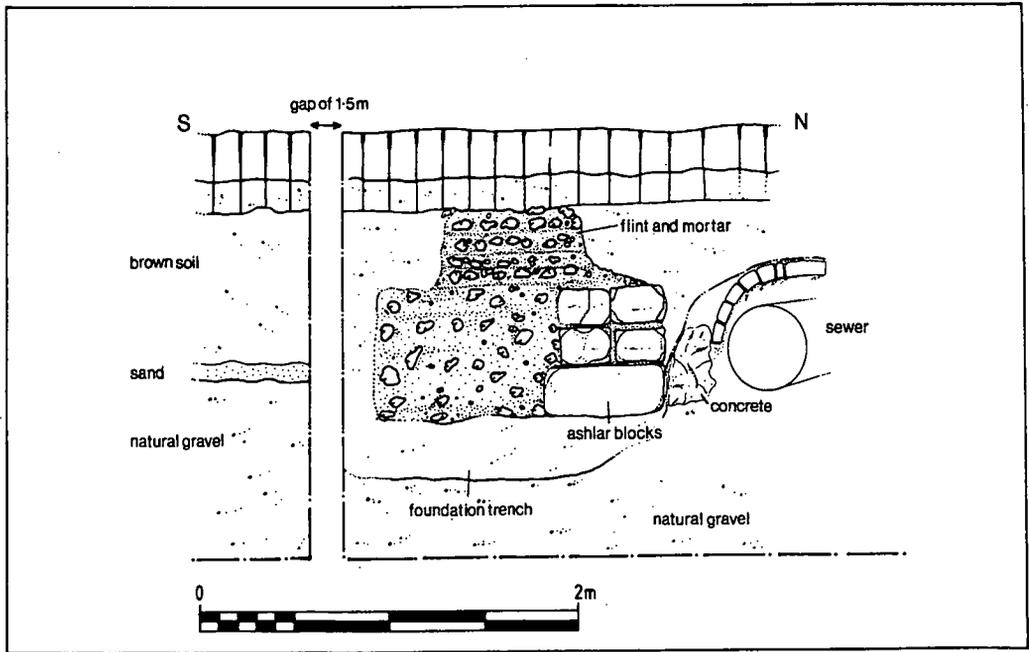


FIG. 52 – Bury St Edmunds: measured sketch of the masonry remains in Northgate Street, probably part of the medieval North Gate.

natural gravel was at a level with the top of the lower ashlar block, suggesting that part, at least, of the masonry was originally below ground level.

The medieval North Gate is marked on Thomas Warren's 1747 map of Bury St Edmunds and a contemporary print shows it as a flint structure with ashlar quoining, the central arched opening flanked by projecting angular bays or turrets (Statham 1988, 17). It was demolished between 1761 and 1765, but its site is marked on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map as being 2.5m to the north of the 1993 discovery.

The town wall was reputedly built by Hervey, the Sacrist to the Abbey *c.* 1121–*c.* 1136, but the completion of this wall has been called into doubt by Dr Stanley West. In 1968 he dug a trench across its projected corner, 142m to the west of the 1993 trench, but failed to locate any evidence of a wall earlier than the 17th century, although he did find evidence of an earthen rampart and ditch, which he suggested may have sufficed for the town defences in this area (West 1970). The masonry recorded in 1993 was not sufficiently large or distinctive for it to be clear whether it was part of a wall or a gate, however its proximity to the recorded site of the gate, combined with the doubt concerning the existence of a masonry wall, makes it likely that it was part of the old North Gate.

(Andrew Tester for Suffolk County Council).

Bury St Edmunds, Risbygate Street (TL/8564; BSE106): Trenching was undertaken in advance of the construction of a car-park next to Gateways Supermarket. The site lies outside the medieval town walls, but within the backyard areas of known medieval merchant and dwelling houses. Trenching revealed varying levels of post-medieval soil-build-up and some surviving medieval archaeology. A flint-and-mortar-lined well and several medieval rubbish pits were found behind No. 90 Risbygate Street and potential medieval occupation layers behind Nos. 93–95. A

fragment of flint-and-mortar wall, of which only the bottom course survived, was found behind No. 94, and this may also be medieval.

Monitoring during car-park construction revealed two more wells and a post-medieval wall-footing, which probably represented an earlier phase of the property boundary now marked by the standing 17th-century walls.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council).

Eriswell, R.A.F. Lakenheath, Building 960 (TL/7380; ERL080): Two small trenches, 12m × 1m, were dug to evaluate an area 275m south of Caudle Head Mere. Trench 1 contained a layer of peat at its north end, indicating the likelihood of an ancient pond or watercourse north of the site and Trench 2 revealed a north-south aligned ditch of indeterminate date. The lower layers of both trenches were sealed by windblown sand.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and the Ministry of Defence).

Framlingham, Framlingham Castle (TM/2863; FML001): Renovation of the fabric of the external face of the south-east tower by English Heritage masons exposed voids within the tower fabric. These voids represented the ghosts of two horizontal wooden beams, lapped together at their ends, which had been built into the original fabric as a means of strengthening the structure. Observations by site workers suggest that these timbers formed part of a larger series of structural reinforcements all the way up the tower wall. The voids were resealed after recording was completed.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council and English Heritage).

Gosbeck, Gosbeck Water Main (TM/1555; GOS006 and TM/1556; GOS007 and 008): Two small-scale excavations were carried out following topsoil stripping for the water main. In one area (GOS006) evidence for medieval settlement, in the form of a pit and various scoops, was located and examined. In a second area (GOS007), part of a Late Iron Age settlement site was examined. A pit, three small ditches and two probable post-holes were identified. The ceramic assemblage from the excavation is a useful addition to the material already collected from other sites in S.E. Suffolk. A second medieval site (GOS008) was also located, but it proved impractical to carry out any excavation work at that point.

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

Grundisburgh, The Old School (TM/2251; GRU037): As a result of the findings from trial-trenching in 1992 (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1992') a larger excavation was undertaken in 1993 within the 600 sq m scheduled for housing development. A large number of post-holes, a few pits and a ditch were revealed. The ceramic evidence recovered indicated a Middle Saxon (7th-9th-century) date for the majority of the ancient features, with a small amount of residual Iron Age and Roman material, along with a few isolated medieval sherds. The outline of at least one timber building was recognised. The post-holes of this contained Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware, and two small hearths were indicated by burnt areas.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and the English Churches Housing Group).

Halesworth, The Angel Site (TM/3877): An area of 19 sq m was excavated adjacent to Georgian House and south-east of the 1989 Angel Site excavation. Below the remains of post-medieval buildings, a sequence of medieval occupation was revealed, including pits, post-holes and areas of burnt sand and clay. One oval pit, interpreted by the excavator as a pottery kiln, contained the substantial remains of several later-15th-century pottery vessels, a kiln bar and kiln debris. The earliest feature was a single 12th-century pit. (Condensed from M. Fordham, *Excavations on the Angel Site, 1993*, Halesworth and District Museum, 1994).

(Michael Fordham and the Halesworth Museum Field Archaeology Unit).

Haverhill, Hazel Stubb Farm (TL/6545; HVH022): Five weeks' excavation work was undertaken in August on the route of the A604 Haverhill Bypass. Approximately 1,600 sq m were investigated, revealing two main periods of occupation, overlain and cut by modern mole drains and similarly aligned gullies.

In the medieval period there seems to have been a house beside the road, with a possible surfaced area in front of it and a roughly surfaced area, probably a yard, at the rear. Beyond the yard were several pits. The gently-sloping base of the largest pit was lined with big stones, possibly to provide a firm footing for human access to something in the pit, possibly water or perhaps for some industrial process. The pit was subsequently infilled with rubbish, including a thick layer of animal bones. A ditch which ran from east to west across the southern end of the site also contained a large amount of animal bones, but its dating is unclear and it may have survived as an open feature as late as the mid-20th century. There were no obvious medieval boundaries, though two ditches, one aligned north-south and the other east-west, may belong to this phase.

Another east-west ditch and two pits were however identified as being Roman, containing pottery of the 1st century A.D. Analysis of the finds is still continuing and as yet undated are two curving gullies, three groups of post-holes and more pits.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council).

Haverhill, Hanchett End (TL/6445: HVH023 and 025): Following a proposal to use an area for spoil disposal, a rapid walk-over survey indicated the presence of a medieval settlement site (HVH023). Subsequent trial-trenching confirmed the presence of small ditches, post-holes and possible pits cut into the clay subsoil. Although none of the archaeological features were excavated in this evaluation, enough pottery was recovered to indicate a 12th- to 14th-century date range. To protect the site from further damage, the topsoil layer was left intact during soil disposal operations in the vicinity. Over the remainder of the spoil-disposal area the topsoil stripping was closely monitored and evidence for Late Iron Age/Belgic activity was located (HVH025) close to the medieval site. This also appears to have been a settlement, as two possible post-holes and a length of ditch were identified. As soil conditions were dry during monitoring and soil disposal operations were about to cover and protect this site, no further action was taken.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council and Galliford Eastern).

Haverhill, Haverhill Bypass (TL/6544; HVH024): Following the completion of the excavation at Hazel Stubb (see above), the topsoil stripping for the bypass was monitored. This revealed further medieval and post-medieval ditches to the east of the main site, and an area of 1st-century (Belgic/early Roman) features 45m to the south. These features occupied a 100m length of a south-facing slope and could be divided into two groups. At the upper end were several ditches, which led into a large shallow hollow that contained 1st-century pottery. Two 1st-century Roman brooches were recovered in this area. The second group of features lay towards the bottom of the slope, where the principal item was a semi-circular gully, approximately 11m in diameter, which may have been part of a domestic structure. South of this gully there was a 30cm layer of silty hillwash, containing Iron Age and early Roman pottery, which continued down to the field ditch at the bottom of the slope.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council).

Hitcham, Hitcham Water Main Renewal (TL/9853-9953, TM/0053; HTC038-042): Works for this 3,400m pipeline in the northern part of Hitcham included the stripping of a 6m-wide band of topsoil along the margins of fields in two areas – from Cook's Green to Cross Green, and from Water Run to Loose Hall Drive. Archaeological monitoring of this work revealed a number of medieval and post-medieval sites in an area of dispersed, clayland, settlement. From west-east these were:

HTC040, Cook's Green: A small spread of charcoal, burnt clay, daub and medieval unglazed pottery. This seems to be a continuation of the linear group of cottages that make up this small strip green. Most of these belonged to the poorly-documented manor of Stanstead Hall.

HTC039, Cook's Green: A small spread of charcoal and burnt daub, together with a small amount of pottery, including sherds of a shell-tempered St Neots-type vessel of 10th–12th-century date. This came from the edge of a small copyhold tenement of the manor of Hitcham, in existence by 1618 and known as *Two acres formerly of Thomas Broke* (or *Brockley*). Three individuals surnamed *dil Broke* were taxed in Hitcham in 1327.

HTC038, near Luckeys Farm: A scatter of unglazed 13th/14th-century pottery together with a dense concentration of post-medieval (mainly 17th–18th-century) pottery and glass, associated with burnt clay, bricks, tile, and oyster and mussel shells. This coincided with the site of a cottage and yard shown on the 1839 Tithe Map. This was a copyhold tenement of the manor of Hitcham called *Savornes* (or *Salyns* or *Savins*), in existence by 1594; the house had gone by 1905 and the yard has now also disappeared.

HTC042, near Lodge Farm: A spread of cobbles and post-medieval brick and tile. This coincided with the east end of a former yard and barn recorded on the 1839 Tithe Map, but now gone. The barn seems to have served a part of *Harding's Tenement*, divided in 1627 and referred to in 1662 as 'land with a barn thereon lately built'. Later known as *Jerry's Barn* – two 18th-century owners were called Jeremiah.

HTC041, Wattisham Road: A scatter of 13th/14th-century pottery and oyster shells, bounded on the north side by a spread of chalky cobbles. This lay at the east end of *Wattisham Meadow* (1839), which formed a part of *Henry Squirrel's Tenement*, another copyhold of the manor of Hitcham, in existence by 1593.

(Edward Martin and Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water).

Icklingham, Rampart Field (TL/7871; IKL025): The Lark Valley around Mildenhall and Icklingham has long been known for its wealth of Palaeolithic sites and its complex Quaternary geology. It is recognised as an area that could help resolve some of the problems concerning the Quaternary history of East Anglia and do much to clarify the Palaeolithic archaeology. Four sites are currently concerned: Warren Hill, Weatherhill Farm Pit, Beeches Pit and Rampart Field Pit. The work is being conducted by D.R. Bridgland, J.A.J. Gowlett, S. Lewis and J.J. Wymer, in conjunction with several colleagues. Short reports have already appeared in these *Proceedings* for Warren Hill (vol. XXXVII, 1991, 273–4) and Beeches Pit (vol. XXXVII, 1991, 278 and vol. XXXVIII, 1993, 99) and this note is to record a section that was cut at Rampart Field in August 1993.

Rampart Field Pit, otherwise known as Rampart Hill or the Town Pit, is historically connected with some of the first Palaeolithic discoveries made after the famous visit of Sir John Evans and Professors Falconer and Prestwich to Abbeville in 1859, where they confirmed the association of 'drift implements' (i.e. hand-axes or bifaces) with extinct mammals. Gravel had been dug there intermittently until the 1950s, but it has now been landscaped as a picnic place. The gravel workings were made into a bluff of a terrace of the Lark that has a surface level of about 9m above the river. The recent section was thus sited at the northernmost part of the pit in order to expose as deep a section as possible. Scree was removed with a mechanical digger and a section cleaned 2m wide from the surface to bedrock, *c.* 4m below, which proved to be an unusual angular chalk rubble. Fluvial sands and gravels were exposed and recorded. A rolled primary flake was found *in situ* in sandy gravel 2m from the surface and, when a bulk sample taken close to this find was examined later by S. Lewis, a thick but well-formed convergent scraper was found. It is made of good quality brown, slightly banded flint and is in sharp condition. A further large, slightly rolled primary flake of black flint was found in cleaning away the disturbed gravel from the face.

The lithography and other aspects of the site have still to be analysed, but the visual quantity of quartzites seems significant.

Summaries of the recent work at Warren Hill and Beeches Pit can be found in the Field Guide prepared for the Quaternary Association's visit to East Anglian sites in 1991 (Lewis *et al.* 1991). Further work has yet to be done, especially at Beeches Pit, but it can now be stated that there is mounting evidence to confirm that the Warren Hill Gravels do belong to a pre-Anglian Stage Midlands river that flowed across Norfolk and part of Suffolk, joining the ancestral Thames in the area east of Diss. This has been concluded on the basis of the large number of quartzites in the gravel, the deposit resting on solid chalk and not till (i.e. glacial Boulder Clay) and, perhaps most revealing, palaeocurrent measurements indicating that the gravels were deposited in a river running eastwards, in the opposite direction to the present drainage. Beeches Pit is certainly of Hoxnian age for it overlies the Anglian till and has a molluscan assemblage similar to the Hoxnian site at Hitchin, Hertfordshire. At least one hand-axe has been found *in situ*.

Thanks are expressed to the Geologists' Association for a grant from the Curry Fund, and to Suffolk County Council for permission to excavate at Rampart Field.

(John Wymer).

Ipswich, Crown and Anchor Hotel (TM/1644; IAS0703): A rescue excavation was carried out in June and July in a 200 sq m area to the rear of the hotel threatened by redevelopment plans, which included the removal of outbuildings and the partial demolition of the rear of the hotel. The site lay some 50m to the south of the town's Saxon and medieval defences. The earliest features, dated to the Middle Saxon period (c. A.D. 650–850), included three pits and two post-holes. Occupation of the site continued through the Late Saxon period (c. 850–1066) and nine pits and three post-holes could be attributed to that period. Included amongst these was one very large pit which contained a significant quantity of residual Roman roof-tile. During the Early Medieval period the eastern side of the site became part of a cemetery, probably located adjacent to one of the lost churches of Ipswich mentioned in Domesday Book (1086). Seven truncated burials were excavated, with dating evidence that suggested that they were no later than c. 1200. The Late Medieval features on the site consisted of eight pits and a clay-lined oven of indeterminate use. Features of the Late Medieval Transitional period (c. 1480–1550) and the post-medieval period were also excavated, including footings and drains associated with the hotel.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Gracemount Developments Ltd).

Ipswich, Northgate Library (TM/1644; IAS1002): An area of approximately 60 sq m was excavated within the area designated for a new lift-shaft and service area. The natural subsoil surface lay over 3m below the present ground surface, making this the only area under serious threat on the whole site. Rubbish pits dating from the Middle Saxon period to the 19th century were revealed across the site, along with the north-west corner of a two-phase Late Saxon building.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council).

Ipswich, Victoria Nurseries, Westerfield Road (TM/1646; IPS246): An archaeological evaluation was carried out in connection with plans for a large commercial development. Trial-trenches, totalling 360.5 × 1.5m, were mechanically excavated and then cleaned by hand. Only one feature was found – the butt-end of a shallow linear feature which ran under the southern side of one of the east–west orientated trenches. A relatively large number of finds were recovered from a small section excavated across the feature; however the dating is something of a problem in that while pottery was attributable to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age, the worked flint seemed to be Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. Fragments of burnt bone were also recovered from this feature.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council, Equity Estates and the Stanley Bragg Partnership Ltd).

Ipswich, Whitehouse Road (TM/1347; IPS247): Topsoil stripping for an extension to an existing car park produced evidence of up to five inhumation burials. All lay in shallow graves cut into brick earth, some 45cm below the existing ground surface. Machining had removed almost all traces of one body, whilst three more were superficially damaged. A further grave appeared to be intact and was not excavated. All the graves were orientated east-west and therefore probably Christian, but there was little else to indicate the date of the burials. Metal-detector finds of Roman date from the vicinity might however indicate that the bodies belong to that period.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council).

Ixworth, Anglian Water Pumping Works (TL/9469; IXW036): A small excavation was undertaken in June in advance of the insertion of a new settling tank. The site was situated on the north-east edge of Micklemere, 50m east of the River Blackbourne, south of a known Roman villa (IXW004) and on the opposite side of the former mere to the Roman fort and settlement in Pakenham (PKM005). The whole area east of the River Blackbourne was found to have been built-up during modern times, sealing a buried soil over Roman layers, the most interesting of which was a spread of large flint nodules, randomly deposited, possibly to provide a hard standing on the edge of the mere. No cut features were found.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water).

Kedington, Risbridge Home (TL/7046; KDG019): Trenching in the grounds of the Home in advance of development revealed that the major part of the site had been disturbed by post-medieval gravel extraction. A small area of surviving archaeology was located in the north-west corner, where two ditches containing 1st-century Belgic/Early Roman pottery were found. An early Roman brooch was also recovered from the post-medieval backfill in Trench 2.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and the East Anglian Health Authority).

Lakenheath, R.A.F. Lakenheath, Industrial Maintenance Workshop (TL/7380; LKH146): Following trial-trenching carried out on the site of a former World War II nissen hut, a small excavation was carried out prior to redevelopment in February 1993. The site lies 200m to the north-east of the Caudle Head mere and 500m from a multi-period site investigated the previous year (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1992').

Topsoil was mechanically removed from an area measuring 21 × 15m. This revealed a virtually intact Roman occupation surface over about a third of the site, lying immediately below the modern turf and overlying the natural sand and chalk. Within it was a network of small ditches and gullies, ranging in date from the late Iron Age through to the Early Saxon period. Analysis of the pottery and other finds suggests that the density of occupation fluctuated over time, with the highest levels of activity in the 1st to mid-2nd centuries A.D., and again in the 4th century. The plan (Fig.53) shows four main phases of activity. The earliest, dated to the late Iron Age/1st century A.D., consisted of a number of linear ditches and also, probably, two round-houses, both of which lie on the edges of the site, but are characterised by distinctive lengths of slot. The next phase, dated late 1st to mid-2nd century, was characterised by a rectangular grid of ditches and gullies, some of which drained into a large sump or well. The well had a step cut into the natural chalk on its northern side, presumably to provide access to the interior, which was shown by augering to be 2.5m deep. Also associated with this phase were three burials (two adults and one child). Analysis of the bones of the adults suggests that they were probably related. In a later Roman phase, 3rd- to 4th-century, there was an enclosure on the southern edge of the site which had a gated entrance in one corner. This enclosure was cut by a linear ditch, containing late Roman and early Saxon pottery, that marked the final phase of activity on the site.

The most interesting find was a bronze cosmetic grinder (Fig.54) which was recovered from the backfill of the well. On either side of the central grinding part are decorative terminals in the

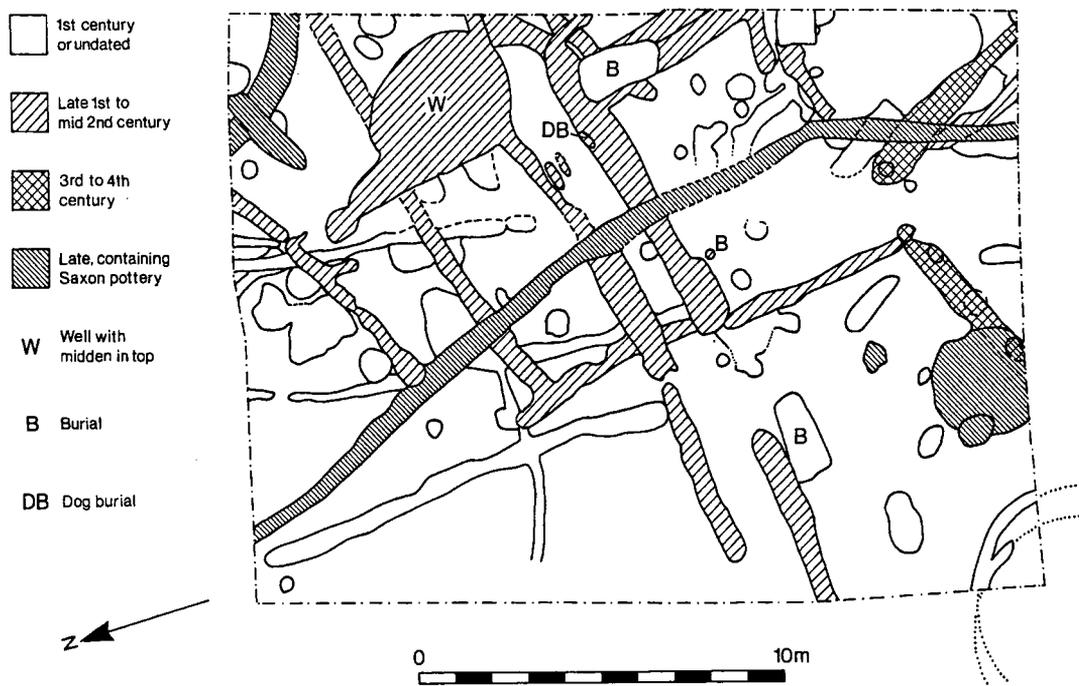


FIG. 53 – R.A.F. Lakenheath: plan of the excavated area of the Roman settlement.

form of stag's and bull's heads. It is exceptionally large (12cm long) and heavy for an object of this type, but it can be paralleled by one from Hockwold, just across the Norfolk border (Jackson 1985, no. 59).

The results from this excavation complement the work carried out in 1992 and indicate a sprawling pattern of Roman settlement centred around Caudle Head.

(Andrew Tester for Suffolk County Council and the Ministry of Defence).

Lowestoft, Beccles Road (TM/5191; LWT033). Five evaluation trenches were mechanically excavated on a large plot of land prior to residential development. Two trenches produced small amounts of Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery from top- and subsoil levels, together with some worked flint, but no archaeological features were identified. The Bronze Age pottery was grog-tempered and included a piece with cord impressions; the Iron Age material included both sand- and flint-tempered sherds.

(Philip Treveil for Suffolk County Council).

Lowestoft, Benjamin Britten High School (TM/5395; LWT028): Excavation, in advance of a new road through the northern boundary of the Domesday manor of Akethorpe, failed to locate any evidence for the existence of a bank along the inner edge of the existing ditch.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council).

Lowestoft, Inner Relief Road (TM/5593): A watching-brief carried out along the line of the new road located rubbish pits of 16th- and 17th-century date to the rear of properties fronting the west side of High Street. This evidence is consistent with the known extent of the town at that time.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council).

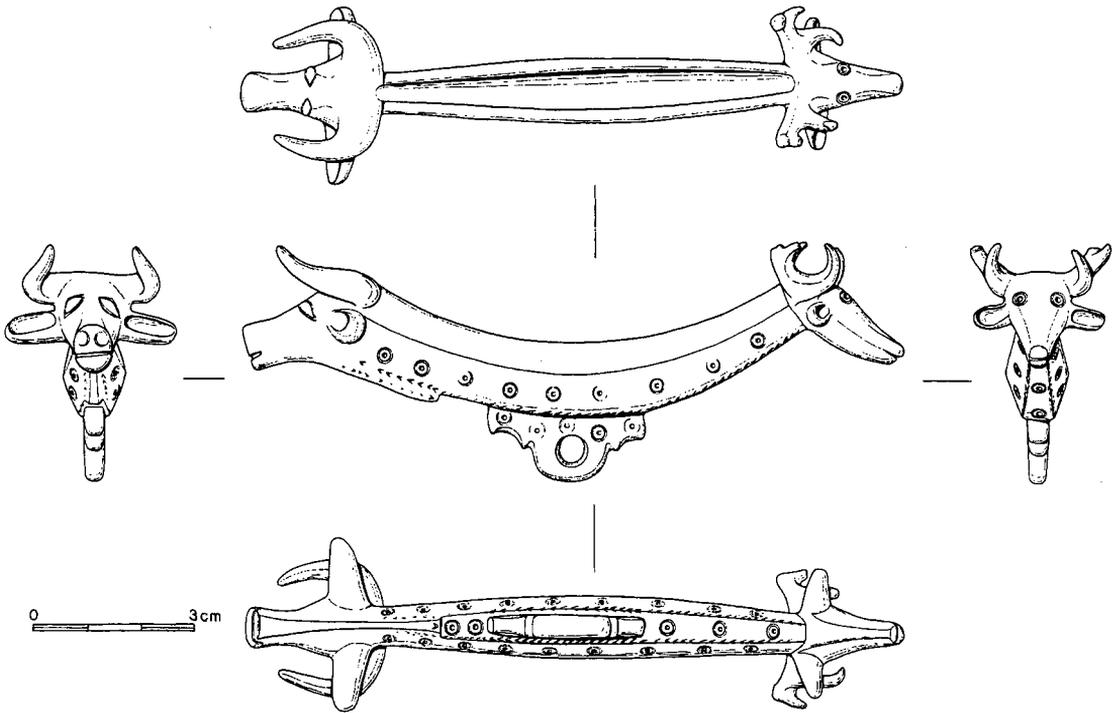


FIG. 54 – R.A.F. Lakenheath: Early Roman bronze cosmetic grinder.

Mildenhall, R.A.F. Mildenhall (TL/6975; MNL464): In an assessment of the '60-Acre Field' development site, 67 two-metre-wide trenches were mechanically excavated. These revealed extensive topsoil disturbance and some truncation of the underlying subsoil. However a small area, c. 25m square, of surviving archaeology was identified. Within it were two charcoal-filled pits and a large sand-filled hollow, from which early Neolithic pottery of Grimston type was recovered.

(David Gill for Suffolk County Council and the Ministry of Defence).

Needham Market, The Pightle (TM/0855; NDM008): Two weeks were spent in May excavating the area of a new access road for a housing development in The Pightle (between the High Street and the River Gipping) where earlier trial-trenching had revealed an Early Saxon pit containing loomweights. Although the area excavated was comparatively small (760 sq m) and the features dispersed, some significant finds were made.

On the north edge of the site, part of a ring-ditch, probably Early Bronze Age, was discovered, most of which had already been destroyed by the adjacent railway line. This adds to the known concentration of ring-ditches in the Gipping valley, including the one recently investigated nearby in Creeting St Mary (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1992'). As at the Creeting site, evidence was also found of an earlier occupation in the Mesolithic period. A flint assemblage, probably indicating an Earlier Mesolithic patinated industry and a Later Mesolithic unpatinated one, together with microliths and scrapers, was found scattered across the site, but principally concentrated in the northern half.

In the southern part of the site, towards the present High Street, an area of Anglo-Saxon occupation was revealed. The principal item was a sunken-featured-building or *grubenhäus*, approximately 4.8m long × 3m wide. This had no post-holes and contained 6th-century material. This building is unlikely to have stood alone and it strongly suggests that there was a hamlet or village at Needham by the 6th century; this will mean that previous estimates of the age of Needham will have to be radically revised.

A medieval enclosure and oven were also discovered.

(Joanna Caruth and David Gill for Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and Sanctuary Housing Association).

Pettistree, Sewerage Scheme (TM/2954; PTR018 & 019): Two scatters of medieval pottery were located during topsoil stripping and trenching operations for this scheme. Both were close to the present village centre and probably represent 13th/14th-century settlement sites.

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

Rushmere St Andrew, Linnets Farm (TM/2044; RMA014): A watching brief on topsoil stripping, in connection with a residential development to the north of the former site of Linnets Farm, revealed an area of probable medieval settlement. A moderate quantity of 13th/14th-century pottery was recovered from an area of small pits and ditches.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

Stradbroke and Wingfield, Fressingfield Water Tower to Battlesea Hill Pipeline (TM/2375, SBK017; TM/2475, WGD015–018; TM/2575, SBK019–020). Monitoring of topsoil stripping and pipe-laying operations revealed various medieval pottery scatters, which probably represent cottage or farm sites that were established in the 13th/14th-century period. At Rattlerow Hill one scatter (SBK017) was found adjacent to the road between Fressingfield and Stradbroke; four more scatters were located around the northern edge of Pixey Green (WFD015–018). The only other areas of archaeological interest were two burnt flint scatters (SBK019–20), which proved to be superficial features.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Water Company).

Stuston, A140 Scole–Dickleburgh Road Improvement (TM/1478; SUS005): The construction of this new road necessitated extensive archaeological work around the Roman small town at Scole on the Norfolk–Suffolk border. Excavations were carried out between June and October 1993 by teams from both the Norfolk and the Suffolk Archaeological Units, in a joint project funded by the Department of Transport. This report covers only the work on the Suffolk side.

The present A140 road follows the line of the Roman road from *Venta Icenorum* (Caistor-by-Norwich) to *Camulodunum* (Colchester). This road forms a part of *Iter V* in the *Antonine Itinerary*, a 2nd-century A.D. list of roads and places in the Roman Empire, and Scole is usually equated with the place called *Villa Faustini* on that list. The Roman town was situated at a crossing of the River Waveney and mainly occupied the higher ground on the north side of the river, where modern Scole now stands. Small areas of the town have been excavated in the past, most notably in 1973 (Rogerson 1977).

Fieldwork carried out in advance of the project highlighted two areas for excavation on the Suffolk side (Fig.55, Areas 6 and 7).

In Area 6, approximately 3,500 sq m were mechanically stripped, exposing the sand terrace beside the river. The earliest finds from the cleaned surface were a scatter of struck flints dating from the Neolithic and Bronze Age, indicating the long history of settlement in this valley. There was also a semi-circle of post-holes with a diameter of 5.75m, which indicated the site of a round-house, but there was no direct dating evidence for the structure and therefore a Roman, rather than a prehistoric date, cannot be ruled out. The main phase of occupation was in the Roman

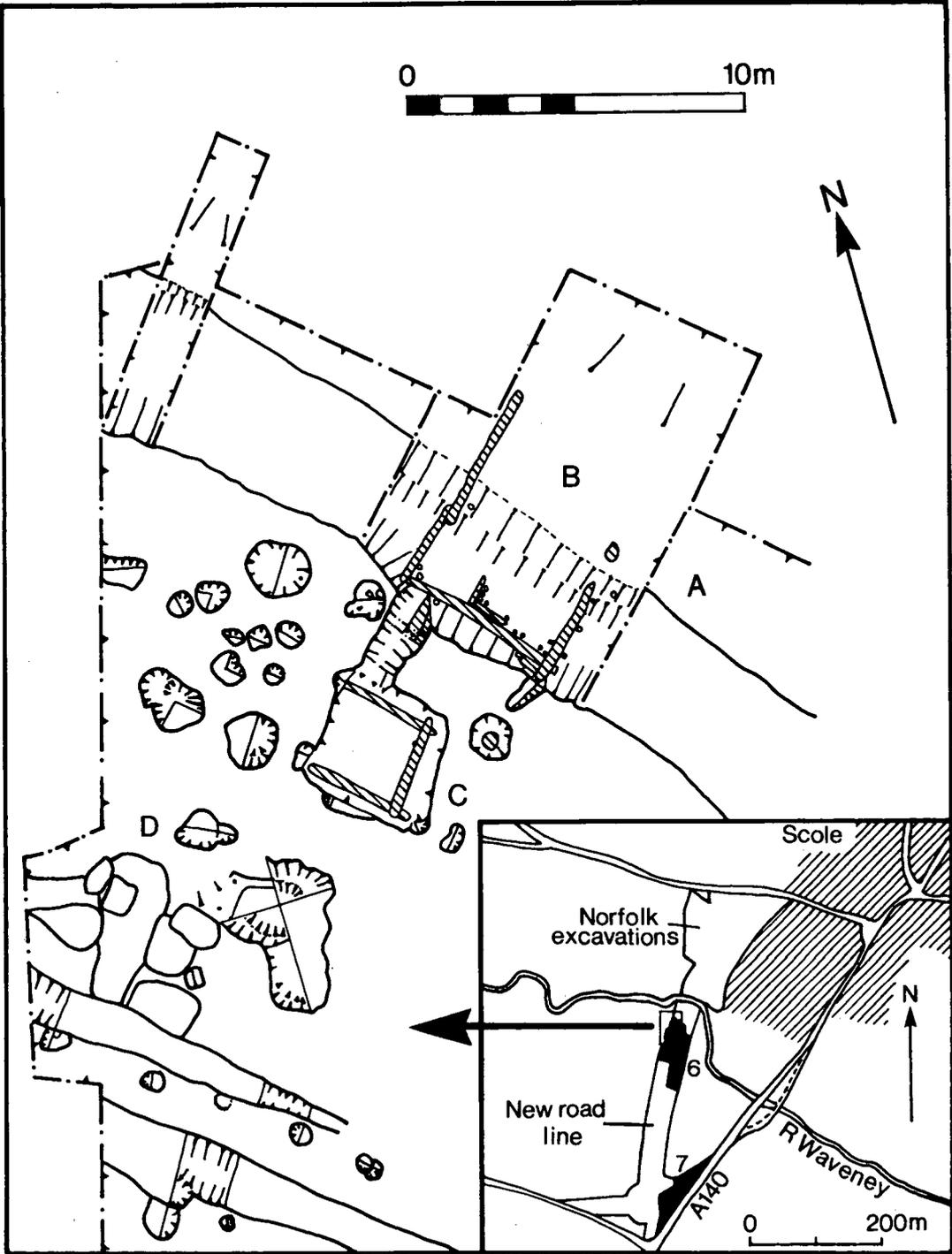


FIG. 55 – Stuston: location plan of the excavations and a detail of the Roman industrial zone in Area 6.

period, when the area was used for a variety of industrial processes, all probably linked in purpose. These industrial features include:

A, A water channel or leet dug across a loop in the Waveney. It was approximately 100m long, 3m wide and 1.6m deep.

B, A timber structure within the channel. This consisted of an assortment of re-used roof timbers, some of which spanned the leet, while another pair formed a revetment against the south bank, the whole complex forming three sides of a box-like structure. The timbers were fixed in position by the use of stakes, with a minimum of carpentry. The roof timbers were mainly rafters, and three different types from at least two buildings were present. These seem to be the first Roman rafters to have been found in Britain and are an important addition to knowledge concerning Roman timber structures.

C, A 3m-square feature that had existed in two different forms. Initially it consisted of a shallow pit containing a timber frame, connected to the leet by an open drain. This pit was later backfilled with clay and impressions on the surface of the clay indicate that it supported two successive rectangular structures, most probably wooden tanks for holding liquid. The drain was also remodelled and made to run over the box structure in the leet (see B above) and out into the peat on the other side. Close to this feature, and no-doubt related, were a series of post-holes and industrial pits.

D, A sequence of clay troughs within a large rectangular pit that was shallow, flat-bottomed and lined with clay. The troughs had solid clay linings, fairly steep sides and contained ash and charcoal, mainly from chaff and cereal grain, in the bases, where there were signs of low-intensity burning. Post-holes in this area could relate to a covering structure.

The evidence so far points towards an industry using bio-degradable materials, most probably malting and brewing, but dyeing or fulling cloth is also a possibility. Despite its general appearance, the box structure in the leet is unlikely to have functioned as an undershot mill.

The industrial complex was bounded by a ditch that dog-legged across the site, respecting a miscellaneous collection of Roman post-holes, which were probably part of a building. The land to the south of this ditch may have been turned over to agriculture. Extending across the boundary ditch into this area was a later and smaller ditch that delimited a roughly square enclosure with rounded corners, which may have been an agricultural plot or small field. At the southern end of the site, two truncated ditches indicated the position of an east-west Roman road that had previously been identified on aerial photographs.

Most of the activity in Area 6 dated from the 1st to 3rd centuries A.D., with the leet finally silting up in the 4th century. Very precise dating is difficult because of the generally low levels of pottery and coins recovered. This was probably due to the unsuitability of the site for domestic occupation, as the archaeological record indicates that it was liable to flood.

Area 7, 130m to the south of Area 6, was located above the flood plain and adjacent to the A140 road. Here a silty sand topsoil overlay a glacial mix of sand, gravel and clay, with pockets of ancient podzols surviving in hollows across the site, indicating that the topography was once very uneven. Some possible Neolithic pottery was recovered from these podzols. Pre-dating the podzols was a widespread ashy-charcoal layer within the subsoil deposits, which could represent an early woodland clearance, but this has yet to be confirmed (samples were taken for radiocarbon dating).

The main occupation of Area 7 was during the Roman period and the most prominent feature was a north to south orientated Roman roadside ditch, which was on the same alignment as a relatively modern boundary ditch. Projecting west from the road was a sequence of three ditches. These are thought to have marked the southern limit of the Roman town. Within the boundary there was a timber-lined well dating from the 2nd century and several deep post-holes and slots belonging to at least one roadside dwelling of the 4th century. Between these dates the Roman topsoil seems to have been removed from most of the site, possibly in connection with some road improvement scheme. The exposed surface came to be covered with a substantial dark earth

layer containing rubbish dating from the 3rd and 4th centuries. This was excavated in some detail to try to determine what it represented. The dark earth layer was the source of the largest amount of pottery, bone and bronze coinage from the entire excavation.

Three burials (one cremation and two inhumations) dating from the 1st and 2nd centuries were also found. In one, the body had apparently been flung unceremoniously into an open ditch.

(Andrew Tester, David Gill and Andrew Richmond for Suffolk County Council and the Department of Transport).

A143 Scole–Stuston Bypass: The results obtained from fieldwalking in Spring 1992 along the route of the bypass (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1992') made it possible to isolate seven areas of archaeological interest where trial-trenching was considered necessary fully to evaluate their archaeological potential. The trial-trenching was carried out in April and May 1993. Of these seven sites, three (listed below) produced significant archaeological material and will be further excavated prior to the construction of the bypass.

Oakley (TM/1478; OKY005): A total of $147.4 \times 1.85\text{m}$ of trench was mechanically excavated and then cleaned by hand. A large quantity of ceramic and metal finds was collected from the trenches. The finds spanned the whole Roman period, but were predominantly of the 2nd and 3rd centuries A.D. The highest concentration of finds came from the area adjacent to the present A140, which follows the same route as the old Roman road. It was not considered necessary to sample the features revealed by the cleaning because a sufficient quantity of finds was collected from a layer of dark earth which covered the whole site and from a metal-detector survey of the surface of the trenches and the up-cast spoil. The only evidence for ploughing was sealed below a flood-lain layer of clay and therefore of some antiquity and probably Roman. This seems to indicate that the site embraces both a settlement area and agricultural land.

The site exhibited well-preserved vertical and horizontal stratigraphy, while the relatively high water-table gives the potential for the preservation of organic remains, as was indicated by a sample of peat from one of the ditches.

Palgrave, The Grange (TM/1077; PAL011): A total of $80 \times 1.5\text{m}$ of trench was mechanically excavated and then cleaned by hand. A significant amount of worked flint and predominantly Iron Age pottery was collected, mainly from the subsoil layer. The only features of archaeological interest were two post-holes which contained Iron Age pottery. Although the number of features was small, the quantity of finds indicates some form of prehistoric occupation on the site.

Wortham (TM/0977; WTM020): A total of $187 \times 1.5\text{m}$ of trench was mechanically excavated and then hand-cleaned. Although all the features revealed were thought to be modern, the surface cleaning and a metal-detector survey of the trench surface and the up-cast spoil produced ceramic and metal finds of Roman and Anglo-Saxon date, including a coin of A.D. 330–37 and a bronze small-long brooch of 6th-century date. A Middle Saxon silver coin (*sceat*) is also reported to have been found in this area c. 1986.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils).

Sudbury, All Saints Middle School, Mill Lane (TL/8641; SUY034): Following on from an evaluation done in 1992 (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1992'), an excavation was carried out in August 1993 prior to the construction of new school buildings. The aim of the excavation was to record the dimensions of the town defensive ditch, which was thought to run from east to west down the centre of the site, and to recover dating evidence from it. The excavation was limited to deposits which occurred above the formation level of the new buildings, consequently the maximum depth excavated was 20cm at the western edge of the site. The northern edge of the ditch was recorded across the full length of the site. The southern side, however, was damaged by the foundations of the old school buildings, which were deeper than expected, reducing the size of the excavation from a projected 576 sq m to 180 sq m. The data from this excavation can now

be combined with information gleaned from monitoring the contractor's footing-trenches to construct a composite section of the ditch. It appeared to be 3m deep, with a flat bottom and sloping sides, and some 21m wide. The fill consisted of sterile, homogeneous sands and gravels. Although no dating evidence was recovered from the ditch fill, it was seen to be cut by Late Medieval features and evidence from the previous evaluation would suggest that it had been backfilled by the 12th century.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council).

West Stow, Beeches Pit (TL/7971; WSW009): Work continued in July and August on this Lower Palaeolithic site, which belongs to an interglacial phase postdating the Anglian glaciation (Lewis *et al.* 1991). Additionally in 1993 English Nature provided support for excavation of geological trenches under the direction of D. Bridgland, S. Lewis and J. Wymer. Working with S. Parfitt, David Bell (University of Liverpool, then at the Institute of Archaeology, UCL) took further environmental samples.

Excavation in Sector AF: In the West Sector (AF) the trial trench made in 1992 was expanded with the aim of exploring the relationship between the 'tufa' (more strictly calcareous clay) and the clays exposed in a geological cutting about 5m further east. This will provide sections from the calcareous clay through to the floor of the pit in at least two places in the area which records the fullest known stratigraphy of the site. The steep face of the tufa, a natural feature, is overlain by undisturbed clays, which can be seen in section.

In 1993 an area 3m × 4m was selected for excavation. Here the calcareous clay is overlain by clay-with-flints and coversands: at the top it had a fairly definite edge which could be followed from east to west. South of this the clays which overlie the calcareous clay stratigraphically were exposed in a band about 1m across N.-S. and 3m wide by the end of the season.

A dark horizon in the clays, unit 4, contained burnt flint, as previously reported in 1992: an area of sediment 1m square was collected in total through a depth of 20cm as a provision for micro-analysis. Excavation in a further extent of this dark horizon revealed a concentration of small flakes, together with one or two apparently flaked cobbles. This is the main focus of artefacts in the west sector so far.

Eastern Sector (AH): Here a past geological cutting was known to have yielded artefacts (Lewis *et al.* 1991). In 1993 a trench was begun which located artefacts, but so close to the surface that they could not be regarded as sealed-in. Therefore a larger trench was made, which showed that the majority of artefacts are contained in a further organic lens or dark clay, rather similar to Unit 4 in AF. As exposed in the excavation, this unit was found to trend from W.N.W. to E.S.E., and to exist in a band only *c.* 3m across (Fig.56). On the north side it grades into calcareous clay, which also overlies the artefact horizon.

The Artefacts: These comments are entirely preliminary. In the AF sector the artefacts are predominantly small flakes, chiefly found in Unit 4. They form a dense scatter through this unit, which also contains microdebitage. Two or three larger flakes were found on the sloping front of the tufa. Some cobbles were collected which appear to be flaked. They will be examined further to evaluate their possible status as casual cores.

AH sector was much richer in artefacts. Two refits suggest limited horizontal disturbance within the assemblage (Fig.56). The initial impression is of multiple routines of artefact manufacture. Some large flakes – greater than 10cm – may have been struck for conversion into small bifaces. One butt of a biface, probably broken during manufacture, indicates that classic specimens were being made. One large core may be a roughout for such a biface. Bifacial working on several other pieces suggests either unfinished bifaces or an *ad hoc* style of biface working. Medium-sized flakes show retouch in a number of cases. Small debitage is present including specimens less than 1cm.

Conclusions: Stone-working apparently took place on the north side of a small body of water, and probably entailed the production of both classic and non-classic Acheulian bifaces, via more

Beeches Pit 1993, Sector AH

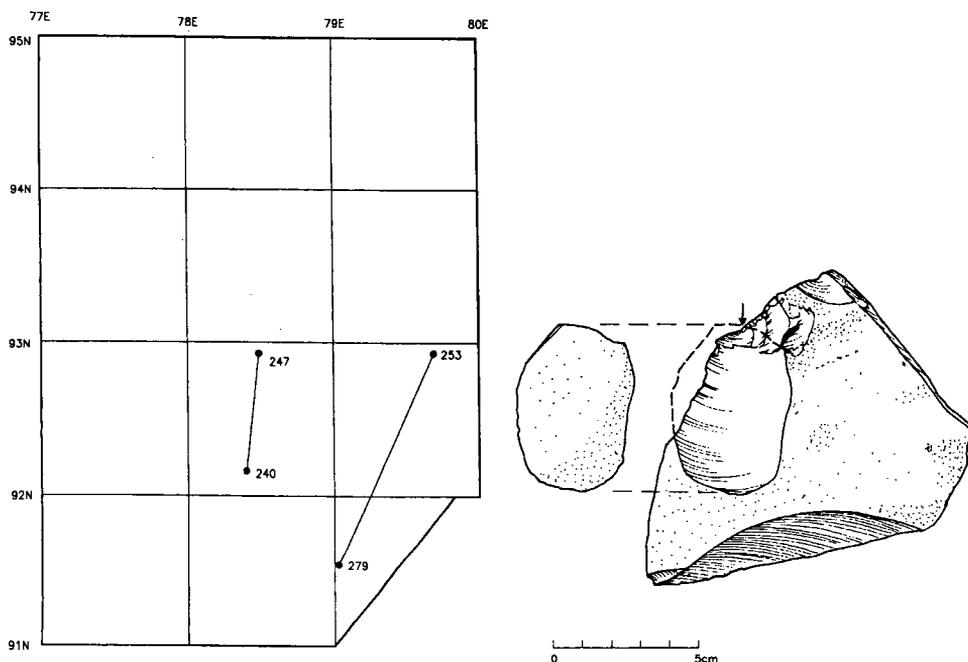


FIG. 56 – Beeches Pit, West Stow: position of two pairs of refitting artefacts found in Sector AH (grid in metre squares). Right: artefacts 253 and 279 in dorsal view. Arrow indicates position of negative bulb of percussion.

than one routine of manufacture. The stratigraphy of the site is complex, and it is not yet known for certain how many archaeological horizons are represented. Future work will aim to explore the relation of the archaeology to the environmental setting, which has already been studied – and this provides a further incentive for interdisciplinary work, which will also be concerned with the fire history of the site.

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(John Gowlett for the Department of Archaeology, University of Liverpool).

Wrentham, (TM/4883; WRE011): Evaluation trenches excavated over a field to the north of Wrentham Church revealed a complex history of land-use. Although ceramic evidence for Iron Age, Roman and medieval activity was recovered from the trenches, the archaeological features identified appeared to have been badly truncated in more recent times. The damage was probably caused by extensive post-medieval quarrying work that reached a depth of 1.5m in parts of the field.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council and Waveney District Council).

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