

# ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 1994

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object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL AND SUE HOLDEN

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

This is a selection of sites and finds discovered or reported in 1994. 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 quoted 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:

I.D.D.C.	Ipswich and District Detector Club
I.M.	Ipswich Museum
M.d.f.	Metal detector find
M.H.	Moyses Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds
S.A.U.	Suffolk Archaeological Unit, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR (tel. 01284 722023)

<b>Pa</b>	Palaeolithic	<b>Ro</b>	Roman
<b>Me</b>	Mesolithic	<b>Sx</b>	Saxon
<b>Ne</b>	Neolithic	<b>Md</b>	Medieval
<b>BA</b>	Bronze Age	<b>PM</b>	Post-Medieval
<b>IA</b>	Iron Age	<b>Un</b>	Period unknown
<b>Pr</b>	Prehistoric		

*Badingham* (BDG002). **BA, IA, Ro, Sx, Md, PM.** Fragment of a bronze blade 32mm wide, smooth profile with no defined mid-rib. Fragment of a Late Iron Age bronze terret ring with a notched crest-plate (Fig. 75, D). Scatter of early 2nd–4th-century pottery, including samian, Colchester colour-coated ware and Oxford ware; 3rd–4th-century coins; a bronze cosmetic grinder fragment; Colchester-derivative brooches; 4th-century bronze buckle with two opposed dolphins' heads holding a ball (*Hawkes and Dunning* type IA). Sherds of Late Saxon Thetford-type ware amongst a larger scatter of 13th–14th-century pottery, with some later wares. 17th-century bronze farthing token – NICHOLAS SHEPHERD/ IN SAXMUNDHAM DRAPR. (M.d.f.).

*Badingham* (BDG033). **IA.** Two fragments of a Late Iron Age bronze mirror handle (Fig. 75, C). The closest parallel is the Desborough (Northants.) mirror. (M.d.f.).

*Barnham* (BNH Misc). **Md.** Two fragments of two similar limestone coffin covers with foliage designs of 13th-century type, built into walls in Church Lane. (C. Pendleton, S.A.U.).

*Bentley* (BTY015). **Sx.** Two silver *sceattas* found within a few feet of each other: one a series D, Continental runic type of A.D. 705/710, the other a rare series W type of the same date. (M.d.f.).

*Great Blakenham* (BLG011). **Sx.** Early Saxon bronze saucer brooch with traces of an iron pin and hinge, the gilded and tinned face bears a symmetrical zoomorphic (?) design (Fig. 77, A); (I.D.D.C.).

*Blythburgh* (TM/4655; BLB028). **Un.** Possible round barrow on heathland. (B. Love).

*Brandon* (TL/7883 & 7882; BRD097–101). **PM.** Five areas of earthworks and finds-scatters associated with 19th/20th-century flint mining, connected with the Brandon gun-flint industry. (C. Pendleton, S.A.U.).

*Bures St Mary* (BSM021). **BA.** Bronze awl, 6.3cm long, sub-square section at the centre, becoming rounded at the ends. (M.d.f.).

*Burgate* (BUR023). **Sx.** Bronze disc brooch with decoration in relief consisting of a central lozenge with interlaced knots on the four corners; 10th–11th century (Fig. 77, E). (I.D.D.C.).

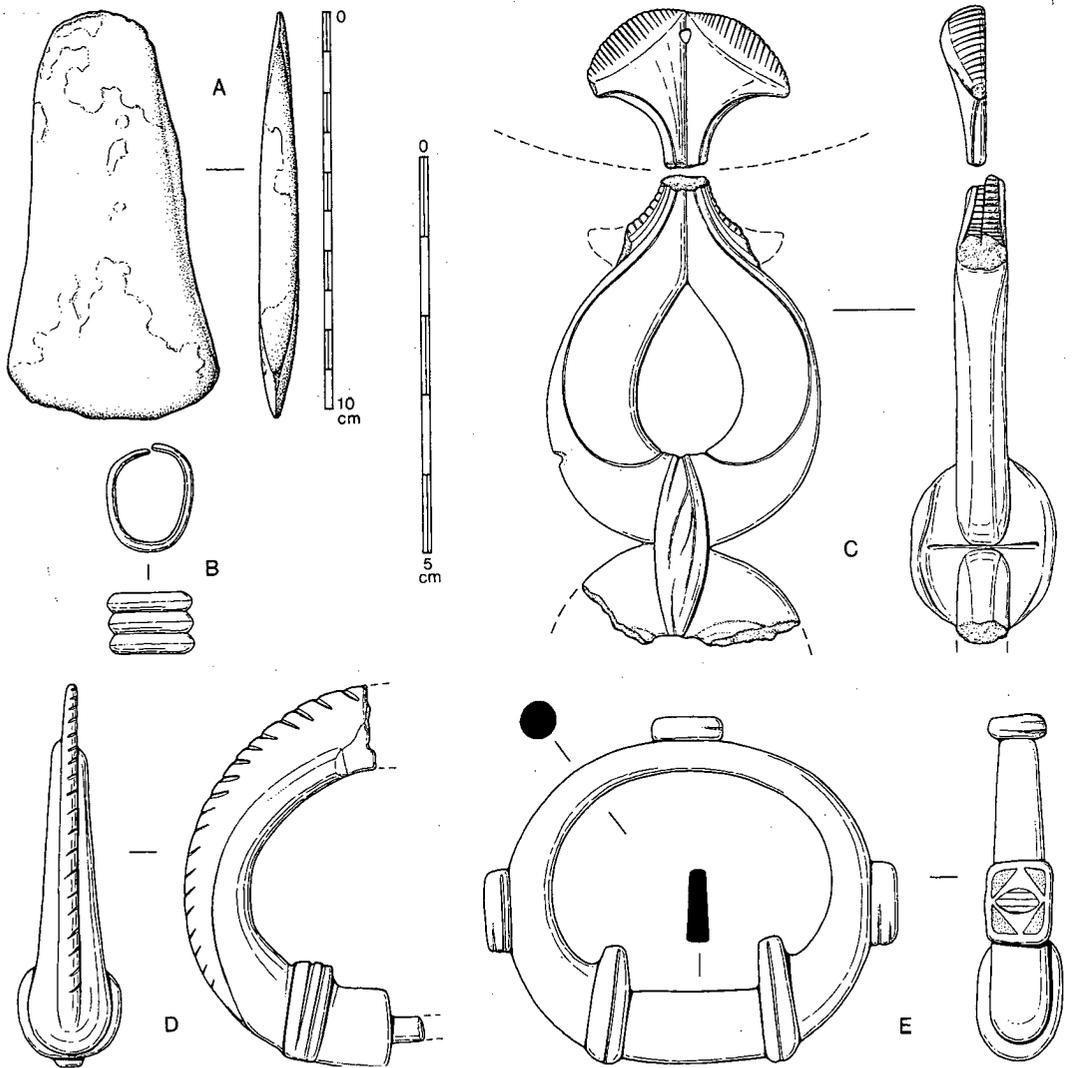


FIG. 75 – (A) Early Bronze Age flat axe from Little Wratting (half size); (B) Middle Bronze Age ‘composite’ gold ring from Lakenheath; (C) fragments of a Late Iron Age bronze mirror handle from Badingham; (D) fragment of a Late Iron Age bronze terret ring from Badingham; (E) Late Iron Age bronze terret ring with enamelled decoration, from Little Cornard.

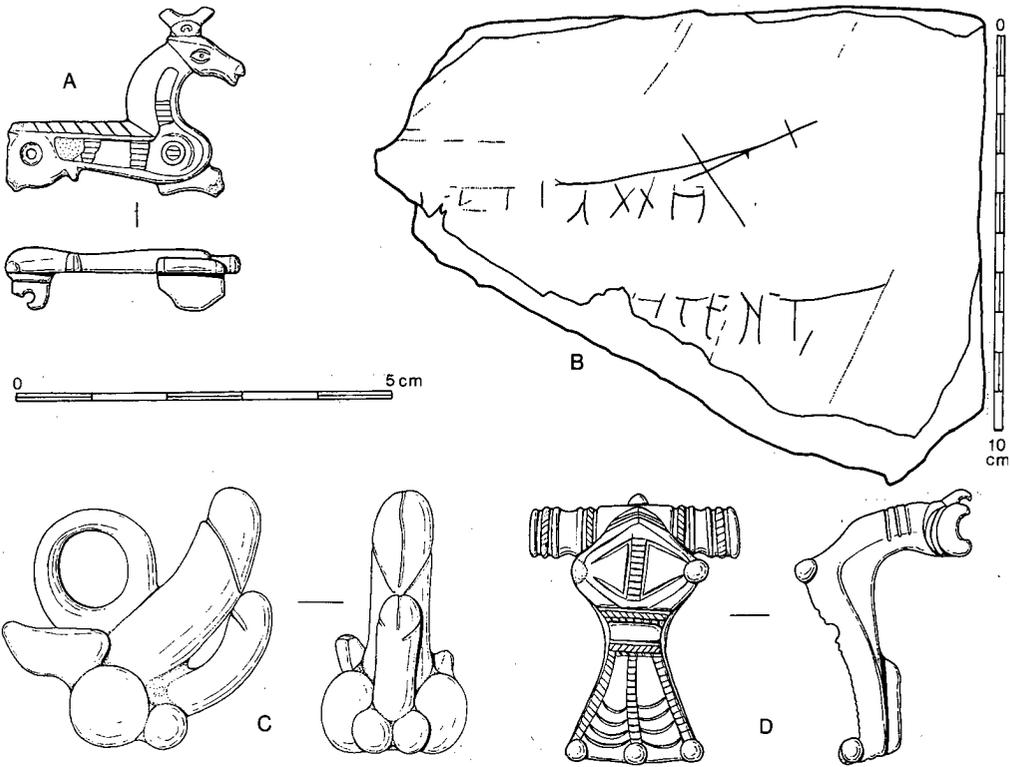


FIG. 76 – (A) Roman enamelled bronze brooch in the form of a deer, from Charsfield; (B) inscribed Roman tile fragment from Stowmarket (half size); (C) Roman bronze phallic pendant from Somersham; (D) Roman bronze brooch of Aesica type from Great Wratting.

*Charsfield* (CHA011). **IA, Ro.** Icenian silver coin, ‘Pattern-Horse’ type (as *Allen* 1970, nos. 129/131 – the ANTED inscription probably being just off the flan of this specimen). Also a cast potin coin of unknown ?Continental type, 19.5mm diam., with two beasts facing a ring-and-dot ornament, within a pelleted border, on one side, and two touching beasts/figures on the other; both sides have raised rims. Roman bronze brooch, plate type in the form of a deer, inlaid with blue enamel (Fig. 76, A); bronze acorn 36.5mm long; and 1st- to 4th-century coins. (I.D.D.C.).

*Claydon* (CLY Misc). **Ro.** Bronze miniature axe with incised ‘hafting’ cross (X) on one face. (I.D.C.C.).

*Cockfield* (COK022). **IA.** Gold *stater*, Gallo-Belgic Clacton type. (I.D.D.C.).

*Coddenham* (CDD046). **Sx.** Fragment of an Early Saxon bronze girdle-hanger with incised line decoration on both faces. (I.D.D.C.).

*Combs* (COM013). **Md.** Three lead ‘Boy Bishop’ or St Nicholas tokens, possibly a small hoard. All are groat size, *Rigold* Series IA. (M.d.f. per M.H.).

*Combs* (COM014). **IA, Sx, Md.** Bronze coin, very worn, obv. illegible, rev. has a triple-tailed horse, similar to Atrebatian *stater*s (as *Van Arsdell* 212, 214 and 216); possibly originally a plated forgery of a gold *stater*. Sherd of Middle Saxon Ipswich ware and over 60 sherds of Late Saxon Thetford-type ware; a 9th-century animal-headed bronze strap-end with traces of silvering; a Late Saxon bronze disc brooch with a raised pelleted border around a plain central area, probably originally a setting for a coin, now missing; and a bronze stirrup mount. Enamelled

bronze horse-harness pendant, shield-shaped with a suspension loop at the top. Eroded surface, but a recessed fess between two chevrons contains the remains of dark enamel – probably the arms of the Lisle family (or, a fess between two chevrons sable) who held property nearby in Finborough and Nedging as knights of the Bishops of Ely; probably 14th century. (M.d.f.).

*Little Cornard* (COL015). **IA.** Silver coin of Cunobelinus, type as *Van Arsdell* 2051–1. (I.D.D.C.).

*Little Cornard* (COL016). **IA.** Gold *stater* of Late Whaddon Chase type (similar to *Van Arsdell* 1498–1/*Mack* 140). Also a Late Iron Age bronze terret ring with three enamelled (blue and ? red) rectangles on the sides and top (Fig. 75, E). (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

*Cransford* (CRN004). **Sx.** Late Saxon bronze buckle with openwork interlace design with animal heads (?) flanking the bar (Fig. 77, C). (I.D.D.C.).

*East Bergholt* (EBG018). **Sx.** Bronze strap-union with a central boss surrounded by four arms, each with a large loop at the end; very similar objects are known from both Iron Age and 11th-century A.D. contexts (Fig. 77, F). (I.D.D.C.).

*Elmsett* (ETT009). **Sx.** Early Saxon bronze wrist-clasp with zoomorphic decoration in relief. (I.D.D.C.).

*Elveden* (TL/7979; ELV025). **Pa.** Large flint hand-axe, 15.7cm long (incomplete tip and butt), surface find within a former clay pit called Old Elveden Hole.

*Felixstowe* (TM/2834; FEX085). **Ne.** Part-polished flint axe, 12.8cm long, slight grey patination. (A. Cartwright *per* I.M.).

*Great Finborough* (FNG014). **BA.** Late Bronze Age hoard found in a small hole, about 23cm deep, in heavy clay soil. Comprised a relatively plain socketed axe, 8.3cm long, a piece of bronze 'header' waste and 13 pieces of bronze 'cake' or ingot, the largest weighing 0.7kg. Total weight of the hoard is 3.78kg. (M.d.f.).

*Flowton* (FLW005). **IA.** Gold quarter *stater* of Cunobelinus, similar to *Van Arsdell* 1913–1. (I.D.D.C.).

*Hemingstone* (HMG013). **IA.** Bronze coin of Cunobelinus, similar to *Van Arsdell* 1979–1 (except Victory to right) and 1973–3. Bow and foot of a bronze La Tene I brooch, similar to *Hull and Hawkes* type IBC of 4th century B.C. Also an incomplete enamelled bronze dragonesque brooch of 1st/2nd century A.D. date. (I.D.D.C.).

*Hemingstone* (HMG Misc.). **Sx.** St Edmund memorial silver penny, moneyer ANSIGER, late type *c.* A.D. 905–910. (M.d.f.).

*Hepworth* (HEP016). **Sx.** Bronze disc brooch with backward-looking animal design. Later modified by a small rivet behind the beast. (M.d.f. *per* M.H.).

*Hollesley* (HLY032; TM/3544). **Ne.** Part-polished flint axe, 13.5cm long, polished blade, pointed butt. (I.M.).

*Ixworth Thorpe* (TL/9272; IXT011). **BA.** Fragment of a large jet/shale spacer-plate bead. Split in half, revealing a single longitudinal boring; subsequently re-used with a transverse boring near one edge. Early Bronze Age. (E. Savery).

*Ixworth Thorpe* (IXT027). **Md.** Lead statuette of Christ, probably cast in a stone mould and originally part of a crucifix depicting Christ in suffering, late 13th century. Possibly deliberately damaged and defaced at the Reformation. Found about 150m from Ixworth Thorpe church. (M.d.f.).

*Ixworth Thorpe* (TL/9171; IXT028). **IA.** Scatter of pottery and burnt flint covering quite a large area, but with three major concentrations. Small amount of worked flint, including two scrapers. (E. Savery).

*Ixworth Thorpe* (IXT029). **Ro.** Dense scatter of 3rd–4th-century pottery, including Nene Valley, Oxford and Nar Valley (Norfolk) wares and a Dressel 20 amphora sherd. Also tile fragments. (E. Savery).

*Kelsale cum Carlton* (KCC024). **Sx.** Merovingian gold *tremissis* from the Quentovic mint, by the moneyer DUTTA. Weight 1.26g. Probably from the third quarter of the 7th century. (M.d.f.).

*Kenton* (KNN009). **Ro.** Substantial scatter of floor and roof tile, with pottery of mid 2nd century date and later. (E. Savery).

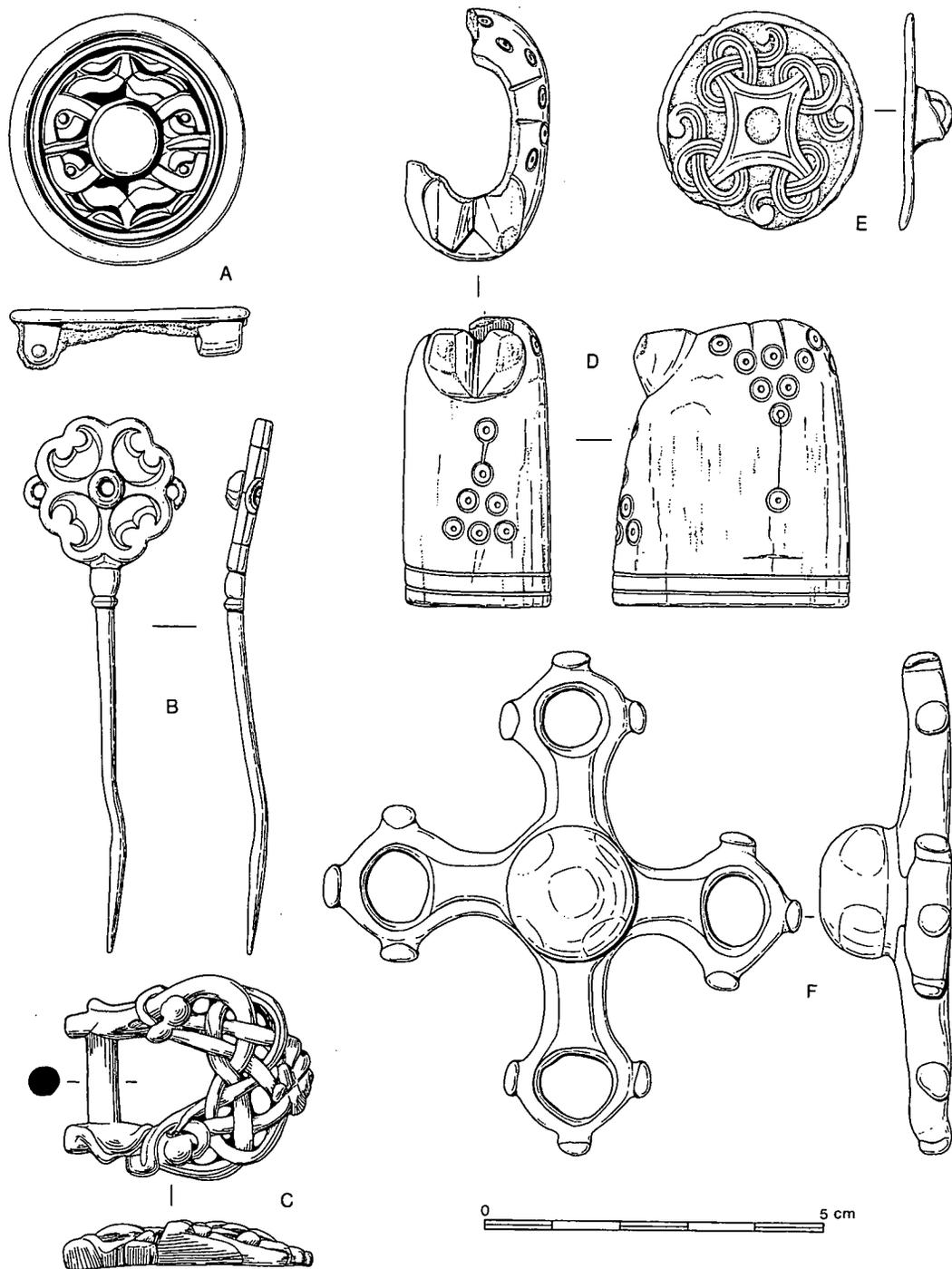


FIG. 77 – (A) Early Saxon bronze saucer brooch from Great Blakenham; (B) ? Middle Saxon bronze pin with a gilded head, from Little Wratting; (C) Late Saxon bronze buckle from Cransford; (D) ? Late Saxon bone chess piece from Stanningfield; (E) Late Saxon disc brooch from Burgate; (F) ? 11th-century (or ? Iron Age) bronze strap-union from East Bergholt.

*Lackford* (TL/7871; LKD007). **Me.** A radiocarbon date of  $9240 \pm 110$  B.P., OxA-2342, has been obtained from a small block of resin discovered during the excavation of a typologically Early Mesolithic site by K.R.U. Todd in 1947. (R.N.E. Barton and A.J. Roberts, reported in *Archaeometry* 36, 2 (1994), 353).

*Lakenheath* (TL/6981; LKH165). **Pr.** Flint quern with a pecked and ground top surface and flaked underside,  $26 \times 22 \times 9$  cm. (C. Pendleton, S.A.U.).

*Lakenheath* (LKH168). **BA.** Middle Bronze Age 'composite' gold ring, consisting of three D-sectioned penannular rings fused together, 8mm wide with an oval opening  $11 \times 13$  mm (Fig. 75, B). Close parallel in the Granta Fen (Cambs.) hoard. (I.D.D.C.).

*Lavenham* (LVM021). **IA.** Bronze coin, possibly originally a gold-plated forgery of a Trinovantian *stater* of Addedomaros (*Van Arsdell* 1605-1). (I.D.D.C.).

*Monewden* (TM/2458; MWN004). **Md.** 13th/14th-century pottery found in the garden of a house called The Office. Also a possible rectangular moat or series of ponds associated with the house (? a 'tan office' with tanning ponds). (W. Todd).

*Monewden* (MWN005). **IA, Ro.** A few sherds of Iron Age pottery amongst a larger scatter of Roman pottery (1st-4th-century types), coin of Tetricus (270-3) and a cut antler tine. (W. Todd).

*Moulton* (TL/6964; MUN018). **Un.** Earthworks in a meadow between The Street and the River Kennet. (C. Pendleton, S.A.U.).

*Nayland with Wissington* (NYW024). **Ro.** Part of a probable tile kiln exposed on the edge of the River Stour, also tile fragments in the adjoining field. (L. Alston).

*Offton* (OFF011). **BA, Ro.** Fragment of a bronze axe amidst a larger Roman scatter, including coins, pottery and a Colchester-derivative brooch. (M.d.f.).

*Offton* (OFF Misc; TM/0749). **Ne.** Bifacially-worked flint discoidal knife,  $62 \times 47 \times 6.2$  mm. (R. Atfield).

*Offton* (OFF Misc). **Md.** Hollow bronze ceremonial staff-head, late 12th/early 13th-century (for a recent discussion of this type of object see Bailey 1994) (Fig. 78, A); bronze strap union with two loops (similar to the East Bergholt example described above), probably 11th century; lead papal *bulla* of Innocent III (1198-1216) (M.d.f.).

*Playford* (TM/2145; PLY016). **Ne.** Two part-polished flint axes found together at a depth of 40-50cm during building works at Doranda Carpets. Axes are 12.3cm and 11.4cm long, with polished blades and gloss from hafting wear in the middles. (E. Watts).

*Raydon* (RAY008). **BA.** Tip of a bronze spearhead 5.6cm long, rounded mid-rib, probably Late Bronze Age. (I.D.D.C.).

*Raydon* (RAY011). **Ro, Sx.** Roman enamelled plate brooch fragment, pelta-shaped outline, central 7-petal flower (originally enamelled), side panels with foliage design on a mid-blue enamelled background. Also a Late Saxon enamelled bronze object consisting of a central disc with deep-blue, mid-blue and white enamel panels separated by wavy line partitions, surrounded by a gilded pelleted border, but no sign of brooch or pendant attachments, so possibly a 'jewel' rather than a brooch; late 10th/11th century. (I.D.D.C.).

*Redgrave* (TM/0677; RGV031). **Pr, Md.** Scatter of worked flint, including three cores and seven scrapers; also a scatter of 13th/14th-century pottery found adjacent to Wortham Long Green. (S. Matthews).

*Rushbrooke* (RBK Misc). **Sx.** Late Saxon bronze disc brooch with an enamelled dark blue cross on a mid-blue background, within a gilded rim, late 10th or 11th century. (M.d.f.).

*Great Saxham* (SXG009). **BA.** Middle Bronze Age palstave, side loop broken off and about half of the butt and one flange missing, probably due to poor casting (several voids are visible in the metal), 'Developed shield pattern' type (*Rowlands* Group 4). (M.d.f.).

*Somersham* (SSH003). **Ro.** 3rd-4th-century coins; bronze phallic pendant with two superimposed phalli (Fig. 76, C); bronze steelyard fragment; bronze Colchester-derivative and Hod Hill brooches; pottery, including samian. (I.D.D.C.).

*Somersham* (SSH009). **Sx.** Rectangular gilded bronze mount with a wyvern-like creature in

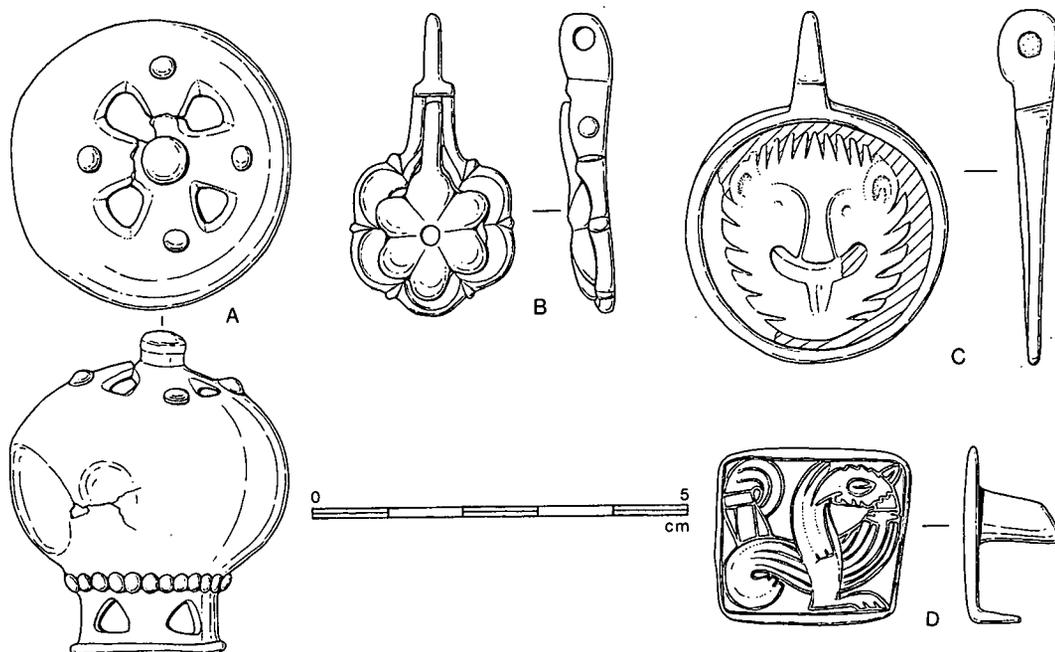


FIG. 78 – (A) Late 12th/early 13th-century bronze ceremonial staff-head from Offton; (B) 14th-century gilded bronze horse-harness pendant from Little Thurlow; (C) 14th-century enamelled bronze horse-harness pendant from Little Thurlow; (D) late 11th-century gilded bronze stirrup-mount from Somersham.

relief, probably from the top of a stirrup, late 11th century (Fig. 78, D). (M.d.f.).

*South Elmham St Margaret* (SEM022). **BA.** Bronze palstave found in re-deposited earth from pond digging. Unlooped shield-pattern type, 15.8cm long, Middle Bronze Age. (I.D.D.C.).

*Stanningfield* (TL/8756; SNN003). **Sx.** Bone chess piece, hollow, elongated dome shape with two projecting knobs on one side, just below missing top portion. Decorated with scribed ring-and-dot ornaments arranged in triangular panels. Similar examples known from London; probably Late Saxon (Fig. 77, D). (S. Atkinson).

*Stowmarket* (SKT018). **Ro.** Scatter of pottery (roof, floor and box types), including one fragment which bears an inscription that was inscribed into the tile surface before firing (Fig. 76, B). Also pottery, including samian (C. and E. Gaulish), colour-coated ware (? Colchester), and a Dressel 20 *amphora* fragment. (P. Whitehead).

*Thorpe Morieux* (TL/9454; TMX013). **Md.** Pottery found as a result of construction work adjacent to the Bull Inn. (R. Sommazzi *per* Mrs A. Hart).

*Little Thurlow* (TUL012). **Md.** Two bronze horse-harness pendants. One is gilded and consists of a sixfoil inner pendant suspended within a cinquefoil outer ring; the other is circular and bears a leopard's head against a red enamelled background – both probably 14th century (Fig. 78, B & C). (I.D.D.C.).

*Wetheringsett cum Brockford* (TM/1166; WCB Misc). **Md.** 13th/14th-century and later pottery found within the north range ('? below foundations of wall of earlier building') of a courtyard complex, formerly a coaching inn on the A140 road. (R. Fouracre).

*Worlington* (TL/6929; WGN017). **Md.** Fragments of window tracery in the Perpendicular style, made of clunch (hard chalk), found in digging a hole for a fence post at 10 The Street. Probably originally from the parish church. (Mr Leeder *per* Dr C. Dring).

*Worham* (TM/0879; WTM024). **Pr.** Scatter of worked flint, including two scrapers and a possible triangular arrowhead. (S. Matthews).

*Worham* (TM/0677; WTM025). **Pr, Md.** Scatter of worked flint, including a hammer-stone, a fabricator/rod, five cores and three scrapers; also a scatter of 13th- to 15th-century pottery adjacent to the west side of Worham Long Green. (S. Matthews).

*Great Wratting* (WTG012). **IA, Ro.** Gold quarter stater. Bronze brooch, Aesica type of 1st century A.D. (Fig. 76, D) and other brooches. (I.D.D.C.).

*Great Wratting* (WTG013). **Sx.** Silver dress hook with a circular plate divided into three panels by Y-shape of incised lines; the two side panels have incised interlace patterns, with traces of niello infill. Mid to Late Saxon. (I.D.D.C.).

*Little Wratting* (WTL003). **BA.** Early Bronze Age thin-butted flat axe, 10.1cm long, 230gm in weight (Fig. 75, A). (M.d.f.).

*Little Wratting* (WTL004). **Sx.** Large bronze pin with an ornate gilded head, 7.5cm long. The 8-lobed flat head bears an equal-armed cross moline in relief. A small boss in the centre of the cross has a deep circular hole, said by the finder to have held a reddish stone, since lost. Two loops on the sides of the head plate suggest that this is the centre pin of a linked set of three. Probably Middle Saxon. (Fig. 77, B). (M.d.f.).

## FIELD SURVEYS

*Breckland Archaeological Survey:* A two-year project to assess the archaeological resource of the Breckland Environmentally Sensitive Area (E.S.A.) in Suffolk and Norfolk, commenced in April 1994. The aims of this English Heritage-funded project are to supply the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Defence, the Forestry Commission and English Nature with information regarding the nature and extent of the archaeological resource of the E.S.A., together with management recommendations. The Survey has been split into three main phases – documentary research, field survey and the compilation of a report.

Existing data from the county Sites and Monuments Records has been transferred to a gazetteer and will form the basis of practical information for the above bodies. Tithe maps for all the Breckland parishes have been studied to extract information concerning land use and to identify new archaeological sites and historic landscape features. The 1946 R.A.F. aerial photographs have also been studied for the same purpose. This data will enable land-use changes over the last 150 years to be mapped.

Fieldwork commenced in December 1994 with a number of early successes. Two large areas of preserved post-medieval flint mines were located and defined to the south of Brandon and are part of what is considered to be the last substantial gun-flint mining complex to survive in the country. A number of documented rabbit warren banks have also been surveyed, including those surrounding Downham High Lodge Warren in Santon Downham, which comprise approximately 8km of quadruple banks. The survey has also located two areas of floated water meadows, dated to the early 19th century, just over the county boundary at Lynford and at West Tofts in Norfolk. Field survey will continue into the middle of 1995.

(Kate Sussams for Suffolk County Council, Norfolk Landscape Archaeology and English Heritage).

*Clare, Clare Camp* (TL/7645; CLA010): A geophysical survey was carried out to supplement the earthwork survey carried out in 1993. A substantial part of the site was covered by a magnetometer survey and a smaller area was also covered by a resistivity survey.

The magnetometer survey revealed negligible evidence for occupation features over much of the interior. The lack of response even over the earthworks inside the Camp suggests that conditions may not be ideal for magnetic detection. However, promising results were obtained in

the S.W. sector, in the area of the presumed medieval manor. The outlines of two rectangular buildings with their long axes at right angles to one another have been clearly detected as strongly positive anomalies. Building 1 (34 × 14m) on a N.W.–S.E. axis, possibly has two opposed entrances in the middle of the long sides; it also has a northerly extension at its N.W. corner and a possible partition at the S.E. end. The walls of Building 2 (approximately 40 × 13m) show signs of being less continuous in construction and again there is evidence for a partition – near the N.E. end of the building. A formless spread of magnetic disturbance north of Building 1, which coincides with a slight mound, may represent the site of a further building.

Building remains seldom produce strong positive anomalies other than in exceptional circumstances and therefore it is unusual that the possible medieval buildings at Clare are so well defined in the magnetometer survey. It is even more surprising given the apparently suspect conditions already mentioned elsewhere on the site. Because the buildings are evident as earthworks, it is likely that more than simply earth-filled bedding-trenches survive, which would normally be expected to give a positive anomaly on a site with good magnetic susceptibility contrast between topsoil and subsoil. Such contrasts are unlikely to be present at Clare on the basis of the response elsewhere on the site, but would need to be confirmed by augering. Buried wall foundations are more likely on the evidence of the earthwork survey, but would normally be expected to produce a negative anomaly, unless the construction material was magnetically enhanced by burning or heating (fired clay, destruction by fire or naturally magnetic rock). Such thermally magnetised material may well be the explanation for the unusual response to the buildings at Clare.

The resistivity survey also detected anomalous activity in the area of the presumed buildings and the results suggest substantial structures with stone or brick foundations/floors – compatible with the interpretation of the magnetometer survey. The walls of Building 2 produced high resistance linear anomalies – again intermittent – and the partition at the north end appears to have been confirmed. By comparison, Building 1 is not at all well defined but is located within an area of intensely high resistance, in which it is difficult to identify individual anomalies from walls. The presence of overlying rubble spreads may explain the failure of the survey to resolve the plan of the building. The high resistance area extends to the north of the position of Building 1 and may indicate the presence of a layer of resistive material – perhaps a stone surface of a courtyard. The presence of a walled courtyard bounded on two sides by Buildings 1 and 2 is also suggested by further high resistance anomalies to the north which may represent remains of a possible north wall to the complex and a walled entrance corridor. It is possible that there is a further gate or gap in the compound wall near the N.E. corner of Building 2 to give access to a trackway noted in the earthwork survey. The third possible building identified in the magnetometer survey is sited adjacent to this north wall. On the east side of the ‘entrance corridor’ are the probable remains of a small square building (approximately 5 × 5m) – perhaps the remains of a dovecote documented as belonging to the manor.

The main resistivity survey was extended to cover the large gap in the defensive circuit at the S.W. corner of the Camp in order to locate the continuation of the enclosure ditches. Several low resistance linear anomalies were detected, including a curvilinear feature which may be a continuation of the outer ditch of the ramparts. However the low resistance anomalies only really conform to the depressions in the topography mapped by the R.C.H.M.E. and are therefore not much more informative.

A possible ditch (low resistance anomaly) has been detected in-turning around the northern abutment of the well-preserved piece of rampart on the east side of the Camp. This evidence points to the probability that the gap on that side may be an original entrance, integral with the construction of the defences. It is also possible however that the low resistance feature may be a later continuation of the linear hollows (water-courses or trackways) in the interior of the Camp. Evidence for the entrance towards the middle of the south side is less clear, but a high resistance feature does appear to extend across the defences from the western of the two gaps and may be

an original causeway. This result could also be due to slumping of rampart material across the ditches and therefore along with the earthwork evidence cannot be taken to be conclusive.

(Andrew Payne, Archaeometry Branch, Ancient Monuments Laboratory, English Heritage).

*Debenham* (TM/1762, 1763, 1764, 1863, 1962; DBN034–050 & 056): Fieldwalking has revealed a great deal of new evidence about the settlement history of this part of the Upper Deben valley. The earliest find was a Neolithic flint projectile point, 5.4cm long, but a continuing prehistoric presence is indicated by a scatter of worked flints, including three scrapers and a denticulated blade, and two scatters of burnt flints. A small scatter of Iron Age pottery was found close to the Deben at the southern end of the parish. Four Roman sites were also found, three of them small, but one relatively substantial site with samian, Nene Valley and Oxford wares and tile. Most of the sites were close to the Deben, but the larger site was on a hill-top to the east. The interval between sites seems to be about 1.2 to 1.5km. A few sherds of possible Early Saxon handmade pottery were found in two locations, one just to the south of the town and one just to the north. Two sherds of Middle Saxon Ipswich ware were found on a site off Great Back Lane in the town and are an important indicator of the foundation date of the existing settlement. Single sherds of Ipswich ware have also been found on two sites just outside the south and north limits of the town, one of which also produced a sherd of Late Saxon Thetford-type ware. Twelve scatters of medieval pottery were identified; most of these were adjacent to existing roads and must indicate lost house sites. All the sites have a majority of unglazed wares of the 13th–14th centuries, with lesser amounts of part-glazed wares of later medieval date. One site to the north of the town also produced a small amount of possible 12th-century pottery with sparse shell tempering. This site lay within a field called *The Clamp* in 1837, a name which could suggest the former presence of a primitive pottery kiln, and the finds do include two probable kiln bars with semi-vitrified surfaces. Fieldwalking is still continuing.

(Edward Savery).

*Dunwich*, Grey Friars (TM/4770; DUN003): The precinct of the Franciscan friary was surveyed by staff from the R.C.H.M.E. Cambridge Field Office at a scale of 1:1000, at the request of Suffolk County Council in response to the ongoing threat posed by coastal erosion.

The friary is known to have been established by an existing Franciscan community in 1290 and dissolved c.1538. After the Dissolution, the site was quickly converted to secular uses; most of the conventual buildings were demolished and the remainder incorporated into a new house for the lay owners. This house was modernised by the addition of a Georgian façade in the early 18th century, but nevertheless abandoned within a century. The new owners, the Barne family, demolished all except the medieval core, the ruins of which are still standing.

Most of the earthworks recorded by the R.C.H.M.E. survey are very slight, no more than 0.3m high, and date from the post-medieval or modern periods. The principal exception is a broad bank which extends for roughly 100m N.W. to S.E. from the west wall of the precinct. The bank, 25.0m wide and up to 0.5m high, becomes lower and more ill-defined towards the east, eventually disappearing altogether, but the surviving remnant is suggestive of a substantial work.

The bank may be the southern boundary of an original, smaller, precinct. In 1290 Edward I confirmed the grant to the Franciscans of 4.5 acres 16 perches (1.86ha) of land, a figure which contrasts markedly with the 7.16 acres (2.9ha) enclosed by the present precinct wall. However, if the line of the bank is continued eastwards to the east wall of the precinct, an area of approximately 1.9ha is enclosed north of this line, an area which includes both the surviving gateways and the medieval ruins. Furthermore, the east wall of the precinct changes alignment immediately to the south of the bank, strengthening arguments that the enclosed area was extended at a later date. This must have taken place either during the life of the friary or immediately after the Dissolution, since the Agas map of 1589 shows the precinct in its present form.

The R.C.H.M.E. survey is now complete and will be available for consultation at the Suffolk Sites and Monuments Record, Bury St Edmunds or direct from the National Monuments Centre, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ.

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

*Dunwich*, Grey Friars (TM/4770; DUN003): A geophysical survey of the precinct of the Franciscan friary was carried out in tandem with the R.C.H.M.E. earthwork survey mentioned above. Most of the area was covered by a resistivity survey, with a smaller area also being covered by a trial conductivity survey. The resistivity survey suggests that there was a large church in the northern part of the precinct, with two cloisters to the south of it. The upstanding remains appear to form the southern end of the southern cloister.

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

*Earthwork Reconnaissance Survey in Suffolk (Rapid Identification Survey)*: Work began in October on a seven-month reconnaissance survey, funded by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, to gauge the survival of earthworks in areas of grassland, heathland and woodland in five sample areas of Suffolk. The five sample areas have been selected to represent the different soil types and landscape zones of the county: High Suffolk (south), High Suffolk (north) and the Waveney Valley, Stour Valley and Shotley Peninsula, Sandlings (south) and the Deben Valley, and Sandlings (north) and the Blyth Valley. Breckland was omitted as it is currently the subject of a separate survey (see above). In each of these five areas two strips of 10 × 1km have been randomly selected for intensive survey.

(Stephen Podd for Suffolk County Council and the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England).

*Ixworth* (TL9271, 9272, 9570; IXW040–045): Fieldwalking revealed two scatters of prehistoric worked flint; one of which, close to the Black Bourne, produced a Mesolithic obliquely-backed flint microlith and a ? Neolithic straight flint rod. Two small Roman sites were identified close together beside the Black Bourne, and a third and larger site was found on the east side of the parish. This larger site produced sherds of Horningsea-type storage vessels, pieces of roof and box tiles and a sandstone quern fragment. Four scatters of medieval pottery were found along the S.W. and S. edges of the former Easter Green, close to the parish boundary with Ixworth Thorpe. All had unglazed pottery of 13th–14th-century date, with smaller amounts of part-glazed pottery of Grimston-type, of 14th–15th-century date.

(Edward Savery).

*Redgrave* (TM/0405): Fieldwalking has continued, but there is a backlog in the inputting of new sites into the Sites and Monuments Record.

(Redgrave Fieldwalking Group).

*Winston* (TM/1762, 1861, 1862; WNT016–022): Fieldwalking revealed four prehistoric scatters of burnt flints along the southern edge of the River Deben, two of them with worked flints, including scrapers, in the vicinity. Two Roman sites were identified, a small one close to the Deben and a larger one with a substantial amount of roof and box tile in a tributary valley of the Deben. Small amounts of handmade Early Saxon pottery and Middle Saxon Ipswich ware were found on two sites on the southern outskirts of Debenham. Four medieval sites were identified, all with mainly 13th–14th-century unglazed pottery and smaller amounts of later part-glazed pottery. One site also produced a piece of Low Countries undecorated slipware of late 16th/17th-century date.

(Edward Savery).

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

*Barking*, Darmsden Hall Farm Quarry (TM/0952; BRK020): An area of approximately 5 to 6ha was excavated in advance of a sand and gravel quarry, adjacent to the type-site for the 'Darmsden' style of Iron Age pottery (see Cunliffe 1978).

Two main phases of activity were recognised on the site. The earlier phase was Iron Age in date and this accounts for the great majority of features investigated. Although the general concentration of features was relatively low, a probable enclosure ditch was located, with one side at least 120m long and a corner near the southern end of the excavated area. Within the enclosed area, a sub-circular ditch with a diameter of 19m surrounded the post-holes of a round house, 11m in diameter, with a hearth at its centre. Across the remainder of the site some seven small pits, various unassociated post-holes and three small ditches were investigated. One of the ditches was of particular interest as it ran along the same alignment as the enclosure ditch, but pre-dated it.

The later phase of activity was represented by two small pit-like features, one of which contained a cremation burial, which appeared to have been buried in a small bag or pouch of organic material, which had left no trace in the ground. While these features are as yet undated, they were cut through a subsoil layer which sealed all of the Iron Age material.

(Kevin Forrest for Suffolk County Council and Redland Aggregates).

*Barnham*, East Farm Pit (TL/8778; BNH013): A further season of excavations was carried out in August on this Palaeolithic site (Fig. 79). Work by Paterson in the 1930s and by Wymer in 1979 recognised a Clactonian (core and flake) industry overlain by an Acheulian (biface) industry. This stratigraphic relationship formed one of the pillars of the British Lower Palaeolithic cultural sequence. The broad aims of the present project have been to establish the relationship between these Lower Palaeolithic industries and to place them in a firmer geological and environmental context.

Work in the previous four seasons (Ashton *et al.* 1994 a, b & c) established that Anglian glacial deposits (*c.* 450,000 years old) at the base of the site, consisting of glacial till and outwash gravels, were cut through by a fluvial channel, over 7m deep, which was infilled with grey silts and clays (*c.* 400,000 years ago). The upper part of these silts and clays contain a rich and diverse interglacial fauna (Area III) which has confirmed the dating of the site, and indicated that the channel was surrounded by a mixed open woodland in an environment warmer than present. The human activity is represented in three distinct areas, all of which are contemporary with the fauna and located on the fringes of the channel. These consist of: 1. a flake and core manufacturing area on and in the lag gravel in Area I; 2. a biface manufacturing area on and in the lag gravel in Area IV (4); and 3. a biface finishing and use area at a slightly higher stratigraphic position in Area V (see Fig. 79).

The main aims of the 1994 season were to consolidate and complete previous work on the site, which involved the completion of the geological and faunal work, the completion of the biface finishing area (Area V) and the expansion and complete excavation of the biface manufacturing area (Area IV (4)).

Geological work. A further four test pits were excavated to the north of the brick-pit and further sections were also recorded in active gravel pits 1km to the east, all of which have contributed to an understanding of the extent and nature of the glacial deposits in the area. Further augering in the base of the pit has added new information to the geometry of the deposits, showing that the channel is at least 14m in depth with a complex geometry and is infilled with sands and gravels, and silts and clays. This channel was probably formed by a glacial outwash stream. Finally, a similar section between Area I and Area IV (4) showed the continuity of the channel edge and the contemporaneity of the archaeology between these areas (Area IV (5), Fig 79).

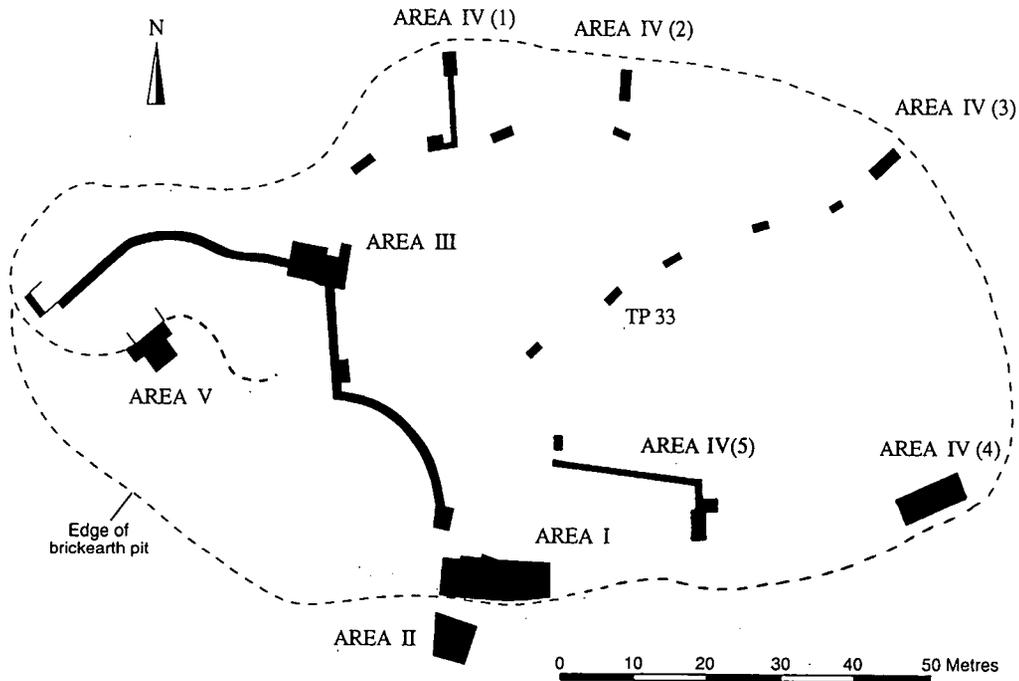


FIG. 79 – East Farm, Barnham, plan of excavated areas.

Faunal work. Area III was excavated a further 1m through the grey silts and clays, completing the work in this area. Large quantities of fauna were again recovered which have confirmed the environmental reconstruction. In addition, a bovid long-bone has been identified bearing cutmarks from butchery. Twelve flint flakes in very fresh condition were also recovered from the area, presumably washed in from the channel edge. Both the cutmarks and these flakes strongly support the interpretation that environmental information is contemporary with the archaeology.

Area V. Excavation continued in the top of the light brown sandy-clays and was expanded by 8sq m both to the east and west. With increased depth the artefacts became both more rolled and dispersed and consequently excavation stopped after 30cm. A total of 205 artefacts was recovered, of which a high percentage appear to be from final finishing or possible resharping of bifaces.

Area IV (4). On the basis of a test section in 1993, the excavation was expanded into an 8 × 4m area. Excavation on and through the lag gravel revealed a total of 746 artefacts. These consisted of cores and flakes, but also a biface, an incomplete biface and some 150 biface manufacturing flakes. It is clear that just as in Area I, the lag gravel formed the source of raw material for the knapping. The artefacts are mainly in fresh condition and their geological position shows that they are contemporary with the artefacts from Area I (Ashton *et al.* 1994b).

Discussion and conclusion. The excavations have now established that the industries recovered from Areas IV(4) and V are in a similar stratigraphic position. The implication is that the core and flake industry in Area I (previously termed Clactonian) and the biface industry in Area IV (4) (previously termed Acheulian) were being made at the same time. The traditional view has argued that they are distinct industries, representative of different cultures and separated spatially and chronologically. The evidence from Barnham, however, strongly suggests that they simply reflect different activity areas on the edge of the channel. This has major implications for the way

we interpret other sites from this period and throws further doubt on the cultural framework that has survived for over sixty years.

Furthermore, work on the site has demonstrated the existence of three distinct activity areas and has shown how the landscape, in particular the quality and proximity of raw material, affects the type of industry that is knapped. Post-excavation work will look in detail at the difference in size and quality of raw material between Areas I and IV(4), which may help to account for the technological variation. In the case of Area V, it appears to be the distance from the raw material that is affecting the industry; partially finished bifaces appear to have been transported to the area, finished and then perhaps used.

The excavations have now built up a detailed picture of human activity around the fringes of an ancient river channel, which has now been set in a clear environmental and geological context. Of perhaps greater importance, the results have challenged the traditional cultural framework and have suggested new ways of interpreting this period.

Acknowledgements. We would like to thank the British Museum, the British Academy, the Geologists' Association, 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, British Museum; Simon Lewis, Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education; and Simon Parfitt, Institute of Archaeology Field Unit, London).

*Bawdsey* (TM/3439; BAW029): An evaluation was carried out in connection with a planning application for a property near the church where some earthworks had previously been identified. This indicated that the earthworks were post-medieval in date and could be associated with a cottage that was shown on the 1843 tithe map. However some features on the site, including pits, ditches and an oven, produced pottery of the 12–14th centuries. Other finds included lava quern fragments and animal bones.<sup>1</sup>

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Abbots Architectural Services).

*Bradfield St Clare, Water Pipeline* (TL/9057): Monitoring of water mains replacement alongside the church revealed a thin medieval occupation spread and a small patch of burnt clay. These may indicate the presence of dwellings around the church in the medieval period.

(David Gill for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water).

*Brandon, Remembrance Playing Fields* (TL/7786; BRD096): An archaeological assessment near a Saxon site revealed three ditches, but no pottery of any date.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and the St John's Ambulance Brigade).

*Great Bricett, A.A.C. Wattisham* (TM/0351; BCG005, 006 & 007): Monitoring of groundworks in connection with a housing development was carried out as the final phase of a programme of archaeological works. This revealed a spread of medieval pottery concentrated in the S.W. corner of the area and a scatter of burnt flint associated with both Roman and medieval pottery on the western edge of the same field. A further spread of predominantly Roman pottery appeared to be an extension of a previously excavated site (BCG005).

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

*Bruisyard, Bruisyard Hall* (TM/3366; BUD001): Mechanical desilting of the moat was monitored for archaeological features and finds. While the finds noted in the silt were all of 18th- to 20th-century date, indicating that the moat had been desilted in the last two or three hundred years, a timber structure was recorded at the northern end of the western arm of the moat. This structure consisted of a large squared timber placed across the base of the moat, with two slightly smaller timbers at right-angles, running up to the two ends of the larger timber. There was some evidence that these timbers

represent the base of a more extensive structure that could have operated as a sluice when the moat was part of a controlled water-flow system, possibly associated with fish farming. Alternatively, the structure could have formed the base for a bridge over the moat. While there is no direct dating evidence for the timber structure, it is likely to be medieval in date. All of the structural timbers were left *in situ* as the water in the newly desilted moat will preserve them for future investigations.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

*Bury St Edmunds*, Babwell Friary (TL/8566; BSE014): Continuous monitoring accompanied the construction of a bungalow on land within the S.E. corner of the friary precinct, but there was little evidence of significant activity in this area in the medieval period. A sub-rectangular earthwork was identified in the N.W. corner of the plot, beyond the construction area, which stood about 1m higher than the surrounding ground level over an area of 13 × 16m, but the north and west edges extended beyond the site. A lower raised area projected beyond the east end of the earthwork for a further 7m. It is likely that this is a building platform, similar to other platforms identified in the adjoining field to the north.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and Culford Construction Ltd.).

*Bury St Edmunds*, the Cathedral (TL/8564; BSE118): Recording work was undertaken during the restoration of the exterior face of the south aisle. This comprised a photographic record of the stonework and annotated drawings to identify the different stone types and suggested phases of construction and repair. Analysis so far has revealed that the western bay was entirely reconstructed in the 19th century.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and English Heritage)

*Bury St Edmunds*, East Close (TL/8664; BSE026): East Close lies on the south side of Eastgate Street, one of the principal routes into the medieval town. Standing buildings on the street frontage indicate that suburban expansion along Eastgate Street had taken place by the late medieval period. Excavations in advance of housing development gave an opportunity more fully to investigate the settlement history of this area.

Evidence for prehistoric activity was found in the form of abundant struck flints, but unfortunately only from residual contexts. However two post-holes at the south end of the site did contain Iron Age flint-tempered pottery. Occupation of the area recommenced in the 13th/14th century, as is shown by a number of pits containing pottery of that date. At the far eastern end of the site a large contemporary feature surrounded by a flint and chalk retaining wall appears to have been a well. This was augered to a depth of 10m but failed to locate the bottom. Rubbish pits indicate continuous occupation of the site up to the 17th century, although there is little structural evidence for any buildings. The existence of a number of post-hole alignments behind the Eastgate Street frontage however still needs to be properly analysed to see if they represent evidence for timber buildings. The clay floor of one building of post-medieval date was located, which was still in existence when the flint and mortar boundary wall along Eastgate Street was constructed in the 18th century, as is clear from constructional details of the wall.

(Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council and Hanover Housing Association).

*Bury St Edmunds*, East Close (TL/8664; BSE026): Further excavations on this site were undertaken to the east of the access road on the Eastgate Street frontage and on the Shakers Lane frontage at the eastern edge of the site. These excavations revealed more evidence of the medieval and post-medieval occupation of this area.

The Eastgate Street excavation revealed the remainder of a medieval house first identified in 1991 (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1991'), and the relatively good standard of preservation allowed some investigation of structural details. Mortar foundations for the south wall and two partitions

were identified, and differing floor surfaces indicated the position of a second partition and the east wall. The north wall (on the road frontage) and the west wall were beyond the edges of the excavation, but it was possible to establish dimensions of  $>13\text{m} \times >4.5\text{m}$  for the house, with at least four rooms, of which three had E-W dimensions of 3.55m, 2.65m and 4.65m. Only about 1m of the western room survived.

A second and later house was located to the east of the medieval one. This had three rooms: a large central one, measuring  $4.4 \times 3.2\text{m}$  with a brick floor (identified from the surviving mortar impressions) and two smaller rooms, one with a thin mortar floor and the other surfaced with chalk and cobbles. Between the central room and the eastern room there was a fireplace; the eastern room also had the base of a small flint-built structure. There were no wall remains *in situ*, but it was apparent that the north wall was again beyond the edge of the excavation.

The remains of at least two ovens, several pits and a line of postholes were also identified. Pottery dating between the 13th and the 19th centuries was recovered, but the majority was 16th–17th-century in date.

The excavation at Shakers Lane did not identify any structures, but the entire area was riddled with large pits containing a homogeneous brown loam and, in a few cases, loose large flints near the bottom. Few artefacts were found. Lime kilns are known to have existed on the opposite side of Shakers Lane and it seems possible that these pits may be the result of chalk extraction to serve the kilns. The southern and eastern boundaries were mirrored by two ditches, demonstrating that the present boundaries are long standing.

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

*Bury St Edmunds*, St Mary's Square (TL/8563; BSE117): An archaeological evaluation on land between St Mary's Square and Southgate Street revealed a medieval occupation layer, pits containing 13th-century pottery and a group of random post-holes. One pit containing Middle Saxon Ipswich ware was also found.

(David Gill for Suffolk County Council and Greene King PLC).

*Bury St Edmunds*, St Saviour's Hospital (TL/8565; BSE013): A further 250sq m of the site of the medieval hospital were excavated prior to development. The area excavated lay immediately to the north of the chapel, some 27m from the Fornham Road frontage. A single probable structure was identified in the N.E. corner of the site, consisting of an E.-W. wall line, a dense chalk spread and several flint surfaces. The limits of the structure were not defined, but it measured at least  $8\text{m} \times 3\text{m}$ . The pottery recovered from above and within the surfaces was mostly of 13th–15th-century date; the surfaces also overlay the edge of the fishpond. Along the west edge of the site there was a dense spread of large flints, with a straight edge on the east side, but continuing beyond the edge of the excavation on the west. Several layers of constructional/demolition material were uncovered adjacent to the north wall of the chapel. After the removal of the archaeological layers a few post-holes and pits were excavated, but these do not appear to form any structural patterns. There were also a few large pits filled with brown loam, sand and gravel, but no artefacts to suggest a function – similar pits encountered in the 1990 excavation were interpreted as being the result of mineral extraction and it is likely that the 1994 ones had a similar use.

At the end of the excavation a section was machined through the edge of the fishpond to demonstrate that the timber revetments found in the earlier excavation continued north beyond the line of the chapel.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and Tesco PLC).

*Bury St Edmunds*, United Reformed Church, Whiting Street (TL/8563; BSE114): A small excavation was undertaken within the medieval core of the town, in advance of building work.

The excavation was restricted to the footing trenches and revealed a large post-medieval disturbance at the west end (which was probably responsible for the subsidence problem at that end of the building) and a small flint and mortar wall in the central partition footing. The wall appeared to be associated with a pit containing brown loam and building debris and was probably late medieval. No medieval ground layers or pits were identified, but evidence of limited medieval occupation was uncovered in the form of pottery of 12th- to 18th-century date. Documentary research showed that a small square flint and mortar structure, which was found under the N.W. corner of the standing building, was the remains of a privy attached to one of the properties demolished when the church hall extension was built in 1887.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and the United Reformed Church).

*Campsea Ash*, Campsea Ash Priory (TM/3154; CAA002): Preliminary site clearance for the footings of a new boiler house, outside the scheduled area of the priory, revealed the base of a substantial medieval coralline-crag wall below the present garden wall. The wall, which is located between the S.E. corner of the priory cloister and the N.E. corner of Ashe Abbey House, survives as a linear earthwork visible along the east side of the present wall. The east side of the wall was excavated in the area of the new boiler house, and the threshold of a door through the wall was located directly to the south of the new building.

An evaluation, within the scheduled area, was carried out along the route proposed for an associated heating pipe trench, to assess the nature and quality of the surviving archaeology along the southern edge of the cloister. This involved the excavation of a series of test-holes within the cloister yard, which revealed that the existing east-west orientated wall connecting the barn with the boiler-house was built on the footings of the south cloister wall. The base of the east cloister yard wall also survives beneath the present lawn, along with the metallised flint-and-mortar cloister yard surface.

(Stuart Boulter and Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council and Boundless A-G).

*East Bergholt*, Lattinford Bridge (TM/0736; EBG016): Earth-moving operations associated with the building of a bungalow to the S.W. of Lattinford Bridge were monitored for archaeological features and finds. While the bungalow site proved to have been partially disturbed in the recent past and produced no evidence for past activity, associated landscaping did reveal a few features of Roman date. One was of particular interest as it contained fragments of a large pot of mid-to-late 1st-century date which may have been re-used as a container or oven when set on its side in the ground. The use of large pots as ovens has been noted in Essex and especially at the small Roman town at Heybridge (*pers. comm.* C. Wallace, Essex County Council).

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council and Mr W.G. Leay).

*Eriswell*, R.A.F. Lakenheath (TL/7380; ERL023): Test holes exposed an undated pit close to the 1992 excavation (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1992') and, to the east, a well-preserved sand horizon with prehistoric burnt flints and shallow features.

(Andrew Tester for Suffolk County Council).

*Felixstowe*, Maybush Lane (TM/3135; FEX086): Trial trenching across the site, fronting the west side of Maybush Lane, revealed a single ditch running from N.W. to S.E. This contained sherds of unabraded medieval pottery and metal-working slag, sealed below a brick-earth type layer containing further sherds of medieval pottery. The finds all appear to date from the 12th–13th centuries.

(Stuart Boulter and Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council and Mr G. Eyton-Jones).

*Felixstowe*, Brackenbury Battery (TM/3135; FEX088): Archaeological trial-trenching was carried out within a strip of land including the site of the demolished First World War gun

emplacement known as Brackenbury Battery, in connection with a proposal for coastal protection works along a stretch of unstable cliff in Old Felixstowe. The trenches revealed archaeological deposits dating to the Early Bronze Age, Roman and Early Saxon periods. The majority of the features identified were ditches, but the evidence from the Roman period was more extensive, with post-holes and large quantities of tile also being recovered, indicating the presence of substantial buildings and associated occupation in the area. The Roman pottery spans the 2nd to 4th centuries and includes a fairly high percentage of fine wares, which may indicate a relatively high-status site. The evaluation showed that the state of preservation was good, with the damage caused by the construction and subsequent demolition of the battery not being as extensive as predicted.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council).

*Framlingham*, Ipswich Co-operative Society Superstore (TM/2863; FML018): Following a preliminary evaluation of the site in 1993, an area of about 120sq m was excavated immediately behind the existing buildings that front on to Market Hill. This revealed evidence for intensive occupation from at least the 13th century. A series of pits were sampled, along with two slots and an associated post-hole which constituted the remnants of a late medieval timber-framed building. Quarry pits of late 15th- or 16th-century date covered much of the southern half of the excavated area and had removed almost all of the evidence for earlier occupation.

(Stuart Boulter and Tom Loader for Suffolk County Council and the Ipswich Co-operative Society).

*Gedding*, Gedding Hall (TM/9558; GDD001): Recording work was carried out on two areas of this moated site that had been excavated by agents of the owner. In the N.W. corner, the inner edge of the substantial brick revetment wall of the moated platform had been revealed, together with two other brick walls running at right angles to the moat edge. One of the walls was partly bonded into the revetment and was 0.9m thick; the other was unbonded, only 0.4m wide and of inferior construction. The thicker wall was traced in a geophysical survey by English Heritage in 1993 as continuing for at least 12m to the south of the excavated area. This wall was contemporary with the revetment and was probably part of a rear range of a courtyard-plan house of Early Tudor date, of which only the imposing gatehouse and an attached side range survive as standing buildings. The buildings are likely to have been the work of the prominent Yorkist Sir Robert Chamberlain (c.1435–1491) and/or his grandson, Sir Ralph Chamberlain (d. 1575). The second area lay alongside the eastern arm of the moat, where a number of wall stubs and footings had been revealed, all of a less substantial nature than those in the first area.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Mr W. Wyman).

*Hengrave*, Water pipeline (TL/8268): Monitoring of a narrow pipe trench in the roadside between two scheduled ancient monuments (HNV001 and 002) exposed evidence of prehistoric features, including two ditches. A pit produced a sherd of either Iron Age or Early Saxon pottery.

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

*Hitcham*, Water pipeline, Wattisham Road (TM/0053; HTC043): Monitoring of water mains replacement works revealed the sites of two medieval houses beside the road (Fig. 80). In the better preserved of the two (Fig. 81), the lines of two parallel long walls were evident, the rear one consisting of large unmortared flints, while that closest to the road frontage was represented by a broken linear spread of clean yellow chalky clay. A few linearly arranged flints on the northern edge could be the remains of a side wall. The difference in the materials may conceivably mean that the less substantial footing represented an internal partition rather than an external wall; however this would imply an unusual plan form for the building. The walls delimit a room measuring about 11m × 4m, with a central hearth indicated by a dense spread of fired clay. Less

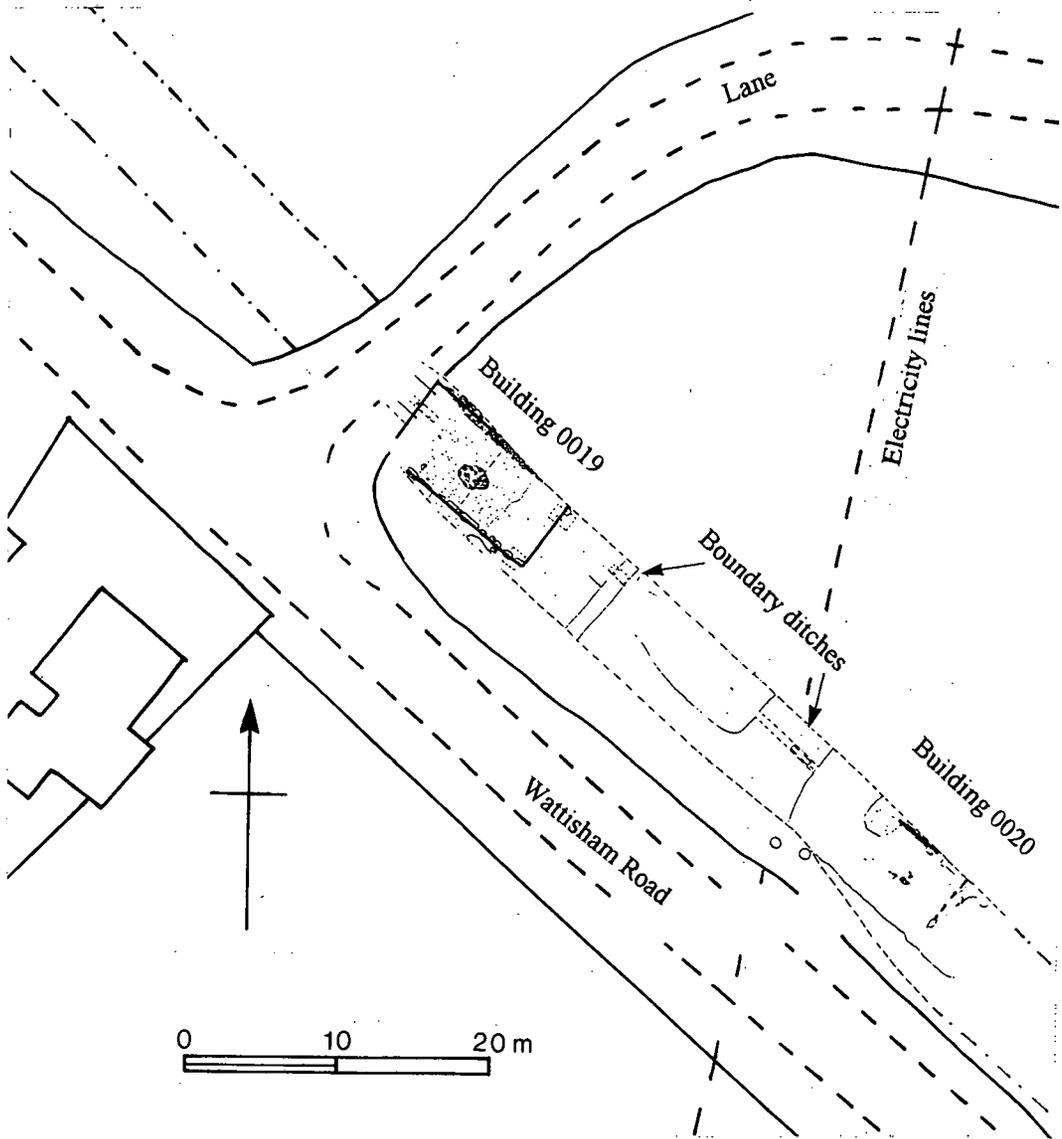


FIG. 80 – Hitcham, Wattisham Road, location plan of the two medieval house sites (0019 and 0020).

survives of the second house, but what remains suggests a similar structure to the first one. Among the unmortared flints making up the rear wall was a large fragment of a limestone mortar. The houses were separated by two narrow parallel ditches, 14m apart, running at right angles to the road. The pottery found in association with the houses suggests occupation from the 12th to the 15th centuries. The surviving manorial documentation (mainly post 1600) for this area does not suggest any lost tenements that would fit with these houses, so they may have been road-side cottages with minimal land.

(David Gill and Edward Martin for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water).

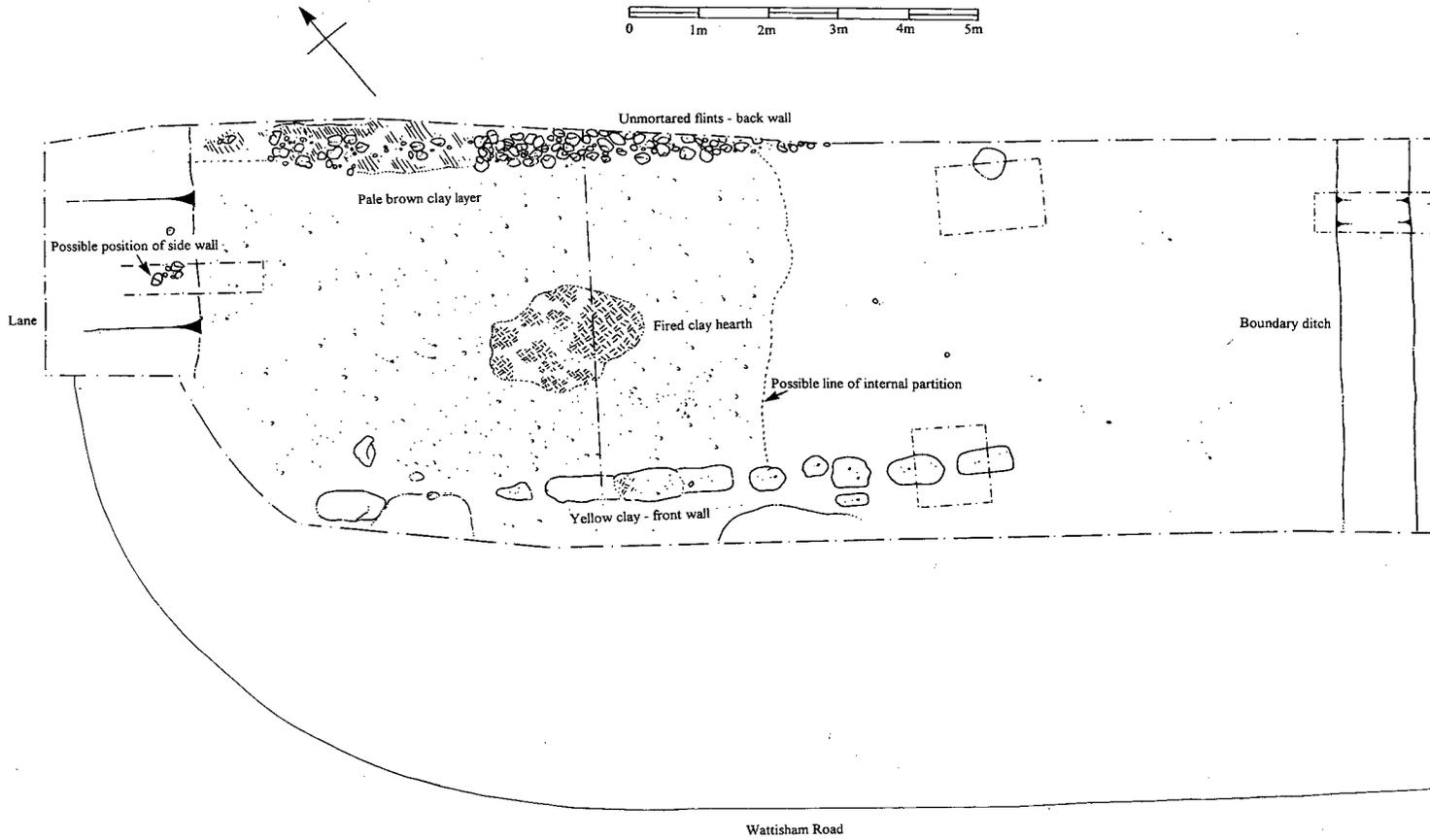


FIG. 81 - Hitcham, Wattisham Road, detailed plan of Building 0019.

*Hoxne* (TM/1776; HXN019): An area of 1,000sq m around the findspot of the 1992 Hoxne Hoard was thoroughly investigated to put this major late Roman treasure into a more secure immediate context.

The purpose of the excavation was to identify any contemporary Roman features associated with the hoard burial and to recover disturbed material still present in the top-soil and sub-soil. During all stages of work on the site an intensive and systematic use of controlled metal-detector searching was carried out, with the top- and sub-soil being removed in 10cm spits. This method of excavation proved to be particularly successful and some 330 metal objects were recovered from around the hoard site. These finds had been disturbed by agricultural activity in the last few years and were mainly silver *siliquae*, with a few gold *solidi* and a small number of object and box-fitting fragments.

An undated post-hole was located immediately to the S.W. of the hoard burial hole which could conceivably have served as a marker. No features of Roman date were identified in the excavation area, though the stray finds did include a few Roman artefacts pre-dating the hoard period. This negative evidence possibly indicates that the hoard was buried at some distance from contemporary settlements, perhaps within an overgrown or woodland environment.

The excavation did however reveal a much earlier, prehistoric, phase of settlement in the form of eight small pits and fifty-five post-holes, nineteen of which may be part of a rectilinear structure 6m across. These features were only sampled as they did not form part of the brief for the excavation. One pit contained 193 sherds of Beaker pottery and three other pits contained a mixture of Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery. A ditch of late medieval or post-medieval date was also located, which probably represents a field ditch that was infilled when Hoxne Park was extended in the 18th century.

(Kevin Forrest for Suffolk County Council and English Heritage).

*Lakenheath*, R.A.F. Lakenheath, Perimeter Fence (TL/7381; LKH160): Monitoring of works along the northern perimeter produced evidence of buried soils and a waterlogged ditch, all undated. Two small Roman ditches, aligned east-west, at the western end of the airfield may mark the edge of the Roman settlement at Caudle Head.

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

*Long Melford*, Roman Way (TL/8644; LMD082): An archaeological assessment was carried out in advance of housing development on land off Roman Way, at the south end of the known Roman settlement that underlies Long Melford. Seven trial trenches revealed up to eleven ditches and gullies containing 1st-century pottery – mostly large groups from a few vessels, indicating a primary deposit close to domestic occupation. Further ditches were revealed in the subsequent monitoring of the construction works.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and Mersea Homes).

*Mildenhall*, Mildenhall Relief Road at Holywell Row (TL/7176; MNL084): An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at the point where the proposed road touches the Anglo-Saxon cemetery that was partially excavated by T. Lethbridge in the 1920s. The evaluation established the limits of the cemetery and quantified the amount of disturbance that had been caused by extensive looting by treasure-hunters since c.1980, by legitimate archaeological excavations, by tree-planting and by a large chalk extraction pit. Excavation in the depot west of the cemetery and under the proposed roundabout uncovered medieval features and finds.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council).

*Mildenhall*, Judes Ferry Bridge (TL/6774; MNL Misc): An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of road and bridge replacement works. Trenching north and south of the river identified a river channel extending 55m south of the present river and 65m to the north,

showing how the river had moved southwards from a deep channel filled with over 4m of peat, on the north, to only shallow peat and silt deposits on the south side. To the north of the river channel, a truncated chalk subsoil was revealed that was probably the result of chalk quarrying.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council).

*Newmarket*, Palace House Mansion (TL/6663; NKT005): An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in the grounds associated with Palace Mansion prior to extensive alterations. The evaluation comprised ten external and two internal trenches, and the selective stripping of plaster from an interior wall. Seventeenth-century wall remains were found in two trenches, with evidence for structural details in the form of plaster and door sills. Two long trenches in the main garden revealed a 17th-century drain and garden soils, and earlier, pre-17th-century, layers and features. The interior trenches demonstrated that the Victorian floor levels were raised above those of the 17th century and the plaster-stripping established the existence of a surviving 17th-century wall in the 19th-century phase of construction.

(Joanna Caruth for Suffolk County Council and Forest Heath District Council).

*Oakley*, A143 Scole–Stuston By-Pass (TM/1478; OKY005): This was an extension of the work carried out last year on the southern outskirts of the Roman town underlying Scole. The new site extended from the east edge of the A140 (on the line of the Roman road) to the southern bank of the River Waveney, following the course of the new by-pass.

The site lay within a low-lying meadow that formed part of the floodplain of the river. The subsoil was a mixture of sand, gravel and clay deposits of glacio-fluvial origin. The topography was uneven, with distinct hollows and channels in which substantial peat deposits had formed. The field had always been prone to flooding and was consequently unsuitable for ploughing. The archaeology was sealed beneath an unbroken alluvial clay and silt layer and had lain undisturbed since the end of the Roman period. Evaluation trenching during the spring of 1993 had established the presence of a substantial Roman ‘dark earth’ deposit along the proposed road line, with cut features and ploughmarks beneath it.

An area of 2,450sq m was stripped from the modern road edge to the limits of the peat beds. A further 330sq m of trenching was cut into the peat, which extended to the river edge. Below the flood deposits, most of the features encountered were Roman, though there was a possible pre-Roman phase comprising two semi-circular gullies, possibly round houses, and some early pits. These contained no dating material, but may be contemporary with the small number of struck flints and sherds of Iron Age pottery that were found in residual contexts.

The Roman occupation occurred in two phases: a domestic phase followed by a period of agricultural use. In the first phase wells were constructed and the land was divided into small ditched plots. The plots were aligned on the Roman road and were similar to those encountered to the north of the river in the more central areas of the town. The layout underwent a number of minor changes, with the slight realignment of ditches and adjustment to the boundaries. These all occurred over a short period between the late 1st and the mid-to-late 2nd centuries and may have been a response to a rising water-table, as the ditches all seem to have contained standing water. The rear of the plots was delineated by a large east–west running ditch, which appears to have been a significant boundary, surviving unchanged throughout the period.

A cobbled road ran in an east–west direction across the south end of the site to a junction with the main north–south running Roman road (now the A140) and aligns with a road excavated in 1993 on the west side of it. The road surface was metalled with large flints and occasional iron-slag nodules over a bedding of coarse sand. Ditches border each edge and the surface has sunk below the level of the surrounding subsoil. Removal of the surface exposed the northern ditch of an earlier road.

Alongside the main north–south road there were areas of packed flint and a gravel pathway which led to the sites of two small buildings. The buildings had shallow footings and survived

only as two groups of small post-holes which lacked a coherent plan. One of the groups was associated with a discrete area of what may be corroded hammer-scale; the spread of this material indicated the extent of the building's floor and suggests that it might have been a smith's workshop. Iron-working slag and hearth-lining fragments were also recovered from nearby contexts.

Four wells were discovered and in each much of the shaft-lining survived. Three techniques were used in their construction: the two earlier ones were lined with fine wickerwork, while the later wells were timber-built: one had a square shaft shuttered with horizontal planks and the other was formed from pieces of an oak cask. Samples were taken for technological and possible dendrochronological analysis. The square well contained a complete and partially articulated cow skeleton. The front legs and hind quarters had been cut off to fit it into the shaft, which was then sealed with a clay cap.

By the 3rd century the area appears to have been vacated and the land put to agricultural use. Ploughlines suggest, despite the high water table, several seasons of cultivation. The ploughsoil incorporated the 'dark earth' layer: a black sand rich in finds which covered the whole of the excavation area.

Excavation of the peat was initially limited to a series of trenches. These were positioned to explore the extent of peat growth and used for the collection of environmental samples. The peat had formed within a channel which extended from the bank of the river and could be seen as a linear hollow stretching into the adjacent fields and may well represent a pre-Roman meander in the course of the river. A large quantity of animal bones was collected from the peat and casual observation suggests a high proportion of jawbones, perhaps implying a site of primary butchery.

A causeway built on close-set wooden piles spanned the channel, forming a 2m wide path from the river-edge to the higher ground. The piles were quite short, approximately 50cm long, and the thickest ones were flat-bottomed, suggesting that they were not driven through to any great depth. In excess of 400 roundwood timbers were collected from the causeway; many appeared to be young spring-cut oaks (R. Darrah, *pers. comm.*), and from the large sample an analysis of woodland management may be possible. Radiocarbon analysis has given a date of cal.A.D. 454–633 (at one sigma, cal.A.D. 429–652 at two sigma) OxA-5064, suggesting that the causeway was built between the middle of the 5th century and the beginning of the 7th century A.D.

(David Gill for Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils).

*Palgrave, The Grange* (TM/1077; PAL011): Following initial work in connection with the Scole-Stuston Bypass in 1993, an area about 30 × 15m was mechanically excavated and then hand-cleaned. A small amount of Iron Age pottery was found, but no features were located. Extensive plough damage was evident across the whole site and this could have destroyed any features.

(Mark Sommers for Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils).

*Rushmere St Andrew, Bixley Farm* (TM/2044): A series of trial-trenches excavated across a 6ha area, prior to its development for housing, revealed a number of ditches and shallow pits with *in situ* burning. The dating of these features was problematic due to a lack of finds; however a post-medieval date was attributed to three of the ditches due to the presence of brick and tile in their fills; the remaining ditches were tentatively thought to be prehistoric, on account of the presence of a single struck flint and a sherd of possible Iron Age pottery in their fill. The shallow pits with burning produced no datable finds, though samples were taken for possible radiocarbon or thermoluminescence dating. A low level of medieval activity in the S.E. of the area was indicated by the presence of a few sherds of pottery in a large shallow pit and as scattered finds in the subsoil.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd.).

*Santon Downham*, Palaeolithic site at White's Pit (TL/8486; STN015): There are few references to this prolific source of finely-made ovate bifaces, which came to light during gravel quarrying in the latter half of the 19th century. Despite observations by J.W. Flower (1867, 1869) and J. Evans (1868, 1897), the site has never been formally excavated and no detailed understanding of the immediate geology is available. The nearest section is that of T.T. Paterson (1942) some 3.5km to the west of the pit. J. Wymer (1985) who provided the best summary of the site, notes that it is at 15m O.D., about 8m above the river. It is situated on a poorly developed terrace of the Little Ouse River, within a loop of the current course of the river.

The local geology is chalk, covered by sporadic 'boulder clay' on higher areas. Flint eroded from the chalk or transported by the river is scattered over the area. The terrace gravel which contains the archaeological material is poorly understood, although the fresh condition of the artifacts would seem to suggest that transport has been minimal. The gravel deposit is likely to be extensive, albeit irregular in the locale, and survives in large quantities in solution hollows, which are a dominant feature of the area (Evans 1868). It seems that over the 50 years or so that gravel was extracted from the pit it 'produced, at a moderate estimate, several hundred specimens, some of them being the finest instances of the skill of the Palaeolithic period which can be found in Britain or indeed elsewhere' (Evans 1897, 556). These items are generally ovate bifaces, although finely-made points are also in evidence. Roe (1981) who ascribes the bifaces to his intermediate group (showing no shape preference) also notes the presence of a *Bout Coupe* form, although the presence of Levallois technique based on one flake seems questionable, judging from the illustration in Wymer (1985, 108).

During the 1920s the land was planted with conifers and has since come under the auspices of the Forestry Commission. Until the summer of 1994 the site was inaccessible due to tree cover, but the area has now been clear-felled and, for the first time in seventy years, has become available for investigation. An initial section was excavated through the S.W. side of the pit, with the object of evaluating the Pleistocene geology and locating the archaeological horizon within this. The section was not excavated down to the chalk during the 1994 season, although the working stratigraphy is as follows:

*Stratum Description*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Unconsolidated Holocene sands and top-soil.   |
| 2 | Cross-bedded yellow and white sands.  |
| 3 | Dark medium gravel with overlying coarse gravel band.<br>All archaeology from base of the medium gravels. |
| 4 | Decalcified dark brown clay with silt rhythmites.   |
| 5 | Thin fine gravel layer.   |
| 6 | Olive grey clay with silt rhythmites.   |
| 7 | Graded sands: heavily faulted.  |

At present it would seem that strata 4–7 represent an active proglacial environment, quite possibly the Anglian cold phase. The interface of strata 4 (clay) and 3 (containing the archaeological horizon) is erosional in nature. There is also a small fault running S.E. to N.W., confirming that the immediate area has been subject to solution and collapse. All archaeological finds from the section cutting came from the base of the dark medium gravels (3), supporting the original investigators, who noted that 'the flint implements occur in most abundance at the base of these fluviatile gravels' (Evans 1868, 447).

Although stratum 3 seemed to taper out and disappear away from the river (S.W.) and was truncated by quarrying towards the river (N., i.e. into the pit), some archaeological material was recovered. This included several large flakes, a biface manufacturing flake and a 'globular' core with alternate flaking *sensu* Ashton (1992). The amount of archaeological material recovered from

the relatively restricted area of stratum 3 that was excavated allows some confidence in correlating this with the archaeological horizon of the original investigators. The recovery of the biface manufacturing flake also supports this correlation. Whilst not mint in condition, the 1994 finds are fresh, with very little abrasion to the *arêtes*. This too corresponds with the condition of extant museum collections.

This preliminary investigation was successful in achieving its objective of identifying the archaeological horizon and constructing a working understanding of the geological sequence. The results were encouraging enough to warrant a full season of excavation in the future. It is envisaged that this will take place in the summer of 1995.

We are grateful to the Forestry Commission for permission to investigate this site, to John Wymer for his considerable assistance throughout the course of the investigation, and to Dr Simon Lewis for his advice on the geological sequence.

(Paul Pettitt and Mark White, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge).

*Stanstead*, Roman Villa (STS010): Emergency recording work was carried out after two walls of a Roman villa were exposed in a field. The site had previously been identified as a tile and pottery scatter, but trial trenches dug by a local enthusiast had located actual building remains. These consisted of substantial flint and mortar footings 0.65m wide and seven courses high, forming the S.E. corner of a room measuring at least 7m × 6m. Fragments of hypocaust tiles, *opus signinum* flooring and *tesserae*, as well as the rubble of crushed wall plaster, demonstrate that this was a well-appointed Roman building.

Three floor levels were recorded, the earliest being a 'crazy paving' of re-used roof- and flue-tile fragments, followed by two later floors of rammed chalk laid over rubble from the villa. These floors do not demonstrate the craftsmanship evident in other parts of the building, and suggest declining standards of occupation.

Features predating the building were also identified, one of which contained a sherd of samian with a *graffito*.

(David Gill for Suffolk County Council).

*Stonham Aspal*, Water Main Replacement (TM/1359; SAL019): Monitoring of top-soil stripping and pipe-laying operations revealed a small area with a low density of Roman features, some 130m to the S.W. of a known Roman bath house (SAL001). This evidence of settlement and agricultural activity may represent the western edge of a villa complex.

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

*Stuston*, A140 Scole-Dickleburgh Road Improvement (TM/1478; SUS005): Flood improvement works, necessitated by the recent road construction over the River Waveney, resulted in an extension to the excavations begun in 1993 (see 'Archaeology in Suffolk 1993'). A strip of ground about 4.5m wide was investigated on the western edge of Area 6, revealing two features of particular significance. First, the butt ends of a sequence of clay troughs which lay largely within a square pit with sides 4m long. Secondly, a large corn-drying oven with an almost square stoke pit lined with clay, leading to a flue at least 70cm wide. The whole structure was set in a pit and the flue was surrounded by a clay 'apron' 6m across. Analysis by Peter Murphy of soil samples taken from the stoke pit revealed partially-sprouted charred grain. This tends to confirm the suggestion made in 1993 that the area was used by the Romans for malting and brewing.

A number of pits, similar to those excavated in 1993, were also excavated, as were four ditches that continued across the site. In the field to the west, the water channel partially dug in 1993 was traced almost to the river bank; no further structures were found, but two Roman ditches led to the channel from the south. There were several shallow features and two human cremations in hand-made pots, all of which are undated.

During the monitoring of the road-line, two ditches were sectioned in the field to the south of Area 6. One of these has been suggested as a possible Roman fort ditch (Edwards 1977). Neither ditch was dated, but both contained peat, which suggests that they had been left open and were therefore more likely to be field boundaries.

(Andrew Tester for Suffolk County Council and the Department of Transport).

*Stuston*, Land west of Willow Farm (TM/1378; SUS020): An evaluation was carried out on a plot of land on the southern edge of the medieval green at Stuston, in advance of a housing development. This revealed a number of ditches which probably represented the boundaries and drainage ditches of fields directly south of the green. Two main ditch alignments were recognised, although the sparse ceramic evidence recovered indicated that they were all part of the same medieval phase of activity on the site. A pocket of soil, which produced finds of medieval date, was also found to survive in a natural hollow in the proximity of a pond which had been backfilled in living memory. The follow-up watching brief on the building works identified a large east-west orientated ditch on the edge of the green, but no evidence for occupation.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Harvey and Leech Ltd).

*Thorington*, Park Farm Quarry (TM/4272; TNG022 & 023): A watching brief on top- and sub-soil stripping revealed more evidence for Roman settlement. On the eastern edge of the Phase 4 workings, adjacent to the A12 road, a badly damaged cremation burial in a pottery vessel of late 1st- to 2nd-century date was recovered (TNG022). The area around the burial was carefully examined for further cremations but none were located. However a scatter of Roman pottery sherds was found some 50m to the N.E. of the burial, possibly indicating a settlement area (TNG023). No archaeological features were recognised in the latter area as sub-soil stripping had already removed a considerable amount of the overburden.

(John Newman for Suffolk County Council).

*Tuddenham St Martin*, Tuddenham–Playford Rising Main (TM/2047–1947; TDM007, 015, 016): Monitoring of the soil stripping along the route of this pipeline identified three areas for investigation. The follow-up works included a metal-detector survey and excavation.

TDM007: Manual cleaning around a pottery scatter revealed two pits. One pit contained late Roman pottery of 3rd/4th-century date, a damaged late 3rd-century bronze coin and an iron axe head, while the other produced a few sherds of predominantly late Roman pottery and a significant number of sherds of hand-made Early Saxon pottery. In addition to these, the metal detecting produced a fragment of an Early Saxon cruciform brooch and an early 4th-century coin of Constantine I.

TDM015: Manual cleaning around a pottery scatter failed to reveal any features. It became evident that all the finds were from within a layer of hillwash and had almost certainly come from a previously known site (TDM002) upslope to the north. The finds included Roman and Early Saxon pottery, four Constantinian coins from the mid 4th century and a few undiagnostic worked flints.

TDM016: The manual cleaning around an extensive area of burning revealed two ditches and a shallow pit. The fill of one of the ditches was sterile, while the other ditch and the pit only produced quantities of burnt flint and charcoal. A sample of hazel and alder charcoal taken for radiocarbon dating gave a date of cal.B.C. 998–828 (at one sigma; cal.B.C. 1100–800 at two sigma) AA-13996.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council and Anglian Water Services Ltd).

*Walpole*, Sewerage Scheme (TM/3674; WLP007): Trench excavation for pipe-laying to the west of Walpole Bridge, in the floodplain of the River Blyth, revealed six large timber piles and a

few cross pieces, which appear to have been part of a causeway structure. This structure is under the present road and the section disturbed by the trench spans a pocket of deep peat, giving the road a firm foundation. Three timber samples, all of oak, were submitted for dendrochronological dating at the University of Sheffield; however, although one pile had 148 rings, it proved impossible to match the sequence with any reference chronologies. A duplicate sample was therefore submitted for radiocarbon dating and the results indicate that the causeway structure is of Middle to Late Saxon date (cal.A.D. 770–990 (at 2 sigma), GU-4023).

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

*Wantisden*, Church of St John the Baptist (TM/3653; WNN006): A photographic and drawn record was made of the north and south walls of the nave and chancel, prior to repointing. The earliest part of the standing church, dating to the 11th or early 12th century, included the wall fabric of the nave and the west end of the chancel, with an original, though patched, Norman round-headed doorway on the south side of the nave and a round-headed single-light window on the north side of the chancel. Two other round-headed, but blocked, features were also noted on the north side of the nave. The lift lines relating to the original construction of the flint-rubble walls could clearly be seen, together with their relationship to the contemporary and later architectural features. The later alterations and insertions included a number of features, which from their stylistic differences and stratigraphic relationships would seem to represent a series of alterations in the Decorated style, spanning the later years of the 13th century and the beginning of the 14th century. The alterations of this period included the extension or rebuilding of the east end of the chancel, the insertion or replacement of a priest's doorway on the south side of the chancel and of a doorway on the north side of the nave, now blocked. Three of the existing windows also date from this period, including the south nave window and the two south chancel windows. The window built of red brick and tile, on the north side of the nave, was attributed to the 16th or 17th century. Other patching of similar date, using the same materials, included the mullion of the south nave window and the top of the nave wall adjoining the tower. A number of more recent small-scale repairs were also recorded, though the exact dating of these was not possible.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council, Wantisden Parochial Church Council and English Heritage).

*West Stow*, Beeches Pit (TL/7971; WSW009): Excavations continued in July/August in the trenches AF and AH, begun in 1993. Among some hundreds of flint artifacts, a key find was the tip part of a biface, whose butt was found in 1993. The pieces were separated by about a metre. Post-excavation work has continued in Liverpool, carried out by S. Andresen on artefact taphonomy, D.A. Bell on faunal taphonomy, S. Haritou on burnt flint, J. Hallos on artifact form and T. Pumphrey on artifact technology. About forty refits have been found, chiefly from one core, indicating that post-depositional disturbance was slight in this area. Close inspection has shown that retouch is very rare on artifacts from the site. Work on the geology of the site has been summarised in Bridgeland *et al.* 1994. An archaeological report is being prepared for submission to *Geoarchaeology*.

We thank Forest Enterprise and Mr and Mrs J. Browning for their help.

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

*Wortham* (TM/0977; WTM020): Further work was carried out to examine an area of Early Saxon activity suggested by evaluation work in connection with the Scole-Stuston Bypass in 1993, particularly the finding of a 6th-century small-long brooch. Three separate areas totalling about 570sq m were mechanically stripped and then manually cleaned. In the largest of the three areas, two pits and a small ditch were recorded. The ditch ran north to south and contained a small amount of Roman pottery. No features were found in the other two areas, although a 6th-century cruciform brooch was found with a metal detector.

In an adjacent field a 90 × 1.5m trench was mechanically excavated and then hand-cleaned, but only modern features were found. Further metal-detector finds from the vicinity of the excavations include a Roman brooch and fragments of two other brooches, one Roman and one Anglo-Saxon.

Although no graves were found, the two brooches and a fragment of a third are strong indicators that there may have been a cemetery here, but that it had possibly been destroyed by soil erosion and modern farming methods.

(Mark Sommers for Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils).

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