

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SUFFOLK 2020

*compiled by FAYE MINTER, JAMES ROLFE and ALICE DE LEO with
object drawings by DONNA WREATHALL*

THIS IS A selection of the new discoveries reported in 2020. Information on these has been incorporated into the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (formerly the Sites and Monuments Record), which is maintained by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council at Bury St Edmunds. Where available, the record number is quoted at the beginning of each entry. The Suffolk Historic Environment Record is now partially accessible online via the Suffolk Heritage Explorer web pages (<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk>). Many of the excavation/evaluation reports are also available online via the Archaeological Data Service (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/>).

Most of the finds are recorded through the national Portable Antiquities Scheme, the Suffolk part of which is also based in the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council. Further details and images of many of the finds can be found on the Scheme's website (<http://finds.org.uk/database>) and for many of the finds listed here the PAS reference number is included in the text. During 2020 the PAS finds in Suffolk were recorded by Anna Booth, Riccardo Caravello and Phil Hughes. 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:

Mdf	Metal detector find		
PAS	Portable Antiquities Scheme (see above). The Suffolk contact for this national scheme is Anna Booth (tel. 01284 741241; e-mail anna.booth@suffolk.gov.uk).		
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Bury Resource Centre, Hollow Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7AY (tel. 01284 741230; e-mail archaeology@suffolk.gov.uk)		
SHER	Suffolk Historic Environment Record (see above)		
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		

INDIVIDUAL FINDS AND DISCOVERIES

Ashbocking (ABK 001). **IA. Ro.** Known site. Copper-alloy Nauheim-derivative brooch (SF-AA4B76), terret (SF-018531) (Fig. 35 A), enamelled duck brooch (SF-AB97C5) (Fig. 35 C), Colchester-derivative brooches (SF-AD92E9, SF-AB403D, SF-AABBBE, SF-AD2D2A). (Mdf).

Ashbocking (ABK 029). **Sx.** Copper-alloy cruciform brooch (SF-C055D6) (Fig. 36 B). (Mdf).

Ashfield cum Thorpe (AST 043). **Ro.** Gold finger ring 4th century (SF-5347D7) (Fig. 37). (Mdf).

Badley (BAD 042). **BA.** Copper-alloy hoard containing 81 objects in total including tools, weapons, mould and casting waste (SF-ADF017). (Mdf).

Badwell Ash (BAA 058). **Md.** Gold quarter noble of Edward III (SF-68F35A). (Mdf).

Brantham (BNT 104). **BA.** Copper-alloy hoard containing 83 objects in total (SF-9EA5F9). (Mdf).

Brent Eleigh (BTE 052). **Ro.** 1st-, 3rd- and 4th-century coinage, copper-alloy knee brooch (SF-BB1EBB) and Colchester-derivative brooch (SF-BAB2C0). (Mdf).

Butley (BUT 110). **Md.** Silver 13th-century seal matrix, pointed oval in shape with an inset reused Roman gem intaglio and the inscription '+SIGILVM SECRETI' (SF-AF8B25) (Fig. 38). (Mdf).

Debenham (DBN 240). **IA.** Gold quarter *stater* of the Eastern region (Cunobelin), ABC 2810 (PUBLIC-9DCAFA). (Mdf).

Earl Stonham (SRL 067). **Md.** Copper-alloy seal matrix, inscribed 'LE

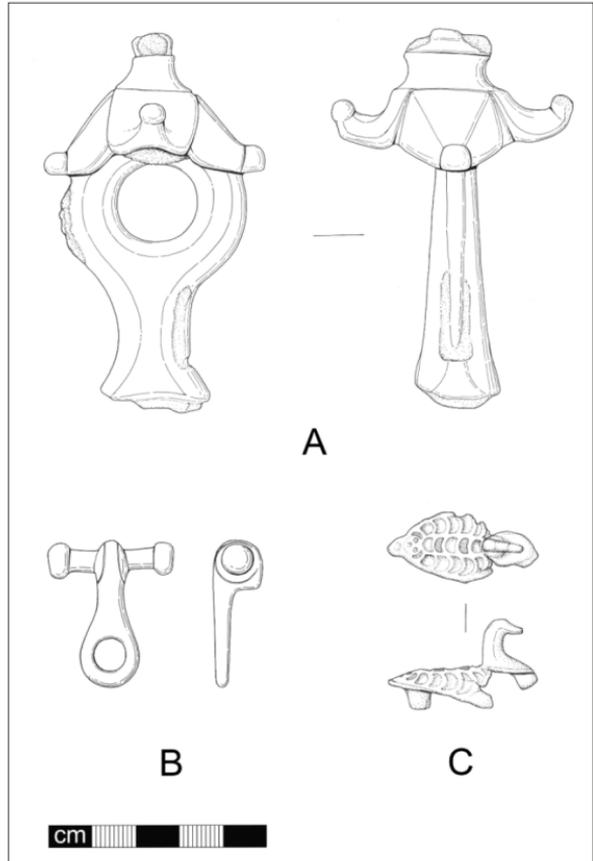


FIG. 35 – Iron Age copper-alloy terret from Ashbocking (A); toggle from Shottisham (B); Roman duck brooch from Ashbocking (C).

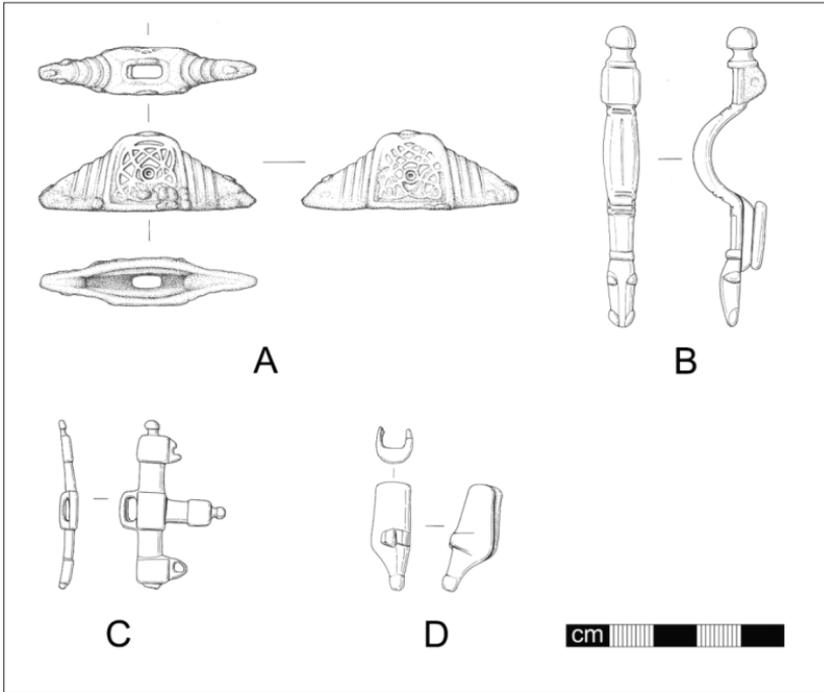


FIG. 36 – Saxon copper-alloy pommel cap from Raydon (A); copper-alloy cruciform brooch from Ashbocking (B); copper-alloy wrist clasp from Finningham (C); stirrup terminal from Rickinghall Inferior (D).

CONTRE . SEAV . DE MELERE' (the counter seal of Melere) and bearing the arms of France Ancient (*[azure] semée-de-lis [or]*) dimidiating a complex coat of arms which seems to consist of a double cogwheel overlain by gyronny of (probably) eight (SF-33701B). (Mdf).

Finningham (FNN 040). **Sx.** Copper-alloy strap-end (SF-CECF53) and wrist clasp (SF-51AB7E) (Fig. 36 C). (Mdf).

Framsden (FRD 057). **Ro.** Hoard of 20 silver republican and early imperial *denarii* (SF-52D93E). (Mdf).

Gipping (GPP 017). **BA.** Two copper-alloy palstave axeheads (SF-E14B81). (Mdf).

Lindsey (LSY 021). **PM.** Hoard of 1069 silver coins including half-crowns, shillings and sixpences with examples from all rulers from Edward VI to Charles I. The hoard was deposited in the reign of Charles I (in 1644–5) during the English Civil War (SF-FF5EA5). (Mdf).

Long Melford (LMD 353). **Md.** Two gold quarter nobles, one of Edward II, and the other of Henry V (NMS-2745FE). (Mdf).

Mendham (MDM 184). **IA. Ro.** Silver unit of the Iceni, ABC 1579 (SF-216CB6), copper-alloy enamelled seal box lid (SF-0F9DA4). (Mdf).



FIG. 37 – Roman gold finger ring from Ashfield cum Thorpe.



FIG. 38 – Medieval silver seal matrix from Butley.

Mendham (MDM 141). **Sx.** Copper-alloy cruciform brooches (SF-23EE89, SF-23AACC, SF-22ED28), radiate-headed brooch (SF-226A78) and wrist clasp (SF-2545B1). (Mdf).

Pakefield, Lowestoft (LWT 416). **Pa.** Flint flake (NMS-970A76). (Fieldwalking).

Raydon (RAY 036). **Sx.** Copper-alloy sword pommel (SF-703A87) (Fig. 36 A). (Mdf).

Rickinghall Inferior (RKN 070). **Sx.** Copper-alloy cruciform brooch (SF-C87434), girdle hanger (SF-C8D21E), wrist clasps (SF-C84BBB and SF-C8202D) and stirrup terminal (SF-C892B5) (Fig. 36 D). (Mdf).

Shelland (SLD 014). **PM.** Three worn silver William III shillings found close together, probable purse hoard (NMS-A663EC). (Mdf).

Shottisham (STT 093). **IA. Ro.** Copper-alloy toggle (SF-702276) (Fig. 36 B). (Mdf).

South Elmham, St James (SEJ 061). **IA. Ro.** Copper-alloy ring fitting (SF-103F6B) and crescent-headed linch pin (SF-10368B). (Mdf).

Westhorpe (WTP 037). **IA.** Gold quarter *stater* of the North Thames region, VA 1460 (SF-BA70D7). (Mdf).

Wilby (WBY 056). **Ro. Sx.** 3rd- and 4th-century coinage, Roman pottery, silver *sceatta* of Beonna (SF-B8BD96), copper-alloy wrist clasp (SF-22D4D7). (Mdf).

Winston (WNT 075). **Sx.** Copper-alloy Anglo-Scandinavian strap fitting (SF-29C896), harness fittings (SF-28D807 and SF-28B705) and buckle (SF-296151). (Mdf).

SURVEYS

Mildenhall, Land to the W of Beeches Road, West Row (TL/6776; MNL 1145). A magnetometer survey of c.15ha was conducted. Roman and medieval features were excavated in evaluation trenches in 2015. The geophysical work has enabled these features to be put into the context of an overall site plan. A series of strongly positive linear anomalies in the W part of the survey area define the main outlines of the Roman site, which evidently continues NW beyond the survey area. A large, square-cornered ditch forms part of an outer enclosure, with two parallel ditches defining a probable trackway extending to its S. The probable access point from the enclosure to the trackway is blocked by a short, detached length of ditch. Within and around the enclosure is a rectilinear arrangement of ditches which probably belong to several different phases of site development. There are also two areas of more complex magnetic response: a chain of intense, amorphous positive anomalies just inside the S arm of the main enclosure ditch; and a nebulous positive anomaly close to the probable entrance. The former suggests a group of pits or small spreads of magnetically enhanced

debris (midden, industrial residue, burnt soil, etc.), whilst the latter corresponds to a pocket of 'dark earth' exposed by the trial trench excavation. At the extreme W of the survey area, on the Beeches Road frontage, there are some small, irregular positive anomalies with a larger nebulous anomaly to their N. These lie approximately where the trial trench evaluation located medieval ditches and pits, but cannot be correlated with any specific known features. It is most likely that they represent spreads of archaeological material or small groups of features that are too tightly clustered to be individually resolved.

John Walford, MOLA Northampton,
for Wood PLC.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Acton, Land S of Tamage Road (TL/8944; ACT 045). Evaluation revealed Late Iron Age ditches in the N part of the site and a small assemblage of Neolithic flint from a natural feature in the S. Targeted excavation of the Iron Age remains revealed that the ditches defined the S side of a rectilinear enclosure, which contained four small pits arranged in a line along the enclosure's S boundary, and one larger pit, a chalk quarry containing worked deer antler. From the subsoil, a Roman brooch overlying a natural solution hollow was also found. More recent activity was evident from a set of poorly dated linear ditches, which respect the layout of surrounding fields depicted on 19th-century maps.

Anthony Haskins and Graeme Clarke,
OA East, for RPS Consulting Ltd.

Badwell Ash, Moat House Farm (TM/0168; BAA 005). The earliest feature revealed by the archaeological evaluation was a pit, which contained an abraded medieval cooking pot rim dated to the late 12th–14th centuries. Two large linear features were also found, these may represent the W and S arms of the moat, infilled in the 18th–19th centuries to allow for the construction of a range of farm buildings and yard. The moat ditch contained an oak plank, which likely formed part of the internal fittings of an agricultural structure or outbuilding.

Vinny Monahan, Archaeological Solutions,
for O. Seaman & Son Ltd.

Badwell Ash, Land at the Broadway, Back Lane (TL/9969; BAA 053). Trial trench evaluation identified outlying Roman agricultural activity, represented by a ditch and layer, associated with the more concentrated activity on the adjacent sites excavated in 2017 and 2018. The layer produced the largest quantity of finds on the site and would seem to be the remains of a former Roman soil. This is further supported by the small collection of pottery that represents some form of settled domestic activity. Neither of the two assemblages appear to be later than the 2nd century in date. The ceramic building material recovered indicates (comparably to the adjacent site) that there is a significant Roman structure in the vicinity of the sites.

Martin Brook, Britannia Archaeology Ltd,
for SW Harvey.

Barham, Barham Quarry, Sandy Lane (TM/1351; BRH 094). Evaluation was undertaken to the N and S of the existing quarry. The N-most trenches revealed small pits and associated flint assemblages dating to the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age, as well as later Iron Age and Early Roman features believed to be the continuation of a settlement encountered in

excavations from 2004–2009. Trenches to the SE uncovered a later post-medieval ditch, still visible on late 19th-century Ordnance Survey maps.

Tom Collie, OA East,
for Andrew Josephs Associates.

Blundeston, Prison (TM/5196; BLN 097). Following a large, trenched evaluation of the former prison site, two areas of archaeological significance were identified and subsequently recorded during open excavation. A series of ditches and small enclosures were present in the main excavation area, most of which are likely to be associated with phases of medieval field systems. Within this area of activity was a circular feature, which comprised a ring of compacted clay, c.3m in diameter, around a shallow central pit. The purpose of this probable medieval feature is currently uncertain, but an agricultural function seems most likely. Approximately 10m S of this feature, the base of a circular, clay-lined oven was identified, which appeared to be located in the SW corner of a building or post-built shelter. Three phases of firing and remodelling were identified in this feature, each denoted by a layer of heat-affected clay and stone-lined floor, the earliest of which contained numerous fragments of lava stone quern. A layer of material containing late Anglo-Saxon pottery and rich in charcoal and heat-affected clay fragments, which extended across the area of the apparent structure, is likely to represent material associated with firing, cleaning and remodelling of the feature. A small number of large, post-medieval ditches were also recorded. Away from this main activity, in the S part of the site, a small number of ditches appear to be remnants of prehistoric activity. These lie close to the location of a pit found during the evaluation, which contained Early Neolithic pottery. Both excavation areas had been subject to varying degrees of modern disturbance and truncation caused by activity associated with the 1960s-built prison.

Linzi Everett, Cotswold Archaeology,
for Badger Building Ltd.

Botesdale, Land S of Diss Road (TM/0576; BOT 053). A trial trench evaluation found three possible prehistoric pits and a ditch terminus, which contained a struck flint. The presence of prehistoric features would fit in with the evidence for dispersed prehistoric activity in the area around the site, for example, the Neolithic flints found c.300m to the W at Back Hills (SHER BOT 004). A pit and ditch uncovered in the S half of the site date to the post-medieval period, the ditch corresponds with a footpath marked on the 1885 1st-edition Ordnance Survey map.

Romy McIntosh and Peter Crawley, Pre-Construct Archaeology,
for Lanpro Services Ltd on behalf of Bennet Homes.

Brantham, Land S of Ipswich Road (TM/1134; BNT 089). A trial trench revealed medieval field boundary ditches and part of a rectangular ditched enclosure dating to the 12th–13th centuries and presumably associated with the nearby medieval settlement of Brantham. A large ceramic assemblage of cooking and serving wares is suggestive of domestic occupation nearby. Post-medieval field boundary ditches corresponding to those shown on historic mapping of the 19th and 20th centuries were also found.

Rob Cullum, Archaeology South-East,
for RPS Consulting Services Ltd.

Brome, A140 roundabout. (TM/1327; BRM 134). An archaeological excavation was undertaken as part of road improvements to the A140 between Brome and Eye. The excavation area was located at the W end of the development, targeted on a Late Iron

Age/Roman ditch containing a large assemblage of pottery, identified in a previous evaluation of the site. The excavation and evaluation identified three periods of activity in the Early Roman period, post-medieval and modern periods. The earliest finds from the site are two sherds of Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age pottery and a few flint flakes found as residual finds within later features. Settlement evidence of the Early Roman period is defined by an enclosure ditch and single pit that contained a large assemblage of pottery. The enclosure appears to have been cut by the line of the A140 (the former Roman road), thus suggesting that the use of the enclosure may date to the Late Iron Age and that it was filled in during the Early Roman period, immediately before the Roman road was constructed. The presence of post-medieval ditches with limited finds suggests the site was located in open fields during this time and the presence of modern pits likely relate to improvements to the A140, or to the construction and demolition of Eye Airfield prior to and after WW2.

Martin Cuthbert, Cotswold Archaeology,
for Suffolk Highways.

Bury St Edmunds, Land adjacent to Woodford Gardens (TL/8565; BSE 689). An archaeological evaluation revealed a ditch, which contained sherds of a Belgic grog-tempered bowl that probably dates from the first half of the 1st century AD.

John Haygreen, Archaeological Solutions,
for Brickfield Homes (East Anglia) Ltd.

Bury St Edmunds, No. 6, The Great Churchyard (TL/8564; BSE 668). An archaeological evaluation revealed 18th–19th-century made ground deposits overlying a medieval layer and medieval features, mostly pits. The medieval layer and the medieval features contained small quantities of pottery, ceramic building material, animal bone, iron nails and shell. One pit contained a silver long cross penny of Edward I. Residual finds of human bone, in small numbers, were present in a medieval pit and two ‘made ground’ layers. No *in situ* burials were present.

Gareth Barlow, Archaeological Solutions, for Big Buddha Developments.

Capel St Mary, Land E of Longfield Road (TM/0938; CSM 047). An excavation was carried out as the fourth phase of archaeological fieldwork on the site, having been preceded by a geophysical survey and two phases of trial trench evaluation. Two areas of the site (combined area 0.39ha) were excavated, targeting the significant results of previous fieldwork. Single sherds of Middle Bronze Age and Late Iron Age pottery (possibly residual) from two small pits provided the only evidence for prehistoric activity within the excavated areas.

Part of a large, ditched enclosure, dated to the Early Roman period (AD 50–100), was investigated. The enclosing ditch was substantial, surviving up to 4.5m wide by 1m deep; it appeared to have been backfilled deliberately after a relatively short period of use. Within the enclosure, some shallow gullies and a scatter of small pits containing small amounts of pottery suggested domestic activity, although there was no evidence for buildings or structures. Outside the enclosure, a linear ditch (perhaps a field boundary or drainage feature) and an isolated pit indicated more widespread activity during the Early Roman period. There was nothing to suggest that Roman occupation continued beyond the 1st century.

Part of a short-lived medieval farmstead/settlement, extending beyond the S boundary of the site, was represented by a sequence of intercutting ditches and a scatter of small pits and possible post-holes, all dated by pottery to the late 12th–early 13th centuries. The evidence suggests a shifting pattern of enclosures or field boundaries, with occupation nearby but no clear indications of buildings/structures within the excavated areas.

Post-medieval agricultural land use was demonstrated by some field boundary ditches and a former track (part of Butchers Lane) running along the S boundary of the site.

Kieron Heard, Archaeology South-East,
for RPS Group.

Creeping St Peter, Gateway 14 (TM/0625; CRP 030). An excavation of 0.13ha was undertaken. Archaeological features included a scatter of small pits and some possible post-holes. The majority of these features were undated although three of the cuts produced limited quantities of prehistoric pottery. Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from a group of intercutting pits, probably related to clay extraction. An adjacent large pit (c.10m by 6m and 1.8m deep) was also interpreted as a probable extraction pit that was later used as a waterhole, as suggested by the relatively sterile silt fill and a cobbled surface along part of the edge. An upper layer within the fill produced a modest but significant assemblage of Middle Iron Age pottery, along with some slightly earlier sherds, and other domestic waste, suggesting it became the site of a midden in later phase, presumably associated with a nearby occupation site.

Mark Sommers, Cotswold Archaeology, for JAYNIC
on behalf of Mid Suffolk District Council.

Eye, Eye Library, Buckshorn Lane (TM/1473; EYE 236). The evaluation was undertaken due to the site's proximity to Eye Castle, a scheduled monument, the boundary of which lies 50m away. The evaluation identified the line of the outer bailey defensive ditch for Eye Castle, as well as located the probable location of one of the moat bridges that was most likely destroyed in the 13th century. A timber was found, which appears to be a plate from the base of a structure in the bottom of the ditch; this is thought to have been the baseplate of a trestle for a timber bridge spanning the ditch (Fig. 39). Aspects of the technology point to a date range for this structure; the trestle is dated between, at the earliest, c.1200 and the demolition of the castle in c.1265. It is unlikely that this was the first bridge on this site, as this side faces the market in Eye and so may therefore be part of the last bridge across the outer bailey ditch. The trestle was deliberately dismantled and the plate, as a very heavy and waterlogged piece of timber, may simply have been too difficult to lift out and so was deliberately abandoned as the ditch was filled.

Martin Brook,
Britannia Archaeology Ltd,
for Roundwood Restorations Ltd.



FIG. 39 – Medieval timber from Eye
(© Britannia Archaeology).

Eye, Land between Broad Lane and Dove Lane (TM/1473; EYE 203). Trenched evaluation was undertaken, associated with residential development. Occupational evidence probably spanning the period from the 12th/13th to 15th centuries was recorded during the evaluation in the form of domestic refuse pits and linear features. Uncommon and early evidence of the growing of asparagus was recorded.

Chris Birks, for LDA
Developments Ltd.

Haughley, Land W of Fishponds Way (TM/0361; HGH 060). Further excavation was carried out following on from an open area excavation in 2019, which found significant prehistoric remains, including a concentration of Early Neolithic (c.4000–3000 BC) pits and tree hollows. The 2020 excavation recorded a further two pits and six tree hollows, containing additional groups of Mildenhall-ware/plain bowl pottery, large assemblages of struck flint and debitage from flint-working, and some charred cereal grain, hazelnut shells and other plant remains. Overall, the focus of Early Neolithic activity uncovered at the site comprises 41 pits and 21 tree throws, together containing some 2939 struck flints and 217 sherds (1.5kg) of Early Neolithic pottery. The activity most likely represents a temporary settlement site beside this tributary stream of the river Gipping, which was perhaps visited periodically or seasonally by the same group or groups of people. A programme of radiocarbon dating and other analysis is underway.

Judy Mlynarska and Tom Woolhouse, Pre-Construct Archaeology,
for RPS Consulting Ltd on behalf of Bellway Homes.

Ipswich, Proposed multi-storey car park site, Portman Road (TM/1544; IPS 2075). Three window-sampled boreholes at the multi-storey car park site revealed a sedimentary sequence that reflects a developing riverine environment fairly typical of lowland river systems. Interbedded sand and gravel deposits suggest dynamic channel activity, transitioning towards more stable channel formation, probably focused to the E of the site, which takes on the character of accreting marshland by the Early Bronze Age. Wetland conditions appear to have endured, at least within the E portion of the site, to the end of the medieval period, confirming the historic ‘Town Marsh’ status of the area. A possible palaeochannel was recorded running N–S through the centre of the site at c.0.80m AOD. A C14 date from a wood fragment towards the base of the presumed channel yielded a date of 913–817 cal. BC, suggesting it became active during the Late Bronze Age.

Dave Bescoby, Archaeological Solutions,
for Suffolk County Council.

Ingham, Land at Place Farm (TL/84678 and TL/8469; ING 044, TMW 016, FSG 037). Evaluation and subsequent excavation revealed five areas of later prehistoric and Romano-British features along the route of a proposed service trench. Within a tributary valley at the N end of the scheme, many pits were uncovered in Areas A and B, probably representing an E-ward extension of Neolithic to Iron Age settlement activity previously excavated at Ingham Quarry. To the S, Area C investigated Romano-British settlement remains, probably one part of an Early to Middle Roman farmstead. Overlooking the river Lark at the S end of the scheme, Areas D and E encountered further settlement remains, which add to previously identified areas of later prehistoric occupation excavated at Fornham Park and Ingham Quarry.

Tom Collie, OA East, for Andrew Josephs Associates
on behalf of Low Carbon Farming 6 Ltd.

Ingham, Place Farm (TL/8470; ING 150). Archaeological investigation revealed pits and post-holes dating to the Early Iron Age. Two post-holes possibly formed a windshield or a drying rack structure, whilst the pits produced a moderate assemblage of Early Iron Age pottery and other finds consistent with refuse from domestic activity, suggesting close proximity to an area of settlement. In the W of the site, a post-medieval field boundary ditch and a large gravel extraction pit were uncovered.

Daria Adamson, OA East, for Andrew Josephs Associates
on behalf of Genevieve Farms Park Farm.

Kelsale Main Road (TM/3864; KCC 105). Following an archaeological evaluation, an area of 0.28ha was excavated. Early medieval activity was identified across the site in the form of ditches, gullies, pits and a small group of possible stake-holes. Artefactual evidence suggests activity in the late 11th or early 12th centuries, which possibly continued into the 13th century. The ditches comprised the corners of at least one, probably rectangular, enclosure, the greater parts of which lay beyond the site boundaries, along with parallel ditches marking small linear fields or strips. No positive evidence for structures within the site were identified. Fired clay fragments were recovered from many of the features that presumably originated from ovens. Part of what is probably an iron hinge was also retrieved, suggesting the presence of former structures in the vicinity. It is likely the recorded features related to occupation along Rose Lane that runs roughly E–W, c.60m N of the site. A post-medieval ditch and a small number of similarly dated pits were also recorded.

Mark Sommers, Cotswold Archaeology,
for Badger Building Ltd.

Lavenham, Land adjacent to Bears Lane (TL/9148; LVM 121). Two sub-phases of Roman activity were encountered during the excavation. There was substantial activity on the site during the 1st to 2nd centuries AD (Phase 2.1), with evidence of a ditch system, which enclosed extensive and well-preserved evidence for late 1st–early 2nd-century AD pottery production. Two Phase 2.1 pottery kilns, in addition to a further probable pottery kiln, and an oven were identified during the excavation. One of the kilns appears to represent a failed and abandoned kiln load; the apparent abandonment and subsequent preservation provides a rare insight into the loading of a Roman coarseware kiln (see front cover). The kilns may reflect the domestic demand of a nearby occupation in Lavenham. In addition to evidence of pottery production, a series of pits and the skeleton of an adult male associated with material evidence dating to the 1st–2nd centuries AD were encountered. Between the 2nd and 3rd century AD the intensity of activity within the excavation area appears to have decreased; however, the evidence suggests that more substantial occupation activity remains *in situ* to the E. Within the E section of the site a large hollow was identified, containing a single pottery kiln and juvenile burial of 2nd–3rd-century AD date. Subsequently, the hollow was backfilled with the kiln and burial being sealed. The deposits within the hollow contained the accumulated debris from domestic occupation. The pottery assemblage is commensurate with a modest to substantial scale of domestic occupation in the close vicinity, including significant consumption of tableware vessels as well as jars. The pattern of supply is characteristic of the mid-/late 2nd–3rd centuries in the region, probably after c.AD 225.

Liam Podbury and Andrew Newton,
Archaeological Solutions, for Marden Homes Ltd.

Lawshall, Land W of Sydena, Lambs Lane (TL/8554; LWL 046). The site is within a moated enclosure. Evaluation (two trenches) prior to the construction of two dwellings revealed a

ditch, a pit and a metalled surface. The pit contained several sherds of residual medieval pottery and a largely complete glass onion bottle, which dates its fill to the mid-17th–18th centuries. The ditch was undated, but may be associated with the surrounding moat and could have formed a division within it. The metalled surface sloped down towards the N site edge.

Mark Baister, Colchester Archaeological Trust,
for Clare Addison.

Leiston, Land at Johnsons Farm, Saxmundham Road (TM/4362; LCS 221). Excavations revealed multiperiod archaeological remains across this 2.5ha site. The earliest remains consisted of tree throws, indicative of Early Neolithic land clearance, as well as a dispersed ‘background’ scatter of struck flints across the site. Middle Bronze Age activity was present in the form of a segmented, ditched enclosure in the E part of the site; other pits and linear features were dispersed across the sandier geology in the S and E parts of the site. A cluster of four cremation burials of probable Middle to Late Bronze Age date were also excavated in the N part of the site. One of these contained a small fragment of sheet gold, apparently from a larger object. Early Iron Age activity consisted of two phases of field systems, including a large-scale coaxial system, and a scatter of pits and post-holes. During the Roman period, the S part of the site was occupied by a rectangular enclosure containing two four-post structures and the remains of a post-built roundhouse. A variety of finds date this activity to between the 1st and mid-3rd centuries AD. A series of Roman cultivation beds were revealed. These channels were only present on areas of clay geology, suggesting that they were for assisting with drainage of arable crops. Similar Roman cultivation beds are widely found on clay sites across eastern England. A complex of ditches enclosed the remains of a medieval timber farmhouse, represented by alignments of large post-holes and parallel beam-slots. Finds assemblages date this activity to between the 12th and 14th centuries. Small enclosure ditches, pits and post-holes were identified, some of which contained material reflecting occupation-related activities in the vicinity. Post-medieval activity on site was comparatively limited, with excavations revealing a break in occupation before the construction of an isolated farm in the latter part of the 18th century.

Thomas Lucking and Simon Carlyle, Pre-Construct Archaeology,
for RPS Consulting Ltd on behalf of Persimmon Homes.

Little Wrating, Boyton Meadows, Anne Suckling Lane (TL/6746; HVH 135). Excavation at this site identified five distinct phases of archaeological activity. A single feature was assigned a Bronze Age to Iron Age date. A small number of features within the N-W part of the excavated area were assigned a Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British date. All subsequent activity was of Saxo-Norman to medieval date. The medieval pottery assemblage broadly dates to between the 11th and 13th centuries. It was, however, possible, on the basis of artefactual evidence, to distinguish between Saxo-Norman/early medieval and high medieval features. However, these two phases appeared to represent direct and continual chronological development. The character of the archaeology was suggestive of enclosures associated with, but on the periphery of, domestic habitation.

Keeley-Jade Bingham, Archaeological Solutions,
for Freshwater Estates Ltd.

Lowestoft, Lake Lothing Third Crossing (TL/5392; LWT 411). An evaluation revealed a significant depth of made ground in the E sector of the site, overlying organic alluvial deposits approximately 2m below the current ground surface. The W side of the site appears to have been truncated, rather than raised, with only 0.40m of made ground directly overlying the

natural sands. The only features present were of modern date. The organic alluvial deposits likely relate to a former inlet or area of marshland, as has been suggested by local historians, within the vicinity of the older core of Lowestoft prior to the medieval development of the High Street.

Gareth Barlow, Archaeological Solutions,
for Suffolk County Council.

Mellis, Bullocks Hall Farm (TM/0974; MLS 027). Evaluation trenching revealed what was possibly a medieval occupation layer and truncated intercutting pits. Post-medieval ditches were also found.

Dennis Payne, ARCHAEOSERV,
for Cadman Construction.

Needham Market, Land adjacent to 96 Stowmarket Road (TM/0855; NDM 057). An archaeological excavation followed a trenched evaluation. The excavation produced a further eight discrete medieval pits, a single water well pit, two medieval ditches and a post-medieval gully. An Iron Age ditch recorded during the evaluation was further investigated along its curvilinear course, skirting the base of the Gipping tributary that is now a dry valley. A thin layer of finds-rich material located below the topsoil was identified as a night-soil deposit, containing 23 small finds; the majority of these were of medieval origin and included coins, tokens, buckle plates, buckles and jewellery. A post-medieval quarry pit and boundary subdivision were further recorded.

Tim Schofield, Cotswold Archaeology,
for Tothill Services Ltd.

Needham Market, Land S of Hurtstlea Road (TM/0855; NDM 058). Archaeological trial trenching in advance of a proposed residential development revealed that modern groundworks for a surface car park had heavily truncated any pre-existing archaeological remains at the site. The earliest evidence of human activity recovered were two struck flints, typologically dated as probably late prehistoric and considered likely to be residual in later features. The evaluation recorded a small number of pits and ditches, which based on the pottery recovered from them, dated to the medieval to early post-medieval period. A domestic waste pit of c.14th-century date indicates some medieval activity in the vicinity. Other pitting was probably due to mineral extraction, with a small number of ditches serving as boundaries and drainage for the clay soils present at the site. The site would seem to be peripheral to any significant medieval or post-medieval activity, with such activity likely to be focused to the E of the site and closer to the historic core of Needham Market.

Mick Boyle, NPS, for Cocksedge
Building Contractors Ltd.

Orford, Land N of Mill Close, Ipswich Road (TM/4150; ORF 262). An evaluation revealed ditches and a post-hole. One ditch contained medieval (late 13th–14th centuries) pottery, animal bone and shell. The ditches were aligned NE–SW and NW–SE and represent the remains of a former field system.

Dan Ryan, Archaeological Solutions, for Hartog
Hutton Ltd.

Oulton, Land off Lime Avenue (TM/5194; OUL 037). Phase 2 excavation works revealed a total of three phases of activity across the site, which broadly correspond to the previous

excavation findings. The first phase (Phase 1) relates to a small amount of activity dated to the Bronze Age based on pottery recovered from some of the features. Phase 2 dated to the Anglo-Saxon period and represents the most extensive activity across the site. It comprised a long-lasting cemetery, with the earliest graves dating to the late 5th–early 6th centuries and the latest into the 7th century. It appears to represent a small farming community buried over several generations, with male, female, and infant and child burials. There were 191 inhumation burials and 17 cremation burials (Fig. 40). It is almost certain that the Anglo-Saxon settlement identified in the previous excavations corresponds to the population/community in this cemetery. Phase 3 is medieval in date and comprises a ditch which ran N–S across the excavation area.

Keirie Bull, Archaeological Solutions for Persimmon Homes.

Pettistree, Land off Chapel Lane (TM/3055; PTR 070). A trial trench evaluation found evidence for Mesolithic to Early Neolithic, and Middle Bronze Age to Iron Age activity at the site, present in the form of residual struck flint, mostly found in the ploughsoil. The earliest dated archaeological features were ditches that formed part of a probable Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age field system. The field system, which was on a N–NW to S–SE axis, was continuous with features investigated immediately to the N of the site during an excavation in 2014. Artefactual evidence from the field system was limited to a few sherds of abraded prehistoric pottery, which is typical of field boundary ditches of this period. The evaluation also identified a possible prehistoric or Roman ditch near the top of the slope, the ditch possibly surrounding a small enclosure. The evaluation also confirmed the presence of post-medieval boundary ditches shown on the 1882 Ordnance Survey map. In addition, two post-medieval pits were identified. The evaluation found no evidence for a road depicted on Hodkinson’s map of 1783, which is shown to extend across the N part of the site.

Judy Mlynarska and Simon Carlyle, Pre-Construct Archaeology,
for RPS Consulting Ltd on behalf of Hopkins Homes.



FIG. 40 – Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Oulton (© Wardell Armstrong).

Rishangles, Bucks Hall, Eye Road (TM/1667; RLS 009). Evaluation revealed a ring-ditch, dated to the Middle to Late Iron Age and interpreted as a drip gully for a roundhouse.

Dennis Payne, ARCHAEOSERV,
for Chris Webster.

Sproughton, Wolsey Grange Field 2 Excavation (TM/1243; SPT 053). An excavation was carried out in advance of planned residential development. It was the second phase of archaeological fieldwork on Field 2 of the Phase 1 Wolsey Grange development area. Two areas of the site (combined area of 0.72ha) were excavated, targeting the results of previous evaluation by trial trenching. In Area C, a small concentration of pottery rich pits and a segmented ditch were identified, the segmented ditch was associated with a post-hole cluster thought perhaps to constitute an entrance. These were interspersed with a number of pits and post-holes ranging in size and form with no clear function. In Area D, a similar distribution of pits and post-holes was recorded, whilst a cluster of large, intercutting pits occupied most of the S half. Dateable finds were sparse, except for possible Bronze Age pottery fragments from pits in Area C.

Rob Cullum, Archaeology South-East,
for RPS Ltd.

Sproughton, Wolsey Grange/Chantry Vale Excavation (TM/1243; SPT 053). An excavation was carried out in advance of planned residential development. It was the fourth phase of archaeological fieldwork on Field 3 of Phase 1 of the Wolsey Grange development area. Four areas of the site (combined area of 0.80ha) were excavated, targeting the results of previous evaluation by trial trenching. A small, fragmented assemblage of prehistoric (probably Bronze Age) pottery was recovered from small pits distributed across the site. Evidence for Roman activity was limited to a single kiln in the SW of the site. Evidence for medieval land-use was found, including a large oven-like feature, thought possibly to be a bread oven, which occupied the SE edge of a rectilinear field system of moderate intercut complexity. A contemporary large hollow or pit-like feature contained the structural remains of this oven and also seems to have acted as a reservoir; many of the larger ditches recorded on site had terminals cut into their lower fills. These remains are thought to constitute agricultural and industrial activity on the periphery of nearby medieval settlement.

Rob Cullum, Archaeology South-East,
for RPS Group.

Stowupland, Land W of Thorney Green Road (TM/0660; SUP 047). Excavation followed two trial trench evaluations and a geophysical survey of the site. Three excavation areas were opened and the results confirmed the earlier phases of work. In Area 1, settlement activity comprising large ditch enclosures, pits and lines of post-holes, forming fence lines, were identified, along with assemblages of pottery and animal bone indicating roadside settlement in the 12th–14th centuries. Area 2 identified several ditched enclosures, pits and post-holes along with multiple smaller gullies that may relate to individual building plots, although again no obvious structures were evident. Finds included animal bone, a sickle and a large assemblage of pottery that included some large sherds of Ipswich Thetford-type ware. The majority of the features dated to the 11th–13th centuries, although there was a small focus of late medieval activity to the NE close to the boundary with Pooles Farm. A large Early Roman enclosure ditch was identified in the NW corner, the majority of which extended beyond the N limit of excavation. Area 3 revealed a large ditch dating to the Middle Iron Age that extended the full width of the excavation area, E–W. To the N of this, two partially

superimposed penannular gullies representing the remains of two roundhouses were recorded along with a number of pits, also likely to be Middle Iron Age in date.

Martin Cuthbert, Cotswold Archaeology,
for Linden Homes.

Stowupland, Stowupland High School (TM/0660; SUP 048). Excavation took place at the S of the development area, targeted on medieval features identified during previous evaluation of the site. Part of a possible single field system was identified, which appears to align with the medieval Thorney Green edge to the SW and Church Road to the SE, which may be a medieval or earlier route. Ceramic dating evidence suggests a 12th–14th-century date and what may be continuous occupation through the early to high medieval period. No settlement evidence was identified within the excavation area, although the finds assemblage included concentrated and localised deposits of domestic waste likely to have come from occupation in the near vicinity, possibly from road or green-side settlement.

Linzi Everett, Cotswold Archaeology,
for Stowupland High School.

Stutton, Stutton Close (TM/1534; STU 094). Excavation exposed a small Late Bronze Age settlement, including 14 pits and a circular post-built structure consisting of 6 post-holes. The pits produced a large assemblage of Late Bronze Age pottery and several fired clay loom weights and spindle whorls, with the majority deriving from 4 pits close to the structure. A post-medieval boundary ditch was also revealed along the W and S edges of the investigation area.

Nicholas Cox, OA East,
for RPS on behalf of Hopkins Homes Ltd.

Sudbury, Gainsborough's House Museum (TL/8741; SUY 164). A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken in advance of an extension to Gainsborough's House Museum in Sudbury. The W edge of the site revealed a complex and deep series of intercutting pits dating from the late Anglo-Saxon to the medieval period. The earlier pits contained a Sudbury variant of Thetford-ware pottery, including some examples of kiln-spoilt vessels ('wasters'). Wasters, loom weight fragments, smithing hearth bases and hammerscale all point to industrial activity in the vicinity. Good bone preservation resulted in a large animal bone assemblage, with some wild species represented. A small number of worked bone fragments were found including a needle and a decorated plate. Other periods represented on site include a large, steep-sided rectangular pit of Iron Age date, as shown by radiocarbon dates on a pair of horse skulls recovered from the fill (Fig. 41). Two prehistoric pits were also recorded.

Jezz Meredith, Cotswold Archaeology,
for Gainsborough's House Museum.

Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet, Glen House (TM/4274; WMH 057). A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken. A series of Roman period enclosure and/or boundary ditches were revealed, dated by finds to the end of the 1st to the 3rd centuries AD; a small number of pits were also encountered. Like the ditches, these contained a considerable quantity of finds, probably representing domestic debris, and suggest that occupation was present within a close vicinity of the site. Although the finds assemblage reflected a site of modest standing, some items suggested more high-status settlement. This included an interesting annular jet object that might have been for adornment.

Jezz Meredith, Cotswold Archaeology,
for RMJ Services.



FIG. 41 – Iron Age horse skulls in a pit at Sudbury (© *Cotswold Archaeology*).

Woolpit, Land S of Old Stowmarket Road (TL9862; WPT 054). The fieldwork comprised three separate excavation areas, all located on an outcrop of sand and gravel geology on the higher ground in the S of the site. These areas targeted prehistoric archaeological remains identified during two phases of trial trench evaluation. Area 1 contained 3 small pits with finds indicative of Middle Iron Age (c. 350–50 BC) occupation in the near vicinity. Area 2 had highly variable geology with numerous striations and lenses, some probably glacial in origin and others likely to be tree hollows. Some of these natural features contained small numbers of Early Neolithic (c.4000–3000 BC) struck flints and Mildenhall-ware potsherds, which are likely to derive from surface scatters of occupation debris that were present on the prehistoric ground surface, some of which became incidentally incorporated into underlying hollows as they filled in. Area 3 revealed a few further Early Neolithic tree hollows and glacial features, but its principal interest was the exposure of an unusual sub-square ditched enclosure measuring 22.5m by 18.5m (externally). This contained the poorly preserved crouched burial of a mature/elderly adult (estimated 45 years+) accompanied by a fragmentary long-necked ceramic beaker. A sample of bone from the individual's femur returned an Accelerator Mass Spectrometry radiocarbon date in the Chalcolithic period (BRAMS-4245; 3848 ± 25 BP; 2455–2417 (9.0%), 2410–2269 (61.7%) or 2261–2204 (24.7%) cal. BC). The enclosure ditch itself contained little datable material. Two small wood charcoal fragments from the ditch fills returned dates in the Early Bronze Age and late medieval–early post-medieval period, respectively, but are of unknown provenance and depositional history so do not necessarily reflect the age of the enclosure ditch or its infill. There do not appear to be any published British parallels for Bronze Age sub-square mortuary enclosures or funerary monuments. It may be that this enclosure was later than the Beaker grave: similar small, sub-square

enclosures known from cropmarks and excavation in Suffolk and elsewhere in East Anglia appear to date to the Iron Age or early Roman period. Whatever its date, the enclosure appears to have had some kind of funerary, mortuary or other 'ritual' function; its small size, the absence of an entrance, and the lack of associated features or finds all weigh against an association with occupation or agriculture.

Tom Woolhouse and Jon House,
Pre-Construct Archaeology, for RPS Consulting Ltd
on behalf of David Wilson Homes.

CHURCH RECORDING

Chelsworth, All Saints Church, The Street (TL/9847; CHW 036). Archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with the insertion of drainage beneath the access pathway to the church revealed a large quantity of human bone in grave soil beneath the path in the area closest to the church. The porch on the N side of the church, from which the path extends, was a Victorian addition to the building and the path was presumably installed at a similar date. The course of the previous path was changed to allow access to the new entrance. The disarticulated human bone might therefore represent earlier burials which were disturbed when the path was created in the 19th century and the subsequent adjacent services installed in the 20th century. No intact graves were present beneath the path through the graveyard and the large amount of disarticulated bone was present only in the area closest to the church. The disarticulated bone might represent burials associated with the previous medieval church which were disturbed when the path was created, and the remains were subsequently redeposited.

Louisa Cunningham and Martin Brook,
Britannia Archaeology Ltd,
for Mr Andrew Brash.