

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL OFFICE 1992/3**



 Cambridgeshire
County Council

Annual Report of the County Archaeological Office 1992/3

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Report no. 84

Management work at Bartlow Hills

ANNUAL REPORT 1992-3

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 For many years most funding for Archaeology has been devoted to investigation of sites on the point of destruction through development. This is still an important part of our work, particularly when unexpected discoveries are made, but much-improved Planning policies to protect monuments, and willingness of developers to support investigation and recording, has meant that some resources could be moved to recording, protecting and promoting sites in the countryside that are at risk from agriculture, tree-planting and other normal activities. Investigation of such neglected sites, and generation of new ways to protect them (such as our new County Guardianship Scheme) has therefore been an important part of this year's work.

2.0 STAFF

Bob Sydes began work on 1st April as Assistant County Archaeologist and was joined in February by Tony Hurley, who is grant-aided by English Heritage to carry out development control work that affects archaeological sites. Nesta Rooke and Rose Desmond have continued (part-time) as Sites and Monuments (SMR) Officer and administrative support respectively. Responsibilities of both these posts have increased considerably as our scale of work county-wide has grown and now should justify full-time status. At present we rely on occasional help by students on vacation to avoid falling too far behind with the incorporation of new records.

Our Field Team continues to be led by Tim Malim, who, despite the sharp down-turn in development, which reduced the need for archaeological investigations by developers, was able to increase substantially grants from English Heritage and other public bodies for projects. His senior project managers are Tim Reynolds (as last year) and Paul Spoerry (since October). Celia Honeycombe continues as our conservator (shared with the County Museums Officer and Fitzwilliam Museum) and Corinne Duhig, our human bone expert now works on a part-time basis, as necessary. Steve Macaulay has special responsibility for monument management and for education. Stephanie Leith ensures all site archives and artefacts are maintained and stored to high standards, and that all new information from our own field-work is entered on the county SMR. Crane Begg left his post as illustrator in April and is succeeded by Caroline Gait, who is also producing educational packs for monuments on County Farms. Steve Kemp has transferred across from the Archaeology Office, to fill the post of Project Officer. Simon Bray continues as a Supervisor, joined by Mary Alexander and Ken Welsh. They are assisted by David Mitchell, Cristina Sampedro, Richard Heawood, Judith Roberts and short contract staff as needed.

We also owe a great deal to the Countryside management team, who have carried out the work needed to manage our field monuments (see below) with intelligence and enthusiasm.

3.0 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

3.1 Since November 1990, local planning authorities have been expected to consult their County SMR and seek archaeological advice before determining applications that could affect archaeological sites, under PPG No 16 "Archaeology and Planning". Developers also need to understand how their proposals could affect sites, and are required to take measures to protect particularly important sites and to excavate others. The County Archaeological Office is responsible for implementing this DOE guidance, and for monitoring standards of work carried out.

District	Applications Checked in Detail	Comments Made	Fieldwork resulting from Archaeological requirements
Cambridge	30	15	7
East Cambs	41	22	4
Fenland	64	8	1
Huntingdonshire	88	34	7
Peterborough	67	16	2
South Cambs	174	34	11
Totals	464	129	32

4.0 EXCAVATIONS

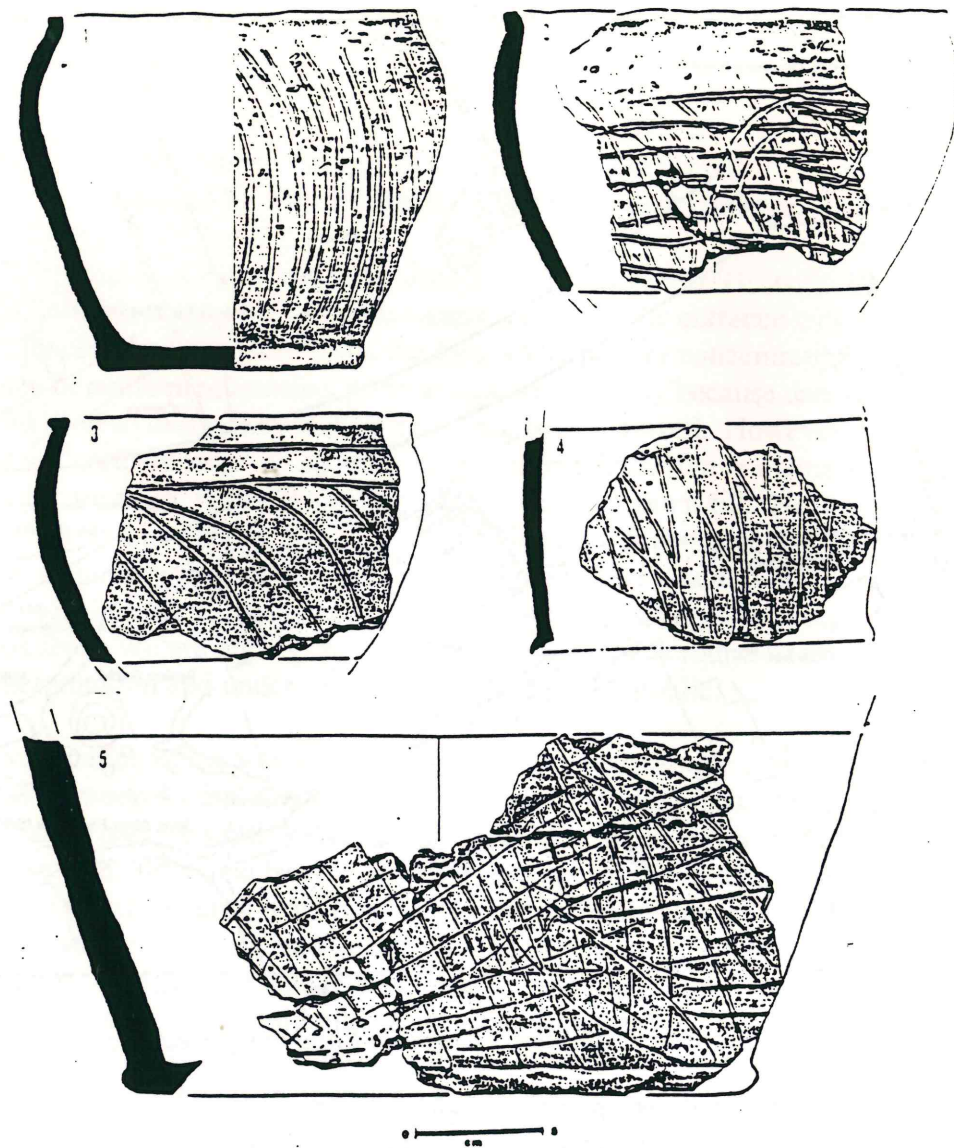
The following excavations were carried out by our Field Team April 1992 - March 1993. All were rescue excavations, designed to assess the impact of development on known or potential sites, apart from Stonea, Car Dyke and Goodwin Farm (Swaffham Prior) which were intended to guide future management and interpretation work.

Prehistoric Sites

4.1 **Borough Fen, TF 192073, Iron Age Fort**
by **Ron Mckenna** (Peterborough Museum) and **Tim Malim**
for English Heritage.

Dyke clearance of Red Cow Drain exposed 2 of the Fort's defensive ditches, internal banks and other features. Monoliths for environmental analysis were taken from the organically rich and waterlogged basal deposits, and large sherds of Iron Age pot were found, as well as a complete horse's head suggestive of ritual deposition.

The main ditches were 10.5m wide at the top, and 4.4m at the base, 2.3m deep, and with sides sloping down at 45° angle. The banks showed evidence of revetting or ramparts and survived to a height of 0.8m, and were up to 13m wide. The outer ditch was 30m further south and was 3.5m wide by 1.3m deep.

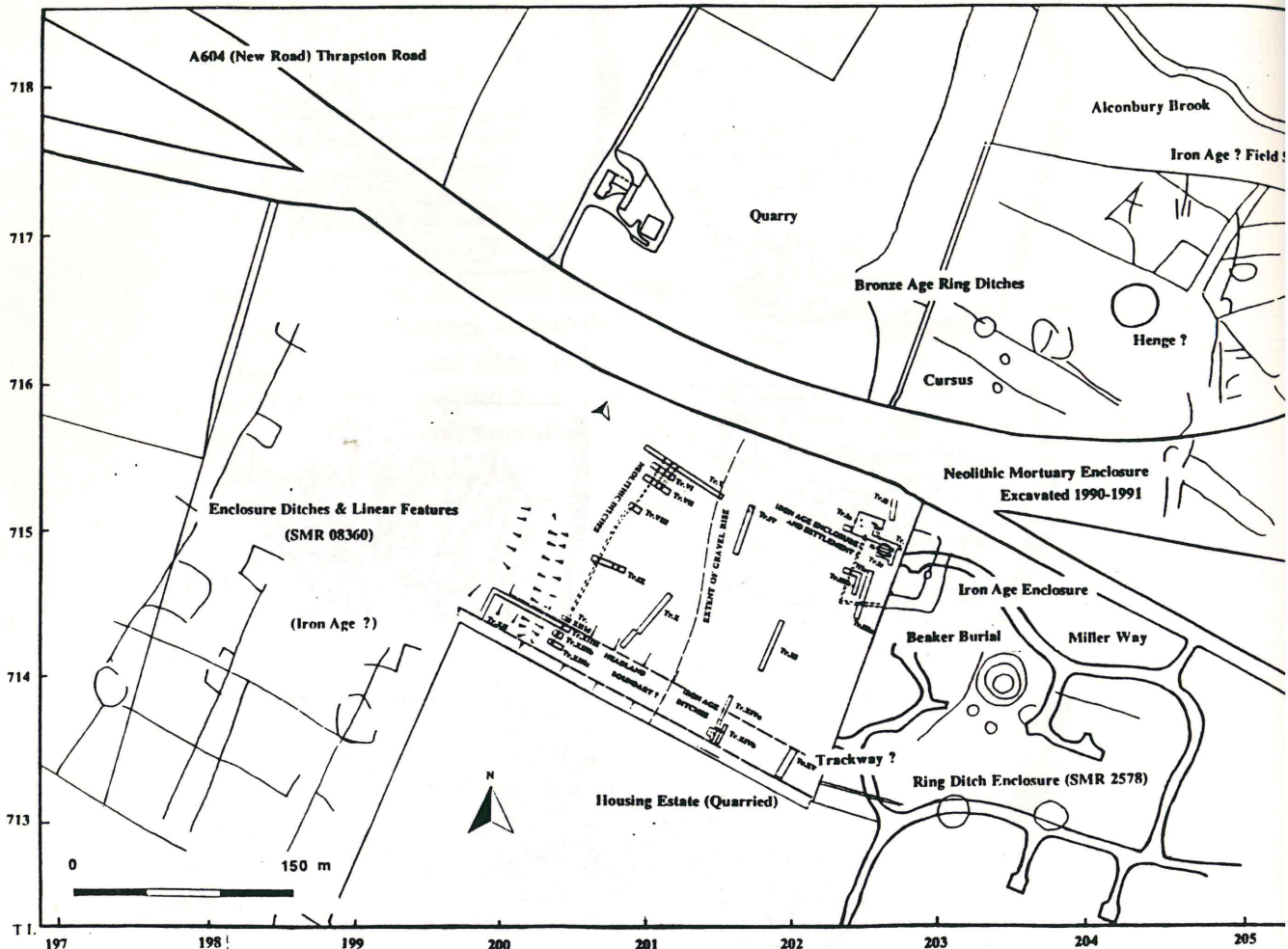


Iron Age pottery from Borough Fen

4.2 **Brampton, Thrapston Road. TL 20107150, Neolithic ditches and Iron Age settlement, excavated by **Tim Malim**, on behalf of Ekins Professional.**

An Iron Age enclosed settlement containing a round house was found situated on a gravel terrace slightly above the local flood plain. Associated contemporary ditched field systems were also located and a series of earlier parallel ditches sealed beneath deposits from a period of alluviation. These latter ditches are probably of Neolithic date and are interpreted as territorial boundary markers.

The particular interest of this site is due to the succession of excavations (1966, 1990, 1991) of the surrounding area, which demonstrate its importance as a prehistoric ritual landscape (Neolithic and Bronze Age) that was succeeded by agricultural settlements in the Iron Age and Roman periods. Evidence for extensive landscapes of successive periods can be seen throughout the Ouse valley as cropmarks, but it is only at Brampton, Godmanchester and Haddenham that detailed study and interpretation has been attempted.



Investigations at Brampton, Thrapston Road compared to earlier excavations

- 4.3 **Eye**, TF 22500285, Prehistoric pits,
excavated by **Ken Welsh** on behalf of Peterborough District Council .

Assessment trenches near the former fen edge located 3 prehistoric pits and various modern features.

- 4.4 **Little Paxton**, TL 17906200, Prehistoric settlement,
excavated by **Mary Alexander**, on behalf of Potton Investments Ltd.

Assessment trenches located Late Neolithic/Bronze Age activity. Property boundaries, drainage systems and possible structural evidence were revealed to the north of the area. Analysis of flint derived from field walking suggests flint tool production and treatment of skins.

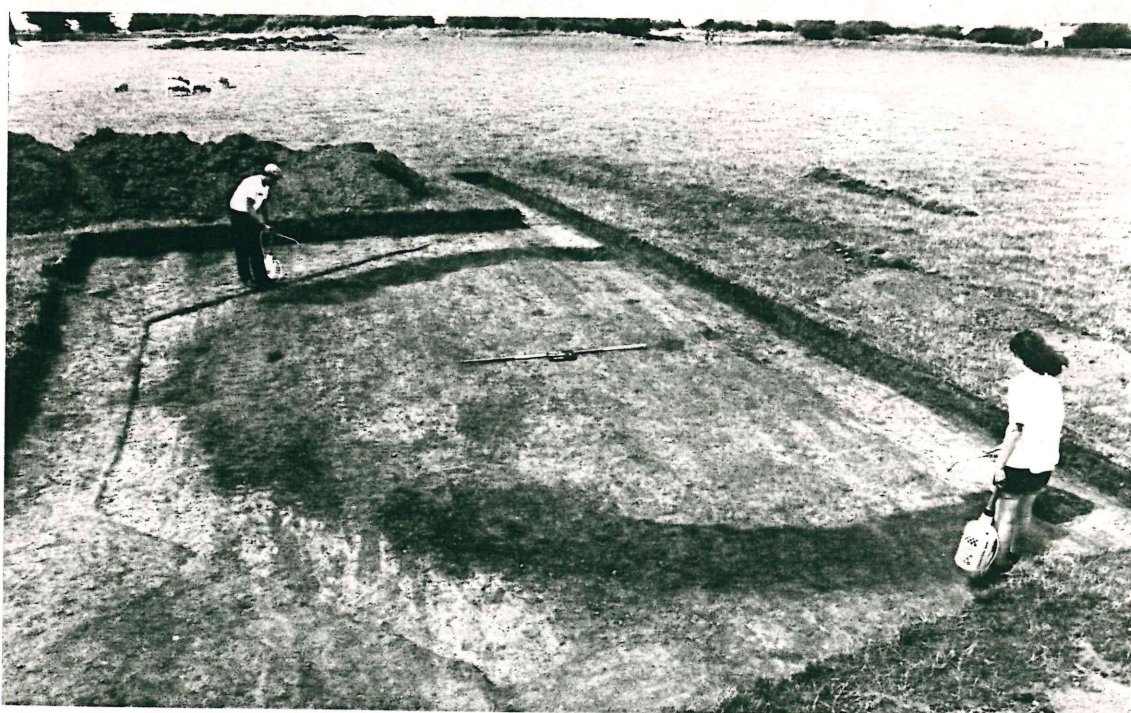
- 4.5 **Wicken**, Dimmocks Cote, TL 545722,
excavated by **Simon Bray** on behalf of Euston Lime.

An assessment trench in a proposed quarry extension revealed 2 Bronze Age gullies and an undated sub-rectangular pit.

4.6 **Wimblington, Stonea Camp, TL 448931, Iron Age Camp,**
excavated by **Tim Malim** on behalf of English Heritage.

Following excavation and restoration of the fort in 1990-91, work this year looked at the interior of the fort, the westernmost defences, the entrance way and phasing of the defences. Investigation inside the fort, where pottery concentrations indicated there may be settlement remains, proved negative, possibly because damage by ploughing had been so destructive that all traces had been removed. However, a feature described as an "earthen ring" in 1926 survived as a ring ditch 10m in diameter, up to 1m wide and 0.4m deep, with post-pipes visible in the dark ditch fill. No structural features were found inside the ring. There were Neolithic flints, as found throughout the Camp, but no pottery to help date the feature. This feature could to be an Iron Age round-house, although a palisaded ritual feature of Neolithic or Bronze Age date is also quite possible. We are hoping in the future to reconstruct a round-house, to help in interpretation and understanding of the site by the public.

Examination of the western-most defences showed a single ditch and bank. The ditch was between 4 - 5m wide and 1.5 - 2m deep. Flooding from the nearby stream was apparent and the south-western corner had been filled with fast-flowing water at some stage. The ditch had been breached by the stream and extensive silts deposited, in the top of which an adult male had been buried, carbon dated to 1st century AD. Organic preservation was good and included wood with worked surfaces, mostly of oak and showing evidence for managed woodland. The island appears to have been wooded when the camp was first built, changed to pasture later. The main entrance way at the northwest corner of the camp revealed no evidence for defensive gate structures. The inner defences, however, revealed some staggered narrow causeways indicative of a defensive function.



Ring ditch, possibly indicating an Iron Age round house, in Stonea Camp

Roman

- 4.7 **Godmanchester** The Parks TL 24707085,
excavated by **Tim Reynolds**, on behalf of the Church Commissioners

Numerous Roman features included second and third century pits and ditches containing domestic refuse, and an enclosure with adjacent droveway. A Roman grav quarry and Medieval ploughsoil were also identified, as was a preserved series of ridge and furrow resulting from Medieval agricultural activities. A foundation trench for a masonry building of probable Roman date was also identified. From the later Roman period (probably fourth century AD) there was a total of 5 burials, lying east-west. One young girl was wearing a bronze bracelet on each wrist, but there were no other grave-goods.

- 4.8 **Peterborough** Newark Hill School TF 208008,
excavated by **Ian Meadows**, on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council

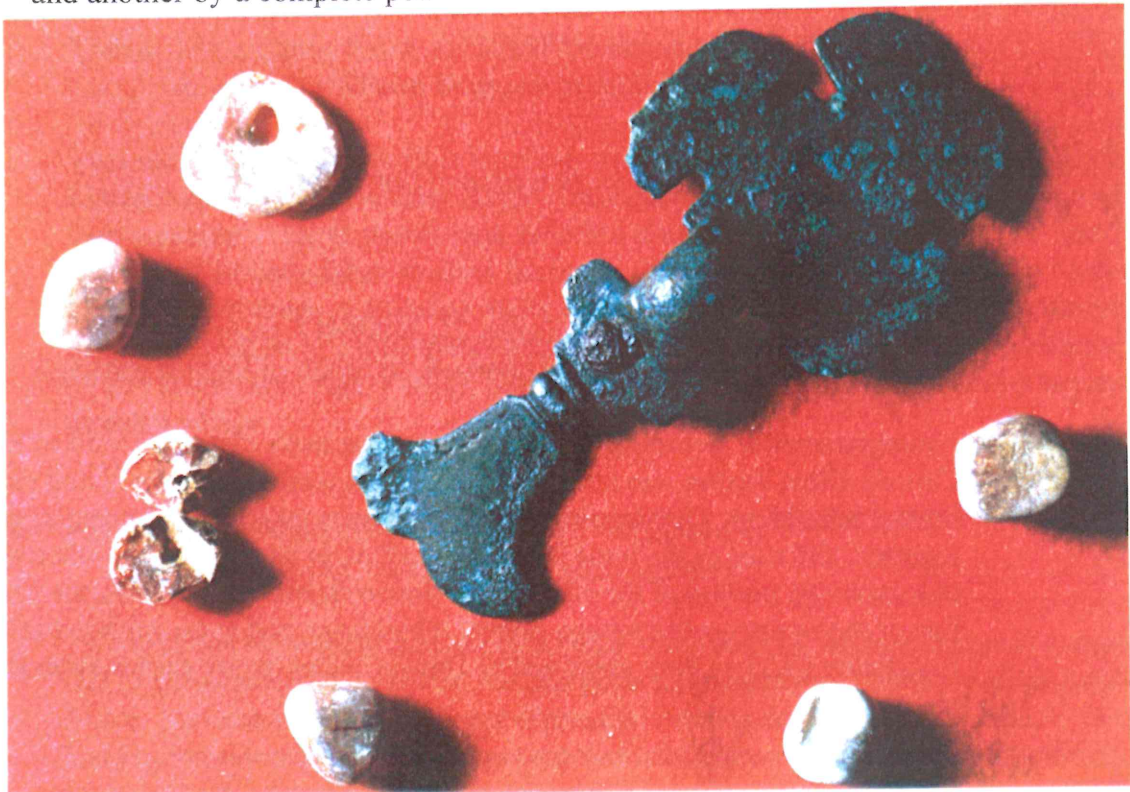
Assessment trenches in a site adjacent to Car Dyke demonstrated that Roman feature existed over most of the site, and that there was also settlement here in the Iron Age and early Anglo-Saxon periods. Iron Age finds included a silver Coritanian coin. Anglo-Saxon pottery and brooch fragment of sixth century type suggest either burial or settlement.



Iron Age Coritanian coin, a silver half unit of South Ferriby type, dating to 45-10 BC.

4.9 **Swaffham Prior**, Goodwin Farm, Roman Temple,
excavated by **Simon Bray**, on behalf of English Heritage.

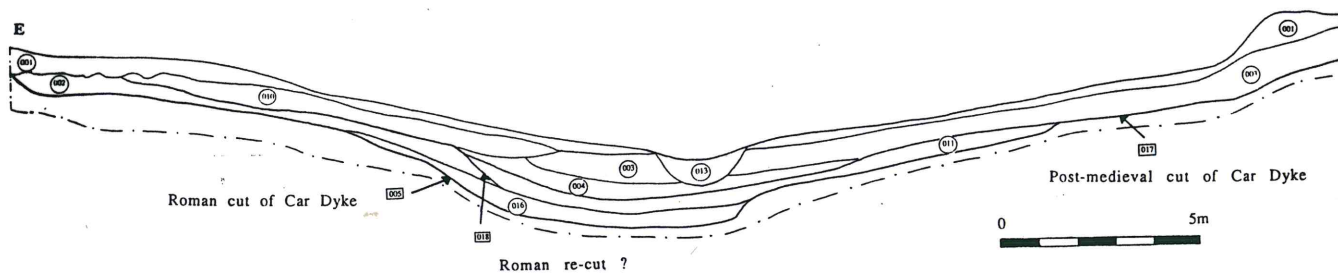
Excavation over a cropmark site revealed a small masonry building interpreted as a Roman mausoleum, and eight burials, at least three of which were Anglo-Saxon in date. The cropmarks in plan are similar to other known Roman temples, and the position of this site on a commanding hill overlooking the fen edge, and connected to Reach villa by a trackway, would confirm the interpretation of it as a temple. The occurrence of Anglo-Saxon burials is especially interesting in the context of Roman-Saxon transition and in the proximity of Devil's Dike, only 300m away. One Anglo-Saxon burial was accompanied by 114 amber and 3 silver-in-glass beads, a large brooch and iron knife, and another by a complete pot.



Anglo-Saxon grave goods from Goodwin Farm, Swaffham Prior

4.10 **Waterbeach**, Car Dyke Roman canal TL 494650, excavated by
Stephen Macaulay & Tim Reynolds, on behalf of English Heritage.

A section 5.5m wide was cut as part of the management programme (see below). This showed that the original Roman dyke was over 30m wide, and 4m deep with a shallow profile. Quantities of pottery found in the lowest levels dated to Antoninus 140 - 180 AD. Waterlogged conditions have preserved organic material of the same date. On the west side of the dyke, where an original bank survived until destroyed by modern ploughing, our trench located an old ground surface that may have been the original land surface during the dyke construction. Unfortunately, re-cutting of the dyke in the 17th century has destroyed most of the Roman levels. Mollusca suggest fast-flowing water indicative of a canal rather than a catchwater.

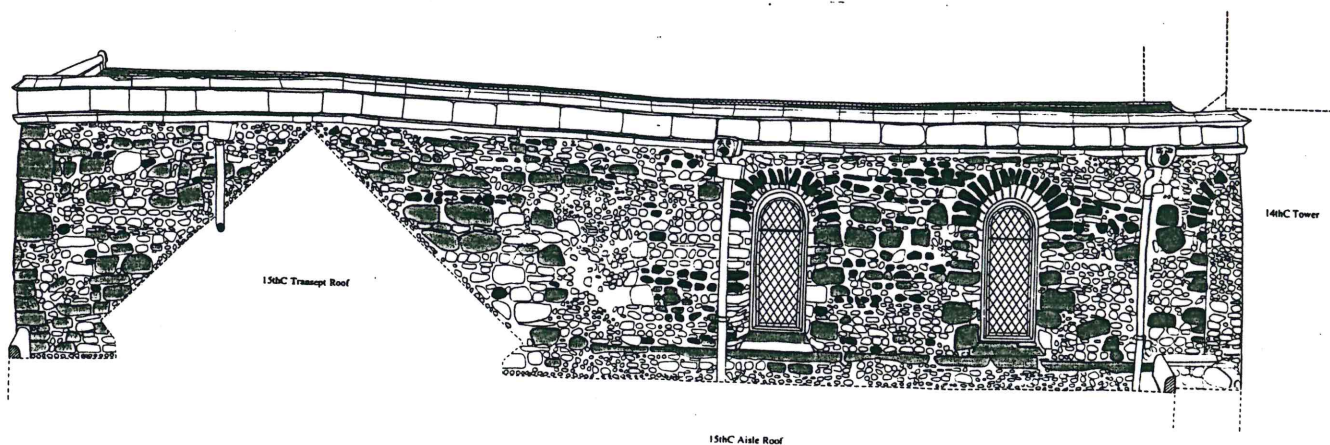


The north section of Car Dyke, 1993

Anglo-Saxon

4.11 Great Paxton, Anglo-Saxon Minster, TL 21006417, recorded by Bob Hatton & Richard Heawood, on behalf of English Heritage.

Photogrammetric recording of the exterior of the north clerestory wall of Holy Trinity Church, Great Paxton was undertaken before renovation work involving repointing and limited rebuilding. Overlapping photographs were taken at 1m intervals, matched together, and used as the basis for the production of an accurate elevation drawing of this surviving portion of the original late Saxon church. As a result, the possible roof line of the Saxon north transept, several rebuildings, and extra windows etc whose foundation wall had been identified by David Cozens during earlier excavations, were identified.



Features within the North Clerestory wall

- 4.12 **Huntingdon**, Mill Common, TL 23887148, excavated by
Stephanie Leith, on behalf of Huntingdonshire District Council.

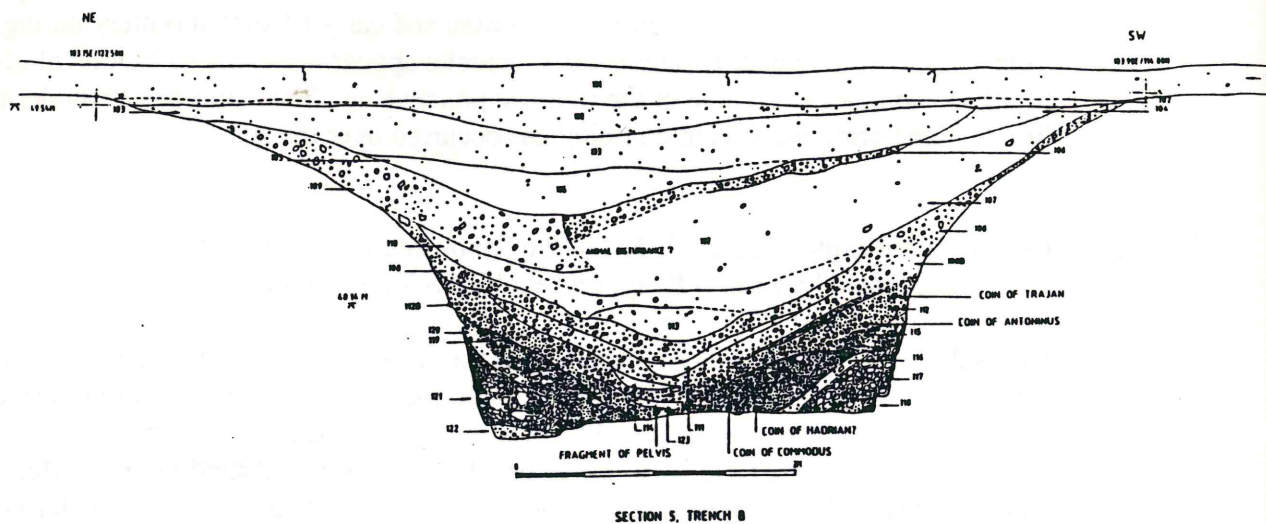
Four 1m x 1m test pits were hand excavated in the eastern part of Mill Common, Huntingdon to a maximum depth of 1.5m. Two of the test pits encountered early Medieval deposits that contained Saxo-Norman and early Medieval pottery dating from 10th to 13th century. These early deposits appear to be due to Medieval in-filling of old quarries. Three of the four test pits revealed large amounts of modern in-fill, demonstrating that recent dumping has occurred over the site.

- 4.13 **Linton**, Little Linton Farm, TL 55254756 Saxon and Medieval features,
excavated by **Simon Bray**, on behalf of S Taylor, Esq.

Two substantial opposed-ditch terminals on the site of the deserted village of Little Linton were dated to the early Anglo-Saxon period by the large sherds of pottery that they contained. These sherds have however also been identified as Iron Age, and TL dating will be undertaken to solve the issue. There were also 2 shallow early Medieval gullies, 6 post-holes and a horse burial of unknown date. Added to evidence derived from examination of a pipe trench excavated here in 1990, we can now see settlement on this site in Iron Age, Roman, Saxon times and the Middle Ages, before it became a deserted village.

- 4.14 **Pampisford**, Brent Ditch, TL 51544753, excavated by
Ben Robinson, on behalf of English Heritage.

Two sections were excavated at Brent Ditch in advance of the destruction of a segment due to road-widening activities. At this point the monument, presumed to be Anglo-Saxon, survives as a shallow linear depression running across cultivated land. Excavation revealed that the monument was much more substantial than previously thought, with a ditch nearly 2.4m deep and 7m wide at the top. No bank has survived in this area though the ditch is well-preserved. Its original profile was similar to those of Devil's Dyke and Fleam Dyke; exceptionally steep-sided and flat-bottomed. It had silted naturally with no signs of recutting and had consequently lost its sharp defensive profile quite soon after construction. Post-Medieval cultivation has accounted for further accumulation of silts and its present shallow profile. Five Roman coins recovered from the basal fills (together with a fragment of human pelvis) indicate a post-2nd century date of construction. A fragment of human pelvis from the same fills was carbon dated to the late Iron Age Cal BC 190-40 (OXA-4065 . 2105 ± 55 BP).



Section through Brent Ditch

Medieval

- 4.15 **Abbots Ripton**, TL 230781, Old Parsonage and assessment of village remains, excavated by **Steve Kemp**, on behalf of Strutt & Parker.

Three areas to the north, north-west and east of the church were assessed by trenching and documentary research concerning the Medieval village was carried out. The only archaeological feature located was a parsonage that was in existence by 1623 and was demolished during the 19th century, but scatters of 13th and 14th century pottery were found in later ditches.

- 4.16 **Bassingbourn Moat**, TL 330441, recorded by **Simon Bray**, on behalf of R Warboys Esq.

A watching brief on foundation trenches that were being excavated within a moat that encloses the church and graveyard of Bassingbourn showed that the profile of the present moat was not original but had been re-cut about 5m north-east of the Medieval ditch. A 20cm thick palaeosol was all that survived beneath 50cm of modern make-up. No dating evidence was retrieved.

- 4.17 **Orwell Chapel Orchard**, TL 36155035, excavated by **Paul Spoerry**,
on behalf of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Earthworks recently identified in the historic core of the village of Orwell were thought to be either a Medieval moated site, or a Medieval street frontage platform in front of ditches or ponds. Two major phases of use were identified on the street frontage. Compacted chalk marl foundations for one or more buildings, and some associated features are believed to be of Medieval date, whilst a later chalk rubble wall that possibly represents a boundary feature rather than a structure, dates to sometime between 1350 and 1680. At the north end of the site, trenching revealed about 1.5m of make-up adjacent to the 'Lordship' ditch. This make-up may derive from spoil deposited after successive ditch clearance. The central area of the site contains areas separated by ditches. Trenching revealed that chalk rubble walls, similar to the later wall found on the frontage platform, delimit at least some of the scarp edges of the earthworks. These walls do not appear to have been very substantial, and could not have performed any major retaining function on their platform edge locations. They are interpreted as part of a formalised orchard/garden arrangement, dating to sometime between the late Medieval period and the late 17th century. The ditch on the southern edge of the frontage area produced evidence for a timber bridge and/or revetment of uncertain date. The earthworks at this site have, therefore, been explained as a street frontage platform with Medieval occupation, behind which attempts have been made between the late 14th - 17th centuries to drain the land and construct dry platforms, for use as an orchard (or similar).

- 4.18 **Swavesey, Ryders Farm**, TL 36403840, Medieval hall,
excavated by **Simon Bray**, on behalf of J Dyer Esq.

An excavation within a farmhouse in Swavesey, which dates to the mid-13th century was completed during January 1993 in advance of major restoration. A series of alterations and features were found which greatly increased size and comfort of the house, attributed to the mid-17th to early 18th century. The alterations included a complex drainage system beneath the floor of the main hall, the in-filling of some of the main structural walls with bricks, conversion into a two storey dwelling and construction of three extensions to the south and east of the main hall.

A thick, compact layer of deliberately deposited clay was found extending beneath the whole of the house. It has been interpreted as a house platform laid during the initial phase of construction during the mid-13th century.

- 4.19 **Trumpington/Great Shelford**, Cambridge Southern Relief Road assessment,
excavated by **Steve Kemp** on behalf of Cambridgeshire
County Council (Transportation).

Assessment trenches over areas where extensive cropmarks indicated early settlement that could be affected by the proposed road indicated a surprisingly empty landscape despite the presence of 2 Iron Age hill-forts (Wandlebury and War ditches), a major Roman road and an extensive prehistoric settlement beneath Addenbrookes Hospital.

Trenches located 3 sub-rectangular enclosures on land that sloped up towards the Magog hills. These must have been used for agriculture rather than settlement as they were quite barren of artefacts or other dating evidence, although concentrations of Roman pottery were found nearby. Many other ditches were sampled and their purpose (many which followed the natural slope) is presumably drainage, as their gleyed fills and molluscan evidence suggest irregular waterlogging. Other ditches cross the contours and are thought to be informal and shifting boundaries dating to Medieval and later periods, when this boggy, marginal land is known to have been common pasture, before Enclosure.

Negative Assessments

- 4.20 Assessments that revealed a total lack of archaeological finds were carried out at **Fulbourn** (TL 52255680) and **Great Wilbraham**(TL 5655)

5.0 PIPELINES

Construction of pipelines for water or gas often requires soil stripping along a broad band (up to 30m in some cases) to give adequate easement for the works, in addition excavation of a deep trench to contain necessary pipes. There is therefore considerable potential for recording long sections through the countryside. Work is concentrated in areas considered to have high archaeological potential, but contacts with engineers and rapid examination of stripped areas ensures that unexpected sites are also examined.

The following pipe-lines were monitored, with excavations carried out as necessary.

- 5.1 **Diddington - St Neots** (TL 190656-199614), by **Mary Alexander**, on behalf of Anglian Water Services.

Unfortunately most of the areas where archaeological remains were known to have existed had been largely destroyed by quarrying. One ditch dating to 1st century A.D. was excavated.

- 5.2 **Dullingham - Swaffham Prior**, by **Ben Robinson**, on behalf of National Rivers Authority.

Bottisham Whitelands Springs, was excavated in January 1992 and is reported in last year's Annual Report. Other sites revealed later in the scheme include Iron Age/Roman grain storage pits and a portion of the Old Mill Stream at Swaffham Bulbeck (TL 560610); Post-Medieval cart tracks and a cartway leading into the ditch of Devil's Dyke (TL 580647); a trackway leading from Reach villa to a Roman mausoleum (TL 579643), and the profile of a Medieval lynchet and parish boundary (TL 569627).

- 5.3 **Coton - Longstanton**(TL 392659 - TL 393594), by **Ken Welsh**,
on behalf of Cambridge Water Company.

Evidence of a previously unknown late Iron Age or Romano-British enclosed settlement was uncovered close to Madingley deer park. A series of ditches, post-holes and pits were recorded and finds recovered from the enclosure ditch included sherds from at least three pottery vessels, one of which was almost complete. The possibility that the settlement continued into, or was revived in the 3rd century was indicated by surface finds of later Roman pottery in the same area.

- 5.4 **Morborne - Haddon** TL 14009157 - TL 13479245, by **Ken Welsh**,
on behalf of Anglian Water Services.

The trench passed through well-preserved earthworks of the shrunken Medieval village of Haddon, and fragments of bone, stone, roof tile and other building material were recovered, but no evidence for dating the site.

- 5.5 **Snailwell** TL 645675 - TL 665640, by **Stephen Macaulay**,
on behalf of National Rivers Authority.

No archaeological remains were noted along this short stretch of pipe-line despite numerous sites known in the vicinity.

- 5.6 **Swavesey - Over**, TL365719 -TL 386719, by **David Mitchell**
on behalf of Anglian Water Services

No archaeological remains were noted, again in spite of known sites nearby. Methods of working, which meant that soil-stripping was often too shallow to recognise features in the fen sub-soil, may explain this.

- 5.7 **Swaffham Bulbeck - Bottisham**, TL 613543 - TL 628554,
by **Bob Hatton** and **Richard Heawood**, on behalf of Anglian Water Services.

A channel thought to be related to the water management system of the deserted Medieval village in Bottisham Park was discovered and excavated, but other areas close to known monuments proved to be sterile.

6.0 SURVEYS

6.1 **A1, Alconbury - Fletton** , by **Ruth Pelling** and **Stephanie Leith**, for Cambridgeshire County Council (Transportation).

Survey work along a corridor where it is proposed to widen the A1 included recording all upstanding earthworks and cropmark sites, and examining known sites by field walking, geophysical prospecting and consultation of historical records.

This part of the A1 follows the line of Ermine street, a major Roman highway, and as result the survey area is one of intense Roman and Medieval activity. Roman sites are mostly represented by scatters of artefacts, varying from isolated finds to large concentrations suggesting buried buildings. Medieval ridge and furrow field systems are the most common type of earthworks in the survey area, and there are two shrunken Medieval villages. Prehistoric and Post-medieval sites are represented by scatters of artefacts and cropmarks, and earthwork remains of a Civil War emplacement.

The survey has brought to light many sites of archaeological importance. Certain sites must be preserved at all costs, including four scheduled ancient monuments. Three sites have been recommended for trial trenching: Alconbury Hill where Roman buildings are suggested by surface finds, Tort Hill north of Sawtry, and an area around Norman Cross where field systems and a hollow way survive as earthworks.

6.2 **A10 Cambridge - Ely, TL 470641 - TL 531789**, by **Tim Reynolds** and **Stephanie Leith**, for Coyne Associates.

A "desk-top study" of the corridor where road widening was proposed examined all known sites (which included 7 scheduled ancient monuments), including historical research and assessments of the impact of recent land-use.

6.3 **A45 Cambridge Northern by-pass**, by **Steve Kemp**, for Travis Morgan.

A "desk-top" study and limited field survey were carried out along the corridor where road-widening was proposed.

6.4 **A15/A16 Market Deeping by-pass**, TF 138091, by **Tim Reynolds**, for Lincolnshire County Council (Transportation).

A "desk-top" study and detailed field walking was carried out on the part of a proposed route that lies in Cambridgeshire, which has enabled sites to be identified for further examination.

- 6.5 **Sawston**, Iron Age fort, TL 47174948, by **Simon Bray** and **Stephanie Leith**, for Countryside Planning and Management.

A series of low banks that are all that survive of the banks and ditches of the fort were recorded. Detailed fieldwalking was carried out, but proved disappointing as no artefacts of Prehistoric date were found. Further work will be undertaken in 1993.

- 6.6 **Bassingbourn**, TL 325451, John of Gaunts Castle, by **Steve Kemp**, for English Heritage.

Fieldwalking of this plough-damaged scheduled monument produced little pottery but large concentrations of tile, showing continuing damage from ploughing.

- 6.7 **Parson's Drove**, Throckenholt Farm, TF 355091, by **Simon Bray**, for English Heritage.

Limited fieldwalking over an extensive area of Romano-British cropmarks produced discrete concentrations of pottery and tile from localised higher "islands" of land. These concentrations occur over definite cropmarks of small enclosures suggesting settlement. Further work this year will involve evaluation excavation of these areas, and a general survey of the micro-topography.

7.0 **FINDS IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDING**

Nearly 800 new sites and finds are added to the County Sites and Monuments Record each year. Many of these are found by members of the public and brought to the County Archaeologist for identification and permanent record. Many are photographed, and those of particular interest are drawn and published. Some of the most important finds are noted below.

- 7.1 **Bluntisham** 6 Palaeolithic flint tools including 2 axes (135 - 80,000 BC) found on quarry spoil heaps.
- 7.2 **Fen Drayton** 14 Palaeolithic flint tools, including 2 axes found on quarry spoil heaps.

- 7.3 **Isleham** 2 Mesolithic axes, 6 Neolithic axes (3 of polished stone), 1 Bronze Age "battle-axe" and other Prehistoric flint tools.



Flint and stone tools from Isleham.

- 7.4 **Burwell** Bronze Age(?) burial.
- 7.5 **Stretham** Iron Age silver coin.
- 7.6 **Cottenham** Roman finds, including brooch, rings and tweezers.
- 7.7 **Bassingbourn** Roman coins, Anglo-Saxon brooch and Medieval spear.
- 7.8 **Orwell** Roman coins, seal box, brooch, spoon.
- 7.9 **West Wickham** Numerous Roman finds and Anglo-Saxon cemetery
- 7.10 **Wittering** Roman cist burial of young woman associated with 7 bangles, 40 glass beads, 2 hair pins.

8.0 PUBLICATION

8.1 The following reports were published:-

- 58 A Buried Prehistoric Landscape at Barnack
- 59 Mill Common, Huntingdon, An Archaeological Assessment
- 60 Roman Resources in Cambridgeshire
- 61 A45(T) Cambridge Northern Relief Road
- 62 Newark Hill, Peterborough, An Archaeological Assessment
- 63 Roman Burials & Settlement Remains at The Parks, Godmanchester
- 64 A1 Widening Scheme 1992 Alconbury-Fletton Parkway
- 65 An Archaeological Investigation of Dullingham-Swaffhams Pipeline
- 66 Fulbourne Silo 1992 & Historical Study of Medieval Fulbourn
- 67 Bronze Age Features at Dimmocks Cote Road, Wicken
- 68 Excavations at Brent Ditch 1992
- 69 Archaeology between Cambridge & Ely A10 Corridor
- 70 Medieval Water Management along Swaffham Bulbeck-Bottisham Pipeline
- 71 Excavations & Site Management at Stonea Camp
- 72 A Roman Lead Coffin with Pipeclay Figurines from Arrington
- 73 Coton-Longstanton Pipeline, An Archaeological Assessment
- 74 Diddington to Priory Hill, An Archaeological Assessment
- 75 Saxon & Medieval features at Little Linton Farm
- 76 The North Clerestory Wall, Holy Trinity Church, Great Paxton
- 77 Archaeology on the A15/A16 Market Deeping By-pass
- 78 Prehistoric Settlement, Great North Road, Little Paxton
- 79 The Parsonage, Abbots Ripton
- 80 Medieval and Post-medieval Features at Chapel Orchard, Town Green Road, Orwell

8.2 In addition, an article on "Managing Monuments in an Arable Landscape" (Alison Taylor) was published in the Council for British Archaeology's annual publication "*Archaeology in Britain*", and annual reports of relevant information were published in the *Proceedings of Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, *Conduit*, *Medieval Archaeology*, and *Archaeology in Britain*.

8.3 Leaflets were published on:-

Stonea Camp
Archaeology in the Field
Archaeology and Planning
Managing Archaeological Monuments
Archaeological Resources available for Schools.

9.0 DISPLAYS

The following displays were designed and mounted.

Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery (finds)	National Trust, Wimpole Hall May-Nov
Roman Families	Folk Museum June-Nov
Conservation of Barrington finds	Fitzwilliam Museum Nov-Mar
Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery & Managing Monuments	Heritage Showcase, Jan-May Cambridge Central Library
Medieval Kiln Material from Colne	Somersham Library Aug-Nov
Stonea Camp and	Travelling exhibitions, June-Nov Library Service
Caring for Cambridgeshire's Past	Cambs Local History Festival
Archaeology in Cambridgeshire	Little Paxton Visitor Centre Permanent
Archaeology in Little Paxton	Fulbourn Community Centre 21 Nov
5 displays at Archaeology Conference	

10.0 EDUCATION

- 10.1 **Publications** on *The Romans in Cambridgeshire* and *Roman Resources in Cambridgeshire* were designed particularly for use by schools, and are proving very popular. Circulation of the new *Resources* leaflet to all schools has kept them informed of all that is available. Special invitations were also sent for several of the Exhibitions.
- 10.2 **Site Tours** are a valuable way for school children to gain first hand experience of archaeology in their own area, where the remains are sufficiently visual and the site safe enough to encourage visitors. When we are working on suitable sites during term time we ensure that all nearby schools are encouraged to visit. Information and worksheets, and follow-up visits are arranged whenever possible. Last year, tours for schools, societies and the public were organised at Stonea Camp, The Parks, (Godmanchester), Goodwin Farm, (Swaffham Prior), and Car Dyke (Waterbeach).
- 10.3 **Loans packs** of artefacts continued to be very popular, especially that of the Roman period.

10.4 The following talks were given by Cambridgeshire Archaeology staff:

Alison Taylor

Archaeology in the Linton Area
Erosion control in a flat earth landscape

Early Cambridge
Archaeology in Cambridgeshire
The Arrington burial
Archaeology in South Cambridgeshire
Bartlow Hills
Recent Developments in Cambridgeshire
Archaeology
Monuments to visit
Archaeology and Local Government

Linton Local History Society
National Conference on
Monument Management
Discover Cambridge course
Countryside Advisory Working Party
March & District Archaeological Society
Conservation Committee
Bartlow Parish meeting
Staine Hundred

Clare Hall
Cambridge Post Graduates

Interviews: 4 radio, 1 TV, numerous press

Tim Malim

Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery
Stonea Iron Age hill-fort
Brampton neolithic cropmarks & Roman site
Stonea Camp
"
"
Cambridgeshire Dykes
Archaeology in Cambridgeshire
Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery
"
Recent Medieval finds
Brampton excavations

Fulbourn Conference
Fulbourn Conference
Fulbourn Conference
Neale-Wade School
Cambridge Archaeology Field Group
Great Gransden Society
Pampisford Society
Ely & District Archaeological Society
Barrington Society
North Herts Archaeological Society
Medieval Pottery Group
Havehill & District Archaeology Group

Interviews: 5 Radio, 2 TV; numerous press

Bob Sydes

Archaeology in Yorkshire
Archaeology & Planning

Cambridge Archaeology Field Group
York University Students

Steve Kemp

Technology & Typology of Lithics
Archaeology at Wimpole

Haverhill & District Archaeology Group
Guided Walk

Ben Robinson

Romans in Bottisham
The Cambridgeshire Dykes
"

Bottisham Society
Fulbourn Conference
North Herts Archaeology Society

Tim Reynolds

Barnack Prehistoric Site
Godmanchester Roman Burials

Fulbourn Conference
Fulbourn Conference

Stephen Macaulay

Stonea Camp & Iron Age Britain
Under the Ground
Ango-Saxons and invasions
The Role of the Archaeologist
The Anglo-Saxons
"

Welney Junior School
Cherry Hinton Primary School
Cambridge Priory Junior School
Abbots Ripton Junior School
Welney Junior School
Cambridge Park Street Junior School

Interviews: 1 radio, 1 TV, numerous press

Simon Bray

Interviews: 1 radio, 1 TV, press

11.0 MONUMENT MANAGEMENT

In an arable landscape such as Cambridgeshire a major threat to archaeological sites is ordinary cultivation, with added problems caused by scrub invasion where monuments are left neglected and ungrazed. In partnership with English Heritage, the Countryside Commission and owners of monuments (including County Farms) we therefore began a programme of County Guardianship, to provide long-term positive management with good interpretative material and better public access for some of the foremost monuments in Cambridgeshire.

11.1 Bartlow Hills

Three Roman burial mounds, which are the largest and richest in Britain, became part of Cambridgeshire due to a boundary change in 1990. Guardianship of the site was formally accepted by Cambridgeshire County Council. We have now carried out extensive work which should ensure permanent preservation in excellent condition as they are now an impressive and accessible site to visit. Scrub and trees have been cleared from the mounds and their surrounds; grass (conservation mix) has been sown where necessary; biannual strimming ensures good maintenance; new secure fencing has been built around the perimeter and has been replaced around the highest mound but all barbed wire and derelict fencing has been removed from the other 2 mounds; ladder-like steps have been built to the top of the highest mound to give access without eroding the monument, and signposts and an interpretation board has been erected. (See cover photograph).

11.2 Fowlmere Round Moat

This exceptional site, now surrounded by housing estates, is heavily used and as the water-table fell, became covered in scrub, garden rubbish and builder's rubble. It is unlikely that water can ever be restored to it, but much of its character has been restored by clearing the perimeter of the moat, removing rubbish and dangerous trees and arranging biannual maintenance to keep paths and clearings open.

11.3 Stonea Camp, Wimblington

Extensive restoration work on this site is described in last year's Annual Report (1991/2) and excavations are noted above. The monument is now maintained under well-established pasture, there are 5 interpretation boards and a viewing platform, small groups of trees have been planted, and an educational area has been hedged in for "Iron Age type" activities. The water-table has been raised successfully in order to preserve organic archaeological remains, fill the pond and create wet sections of the ditch.



Prehistoric Stonea

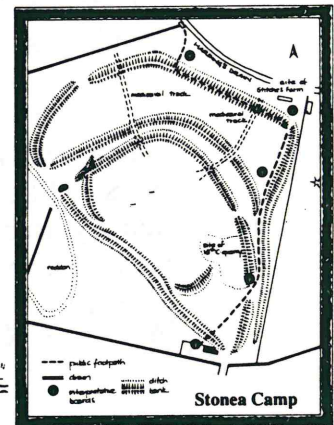
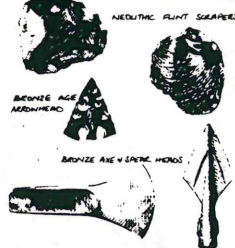
You are now standing on the outer bank, at the junction of several phases of defence.

In prehistoric times the fens contained much habitable land. Early hunters and farmers found the area attractive, with fish, wildfowl, game (including beaver), trees, and reeds providing food, fuel, and building materials for a growing population. The sea-level rose gradually from Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age) to late Iron Age times, flooding low-lying areas like the Fens and cutting the land bridge which once joined Britain to Europe.



THE EARLIEST FINDS FROM STONEA ISLAND are Palaeolithic hand-axes and choppers. Many Neolithic (New Stone Age) tools have been found here, including polished axes, leaf-shaped arrowheads, knives, and scrapers. A number of these were found by field-walking the ploughed fields before pasture was resown in 1990. Nearly 600 fragments of Neolithic pottery were found on an ancient land surface beneath the Bronze Age mound in the adjoining field, demonstrating dense and long-lived settlement here 4000 years ago. This settlement was made possible by the introduction of farming in the early Neolithic, with crops and domesticated animals supporting larger families which were able to settle in one place.

Rising sea-levels in the Bronze Age restricted the land available for farming, but Stonea was still a good place to live. Axes (now made of bronze), barbed arrowheads, flint scrapers, awls, and other tools have all been found in plough soil.



THE LOW CIRCULAR MOUND in the field directly ahead of you is the site of a Bronze Age barrow, or burial mound. Partial excavation in 1961-2 uncovered the cremated remains of a woman aged 30-40, with a spectacular necklace of carefully shaped jet and amber beads. The cremated remains of a man aged 20-25 were also found in a pottery urn near the edge of the mound. Ploughing almost flattened the mound before it could be returned to pasture.



One of 5 interpretation boards at Stonea Camp

11.4 Car Dyke, Waterbeach

This rare stretch of a Roman canal surviving as an earthwork rather than a drain had suffered from plough-encroachment, tipping of agricultural waste, infilling, scrub invasion and overgrown willows. In co-operation with the Countryside Commission, County Farms and English Heritage we have created a 40m strip of meadow to protect and enhance one side, pollarded willows, selectively removed scrub, cleared rubbish and investigated archaeological deposits (see above) with a view to removing some modern silt. Permission to remove a large part of this Dyke for a rowing lake was refused, although we are still concerned about proposals for the adjoining field.

11.5 Devil's Dyke

Last year's programme of scrub clearance and creation of traditional sheep pasture in adjoining fields has been maintained and expanded.

- 11.6 Programmes of regular management are being agreed for an increasing number of monuments each year. So far, these include **Cheveley Castle, Moulton Hills (Bourn), Mutlow Hill (Fleam Dyke), Great Staughton Moat, Cretingsbury Castl (Great Staughton)**, in addition to major monuments described above.

- 11.7 **Interpretation Boards** have been, or shortly will be erected on the following sites:-

Cambridge Castle
 Doddington Ridge & Furrow
 Fowlmere Moat
 Landbeach Moat and Shrunken Village
 March, The Sconce
 Worsted Street, Roman Road
 Ramsey, Booth's Hill
 Stonea Camp, Wimblington.



Welcome to Burwell Castle

IN 1144 ENGLAND WAS IN A STATE OF ANARCHY. Henry I had left his only living child, Matilda, as heir to the throne of England, but she was usurped by her cousin Stephen in Blois. 18 years later fighting led to a settlement, whereby Stephen reigned for a few months before he was succeeded by Matilda's son, Henry II.

Barons used the opportunity to fight their own battles, and one of the most troublesome of these was GEOFFREY DE MANDEVILLE, Earl of Essex, one of Stephen's most powerful supporters who had now turned against him. He made a base in the Isle of Ely, which the Fens made an almost impenetrable fortress, and his forces raided fen edge villages and towns such as Cambridge. King Stephen ordered castles to be built around the fens to surround Geoffrey, demanding land and workers from local landowners. BURWELL is mentioned by name, and another site has been recognised at Rampton.

They surely hounded the unhappy people of the country with forced labour on the castle and when the people were dead, they killed them with swords and wicked words...

Burwell Castle was intended to have a stone keep and curtain wall built of local chunch and faced with flints. It was to be surrounded by a wide wet moat, but when it was only partly built Geoffrey attacked and was mortally wounded by an arrow. His revolt collapsed, and the castle was left unfinished but successful. Peace returned and the Abbot of Ramsey reclaimed the land.

HALK GRASSLAND now covers the mounds and hollows left when the site was abandoned. Knotweed, Scabious, and Meadows Clay grow on the spoil heaps and Cowslips bloom in the spring, even in the areas once fertilised to improve grazing. Reed Sweet Grass and Yellow Flag grow in the wet moss bottom, watered by the small spring which rises in one corner of the meadow. Blackthorn, Ash, and Dog Rose provide cover and food for birds and mice while voles feed on grasses in the meadows.



"Last year's programme of scrub clearance and creation of traditional sheep pasture in adjoining fields has been maintained and expanded."



CASTLES IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE. Other castles of the Anarchy period can be visited at RAMPTON (Giants Hill) and RAMSEY (Booths Hill). Earlier motte and bailey castles are found at CAMBRIDGE and HUNTINGDON. Some interesting castles, such as those at CASTLE CAMPS are in private ownership but can be seen from public footpaths.

Cambridgeshire is rich in historic sites, many of which are open to the public. Some are shown below. More information on these can be obtained from Cambridgeshire County Council. Artifacts found at Burwell and other sites can be seen in the Cambridge Archaeology and Anthropology Museum.



- PREHISTORIC SITES**
 - 1 British Iron Age
 - 2 Neolithic
 - 3 Iron Age
- ROMAN SITES**
 - 4 Roman Bath
 - 5 Roman Road
 - 6 Roman Camp
- ANGLO-SAXON SITES**
 - 7 Devil's Dyke
 - 8 Fleam Dyke
- MEDIEVAL SITES**
 - 9 Burwell Castle
 - 10 Landbeach Moat
 - 11 Moulton Hills
 - 12 Ramsey Castle
 - 13 Cretingsbury Castle
 - 14 Great Staughton Moat
 - 15 Stonea Camp
 - 16 Ramsey Castle
 - 17 Ramsey Castle
 - 18 Ramsey Castle

BURWELL CASTLE WAS PURCHASED by Burwell Parish Council in 1983 and is managed for the benefit of the people of Burwell. It is a scheduled ancient monument. Please do not leave litter, light fires, or disturb the wildlife. Metal detectors, horse riding, and motor bikes are not permitted. Take care to avoid accidents as the Parish Council can take no responsibility for any injuries.

A walk to the Devil's Dyke and the fen-edge villages of Reach and Swaffham Prior starts here: a leaflet describing it is available from Cambridgeshire County Council.



Interpretation board at Burwell Castle

12.0 CONTINUING RESEARCH

- 12.1 Analysis and illustration of Colne pottery kiln has been continuing with a view for final publication in *Medieval Ceramics*, to be submitted later this year.
- 12.2 Post-excavation research and conservation of artefacts has continued for Barrington Anglo-Saxon cemetery, with production of an interim report on the 1991 excavations and summaries of recent analyses scheduled for summer 1993.
- 12.3 A report on the Roman child burial at Arrington will be published in *Britannia* in Autumn 1993.
- 12.4 Anglo-Saxon burials from Haddenham will be published by *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*.
- 12.5 Radio-carbon dates have been returned for the following sites:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Sample No</u>	<u>Date (BP)</u>	<u>Material</u>
Neo	Brampton A1-M1 Link Road	Mortuary Enclosure ditch & pit	GU5264 GU5265	3910±70 4140±140	Oak charcoal Oak charcoal
BA	Barnack Quarry, Burleigh Estate	Burial at base of ditch	Beta 53122	3560±70	Human tibia
BA	Harston Manor Farm	Cremation pyre in ring-ditch	OXA3639	3460±80	Charcoal
BA	Harston Manor Farm	Post hole within ring-ditch	OXA3638	3420±90	Charcoal
IA	Stonea Camp	Human Bone from basal fill of ditch	OXA3620	2070±65	Human bone
IA	Stonea Camp	Burial in top of ditch fill	OXA4064	1985±55	Human tibia
IA	Brent Ditch	Basal ditch fill	OXA4065	2105±55	Human pelvis
AS	Fleam Dyke	Tops of phase I bank stabilisation layer	OXA4066	1580±55	Cattle pelvis

Cambridgeshire carbon-dates have also been returned also on excavations by English Heritage's Central Archaeology Service at Godmanchester, Rectory Farm.

Neo	Godmanchester , Rectory Farm	post-hole	OXA3370	5050±80	Charcoal
		post-hole	OXA3646	5035±70	Charcoal
		post-hole	OXA3367	4950±80	Charcoal
		post-hole	OXA3567	4850±80	Charcoal
		post-hole	OXA3491	4360±75	Charcoal

CARING FOR MONUMENTS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE



Monuments on County Farms
 Countryside Stewardship site
 County Guardianship site
 English Heritage Guardianship site
 English Heritage Management in Progress
 Education packs/Guides available
 Interpretation Boards on site
 Public Access



- 12.6 Thermo luminescence dating is being sought for pottery from Little Linton, Colne and Swaffham Prior (Goodwin Farm).
- 12.7 A Geochemical analysis of sedimentation from late Holocene deposits at Barnack Quarry has been undertaken by Newcastle University.

13. CONCLUSION

This has been a busy and fruitful year, with some important discoveries and also new approaches developed to cope with increasing pressures on the historic environment and with the public's wish for high quality presentation of information. We have received public acknowledgement through the Council for British Archaeology and Institute of Field Archaeologists for our pioneering work in education and monument management, and the National Monuments Record, libraries, record offices and the public have been very appreciative of our publications. I am particularly glad to note that our Field Team have maintained academic standards in an increasing competitive economic climate.

We are extremely grateful to all those who have supported us throughout the year. English Heritage have been helpful and imaginative in co-funding a range of projects including post-excavation and research work for Barrington cemetery, investigation of sites owned by County Farms to help with their long-term management, and initiation of our County Guardianship Scheme, in addition to funding excavations noted above. Anglian Water, Cambridge Water Company and a great number of developers have all shown responsible attitudes towards the impact of their works on possible archaeological remains, and the Countryside Commission, by accepting important sites as "historic landscapes" in their Countryside Stewardship Scheme are securing their survival and good management. We are very glad to acknowledge the help given by the district councils of South Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and Fenland towards our long-term efforts to improve the Sites and Monuments Record, permanent storage of artefacts, and care of monuments (especially Stonea Camp), and we hope that other district councils may also be able to assist with development of these services. Hosts for our many displays, particularly the National Trust at Wimpole, and Cambridge Central Library for their exciting development of the Heritage Showcase, are also warmly thanked.

Within the County Council we have received constant support from services including the County Record Office (Cambridge and Huntingdon), Department of Transportation, County Museums Officer, Conservation Section, Cambridge Collection, Libraries, Education, Property Management Services, Planning, and Rural Group. These colleagues are too numerous to mention individually, but their accessibility and professional expertise enable projects to succeed with minimum funding and maximum public benefit and they are a credit to the Authority.