

107

ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICE 1993/4



Cambridgeshire
County Council

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contributions from Tim Malim & Bob Sydes

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Report no. 107

Visitors to Excavations at Hinxton Hall

A. Taylor



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 As in the past two years most of our efforts have had to be devoted to sites that will be damaged by development, both monitoring planning applications and carrying out necessary fieldwork. This work (described in detail below) is entirely funded by developers, and contracts have to be won by our Field Unit in open competition. A similar number of sites are excavated by external units, with the majority of work by Cambridge Archaeological Unit and smaller number of sites investigated by units from Oxford and Birmingham.

1.2 At the same time, the County's other archaeological policies, (Sites & Monuments Record, monument protection, education, promotion, research, finds identification, conservation & storage) were pursued as rigorously as resources permitted, with very significant progress being made at last over the long-term problem of finds storage.

1.3 During the year it became clear that the Property Department was not the most suitable base for the fast growing Archaeology Section and therefore a move to a new service, Libraries & Heritage was discussed, which took place on 1st April 1994.

2.0 STAFF

2.1 The assistant county archaeologist Bob Sydes and development control officer, Tony Hurley (grant-aided by English Heritage), continued to check planning applications where archaeological sites might be affected, and ensured appropriate field-work was carried out. Nesta Rooke continued to create,

maintain and provide public access to the Sites and Monuments Record. This is a part-time post, which is no longer adequate to cope with the scale of archaeological work and research interests which is now generated. Rose Desmond, also part-time, provides office support, with special responsibility for sales and loans of publications and educational resources, maintenance of photographic collections and desk-top publishing of leaflets, posters and reports.

2.2 Our Field Unit is led by Tim Malim, who was able to attract approximately £290,000 into archaeological work from developers, English Heritage, consultants, and various public bodies. His senior project managers, Dr Tim Reynolds and Dr Paul Spoerry, were joined by Ben Robinson. Celia Honeycombe continues as our conservator (shared with the County Museums Officer and Fitzwilliam Museum), and Corinne Duhig continues to work on human bones. Steve Macaulay and Helen Paterson have been responsible for setting up our programme of monument management, and Steve also ran various educational events, visited schools and led site tours (see below). Caroline Gait-Utime produced educational packs for selected monuments and also worked as illustrator. In addition, an average of about 20 archaeologists worked through the year, several of whom have been with us now for some years.

2.3 Once again we depended on the Regional College's Countryside Management Team for much of the work on field monuments, and it is thanks to them that these are now in such good condition. We were extremely sorry to hear that they would be disbanded in July 1994.

3.0 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

3.1 1993/94 has been an extremely busy year for the development control team, particularly due to their increased effectiveness in monitoring the impact of development proposals on the archaeological resource of Cambridgeshire. Standardisation of the design brief, formalisation of the tendering process by encouraging the use of MAP2 (Management of Archaeological Projects - English Heritage 1991) based specifications in response to the brief, more efficient monitoring of archaeological projects and more fruitful negotiations with clients, in particular the District Planning Authorities has increased the number of excavations carried out. This increased effectiveness has been enhanced greatly by the new post of Development Control Officer created last year and grant aided by English Heritage. Our ability to check planning applications has doubled as a consequence.

3.2 Despite the recession, the number of planning applications from the six district councils of Cambridgeshire has risen slightly over the past two years. Equally, there has been a significant increase in the number of applications having a potentially damaging impact on

the archaeological resource. It comes as no surprise that the two nationally recognised areas of "high growth" districts of South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire have also seen a corresponding increase in our comments and subsequent archaeological work (measured in the number of design briefs produced).

3.3 It is encouraging to note that the number of early consultations (that is, before land purchase or planning application) from potential developers has almost trebled in the past year enabling us to be more proactive in advising clients. This is particularly important in relation to preserving archaeological sites *in situ*, an option increasingly difficult the further along the planning process an application has gone. With both early and late consultations, in particular with large developments, a significant amount of time is spent on negotiation in order to achieve the workable solutions that will benefit both archaeology and development. To that end 228 meetings with clients were held over the past year.

3.4 The success of archaeological development control relies heavily on the support of the six district planning authorities, the county planning authority and the sympathetic approach of developers and their agents to the

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL STATISTICS

District	Applications Checked in Detail	Comments Made	Design briefs for Archaeological work
Cambridge	123	20	12
East Cambs	166	22	17
Fenland	182	18	4
Huntingdonshire	300	53	23
Peterborough	187	20	9
South Cambs	257	43	25
Totals	1215	176	90

sometimes heavy financial burden for ensuring the conservation of the archaeological resource. We wish to convey our thanks to all concerned.

3.5 Advice has been given to the following companies and individuals:-

Abbey Homes
Andrew S Campbell and Associates
Anglian Water Services
Anglia Polytechnic University
ARC Central Ltd
Barton Willmore Planning Partnership
Bennett Homes
Bidwells
Burghley Estates
C J Pryor
Cambridge City Council
Cambridge Rowing Trust
Cambridgeshire County Council
(various departments especially Transportation)
Church Commissioners
Corpus Christi College
Dyer Associates
Eaden Lilley
East Cambs. District Council
ECC Quarries Ltd
Ekins Professional
Emmanuel College
Engineering Consultancy Service
(Lincs. CC)
Euston Lime Ltd
Fenland District Council
Fuller Peiser
G L Hearn and Partners
Galliford Sears
Global Door
Golf Consultancy
Granta Housing Association
Greene King
Grimley J R Eve
Hannah Reed and Associates
Hereward Housing Association
Hunts. District Council
Januarys Land Agents
Jesus College
Kajima UK Ltd
Lambert Scott and Innes
London Brick Company Ltd
McAlpines

Michael Hopkins Partners
Mineral Resources Ltd
Mineral Surveying Services
Montagu Evans
New Hall College
Nicholas Hare Architects
Norwich Union
Peterborough City Council
Rectory Properties
Redlands Aggregates Ltd
Robert Verrill Associates
Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick
Scurr & Powell Architects & Designers
Sidney Sussex College
South Cambs. District Council
St Johns College
Steve Bowley Planning Consultant
Tarmac Roadstone
Tesco Stores Ltd
The Wellcome Trust
Travis Morgan Environment
W S Atkins
Wimpey Homes
Wyncott Development
Bob Sydes

4.0 EXCAVATIONS

The following excavations were carried out by the County Council between April 1993 and March 1994. Most were carried out in order to assess the impact of development on possible sites and, where necessary, to record them adequately before destruction, usually in accordance with specifications prepared by development control archaeologists. Exceptions were Foxton, Parson Drove and Bran Ditch which were funded by English Heritage in order to guide future management of the sites.

Prehistoric Sites

4.1 **Brampton** (TL20257085)
Ken Welsh, for Yelcon Homes.

A small pit, sealed beneath a layer of alluvium, contained sherds of up to 6 Beaker vessels as well as fragments of

charcoal and burnt bone. An ancient stream channel and other natural features were located.

- 4.2 **Godmanchester, Sweetings Road** (TL246698)
Stephen Macaulay, for Galliford Sears.

A Palaeolithic hand-axe was found in a post-medieval quarry. Roman burials were also noted on the site, but were not excavated.

- 4.3 **Hinxton Hall** (TL496448)
Dr Paul Spoerry, for The Wellcome Trust.

Prehistoric quarries and pits contained Neolithic and Bronze Age flints. Neolithic curvilinear pit and a distinctive Bronze Age soil layer were excavated. A chalk shaft 1.8m deep contained Beaker pottery, bone and worked flints.

- 4.4 **St Neots, Eynesbury, Barford Road** (TL184583)
Stephen Kemp, for GL Hearn & Partners.

Trenching revealed an interrupted Bronze Age ring-ditch approximately 15m in diameter. A post-alignment crossed the 'entrance way' of which the posts were deliberately removed at a later date. A number of pits lay outside the enclosed area of the ring-ditch, and charcoal and burnt clay were found within.

A Roman/post-Roman trackway bounded on either side by ditches crosses the area. The northern ditch was partially excavated; the trench ran through the entrance way shown on the aerial photographs. Two ditches cut across the trackway within the trench.

The majority of the archaeological remains lay on a gravel terrace in the northern part of the site. In the south, where deeper soils are recorded, much of the site has been disturbed by pitting and quarrying associated with the construction of the A45. However, a

semi-circular ditch was found at a depth of 0.70m; this is likely to be of prehistoric date. Other ditches in this southern area cut through the alluvium and a buried soil. These deposits have been disturbed by Medieval and post-Medieval ploughing. Excavations will continue in 1994.

- 4.5 **The Stukeleys** (TL20607200 & 20007230)
Ken Welsh, for Huntingdon Steeplechases Ltd.

The first area produced settlement evidence consisting of ditches and postholes on a gravel terrace, provisionally dated to the Bronze Age by pottery. A prehistoric stream channel with associated riverside activities such as burning and burnt cobbles (and a sherd of Iron Age pot), was sealed beneath thick alluvium. In the second area, also sealed by alluvial silt, burnt tree-boles and worked flints perhaps demonstrated woodland clearance in the neolithic period. Excavations will continue in 1994.

- 4.6 **Wicken, Dimmocks Cote** (TL546724)
Duncan Schlee & Simon Bray, for Euston Lime Co.

Continued small-scale excavations revealed Bronze Age post-holes and other features, with abundant pottery, worked flints and a loom-weight. Other substantial features proved to be Roman and Medieval.

Roman Sites

- 4.7 **Foxton** (TL413470)
Stephen Macaulay, for English Heritage.

Extensive Iron Age and Roman settlement cropmarks were examined in order to assess the impact of continued ploughing on a scheduled monument. Numerous Iron Age features, including a circular ditched enclosure, pits, ditches and palisade trenches (some containing burnt daub) were excavated.

A ditched trackway showed evidence of Late Iron Age and Roman date. Roman artefacts, including 38 nails, a bone gaming piece and pottery, mostly found in topsoil, illustrate levels that had already been destroyed. There were large quantities of animal bone, some of it burnt or butchered. It is thought the main focus of both Iron Age and Roman settlement was a short distance from the excavated area. An undated crouched skeleton was found in one ditch.

- 4.8 **Hinxton Grange (TL511464)**
Richard Heawood & Ben Robinson for Department of Transport.

A salvage excavation in advance of the A11 widening on a site located by metal detectors, uncovered a high status building of which a short length of robbed out stone wall and a small section of intact flint rubble foundations survived. The rest of the building had been quarried away - possibly during construction of the adjacent highway in the mid 19th century. The robbing of materials from the buildings foundations also seems to have occurred at this time.

- 4.9 **Parson Drove, Throckenholt Farm (TF355090)**
Simon Bray, for English Heritage.

Located on a roddon, the site rises up slightly from the surrounding topography of the silt fen. Identified during the initial survey from aerial photographs the site appeared to represent an extensive and complete agricultural and settlement site. A fieldwalking programme in October 1992 recovered a scatter of Roman pottery from the field delineated by the cropmarks. Excavation through a small portion of the cropmarks demonstrated activity dating from the late 2nd and 3rd centuries AD with the site under a domestic and agricultural regime, falling out of use by the mid 3rd century as a result of rising water levels making the site unusable.

In addition, a prehistoric layer of water-logged peat was identified on the lower area of the site.

- 4.10 **St Neots, Eynesbury, Ernulf School (TL182590)**
Mary Alexander, for Alsop Verrill Planning Consultants.

Geophysical survey revealed a dense complex of magnetic anomalies suggesting settlement and agricultural enclosures.

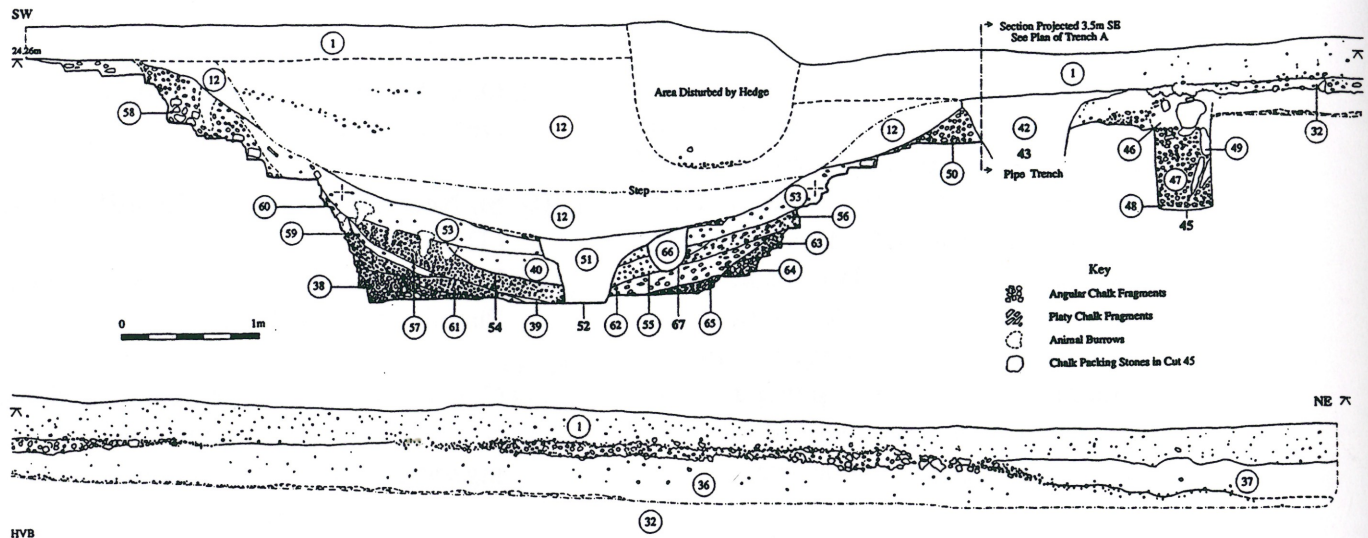
Test pits located over geophysical anomalies in school playing fields located a Roman road and substantial Roman pits and ditches, rich in occupation material, mainly dating to the 3rd century onwards.

Anglo-Saxon Sites

- 4.11 **Fowlmere/Melbourn Bran Ditch (TL40474486)**
Ken Welsh, for English Heritage.

Two trenches were excavated across Bran Ditch, close to Black Peak and the presumed north-western terminus of the ditch, where it reaches a wet and marshy area. Here, at least, Bran Ditch no longer exists as an earthwork, although its line still forms part of the parish boundary between Fowlmere and Melbourn. Aerial photographs revealed a rectilinear enclosure immediately to the south-west running around Black Peak.

Excavation of Trench A revealed a profile for Bran Ditch that was 6m wide and 1.8m deep from the surface of the natural chalk. It showed an initial period of rapid weathering of the sides after which it may have been partially cleaned out. A stable profile soon after became established. The remains of the bank were found on the north-eastern side of the ditch, a layer of re-deposited chalk rubble, 0.13m thick and 9.3m wide, with a berm of about 1.5m. A trench filled with chalk packing stones showed that the bank was revetted or palisaded at the



Section across Bran Ditch.

H.Bailey

time of its construction, presumably to prevent chalk rubble falling back into the trench.

The second trench (Trench B), adjacent to the northern terminus, revealed a much reduced profile for Bran Ditch, perhaps indicating that it did indeed terminate in this area. However, a water pipe and inspection cover, laid in the early 1980's to top up water levels in the RSPB reserve, appears to have destroyed the extreme end of the Ditch, and its north-eastern edge has also been substantially truncated in recent times (probably by quarrying), so that its full profile was not available. The nature of the chalk forming the base of the ditch suggested that it may have contained standing water at some early period of its history. An unidentified and undated circular feature, 3.5m across the 0.9m deep, with inwardly inclined post-holes within its perimeter, was excavated on the south-western side of the ditch. Although intercutting with Bran Ditch, their stratigraphic relationship could not be ascertained as the upper fills of both were exactly similar. The similarity of their primary fills suggests that they could be contemporary.

The bank material in Trench A sealed a buried soil, the upper part of which

contained Iron Age and Roman pottery. In the lower part were found substantial numbers of Mesolithic or early Neolithic struck flint flakes. The freshness of the flint suggests that tool production was carried out here.

On the south-western side of Bran Ditch a ditch around Black Peak was revealed. It enclosed an area of about 0.4ha, and a section across the ditch showed it to be 2.65m wide and 0.95m deep. Pottery in the lowest fill dated from the Late Iron Age.

4.12 Hinxton Hall (TL496448)

Dr Paul Sperry, for the Wellcome Trust.

Evaluation trenching and magnetometer survey had indicated the approximate extent of the settlement. This was followed up by an area excavation. Close to localised Roman quarrying a middle Saxon settlement comprising a loose cluster of 4 or more grubenhauser, and possible further timber structures, was identified. Domestic craft material in the form of spindle whorls, bone needles, knives, loom weights and possibly loom timbers, were recovered from the grubenhauser. A late Saxon sequence of occupation followed which was characterised by several buildings of the

'hall' type, the largest of which was over 21m long. All the major structures were located within a roughly rectilinear enclosure which was approximately 45m across east to west, which may have had a second enclosure adjoining it on its west side. Several phases of re-building and construction were identified. However, all buildings within the main enclosure were constructed on a formal alignment, perhaps suggesting continuity of occupation. Other features identified within this 'domestic' enclosure include 2 ovens, 3 wells and many rubbish pits. Only part of the possible second enclosure was excavated, the remainder being under a tree belt. This contained evidence for a much less substantial wooden building, plus one or more probable retting pits. The discovery of a sizeable deposit of carbonised flax seed elsewhere on the site may support this latter identification. The final phase of activity on the site seems, from ceramic data, to date to the 12th century. An oven, or drier, with a flue several metres long which is cut into the almost completely filled main enclosure ditch, is the most obvious feature of this last, post-Conquest, phase.

4.13 **Oakington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery** (TL416646)

Stephen Kemp and Simon Bray, for Cambridgeshire County Council.

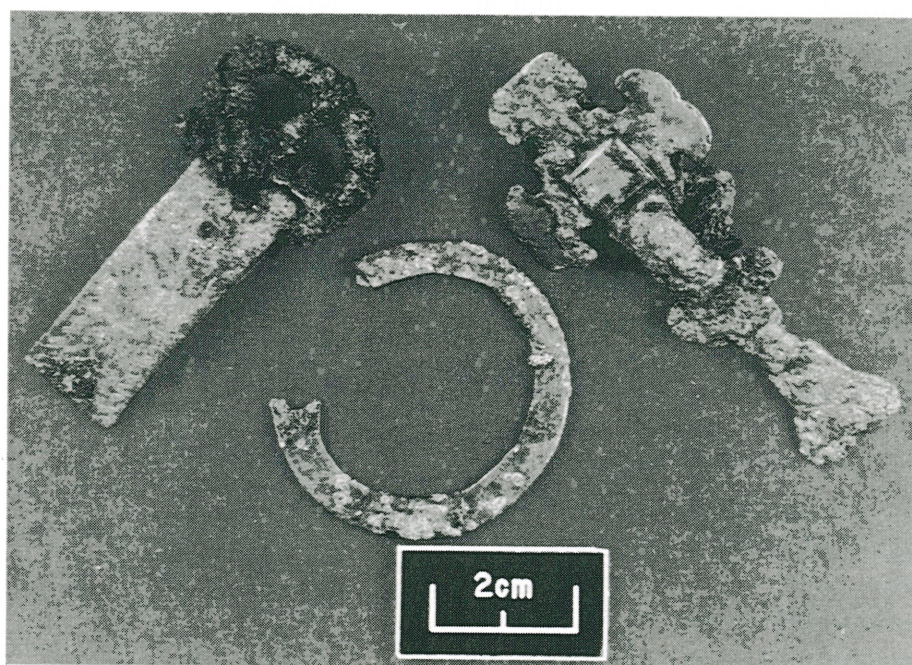
Emergency excavations of human remains uncovered when holes were dug for play equipment in the recreation ground, revealed the skeleton of a young Saxon woman, with 2 brooches (one small-long and one annular) and a buckle. Other small holes contained at least 3 bodies. Larger scale excavations were made possible in 1994/95, thanks to a grant from South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Medieval Sites

4.14 **Ely, The Maltings** (TL546798)

Dr Tim Reynolds, for East Cambridgeshire District Council.

The area assessed was the Medieval waterfront, where background research had suggested warehouses, hythes and lanes would lie on the site. A single trench was excavated by machine to reveal Medieval deposits which were then



Grave-goods from Oakington.

hand-excavated. Two superimposed Medieval banks were discovered overlying deposits of a former foreshore into which a single pit had been dug. The pit and banks were all Medieval, dating between 1200-1400, on pottery evidence. In front of the banks the waterfront had been pushed further east by dumping layers of building material (tile, limestone rubble, and small fragments of burnt clay) in succession with layers of clay. The rear of the upper bank had eroded during its lifetime and was refurbished by dumping limestone rubble and tile over the puddled area.

- 4.15 **Ely, St Marys Lodge (TL53788032)**
Ben Robinson, for Hereward Housing Association.

A recording brief was carried out during the redevelopment of a property bordering the postulated 10th - 11th century planned market at Ely. A cluster of 12th-13th century pits were recorded on the street front, suggesting a post-13th century change of alignment in St Mary's Street. Residual St Neots ware confirmed a late Saxon presence. A short length of 'L' shaped beam slot was located (on the street front, but on a differing alignment to the present buildings) possibly indicating a pre-13th century building.

- 4.16 **Fowlmere, High Street (TL42354595 - 42484580)**
Dr Paul Sperry, for Lewis Patten Chartered Architects.

Trial trenches near the Round Moat and in an area between the moat and the High Street revealed the following archaeological features: a small Iron Age or Anglo-Saxon ditch; evidence for a structure and occupation, probably Medieval in date, within a few metres of the moat; upcast thrown up by cleaning and re-cutting the moat in the Middle Ages, covering features noted above; a

pond consisting of a natural clay filled hollow, altered to improve water-management; Medieval settlement evidence adjacent to the High Street, damaged by later buildings; and traces of 18th century cottages.

- 4.17 **Huntingdon, High Street (TL2371794)**
Richard Heawood, for Headley Stokes Associates.

Medieval rubbish and cess pits containing pottery and animal bone were excavated during construction work.

- 4.18 **Huntingdon, Hartford Road (TL24067167)**
Ken Welsh, for Marshall's Garage.

Three trenches were excavated, all of which revealed a variety of archaeological deposits. The earliest of these were dated by pottery evidence to the 12th or 13th century. A gravel surface, perhaps part of a yard, was also revealed and appeared to date to the 13th or 14th century. The next period of activity recognised archaeologically was an apparently deliberate raising of the ground surface, perhaps to combat problems of flooding. Large quantities of clay and other materials, much of it burnt, were observed in all 3 trenches and may have been dumped there at the end of the Medieval period.

Following this, a cellared building was constructed on the High Street frontage, perhaps around 1500. This building may well be one of three inns mentioned in a document dating to 1572. There were indications that this building was partially demolished in 17th century. Evidence of a 17th century building, probably fronting onto Hartford Road, was also recorded. In the early 19th century, the existing buildings were demolished to make way for St Mary's vicarage.



Excavations at St Neots Priory

P. Spoerry

- 4.19 **Huntingdon, Spittals Way (TL229732)**
David Mitchell, for Cambridgeshire County Council, Transportation Department.

Portions of between 55-60 skeletons of Medieval date were excavated following disturbance for new road widening. A wide range of ages is present, from neonatal/infant up to older adults. Some showed signs of leprosy and other diseases, so the cemetery is thought to be associated with the leper hospital of St Margaret, which was founded in the late 12th century and closed in 1341.

- 4.20 **St Neots Priory (TL182602)**
Mary Alexander, for Januarys Consultant Surveyors.

Part of the Medieval Priory burial ground was revealed, lying below Victorian activity, including a cess pit, and a 1.0m layer of ground make-up dated to the 17th-18th century. Forty whole or partial skeletons were excavated, their location suggesting that burial intensity increased towards the north, nearer to the

site of the Priory buildings. Study of the skeletons has revealed significant medical details reflecting aspects of Medieval monastic life. One individual was buried with a series of iron half-hoops lying below the body. Another burial contained a base metal vessel, possibly a priest's chalice. The southern most end of the area revealed the edge of a large pit. This feature contained much burnt building material, indicating earlier, possibly Saxon, structures in the immediate vicinity.

- 4.21 **Tilbrook Cross-base (TL080694)**
Simon Bray, for Tilbrook Parish Council.

A test pit on the site from which a stone cross-shaft had been removed for safe-keeping uncovered the cross's square (670mm) pedestal.

- 4.22 **Whittlesford Moat (TL42159304)**
David Mitchell, for Mr and Mrs Wareham.

Excavations within a well-preserved moat close to the village church revealed

occupation layers to a depth of 2.5m below the surface. 15th, 16th and 18th century occupation horizons were noted overlying deeper deposits of an earlier date, the latter possibly associated with the original Medieval Manor of Whittlesford.

4.23 **Wimblington, Bridge Lane**
(TL42159304)
Ben Robinson, for Finn pave Ltd.

Evaluation excavations revealed a late Iron Age ditch and traces of the Medieval hamlet of Eastwood End. The ditch is an outlying remnant of a previously known Iron Age/Romano-British settlement, situated 100m to the south of the development site.

The development site is situated at the southern headland of a Medieval field. The earliest Medieval features on the site represent structures that were erected during the 14th-15th century. This activity was probably succeeded by a period of cultivation. Rubbish filled ditches, dated by pottery to the 16th and 17th centuries, indicate the proximity of dwellings at this date.

Post Medieval Sites

4.24 **Cambridge** (TL44955858)
Simon Bray, for Eaden Lilley.

Stratified post-Medieval deposits were recorded in a small area beneath Eaden Lilley, in central Cambridge. Pits, including a probable quarry, and a stone-lined well were noted.

Negative Assessments

4.25 Assessments that revealed no archaeological finds or features were carried out at:
Ely, Angel Drove
Ely, Witchford Road

Ely, Ship Lane
Godmanchester, London Road
Linton, Cathodeon Crystals
Littleport, Butchers Hill
Littleport, Camel Road
Stapleford, Gog Magog Hills
Wansford, Nene Service Station
Wisbech St Mary's, South Fork Trout Farm

Pipelines

Construction of pipelines for water or gas often require soil stripping along a broad band (up to 30m in some cases) to give adequate easement for the works, in addition to 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 ensure that unexpected sites are also examined.

4.26 **Comberton - Eversden** (TL535252 - TL539256)
Stephen Kemp and Twigs Way, for Cambridge Water Co.

Archaeological remains were only recovered from the Roman villa site of Fox's Bridge, where a number of ditches were recognised. These had largely been disturbed by root action. A combination of historical documentation and archaeology, in the form of earthworks, give evidence of extensive quarrying along the Bourn Brook and this appears to have removed any remaining traces of the villa complex. It is recorded that extraction was for the maintenance of roadways within the parish. Pottery and coinage from the excavation indicates occupation from the late 1st century AD to the late 4th/early 5th centuries.

- Results from other sites indicated an absence of archaeological remains. Pottery found close to the moated site of Little Eversden is likely to result from the cleaning out of the moat, removing leaf litter etc. Historical research based on Sing Close suggests that this wooded enclosure was formed during the early 1800's following enclosure of the field systems.
- 4.27 **Sawston, Borough Hill** (TL47174948)
Simon Bray, for Spicers Ltd.
- The pipeline crossed an Iron Age hillfort where it was possible to record survival of the bank and ditch of the hillfort with a preserved buried soil beneath the bank. The bank was shown to be on a slightly different alignment to the surviving earthwork as a result of soil creep outwards and downslope from the bank. Inside the hillfort a thick silt layer was recorded, protecting any internal features from modern agricultural practices. Later activity was identified outside the fort in the form of a well, in defined, shallow ditch and a square-cut pit or ditch.
- 4.28 **Sawtry - Alconbury Weston** (TL1878 - TL1879)
Bob Hatton, for British Pipeline Agency.
- No archaeological remains were noted, apart from 4 Roman sherds.
- 4.29 **Sawtry** (TL17458346 - 17998074 & 17558349 - 18268015)
Richard Heawood and Stephanie Leith, for Fenland Hydrotch Ltd.
- No archaeological remains were noted.
- 4.30 **Stapleford, Wandlebury** (TL4953)
Mary Alexander, for Eastern Electricity.
- Despite passing around part of the perimeter of the hill-fort, no archaeological remains were noted, apart from a low bank and another undated feature.
- 4.31 **A11 Widening at Stump Cross** (TL506441, TL504442, TL504437)
Ben Robinson, for Department of Transport.
- Evaluation trenches located parallel ditches defining Romano-British field boundaries or a trackway leading from the major Roman Road (on the line of the A11). Trenching close to the north side of the Roman town at Great Chesterford failed to locate any significant features.
- 5.0 MAJOR EXCAVATIONS BY EXTERNAL UNITS**
- The following excavations were also carried out in advance of development and in accordance with specifications by the development control archaeologists.
- 5.1 **Little Abington, Bourn Bridge Borrow Pit**
Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Chris Evans) for Savills.
- Evaluation of River Granta gravel terraces revealed two small Romano-British settlements and associated field systems close to the river. A background "noise" of Neolithic and Bronze Age flint indicated the presence of activity areas but not settlement, and an undated burial packed with cobbles was located within an old river channel. Further work will be necessary prior to extraction and one of the Romano-British sites will be preserved.
- 5.2 **Cambridge, Castle Street**
Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Rob Butler) for Granta Housing Society.
- Excavations in 1988 had revealed Saxon or early medieval burials and Romano-British pits, ditches and gullies. Monitoring demonstrated the unusual survival of Roman deposits including a "burnt floor layer" of a building and

more pits. Several burials were recovered, one of which was associated with a Saxon bead.

- 5.3 **Cambridge, Eagle Yard**
Cambridge Archaeological Unit
(Dr Gerry Wait) for Cambridge Arts
Theatre and Corpus Christi College.

Full excavation in advance of development revealed well preserved remains of Medieval and Post-medieval property boundaries, wells, pits and backyard structures post-dating sand and gravel extraction in c. late 12th century. Interestingly, the quarries were relatively narrow suggesting extraction by "allotment". A well containing quantities of cat skeletons was also investigated. Analysis continues.

- 5.4 **Cambridge, Emmanuel College**
(TL452583)
Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Alison
Dickens) for Emmanuel College.

An archaeological evaluation revealed the remains of midden deposits and possible structures relating to the Dominican Priory known to have existed on site. Later deposits related to the dissolution and college foundation in 1584. Later excavation in advance of development revealed an early medieval fish pond or tank containing a rich organic fill. Ditches associated with it were also revealed. The remains of a previously unknown Priory building were also uncovered. A number of rare embossed 14th century floor tiles manufactured in Kings Lynn form part of the artefact assemblage found during the investigations. Analysis continues.

- 5.5 **Cambridge, New Hall College**
(TL440595)
Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Chris
Evans) for New Hall College.

Evaluation trenches revealed several Romano-British features to the rear of

New Hall college and close to the present Huntingdon Road. Subsequent full excavation of both areas in advance of development revealed significant Roman quarrying activity, possible leather processing and agricultural ditches. Possible Saxon inhumations were also recovered. Analysis continues.

- 5.6 **Cottenham, Lordship Lane**
(TL449677)
Cambridge Archaeological Unit
(Dr Gerry Wait) for Mr V Donnelly.

Evaluation trenches and test-pits revealed the remains of part of a mid to late Saxon settlement preserved under medieval plough soil and dumped material. A number of ditches and pits were found. Later medieval boundaries on a different alignment were also discovered. Further work will be required before development will be able to proceed.

- 5.7 **Ely, Forehill and Lyle Lane** (TL545802)
Cambridge Archaeological Unit
(Dr Gerry Wait) for Bennett Homes Ltd.

An archaeological evaluation on the site of a former brewery on a medieval street revealed over 1.5m of archaeological deposits. The well preserved remains of a probable 17th - 18th century commercial bread oven to the rear of one property was uncovered and a 13th century pottery "waster" possibly points to the remains of a pottery kiln near the site. The archaeological deposits, will either be fully excavated or preserved within the development.

- 5.8 **Ely to Isleham Water Main**
Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Kasia
Gdaniec) for Anglian Water Services.

Evaluation trenching and test pitting along the route of this pipeline which traversed the River Snail and the River Ouse, revealed several new prehistoric settlement sites including an Iron Age site associated with large storage pits. Bronze

Age “ritual” activity sites were also identified on the banks of the River Snail. Elements of a medieval enclosure system associated with a Knights Templar site were also investigated. Analysis continues.

5.9 **Fen Drayton Quarry**
Cambridge Archaeological Unit
(Dr Gerry Wait) for ARC Central Ltd.

Evaluation work of cropmarks in this part of the Ouse Valley revealed agricultural and possible settlement ditches of a prehistoric landscape sealed beneath alluvium. On further examination in two distinct areas, the investigations revealed a rare Neolithic settlement and the fringes of a Middle Iron Age site. On the third gravel terrace, not affected by extraction, a rich late 4th century Roman site was investigated. Analysis continues.

5.10 **Fulbourn Hospital (TL495565)**
Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Kasia Gdaniec) for East Anglian Regional Health Authority.

An archaeological assessment revealed the existence of a Bronze Age settlement associated with a single (known) large ditch (3.0m wide and 1.25m deep) containing a significant quantity of contemporary pottery and animal bone.

5.11 **Hinxton Quarry (TL48654630)**
Cambridge Archaeological Unit (Chris Evans) for Mineral Resources Ltd.

A programme of trial trenching, test-pitting and fieldwalking was carried out to assess the archaeological potential of a Romano-British cropmark complex in two areas adjacent to the existing quarry. Field walking produced a significant quantity of flint tools and waste flakes to the south of the existing quarry

suggesting that the naturally occurring flint cobbles were utilised for flint production. Investigations of a ploughed out Bronze Age barrow (28m diameter) revealed two cremations and a 5.20m wide, 1.55m deep ‘V’ shaped ditch. In the north extraction area, fieldwalking recovered a fine Saxon brooch subsequently found to have derived from a “sunken” floored building (Grubenhäuser). The Romano-British remains were poorly preserved but indicative of a small riverside settlement; round houses, enclosure ditches and a ditched “droveway” were discovered. Further work will be commissioned prior to extraction.

5.12 **Mepal, Block Fen (TL424835)**
Tempus Reparatum (Jonathan Hunn & Mike Coxah) for Redlands Aggregates Ltd.

The evaluation, a comprehensive programme of trenching, fieldwalking, and geophysical prospection, investigated an extensive cropmark landscape of unknown, but presumed Bronze Age date and a barrow field of similar date, on the southern fringe of Chatteris Island. No settlement remains were encountered and no dating evidence was found for the field systems. The barrows, two of which are scheduled, were found to be very badly eroded by ploughing and desiccation. Analysis continues (C14 samples were taken from the barrow ditches) and further work will be necessary prior to extraction.

5.13 **Little Paxton Quarry (TL202651)**
Birmingham University Archaeological Field Unit (Dr Ian Ferris & Alex Jones) for ECC Quarries Ltd.

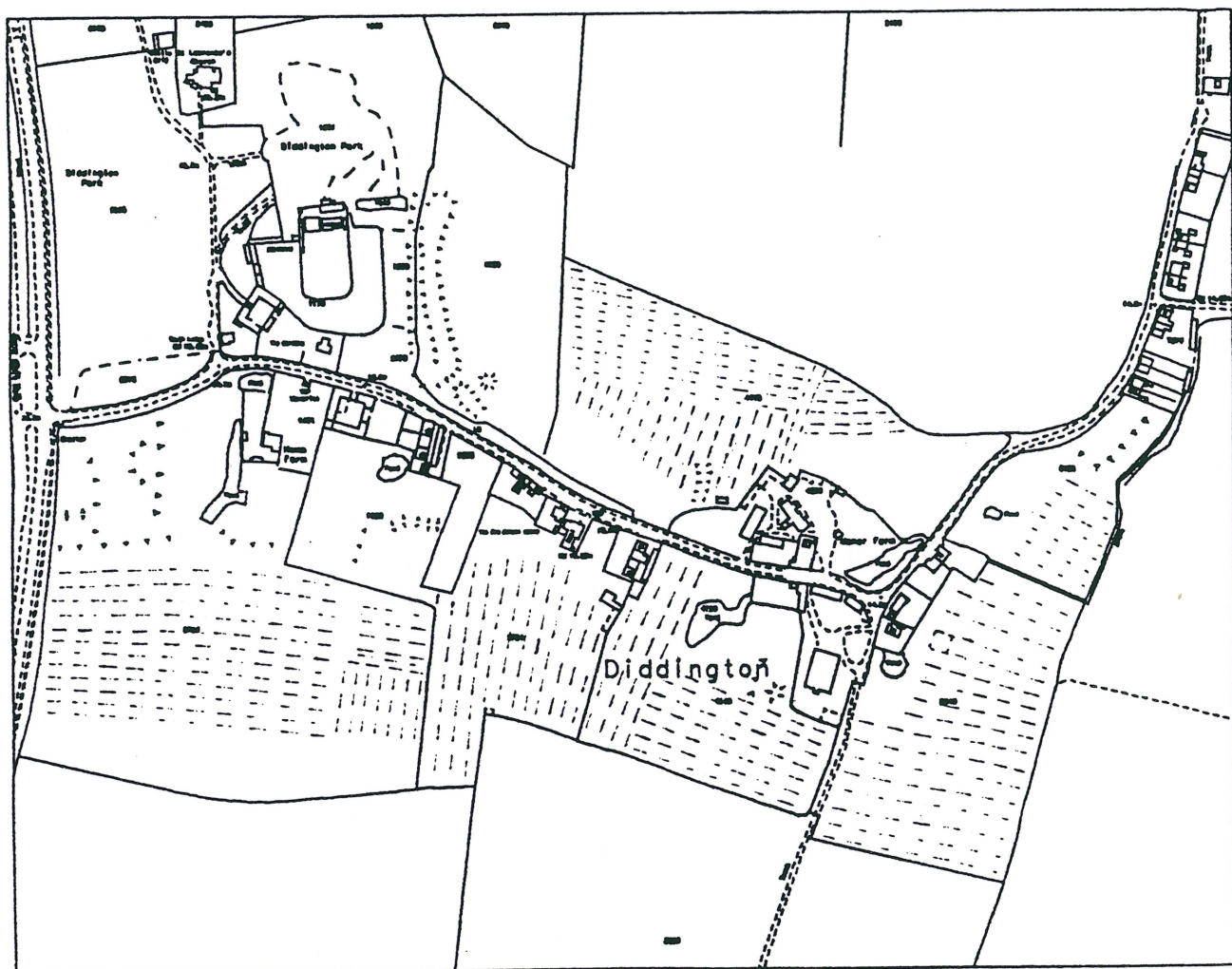
A series of archaeological evaluations and excavations has been carried out as part of a long-term programme of investigation of Roman and prehistoric

landscapes. This work is phased with the extraction programme at the Little Paxton quarry. To date, a significant Ouse Valley Romano-British settlement has been investigated, which, once full analysis is complete, will enhance significantly our sparse knowledge of rural sites of this period. Subsequent work has also occurred on an Early-Middle to Late Iron Age enclosure containing two round houses lying to the west of the Romano-British site. Post holes or pits containing Late Neolithic pottery (Peterborough ware) apparently associated with a pit of similar fill containing fragments of Beaker pottery have also been investigated. Future investigations will concentrate on a substantial Late Iron Age settlement to the north of the Romano-British site.

6.0 SURVEYS

6.1 Rapid Identification of Earthworks

Brian Cushion, recently retired from the Archaeology Section of the Ordnance Survey, spent March 1994 on two experimental projects to assess the viability, problems and potential of a programme to record all archaeological sites which survive as upstanding earthworks. Many of these have never been noted and are therefore at risk of damage through our own ignorance. The first part of the project covered Burwell and Reach villages, and the second was based on the 10km square, TL16, which includes the parishes of Kimbolton, Perry, Grafham, Buckden, Diddington, Southoe & Midloe, Great Staughton, Hail Weston and Little Paxton.



Medieval earthworks around Diddington

B Cushion

(Reproduced from the OS Map with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office Crown Copyright).

In Burwell, sketch plots were made of 5 areas of medieval earthwork, some of which are being degraded by cultivation. In Reach significant losses to previously recorded village earthworks were noted, in addition to disappearance and degradation of some of the basins that survive from Reach's days as an international dock.

In TL16 (NW, NE and SE) 34 new sites were recorded and 28 records were updated, in addition to 5 new and 5 updated non-earthwork records. Many of these were ridge and furrow, but tofts, enclosures, holloways, brickworks and a post-medieval well-head with re-used Medieval masonry, and a former country-house reservoir were also discovered.



*Well-head at Kimbolton,
including Medieval masonry.* B Cushion

At the request of Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Wildlife Trust a record was also made of various earthworks in Brampton Wood. The latest and perhaps most interesting of these was a long mound which proved to be a pre-First World War rifle range complete with bullets, which had been collected by David Malt, Assistant Warden.

6.2 Aerial Photographs

Brian Cushion also spent a week looking at cropmarks revealed on aerial photographs, held by the Cambridge office of MAFF. 66 new sites were recorded including ploughed-out ridge and furrow and enclosures. Photographs held in other MAFF offices will be consulted in 1994/95.

6.3 Geophysical Prospection

Magnetometer surveys were conducted at:

Isleham bronze hoard site
Ernulf School
Ernulf/St Neots (3 phases) Roman and Medieval features
Hinxtton Hall (2 phases) Anglo-Saxon settlement
RAF Hospital, Ely
A15 Glinton to Werrington diversion Iron Age/Roman features
Herods Farm, Foxton Iron Age settlement.

6.4 South Cambridgeshire - Village Earthworks

There were 67 newly recorded earthwork sites added to the SMR by Sarah Hinds during November 1993 to January 1994.

6.5 A45 Girton - Stow-cum-Quy Programme (TL415613)

Stephen Kemp, for Department of Transport.

Fieldwork indicated that the discard of preservable artefacts was largely contained within those areas previously identified as archaeological by cropmarks. The finds associated with these cropmark indicate intense but spatially restricted Roman activities. However, in addition a number of early and late prehistoric sites were recognised lying in close proximity to the cropmark sites.

- 6.6 **A15 Glinton - Werrington Upgrading** (TF159038 - 154053)
Dr Tim Reynolds, for Department of Transport.

Field-walking failed to identify clear concentrations that identified sites, although sherds of Roman pottery were noted. Extensive geophysical surveying revealed areas containing ditches and pits.

- 6.7 **Ickleton, Abbey Farm** (TL490437)
Ben Robinson, for Cowper Griffiths Brimblecombe

The site of the Benedictine nunnery of St Mary Magdalene was inspected. Field observations identified areas of low earthworks, potentially related to the nunnery. A documentary search revealed a lease dating to c.1545 which described part of the precinct in some detail. It also included points of husbandry.

- 6.8 **Chesterton, Durobrivae** (TL1296 & TL1297)
Stephen Kemp, for English Heritage.

Approximately 15,000 sherds of Roman pottery were collected. Two buildings of stone and daub were identified during field-walking which was part of an exercise to investigate the extent of plough damage on this scheduled monument.

- 6.9 **Stretham, Tiled House Farm** (TL523732)
Stephen Kemp, for English Heritage.

Field-walking of a Roman villa produced 2nd & 3rd century pottery and prehistoric finds.

- 6.10 **Other Research**

Radiocarbon dates were received for two samples from Stonea Camp, bringing the total of dates analysed to 4.

GU5331 Oak leaves/twigs 2210±90 range=2300-2120 cal BC 392-168,
GU5332 wood & leaves 2110±50 range=2160-2060 cal BC 196-96,

OxA2315 human bone 2070±65 range=2135-2005 cal BC 180-55,
OxA4064 human bone 1985±55 range=2040-1930 cal BC 36-80AD.

The above series of dates was designed to give a chronological framework for Stonea Camp, independent of dating from methods such as classification and morphological means. The series confirms an Iron Age date, and concentrates the construction and use of the fort to within at least a 100 year range set within the first two centuries BC. The full range of calibrated dates could take early phases back as far as the 4th century BC, with a range for the latest date into the 1st century AD, but taking the dates as a group it seems that the 2nd-1st centuries BC accommodate all dates. Sequentially the dates conform with stratigraphic evidence, with a definite separation between primary deposits (leaves and twigs) and later human skeletal material. The samples were obtained from three different locations around the outer defensive ditch.

- 6.11 **Shudy Camps, St Marys Church** (TL621444)
Ben Robinson and Tony Baggs, for English Heritage.

Recording of the upper space of the tower was carried out prior to and during its dismantling and reconstruction.

A flint rubble upper space was found to have been constructed during the late 15th and early 16th centuries to accommodate the bell-frame. Lift lines and putlog holes were located indicating the construction methods employed. Fragments of a late 12th century Barnack stone grave cover had been re-used as putlog hole surrounds. A Nine-mens Morris board had been inscribed on one of the chalk clunch window dressing blocks.

The tower had undergone numerous brick repairs in the 18th and 19th centuries as the crucial fabric failed. Graffiti dating to this period and to the late 17th century were noted.

7.0 FINDS IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDING

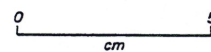
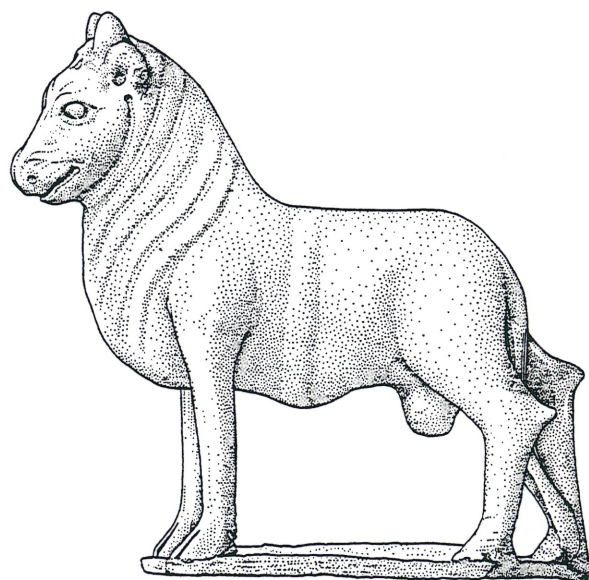
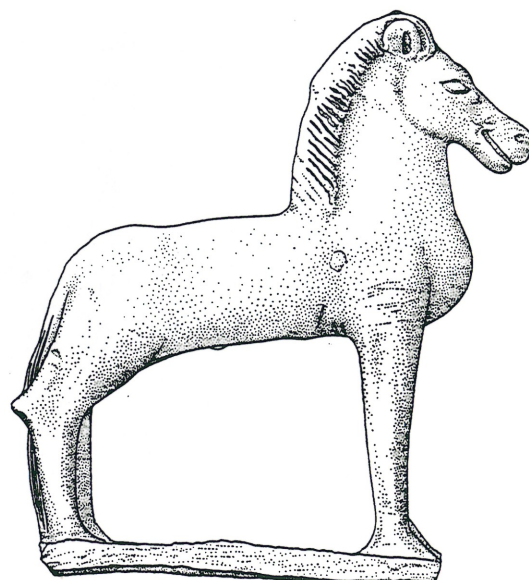
The County's Sites & Monuments Record, a computerized text-based system backed up by record maps, photographs and parish files, is in constant use by the public, consultants, and archaeologists, especially our own staff, in relation to field-work strategies and development control advice. Efforts are constantly made to ensure that all new discoveries are entered onto this record, for the benefit of present and future researchers. In the majority of cases this is the only permanent record that is made for new finds, although many are photographed and some of particular interest are drawn and published. There were 532 new records of sites and finds made last year, and 512 records were updated with new information. Many of these were the result of metal-detecting and casual discoveries, in addition to field-work and inspection of aerial photographs. Particularly interesting finds of this nature are noted below.

7.1 Castle Camps

A collection of Roman artefacts, including brooches, dice, the bust of a goddess and a figurine of a leaping frog were reported. Further work, including field-walking and magnetometer surveying is being carried out by Haverhill & District Archaeology Group.



Goddess and frog from Castle Camps A. Taylor



Figurines from a child's burial from Godmanchester

J. Richards

7.2 Godmanchester

The cremated remains of a child in a Samian pot were found while a garage was being built. There were 3 other complete pots with the burial, 2 bangles of copper alloy and iron, and a copper alloy fitting, perhaps from a wooden box, 2 pipeclay figurines, one of a horse and the other a bull, both unique in Britain.



Anglo-Saxon frieze from Ely J. Wyss

7.3 **Ely**

Part of an Anglo-Saxon frieze depicting a centaur was discovered on a rockery.

8.0 PUBLICATION

8.1 The following 'in-house' reports were issued:-

- 81 Neolithic Ditches and Iron Age Settlement at Thrapston Road, Brampton
- 82 Ryders Farm - An Archaeological Investigation of a 13th Century Farmhouse in Swavesey
- 83 Gog Magog Golf Club Extension - An Archaeological Assessment
- 84 Annual Report 1992/3
- 85 Cambridge Southern Relief Road - Archaeological Field Evaluation
- 86 An Archaeological Assessment at Huntingdon Race Course (Areas A & B)
- 87 Great Wilbraham Roman Villa and Fleam Dyke
- 88 Excavations at Linton Roman Villa
- 89 Medieval Burials at 25 - 27 Market Square, St Neots
- 90 Prehistoric & Roman Archaeology at Barford Road, Eynesbury
- 91 Roman Settlement Evidence at Ernulf School, St Neots

- 92 Anglo-Saxon Cemetery Edix Hill, Barrington - Interim Report 1993
- 93 Roman & Medieval Routeways along the Comberton -Eversden Pipeline
- 94 Excavations at Bran Ditch 1993, An interim Report
- 95 Borough Hill Iron Age Hillfort - An Archaeological Watching Brief

Exploring Cambridgeshire's Past - Strategies for a County Archaeological Service (Consultation draft)

The Haddon Farmstead and a Prehistoric Landscape at Elton (C A I French)

8.2 'A' reports, on sites of less significance or with negative results, or where further work will follow were also issued:-

- A1 Swavesey to Over Pipeline
- A2 An Archaeological Assessment at Eye near Peterborough
- A3 Prehistoric, Saxon and Medieval Features at a Quarry in Hinxton
- A4 A Watching Brief on Morborne-Haddon Water Main Renewal
- A5 A Watching Brief at Snailwell on Lodes-Granta Development Scheme
- A6 An Archaeological Evaluation at Nene Valley Service Station, Wansford, Peterborough
- A7 An Archaeological Evaluation at Sawston, Cambridgeshire
- A8 Archaeological Evaluation at Huntingdon Race Course
- A9 An Archaeological Watching Brief on the Marholm to Upton Water Mains Renewal
- A10 Hinxton Hall: An Archaeological Desktop Study
- A11 Excavation of a Village Cross in Tilbrook
- A12 Heath Farm to Wandlebury Overhead Line Refurbishment - An Archaeological Watching Brief
- A13 Archaeological Recording at Butcher's Hill Farm, Littleport
- A14 Archaeological Evaluation at Southfork Farm, Wisbech St Mary

- A15 An Archaeological Recording Brief on Post Medieval Deposits at Eaden Lilley, Cambridge
- A16 An Archaeological Assessment at Cathodeon Crystals Site, Linton
- A17 An Archaeological Recording Brief at Angel Drove, Ely
- A18 An Archaeological Assessment at Hinxton Hall
- A19 Government Oil Pipeline - Sawtry, Cambridgeshire
- A20 A Leper Cemetery at Spittals Link, Huntingdon
- A21 A Beaker Pit at Park Road, Brampton
- A22 Archaeological Investigations on the Thetford Aqueduct
- A23 A45 Girton to Stow-cum-Quy Field Walking Programme
- A24 A11 Widening, Stumps Cross to Four Wentways: An Evaluation at Stumps Cross and Hinxton Grange
- A25 Phase II Archaeological Assessment at Hinxton Hall
- A26 A1 Water Pipeline
- A27 An Archaeological Evaluation at Bridge Lane, Wimblington; the Medieval Hamlet at Eastwood
- A28 A15 Werrington to Glinton Upgrading - An Archaeological Desktop
- A29 Archaeological Investigations at Witchford Road, Ely
- A30 Archaeological Investigations at London Road, Godmanchester
- A31 Post Medieval Gravel Quarrying at Sweetings Road, Godmanchester

8.3 Summaries of relevant work in Cambridgeshire were published in:-
Medieval Archaeology
Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society
Conduit,
Archaeology in Britain
 (Council for British Archaeology)

8.4 Articles in national and local publications by members of staff include:-

Simon Bray

Excavation of Bronze Age Features at

Dimmocks Cote Road, Wicken - in *Fenland Research No 8* 1993

Stephen Macaulay

Excavation and site management at Cambridgeshire Car Dyke - in *Fenland Research No. 8* 1993 (with T Reynolds)

Tim Malim

Stonea Camp Management - in *Wetland Archaeological Research Project, newsletter No. 14* Nov 1993

Borough Fen Ringwork : Iron Age Fort - in *Fenland Research No 8* (with R Mckenna)

Tim Reynolds

Problems in the Stone Age of South-East Asia - in *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, Vol. 59* 1993

Ben Robinson

Archaeological Resource Management Strategies: A New Framework for Development-led Archaeology in Towns *MA Dissertation (York)* Sept. 1993

Alison Taylor

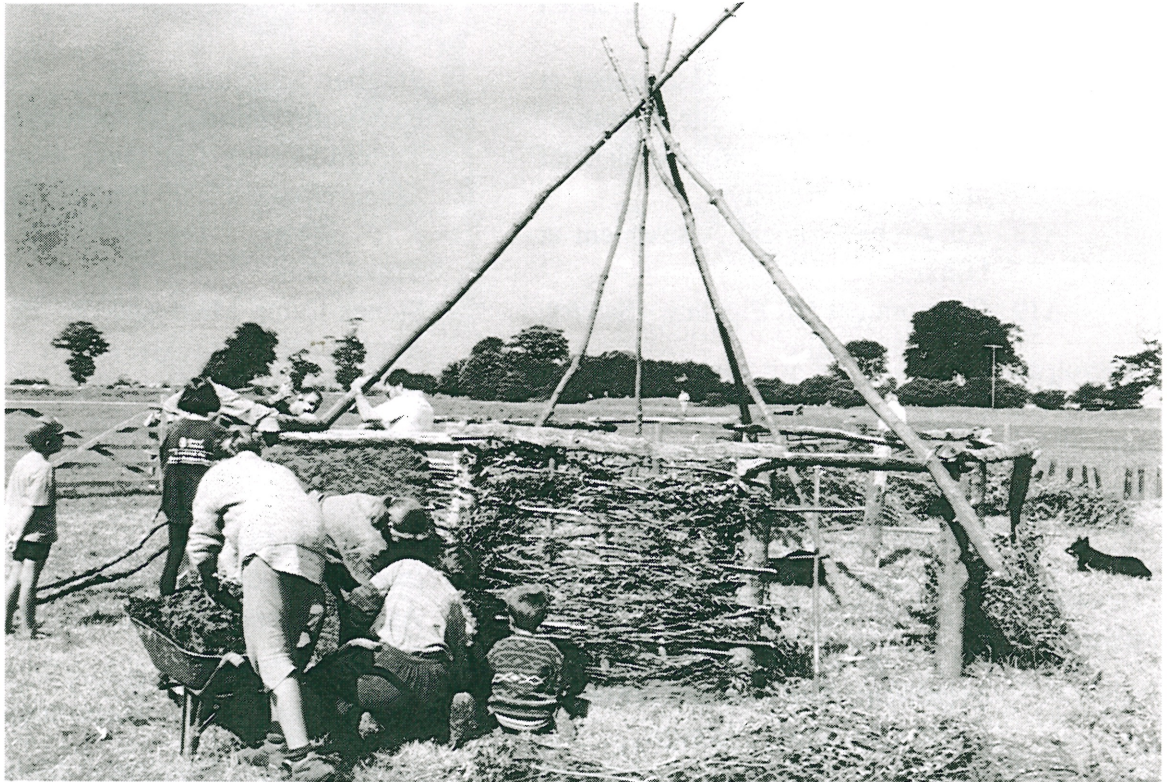
A Roman Lead Coffin with Pipeclay Figurines from Arrington, Cambridgeshire - in *Britannia 24*, 1993

Flat Earth Erosion Control: Caring for Monuments in an arable Landscape - in *Erosion on Archaeological Earthworks* 1993

A Roman Burial at Godmanchester - in *Records of Huntingdonshire* 1993

Stonea Camp, an Iron Age Fort - in *Manea Magazine*

8.5 **Conduit**, a twice yearly newsletter covering the activities of about 40 local societies involved with archaeology, history and museums, plus professional bodies active in this County, is published jointly by Cambridge Antiquarian Society and the Libraries & Heritage Service, and is compiled and edited by the Archaeology Section.



Building an Iron Age hut at Stonea Camp

A. Taylor

9.0 EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

9.1 **Site tours** of excavations in progress were arranged for Bran Ditch, Foxton and Hinxton. Approximately 2000 people visited this latter site, where there was also a small on-site display of artefacts and photographs, one Sunday afternoon.

9.2 **Activity Days**, in which children became involved in practical activities such as pottery making, flint knapping, spinning and weaving, cooking and building an Iron Age hut were held with great success at Hinchingsbrooke Country Park (*County Farms Show*), Wimpole Hall (*Anglo-Saxon Life and Death*), Stonea Camp, Wimblington (*Living in the Iron Age*).

9.3 Colourful **education packs** on monuments owned by County Farms have been prepared by Caroline Gait-Utime with support from the Countryside Commission, and are proving popular with schools.

These are designed for Key stages 2 & 3 of the National Curriculum for History and include information on the Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval Britain.

9.4 **Loan packs** of Prehistoric and Roman artefacts are also popular with schools and other students.

9.5 Support is regularly given to the **Countryside Commission's** Stewardship Scheme, which is proving to be one of the most successful projects for protecting historic environments. Help was given on a 2-day training session for Countryside Commission staff, including a tour round Stonea Camp, and comments and advice was given on all proposals.

9.6 Support was also given to **Rural Action**, including participation in a public workshop *Looking at the Past*.

- 9.7 **Displays** were mounted in Huntingdon Library, March Museum and Cambridge Central Library (Heritage Showcase)
- 9.8 **Voluntary societies** actively involved in archaeology were offered small grants via Cambridge Antiquarian Society Archaeological Panel
- 9.9 The following talks were given by Cambridgeshire Archaeology staff:
- Simon Bray**
Two radio and 1 TV interview
- Excavations at Goodwin Farm, Swaffham Prior*
County Farms Staff
Excavations at Goodwin Farm, Swaffham Prior
Cambridge Archaeology Field Group
- Caroline Gait-Utime**
Archaeology
Newmarket School
- Celia Honeycombe**
Excavations at Barrington
Hardwick School
Conserving Anglo-Saxon material from Barrington
Perse Prep School
Preventative Conservation
AMSEE training course
- Tony Hurley**
Archaeology of the Ouse Valley, a curatorial view from Cambridge
Ouse Valley Conference
- Steve Macaulay**
9 radio and press interviews
- Giants Hill, Rampton*
Rampton Parish Council
Stonea Camp
Outwell School
- Managing monuments in Cambridgeshire*
Annual Conference
Excavations at Foxton
County Farms Staff
- Tim Malim**
Three radio interviews
- Excavations at Barrington*
Soke Metal-detecting Club
Recent Excavations in Cambridgeshire
Cottenham Village Society
Archaeology on County Farms
County Farm Staff
Archaeology on County Farms
Cambridge Archaeology Field Group
Stonea
Peterborough Archaeology Group
Neolithic and Bronze Age Ceremonial Centres
Ouse Valley Conference
Looking at Sites on County Farms
Annual Conference
- Guided Walks around Stonea Camp*
General public
Cambridge Antiquarian Society
Hendon & District Archaeology Society
Peterborough Archaeology Group
- Tim Reynolds**
Flint Technology
Cambridge Archaeology Field Group
Flint Technology
St Neots Artefact Club
Anglo-Saxons
Mayfield School
Archaeology
Mayfield School
Palaeolithic in the Ouse Valley
Ouse Valley Conference
Early Prehistoric Finds from the Fen Edge
Annual Conference
- Ben Robinson**
Flying back through time
Cambridgeshire Microlight Club
An Archaeology Strategy for Small Towns
Haverhill & District Archaeology Group

An Archaeology Strategy for Small Towns
Cambridge Archaeology Field Group
*Cambridgeshire's Archaeology: a Birds
Eye View*
Cambridge & District Amateur Radio Club
Archaeology Around Rampton
Rampton Village Society

Paul Spoerry

Two radio interviews

Towns & Villages

Annual Conference

Medieval Pottery

Haverhill & District Archaeology Group

Finding Archaeological Sites

Barrington Society

Saxon & Medieval St Neots

Ouse Valley Conference

Bob Sydes

One press interview

Seminars on:

Planning and Archaeology

Cambs Planning Forum

The Structure of Curatorial Archaeology

York University MA Course

*The Management of Archaeological
Projects*

English Heritage & Institute of Field
Archaeology course, Bradford

Alison Taylor

Numerous press and radio interviews

Archaeology in Schools

Institute of Field Archaeology Annual
Conference

*Excavations at Barrington Anglo-Saxon
Cemetery*

Thriplow Village Society

Stonea Camp

March & District Museum Society

Archaeology in the Sawston Area

Sawston Local History Society

Anglo-Saxon Cambridgeshire

Board of Continuing Education course

Recent Excavations in Cambridgeshire

Cambridge Business & Professional
Women

Recent Excavations in Cambridgeshire

Swavesey Local History Society

Recent Excavations in Cambridgeshire

Histon & Impington Village Society

Archaeology in the Ely Area

Little Thetford Village Society

Archaeology in the Godmanchester Area

Hunts Local History Society

Recent Archaeological Work

Cromwell Searchers

Some Interesting Finds

Annual Conference

9.10 **Our Annual Conference**, held with Cambridge Antiquarian Society, was a county-wide round-up of amateur and professional archaeology, with displays of all the most interesting artefacts. As usual, we filled Fulbourn Community Centre to capacity.

9.11 **Seminars** were organised at Fulbourn on: *Barrington Anglo-Saxon Cemetery*
Cambridgeshire Dykes

9.12 **Excavation Archives** held at the Field Team's offices at Fulbourn were used by 16 university lecturers, research students and consultants for research purposes.

9.13 **Volunteers** are encouraged to be involved with projects, and many took part in excavations. In addition, 13 work experience placements and 11 longer term volunteers helped with the Field Team's work.

10.0 MONUMENT MANAGEMENT

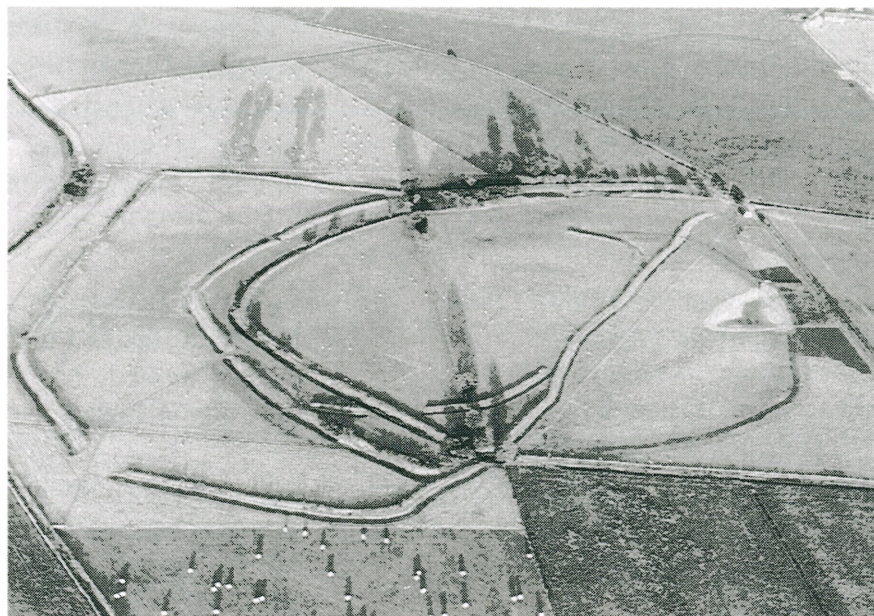
In addition to general advice, encouragement and, where necessary, restrictions designed to give physical protection to archaeological remains, the County's Archaeology Section designs and implements management plans on numerous sites, many of them in the ownership of the County Council (most commonly, County Farms). Our programme of management, which expands each year, is supported by English Heritage and the Countryside Commission. Whenever possible, public access is provided to sites that we care for, and information boards are often erected. The selection of sites for management is designed to include fine examples of different classes of monument of each archaeological period. Currently, management is underway as follows:-

	Religious	Burial	Military	Settlement	Transport
Prehistoric		3	2	2	
Roman	1	2	1	1	2
Saxon		1	1	1	
Medieval	2	2	5	5	

(NB Some sites contain more than one class/period.)

- 10.1 **Ashley St Marys**
Ruined church and graveyard. Twice yearly removal of scrub etc.
- 10.2 **Bartlow Hills**
Three Roman burial mounds. Twice yearly removal of scrub etc. Control of rabbits. Maintenance of fences and steps. Information board.
- 10.3 **Borough Fen, Iron Age fort**
Future management agreed but not yet implemented (arable land to be converted to pasture and grazed).
- 10.4 **Bourn, Moulton Hills**
Roman burial mound. Twice yearly removal of scrub etc
- 10.5 **Cambridge Castle**
Norman motte and Cromwellian bastions. Annual cutting. Control of erosion by fencing and steps. Information board.
- 10.6 **Castle Camps**
Medieval Castle and village. Annual cutting of scrub etc. Information board designed.
- 10.7 **Cheveley Castle**
Medieval castle. Annual cutting of scrub etc.
- 10.8 **Fordham Barrow**
Prehistoric burial mound and settlement. Conversion and maintenance of pasture. (County Farms)
- 10.9 **Fowlmere Moat**
Medieval defensive moat. Twice yearly cutting of scrub etc. and removal of rubbish. Information board.
- 10.10 **Fulbourn, Zouches Castle**
Medieval fortified homestead. Regular cutting agreed, not yet implemented. Information board.
- 10.11 **Harston Manor Farm**
Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon settlement, converted to pasture (by County Farms).

- 10.12 **Kennett, Howe Hill**
Prehistoric burial mound. Twice yearly removal of scrub etc. Posts to prevent plough damage.
- 10.13 **Landbeach Moat & Medieval Village**
Clearance of moat, control of vegetation by grazing and cutting. Information board. (County Farms).
- 10.14 **Rampton, Giants Hill**
Medieval moat and village. Cutting of scrub etc. four times a year. New fencing. Information board (County Farms).
- 10.15 **Silverley, All Saints**
Ruined Medieval church and graveyard. Twice yearly removal of scrub etc.
- 10.16 **Great Staughton moat**
Removal of scrub etc. Management by grazing.
- 10.17 **Swaffham Bulbeck moat**
Regular cutting agreed, not yet implemented.
- 10.18 **Swaffham Prior**
Roman temple and Anglo-Saxon burial ground. Converted to pasture. (County Farms).
- 10.19 **Car Dyke, Waterbeach**
Roman canal. Twice yearly removal of scrub etc. Pollarding of willows. Conversion of adjacent fields to meadows. Information board designed. (County Farms).
- 10.20 **Mutlow Hill, Great Wilbraham**
Prehistoric burial mound. Twice yearly removal of scrub etc. Information board.
- 10.21 **Stonea Camp, Wimblington**
Iron Age fort. Conversion to pasture. Restoration of banks and ditches, control of rabbits and erosion. Raising of water table. Creation of mere. Educational area. 5 Information boards. (County Farms).
- 10.22 **Devils Dyke**
Anglo-Saxon defensive earthwork. Control of vegetation, scrub and rabbits. Conversion of adjacent fields to pasture. Grazing by sheep. Information board. (County Farms)
- 10.23 **Roman Road**
Control of scrub and vehicles. Information board.



Stonea Camp from the air, showing newly created mere and restored banks

B. Robinson

11.0 CONSERVATION AND STORAGE OF FINDS

11.1 One of the results of our active fieldwork programme is the collection of a great number of finds (artefacts, human and animal bones, environmental remains, samples of building materials etc.) which no museum is able to accept. Some of these finds (e.g. metal objects, environmental remains) need carefully controlled environmental conditions, and all need to be kept in dry, frost-free and secure conditions where they are accessible for investigation and research and are physically preserved for future generations.

11.2 Conservation

For the second year, the Archaeology Section has been able to employ a Conservator, Celia Honeycombe, jointly with the County Museums Officer. Working mainly in the laboratory of Fitzwilliam Museum, her time is divided between management plans and environmental surveys for small museums; giving specialist advice to all museums on specific problems (e.g. excessively damp conditions); work for Fitzwilliam Museum; advice on lifting, cleaning, repair and storage of excavated artefacts; exhibitions and advice notes on conservation; seminars for curators and students; help with development of Landbeach store (below), advice to curators and archaeologists on preventative conservation, and conservation work on artefacts from recent excavations. 69 artefacts, mostly metal, were conserved this year.

11.3 Storage

During the year a barn at Landbeach, surplus to requirements of County Farms,

was converted to a high specification for long term storage and processing of non-sensitive material (i.e. mainly pottery and bone). Completed in March 1994 it now contains nearly 2000 boxes of finds and is acting as a temporary store for bulky educational materials (e.g. loom, demonstration flints, etc.); excavation equipment; large items for eventual museum display (e.g. Roman kiln, Roman lead coffin), in addition to providing working space as necessary for our conservator and for finds processing.

12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are extremely grateful to all those who have supported and worked with us throughout the year.

Within the County Council we have received constant support from services including the County Record Office (Cambridge & Huntingdon), Department of Transportation, County Museums Officer, Conservation Section, Cambridgeshire Collection, Libraries, Education, Property Management Services, Planning and, in particular, County Farms. 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.

Leading public bodies that have made our programme possible are English Heritage and the Countryside Commission. South Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and Fenland District Councils have also given financial help, and all districts have been involved in protecting sites through the Planning process.