

Medieval Settlement Research Group

Annual Report 19, 2004

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CONTENTS

Officers for 2004	2
Contents page	3
Announcements	4
Medieval Settlement Surveys – papers from the MSRSG Spring Conference 2004, Oxford	5
M.S.R.G. Spring Conference, May 7–9, 2004 by Robin Glasscock	9
The Whittlewood Project: Fourth Annual Review Wicken, 28th February, 2004 by Neil Christie	10
John Hurst Dissertation Prize 2004	12
The Use of Domestic Space in Early Medieval Roundhouses: An Experimental Archaeological Approach by Triona Nicholl (Dept. of Archaeology, University College, Dublin)	12
Fieldwork at West Halton (Lincs.) by Dawn Hadley (University of Sheffield)	15
Suffolk- Summary of projects 2003/2004 John Newman Field Team, Archaeological Service, Suffolk C.C.	17
The Wallingford Burgh to Borough Research Project: Report on the East Bank Survey, 2004 by Neil Christie, Oliver Creighton, Helena Hamerow, Deirdre O’Sullivan (Universities of Leicester, Exeter, Oxford)	18
Discovering Barcombe and Hamsey: Contrasting communities? A Sussex Archaeological Society community research project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. By Pamela Combes and Sue Rowland	20
The decayed medieval town of Trelech by Ray Howell (University of Wales, Newport)	22
The Whittlewood Project: Excavation of a Medieval Manor at Wicken, 2004 by Mark Page and Richard Jones (University of Leicester)	24
Discovery and Excavation 2004	28
Book Reviews	39
Select Bibliography of Works on Medieval Rural Settlement 2004 Compiled by Mark Page	41
Membership Changes 2004	43
Trustees’ Report & Independent Examiner’s Report	44
Accounts of the MSRSG	45

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The MSRG 2005 AGM and winter seminar

This will take place at 12.30pm on Saturday 3rd December 2005, in the School of English Local History, Marc Fitch House, 3-5 Salisbury Road, Leicester LE1 7QR. Following the AGM, the seminar will look at metal detecting and impact this is having on our knowledge and understanding of the medieval countryside.

JOHN HURST MEMORIAL PRIZE

The new annual award in memory of John Hurst

The Medieval Settlement Research Group is dedicated to enhancing our understanding of the rural landscape and its settlement in the period *c.* AD 400-1600. The late John Hurst was a major figure in the development of the Group and in his honour, and to encourage new and young scholars, an annual prize of £200 is offered for the best Masters dissertation on any theme in the field of medieval settlement and landscape exploitation in Britain and Ireland. MA directors in Archaeology, English Local History, Landscape Studies or related fields are encouraged to submit high quality complete dissertations by students in the academic year 2004-5 to the Secretary of the MSRG by 31st December 2005. A panel will judge the entries and an award made at the end of March 2006. A summary of the winning entry may also be published in the Group's Annual Report.

CONFERENCES

The MSRG Spring 2006 Conference

The MSRG Spring Weekend Conference 2006 will take place in Hexham, Northumberland, with an excursion on the Sunday. A flier with further details and an application form is included with this report.

RESEARCH GRANTS

The group can make grants up to a maximum of £500 annually for the support of research by members of the Group within its field of interest. Preference will normally be given to field survey, documentary research and preparation of graphics rather than to excavation and the preparation of reports for publication. A summary report of the work will be required within a year and, subject to editorial consideration, may be published in the Annual Report.

Applicants should reply by letter (4 copies) summarising the proposed research and the costs involved. Mention should be made of other applications for funding. The names of two referees should be included. Letters should be addressed to the Treasurer (Dr. R. E. Glasscock, St John's College, Cambridge, CB2 1TP). To be received by 1st December in the year preceding that in which work will be carried out. Applicants will normally be notified of the outcome in the following March.

Recent research grants have been awarded to:

Dr Helen Hamerow – £500 towards drawing work on materials from the Saxon cemetery at Wallingford, Oxfordshire.

Dr Howard Williams – £494 towards survey work at the shrunken medieval village site at Stokenham, Devon.

ANNUAL REPORT 20, 2005

The next Annual Report of the Medieval Settlement Research Group will include research, fieldwork and excavation undertaken during 2005, to be submitted to the editor, Carena Lewis, by April 2006. Please note:

1. Space is limited so your report should be as concise as possible.
 - Please keep fieldwork reports down to 250 words and excavation reports to 500 words unless the work is of a scale to necessitate a longer format - for example reports on major projects or regional surveys.
 - Short articles should be focused on topics relevant to the interests of the Group and may summarise work in a region not hitherto properly represented in the Annual Reports, contribute to current debate, or bring to the attention of members new information or research. Please note that the Group's core interests exclude urban, ecclesiastical or fortified sites unless related to rural settlement.
2. It is the responsibility of contributors to ensure that they have copyright of all material submitted.
3. Contributions should be typewritten and double-spaced. References to sites in Britain should be accompanied by their National Grid References (2 letter, 6 figures), the local government area and both the current county name and the pre-1974 county name (in brackets), if different. Copy in electronic format can be submitted on floppy discs or emailed to crl29@cam.ac.uk.
4. Images should be supplied as hard copy. Illustrations should be in black ink on either white paper or drafting medium. Originals are preferred but high quality photographic copies are also acceptable. If it is necessary to send zeroes please make sure that these are of the highest possible standard. Dye-line copies reproduce poorly and should be avoided if possible. All illustrations should be capable of reproduction to either column or page width. Contributors are asked to check that small details (hachuring, stipple and lettering) are capable of such small reproduction. Clear photographs are welcome.
5. Measurements should be in metric units.
6. Bibliographical details should be quoted in full. For articles in journals the title, date, volume number and inclusive pages are required. In the case of books, date and place of publication should be cited in addition to the author and title.

Medieval Settlement Surveys – papers from the MSRG Spring Conference 2004, Oxford

Why do surveys?

Christopher Dyer

This introductory talk explained that the purpose of the conference was to bring together many scholars who were carrying out different types of survey.

The types of survey being covered in the conference were those which were concerned with quite a large area, at least a parish and sometimes as much as a whole county. They were often multi-period, and set out to solve problems or to explore a particular theme. Though we can see the origins of parish studies in the much earlier work of Seebohm and Gray, it was mainly in the 1960s that Thorpe, Roberts, Spufford, Taylor, Phythian-Adams and many others, coming from a local history or historical geography perspective began the movement. Archaeologists contributed a great deal in the 1960s and 1970s with the work of the Royal Commission and the field walking projects of such researchers as Foard, Wade-Martins and Williamson.

The main purpose of the surveys has been to understand the development of the landscape, for example between the Roman and early medieval periods, and within the middle ages, and especially to explain the origin of settlements and their decline.

Methods have often been interdisciplinary, so that evidence of maps, documents, field walking, earthwork survey, place names, buildings, air photographs, and environmental analysis are all used in combination.

The common steeple? Church and settlement in early medieval Lincolnshire

Paul Everson and David Stocker

This paper discussed churches as one of the frequent components of medieval settlements. It reported on one aspect of a study of a group of 50+ Lincolnshire churches and how their location within their settlements may reveal important aspects of their foundation and patronage (Stocker and Everson forthcoming).

The chosen group of churches is characterised by the presence of so-called Lincolnshire Towers – tall, thin, western bell towers with earliest Romanesque architectural detailing, belonging to the half century from c1070 to c1120 – and their derivatives, which continue into the later 12th century. The architectural arrangements of these towers – doors, windows, decoration, space and lighting – allows their liturgical function to be identified as funerary, in which the bells had both a practical and symbolic role. Arguably, the impetus for this innovative development in the late 11th century lay in ideas brought into England and promulgated by the new Norman ecclesiastical hierarchy, led nationally by Archbishop Lanfranc and locally by Bishop Remigius of Lincoln.

But by whom and for whom were these towers built? Direct documentary evidence is effectively absent, of course, apart from the monumental inscription at St

Mary le Wigford at Lincoln, where the named patron is otherwise completely unknown. But the archaeological evidence of the church's location within its settlement and its relationship with other components of the settlement plan – principally manor sites, peasant properties, natural features, and routeways and open spaces – can be studied through morphological analysis of village plans coupled with documentation of tenure. The methodology reveals strong patterns, one of which forms a new and unforeseen model of church location. Some churches were sited within a manorial curia, closely at its gate, or as a component of lordly activity: the location of others was governed by a direct relationship with a pre-existing, usually natural, feature – often a spring. Both these are familiar models of church location. But a third locational type, unexpectedly, finds churches established on a green or other public space. Additionally through this analysis, there is a developing understanding that, though founded under one influence, some churches – perhaps some types of church – might develop or be absorbed into another association, thereby affecting the bias of their patronage.

This newly perceived locational type of foundation and elaboration on public communal space is not a rarity or aberration; numerically within the study it is as common as either of the other two models. Most interestingly too, it has a very consistent correlation with sokeland holding recorded in DB. In those settlements in the late 11th century, the largest holding in the vill – though it varies in absolute size or numbers from place to place – is typically sokeland. The meaning of this new model of church location may still be open to debate. At first sight, it bespeaks cooperative investment – and investment at a significant level that may suggest a measure of economic surplus – by the community in contrast to the exercise of lordship. The towers may represent a particular concern on the part of sokemen for a form of devotion (related to the rite of burial), and therein might suggest a level of interest in and understanding of theology of an up-to-date, and Norman, type, at least the equivalent of neighbouring mesne lords.

Finally, there is an issue about how widely the results described here might have a relevance and applicability, beyond Lincolnshire and the east midlands. The Lincolnshire study cannot properly address this. Yet – to take an example that has lain at the heart of settlement studies in England – the church of St Martin at Wharram Percy notoriously has 'a most curious siting, which raises many unanswerable questions!' (Roberts 1987, 140-5), but one which might be construed as being an establishment on a green or public space. Perhaps, then, this might be a matter of regionality. Or there might be some comparisons to be drawn, for example, with the phenomenon of freemen church builders and shared graveyards as explored by Peter Warner in East Anglia (Warner 1986).

References

- Roberts, BK 1987 *The Making of the English Village*, London
Stocker, DA and Everson, P forthcoming *The early Romanesque tower in Lincolnshire*, Oxbow
Warner, P 1986 'Shared churchyards, freemen church-builders and the development of parishes in eleventh-century East Anglia', *Landscape History*, 8, 39-52

Fyfield and Overton, Wiltshire: The Medieval Phase

Peter Fowler

In the perspective of a long-term landscape study conducted from 1959-1998 (Fowler 2000) and embracing all the millennia from c10000 BC to the present, the medieval centuries (c AD 400-1500) at Fyfield and Overton Down appear as but a phase, short though quite important. It is absolutely crucial to appreciate, however, that virtually all the land of these two parishes had already been used by the 4th century AD, that much of the environmental context was long-established, and that most of the cultural landscape was already in place. The downlands to the north had been open pasture, periodically and partly ploughed (6th century BC, 1st and 4th centuries AD), since the mid-first millennium BC, the valley bottom cleared and used in the first centuries AD, and the forest to the south for long managed with edges that last to the present day. When the Anglo-Saxon charters of the 10th century referred to 'hlinec', a lynchet, they were referring to fixed, earth-rich edges of fields two and a half thousand years old.

By AD 400, the location of one of the medieval villages, Fyfield, was already 'fixed' by a Roman villa, alongside – perhaps within – which a church was later built. The church stood still as the settlement area expanded, shrank and shuffled around within a 0.5 km. radius through the second millennium. At the other main, present-day village, West Overton, such movement also happened in the first millennium: an early West Overton abandoned its church to move across the estate from beside the Ridgeway ('herepath') to settle beside the always thereafter dominant East Overton with its pre-Norman church. The former belonged to the nuns of Wilton, dissolved long before the Dissolution according to contemporary repute; while the latter was exploited by the monks of St. Swithun's at Winchester. In the tithing of Lockeridge between the Overtons and Fyfield, other religious orders, first the Templars and then the Hospitallers, contributed to a different, highly localised but quite complex changing settlement pattern, now represented by place-names and deserted sites with or without earthworks.

Excavated settlements included OD XII on Overton Down, a small habitation complex with one or two houses, a barn with corn-drying ovens, a corn-milling shed and a large rectangular timber-framed building, the whole dated fairly precisely to the century from c 335 AD onwards. A similar length of occupation – perhaps 3 generations – was also evidenced at a farm, WC on Fyfield Down, occupied in the early 13th century, called *Raddun* in 1248, and abandoned probably within two years either side of 1316. Perhaps both are reflecting some aspects of 'marginality'. Both were certainly associated with arable cultivation. In the case of

Raddun, excavated and ground evidence is amplified by documented duties – and privileges – of one Richard who, *inter alia*, had to keep oxen up on the downs for manorial workers to use to plough – land presumably that which is now visible as slight ridge-and-furrow. But such information is to overemphasise what was far and away the most important economic activity on the Winchester estate before, through and after the medieval phase: sheep-farming.

Fowler P.J. 2000, *Landscape Plotted and Pieced. Landscape History and Local Archaeology in Fyfield and Overton, Wiltshire*, London: Society of Antiquaries Research Report 64

'Villages and Landscapes in Medieval Whittlewood'

Richard Jones and Mark Page

An archaeological and historical study of a group of 12 parishes on the Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire border, in an area formerly part of the royal forest of Whittlewood, drew the following conclusions. First, the morphology of settlements in the early middle ages largely dictated the degree of nucleation or dispersion exhibited in their late medieval, or indeed modern, forms. For example, the village of Leckhampstead is today made up of a number of distinct hamlets or 'ends', which appear to have developed from separate settlement foci in existence before AD 850. By contrast, the more nucleated villages of Akeley and Lillingstone Lovell seem to have developed from a single early centre. The second conclusion leads from the first. Unlike in parts of Northamptonshire, where nucleation resulted from the abandonment of farmsteads and the movement of people, in the Whittlewood area early medieval settlements were apparently more stable and relatively few were deserted before the Norman Conquest. Thirdly, the open fields were probably laid out in the tenth century. An absence of pottery of this date recovered during fieldwalking, even though it was present in the villages, suggests that there was a change in manuring strategies at this time. This may be explained by the fact that for the first time arable holdings were geographically divorced from the farmstead. Fourthly, there was a proliferation of settlement in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, as hamlets and farmsteads were established in areas cleared from the woodland and waste. Finally, lords were instrumental in the desertion of villages in the Whittlewood area, removing not only failing settlements such as Lillingstone Dayrell but also those which continued to thrive, such as Stowe. A monograph discussing these findings in more detail will be published by Windgather Press in 2006 under the title 'Medieval Villages in an English Landscape: Beginnings and Ends'.

East Anglian Field Systems: Patterns and Origins

Edward Martin

This talk reported on a recently completed English Heritage-supported project on historic field systems in East Anglia, as part of the Monuments Protection Programme. Twelve case studies were examined in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, N.E. Hertfordshire and E. Cambridgeshire. In each place the historic land use was

analysed and categorised according to eight 'land types' and eighteen sub-types. Of especial significance were common fields – here sub-divided into three types depending on the amount of communality they displayed and their quantitative role within individual communities – and their antithesis, ancient 'block holdings' or holdings in severalty (i.e. farmsteads surrounded by their own group of fields). The varying percentages of the two were calculated and common fields were shown to be most prevalent in the north and west of the region, while block holdings dominated in the south, with some areas showing no evidence of ever having had common fields.

By using trend lines derived the computer-based Historic Landscape Characterisation mapping (recently carried out in the region under another English Heritage project) in conjunction with variety of other data sets, it was possible to suggest a wider context for the case-study based conclusions. Of particular importance was a division running diagonally across the claylands of central Suffolk, approximately on the line of the River Gipping. To the south of this there is gently undulating land which had a high potential for arable farming in pre-modern times, while to the north there is mainly flat land, with an historic tendency towards dairy farming. It was also possible to demonstrate a high incidence of block holdings in the southern area and, conversely, a link with a form of common fields to the north.

But beyond these topographically explicable differences, it was also apparent that the 'Gipping divide' was also a significant cultural boundary. This can be seen in vernacular architecture, both in constructional methods and in plan forms; in the terminology used to describe greens and woods; and perhaps in inheritance customs. The patterns seen in south Suffolk extend into Essex and those in north Suffolk extend into Norfolk, indicating that this was a boundary of regional importance

Examination of the origins of the field systems suggests that although co-axial systems do exist, they are not vast terrain-oblivious entities and they have varying dates and purposes. Some co-axial systems may incorporate prehistoric elements, but others are likely to be late Saxon or early medieval. Importantly, they are not automatic indicators of early land allotment. The case studies suggest that locational analysis involving soil type, drainage potential and access to water is a more certain way of identifying the areas most likely to have been used for early agriculture. In the northern part of the region these 'core' arable areas tended to develop into common fields, but in the southern zone they tended to become block demesnes, that is large fields that were the exclusive property of manorial lords. This divergent development probably had its genesis in the late Saxon period and has an obvious significance for the understanding of the origins of common fields on a wider, national, level.

It is clear that the late Saxon period witnessed very significant advances and changes in agriculture that were to have far-reaching consequences. The factors driving and influencing these changes are complex but included a climatic amelioration, an increase in

population, the development or re-introduction of the mouldboard plough and the Viking invasions. The project produced evidence pointing towards a linkage between areas of Viking settlement/influence and the appearance of common fields, suggesting that the adoption of common fields may have arisen out the social upheaval caused by the Viking interventions. Conversely, areas that show minimal Viking influence seem to have developed block demesnes, possibly as a continuation of farming practices that may have their roots in the Roman period or even earlier. If correct, this would suggest an origin for common fields in the late ninth century.

A new model for open field origins: the Bourn Valley, west Cambridgeshire

Susan Oosthuizen

This paper presented physical and documentary evidence for a large, cohesive field-layout across four contiguous parishes on the N. side of the Bourn Brook, West Cambridgeshire, which appears to have been intensively cultivated. There is some evidence to suggest that it may have been created in the 8th or 9th centuries A.D. and that it may be an early open field system.

This evidence has survived in an area which has been farmed continuously for no less than the last 3,000 years, and yet in which traces of different phases of modification and amendment of land-division and agricultural regime can still be discerned.

If this conclusion is correct, and its necessary dependence on inference must be a weakness, then it makes an important contribution to our understanding of the origins of open field farming in the Central Province.

First, it may provide some of the earliest physical evidence for the origins of open field farming within the Central Province. Second, it may offer the first evidence on the ground for the workings of an extensive or multiple estate of the Middle Anglo-Saxon period. Third, the two-stage origin of open field arrangements in the Bourn Valley – and, in particular, the creation of an intensively-cultivated arable system across four parishes – suggests a new model of open field creation to set alongside that of piecemeal or large-scale layouts, each of which were contained within parish boundaries. By offering yet another model for such origins it suggests that we should be looking for multiple rather than monocausal models for the origins of open fields.

Puxton, North Somerset: the evolution of a medieval settlement and community

Stephen Rippon

The North Somerset Levels Project is exploring the origins and development of an historic landscape characterized by both nucleated and dispersed settlement at the south-western fringe of England's 'Central Province'. In the debate about village origins a number of possible factors have been suggested as explaining why only parts of the English landscape saw the creation of villages and open fields including socio-economic and environmental variables, and the

influence of preceding ('antecedent') landscapes. In this case study the last two were not an issue: this landscape comprises around a hundred square kilometers of physically relatively uniform coastal marshland that was reclaimed from around the 10th century AD, and as the preceding Romano-British ground surface is buried under later alluvium, the medieval countryside can be thought of as having been created on a blank sheet.

The project has developed a strongly interdisciplinary approach with archaeological, palaeoenvironmental, architectural, documentary, cartographic, place- and field-name evidence woven together through a detailed analysis of the historic landscape itself. The earliest phase of colonization involved the construction of a series of oval-shaped 'ring dikes' that were designed to keep any high summer tides off small areas of arable or meadow in what remained an intertidal environment. Over time, other stretches of embankment were constructed along the coast and the major rivers until the whole area was free from tidal inundation. Settlements and field systems of different character were then created with some areas having a stronger degree of nucleation than others. In such a physically uniform environment, this can only have been due to socio-economic factors, and as the whole area fell within the estates of the Bishops of Bath and Wells, it appears that local communities or the Bishop's sub-tenants were responsible for creating this local variation in landscape character.

Villages and Farms on the other side of Offa's Dyke

Bob Silvester

Villages do not figure prominently in the settlement history of Wales. There are, of course, the planted settlements, particularly in the extreme south-west in Pembrokeshire with their boroughs and markets and, generally where Anglo-Norman influence was stronger, nucleated settlements are more likely to appear. In the hill lands of southern Powys there are even the earthworks of deserted and shrunken medieval villages.

However, it is dispersed settlement which largely predominates across large parts of Wales. In the medieval period such settlements typically take the form of platforms cut into the slopes. Originally identified first in the southern county of Glamorgan in the 1920s

and then in north-west Wales in the 1960s these have now recognized throughout mid-Wales and in most parts of north Wales except the extreme east. Detailed work has been undertaken in the parish of Llandrillo on the western side of the Berwyn Mountains in western Denbighshire, in Castle Caereinion in northern Powys where a platform was subsequently used for a hall house of c.1460, and elsewhere. Platforms may also have been used for the seasonally occupied dwellings settlements known as *hafodydd* (sing, *hafod*), for they frequently appear around the periphery of surviving commons in mid-Wales. Dating, though, remains a problem, for few sites, whether permanently or temporarily occupied, have been excavated and even those that have there is a dearth of artefactual material.

Conclusion

Christopher Dyer

In reviewing the papers, their variety of methods was emphasized. Those attending were urged to 'do it themselves' – although some of the surveys used very technical and expensive methods, such as GIS, geophysics and chemical analysis of the soil, a great deal could be achieved with six-inch maps, tape measures, bamboo canes and plastic bags. Close analysis of maps had been a recurring theme, in which researchers spotted shapes and patterns – and that needed a good eye, not gadgetry.

The papers showed how much the interpretations of settlements and landscapes had changed over the thirty years that had passed since the Oxford conferences on rural settlement had begun. Originally the dragon of simplistic ethnic interpretations were slain, but the economic explanations which replaced such factors as the Anglo-Saxon invasions have also become unfashionable. It is now possible to analyse church rituals as a dimension of village plan formation, and to argue that woodlands were preserved mainly for cultural reasons.

A prevalent tendency has been to argue that regions and places were all different, so that we no longer search for universal general changes. Perhaps it is necessary on occasion for a subject to fragment, before we can again put the pieces back together and advance more grand hypotheses and general explanations.

M.S.R.G. Spring Conference, May 7–9, 2004

by Robin Glasscock

'Medieval settlement in County Carlow' was the subject of the annual spring conference, this year hosted by the Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement (G.S.I.H.S.) which was founded in 1969 and which is the nearest equivalent to our Group in Ireland, Partly to suit our interests and convenience (Carlow is within easy reach of Dublin) the venue was the Barrow Valley, an area of Anglo-Norman settlement in the late twelfth and thirteenth centuries and an important artery of medieval trade between the main town, Carlow, and the ports of New Ross and Waterford. The valley looked at its best in exceptionally good weather and our only regret was that so few of our members took the opportunity to see an area of great interest under the expert guidance of Irish medievalists.

Tadhg O'Keeffe of University College Dublin set the scene on the first evening with a wide-ranging introductory lecture on Co. Carlow in the medieval period. His main theme was the relationship between the Anglo-Norman lordship and the pre-existing Irish Population and settlement. Reference was made to pre-Norman sites, moated sites (problems of dating as we might expect), nucleated settlements (rural and urban) and castles. Some of the sites illustrated in the talk were visited on an all-day excursion arranged and led by James Lyttleton of University College Cork. They included:- Killeshin (the ruins of an early church with fine Hiberno-Romanesque doorway and nearby, a motte); Ballymoon (an unusual, possibly unfinished castle, almost square in plan and probably built in the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century by Bigods, earls of Norfolk, holders of the Liberty of Carlow); Leighlinbridge (an important bridging point on the Barrow, a small town with castle and site of first

Carmelite friary in Ireland): St Mullins (extensive remains of a medieval church and associated buildings, stump of a round tower, a nearby motte).

On the second day, following the AGM of the G.S.I.H.S., the focus was on Carlow town. Tom King, local librarian, gave a talk on the evolution of the town and followed it with a guided tour. Kieran O'Connor (N.U.I., Galway) director of recent excavations on the castle (with its rectilinear keep with circular corner towers, two of which survive in part) discussed the problems of its dating, origins and conservation.

Throughout the weekend there was stimulating discussion of the origins and evolution of architectural styles and of rural settlements, themes which, in a similar way to our Whittlewood Project, are being explored in three sample areas of Ireland by the medieval section of the government-financed Discovery Programme. We are indebted to members of the G.S.I.H.S. for their warm welcome and for their organisation of this conference. Such were the common interests that a "return match" at some time in the future seems a probability.

For Group members who could not go to the meeting but who wish to keep up with medieval settlement studies in Ireland the following recent general texts are very helpful:-

T. E. McNeill, *Castles in Ireland: feudal power in a Gaelic world*, (Routledge, 1997).

F.H.A. Aalen, et al., *Atlas of the Irish rural landscape*, (Cork U.P., 1997).

T. Barry ed *A history of settlement in Ireland*, (Routledge, 2000).

Tadhg, O'Keeffe, *Medieval Ireland, An archaeology*, (Tempus, 2000).

The Whittlewood Project: Fourth Annual Review

Wicken, 28th February, 2004

Neil Christie

A strong gathering of thirty attended the fourth and final annual review of the fieldwork and other activities linked the Whittlewood Project. The Whittlewood Project, as discussed more fully elsewhere in this Report, is headed by Professor Christopher Dyer of the Centre for English Local History, University of Leicester, is funded chiefly by the AHRB (Arts and Humanities Research Board), and is supported fully by the Medieval Settlement Research Group. Review attendees were mostly members of the MSRG, with researchers involved in the Project and its offshoots. The Annual Review takes place as a key component of the AHRB programme, designed specifically to disseminate and reflect on the results of the various field seasons and to widen local awareness of the academic aims and debates.

Hosted in Wicken Village Hall, delegates were first warmed by teas and coffees plus an array of biscuits served by Christopher Dyer himself; the beverages were useful insulation for the brief snatches when the electric meter, fed by 50p coins (and thanks to offers of these during the morning!), chose to expire. The proceedings were overall chaired and introduced by Professor Dyer who highlighted how by 2004 staff and research students from a full eight Universities were contributing to the project; varied groups of undergraduates plus local volunteers had assisted in the fieldwalking and other activities, and a new branch of study was supported by English Heritage through standing building analysis. The Annual Review overall comprised five papers, complemented by a walking tour of Wicken after lunch, and a final, plenary discussion.

Richard Jones, Project Archaeologist, provided a detailed overview of the key questions of the Whittlewood landscape project – settlement and village formation and material identities in the landscape, bonded to post-medieval evolution and change. He reviewed the archaeological biographies for five sites, namely Lillingstone Dayrell, Lillingstone Lovell, Whittlebury, Leckhamstead and Silverstone. He stressed how each had a unique history: whilst some emerged by c. AD 850 on the basis of ceramic data, for most expansion and investment appear to come from c. AD 1000. A distinction can be drawn between sites with a ‘dispersed’ origin (such as Leckhamstead and Silverstone) and those predominately uni-focal (e.g. Whittlebury and Lillingstone Dayrell); generally the ‘dispersed’ character can be seen to persist and one needs to question if this denotes divided lordships. Noticeably the earliest ceramic materials tend to occur near churches, but it is not possible to determine whether the church came first (perhaps as part of a manorial focus) or later (as a formal reflection of the growth of a community). As yet far too little is known of the period c. AD 800-1050 in terms of the structure and role of these nascent villages. On the other hand, the

archaeology is contributing well to recognising contraction in many sites in the fourteenth century and thus assists strongly in debating the start of the break-up of the medieval landscape.

Mark Page began the task of putting the villages of the Whittlewood Project zone into a wider context through a documentary analysis of ‘Trade and Markets’ and in particular of market hinterlands. Whilst the Whittlewood study zone lacks any urban market centre, the zone is girded by four medieval market towns within the c. 7 miles daily travel radius, and, interestingly, thirteenth-century documents indicate that these towns (clockwise from north: Towcester, Stony Stratford, Buckingham and Brackley) had different market days. Texts are sufficient to identify movement of people and links, although the degree to which traders came to the study zone and to village markets cannot be determined. Local markets certainly appear attested by the limited mobility of ‘Silverstone ware’ which forms a key medieval ceramic for the zone; ‘Potterspurgy ware’ similarly dominates in the late medieval assemblages. Nonetheless, whilst a rather self-contained economy can be envisaged, wider trade contacts are shown by other medieval ceramic types reaching the area, from as far north as Stamford and in the west from east Wiltshire.

Paul Woodfield summarised the English Heritage supported buildings survey project, recently initiated within the Whittlewood study zone, seeking a characterisation of domestic architecture to c. AD 1700. In total, 170 buildings have been selected for study, these chiefly from village contexts since farms have generally undergone the heavier structural modifications across time. A significant number of cruck-frame houses have already been recognised and detailed planning undertaken. As in all aspects of the Whittlewood Project, local assistance and hospitality have been crucial in progress. It was noted that the studies need to be expanded in two main areas: firstly in terms of undertaking a programme of dendrochronological samples and analyses, and secondly in terms of considering also the ecclesiastical architecture of the surveyed villages.

Nick Branch of Archaeoscape, Royal Holloway, detailed the scope and early results of the environmental work. Four mire basins, all at the western fringes of the Project zone (Syresham, Biddlesden, Stowe and Stowe Pond), have so far been identified and coring undertaken. First stages of pollen analysis and radiocarbon dating have provided useful initial pointers regarding local environmental and land use changes, noting, for example, mid- to late Roman peat accumulation at Biddlesden. Whilst sampling needs to be extended more fully into the Whittlewood zone to build up a more coherent image, it was stressed that currently few secure environmental and especially



Left: Wicken: view across open green (with its own earthworks and guardian) to parish church; Right: Delegates of the Annual Review undertake the walking tour of Wicken under the guidance of Dr Richard Jones and Paul Woodfield

pollen data are available for the east Midlands; thus this work offers scope for significant regional and national data.

Place-names form the focus for the new doctoral research by *Eleanor Forward*, who briefly introduced the methodology and aims of her studies. Toponymic studies are being undertaken for both Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire, to set the Whittlewood names in their broader context. A key value of the research will be to extend across traditional county boundaries and help visualise the landscape image of evolution of the study region.

In the Plenary Discussion, Richard Jones and Christopher Dyer outlined the final fieldwork stages to the Project, for which AHRB funding ends in July 2005: the test pitting progresses in Silverstone and Wicken will

be completed, and problem-solving sections will be put through selected linear features; fieldwalking will be continued, although it was noted that this would not extend to the area east of Potterspury which had been previously investigated by a local fieldwalking group; the buildings recording is due to end in November 2004, but with the churches to be added as a key parallel study. The aim remains to produce a monograph in 2006, but it was fully acknowledged that this would by no means be a definitive set of statements on the settlement archaeology of the region; indeed the data and GIS resource, plus place-name and building analyses will offer plenty of scope for new directions and questions regarding the Whittlewood landscape. It was proposed that the GIS data archive should be made available to researchers as a CD-Rom.

John Hurst Dissertation Prize 2004

For 2004, the *Medieval Settlement Research Group* was pleased to announce the launch of a new prize, set up in honour of the late John Hurst, who did so much to promote the field of medieval archaeology and in particular the study of medieval settlement. To encourage new and young scholars in the field, an annual prize of £200 is offered to graduate students for the best Masters dissertation on any theme in the field of medieval settlement and landscape in Britain and Ireland (c. AD 400 – 1600). Directors of Masters courses in Archaeology, English Local History, Landscape Studies and related fields were invited to submit high-quality completed dissertations for consideration by the MSRSG Committee. We are delighted to present below a summary of the first prize winner, Triona Nicholl, for her innovative studies on the internal roles and forms of Irish roundhouses:

The Use of Domestic Space in Early Medieval Roundhouses: An Experimental Archaeological Approach

Triona Nicholl

(Dept. of Archaeology, University College, Dublin)

Introduction

Houses and the domestic spaces they contained were the nucleus of Irish early medieval secular settlements. Working with reconstructed roundhouses at the Irish National Heritage Park, Co. Wexford since 2001 has highlighted a number of gaps in our understanding of how their interior domestic space could be used. The activities which can be carried out in any house are essentially limited and controlled by the physical capabilities of the structure itself in terms of interior visibility. Using a multi-disciplinary approach this study sought to establish the extent to which the chosen style of roundhouse architecture dictated the character and activities of the domestic space within.

In order to explore these issues, this dissertation (for the MA in the Archaeology of Art and Architecture) focused on three main areas of investigation:

- Exploration of the spread of light within roundhouse interiors
- Analysis of the impact that fire and the light, heat and smoke it generates will have upon visibility within the structure
- Study of the preservative effect smoke and heat may have upon the superstructure of a roundhouse.

Research Context

Early medieval houses and dwellings have been studied extensively from the initial excavation reports of S.P. Ó'Ríordáin (1941) through to Murray (1979), Lynn (1986, 1994) and Bradley's (2002) later syntheses of the archaeological material with the early historical documentary evidence. However, most studies tend to focus on architectural and typological development rather than attempting any analysis of the how the structures functioned and why (Stout 2000). Whilst the study of early medieval documentary sources helps to people these archaeological landscapes through the various legal, narrative and hagiographical texts (Kelly 1988: de Paor 1996), it is when both archaeology and history are used together that the greatest insight into the

dynamics of the architecture can be made (Murray 1979; Lynn 1986, 1994).

Experimental archaeological research can help expand those insights, by providing possible answers to practical questions concerning the use of technology and architecture (Coles 1973; Hurcombe 2005). Despite the success of this approach and the available research ground at the Heritage Park, experimental archaeology has had very limited application within the field of Irish archaeological research. This study therefore sought to unite the archaeological and historical evidence, while also acting as an advocacy of the informative benefits of experimental approaches.

Methodology

The experimental archaeological work was carried out at the Irish National Heritage Park where there are two reconstructed early medieval settlements containing four roundhouses - one drystone, and three post and wattle built roundhouses, one of which is daubed. One of these post and wattle houses has been allowed to deteriorate naturally in order to analyse its rate and points of collapse (fig.1).

Measurement of light levels

A light survey was conducted in the three intact roundhouses over a twenty-four hour period using a lux meter which measures natural daylight. Each house was divided into eight equal segments radiating out from the hearth in the centre, marked at 1.0m intervals. Two sets of readings were taken at these intervals, one 30cm above floor level and another at 1.0m above.

The other elements involved in the study such as the effect of fires and smoke on visibility and the preservative effect of the smoke were conducted through photographic survey and analysis of the structural materials of the reconstructions, focusing on the collapsed roundhouse. These results were then synthesised with the evidence from archaeology and known early medieval texts.



Fig.1: Post and wattle roundhouse in condition of partial decay

It is important to state that the results presented below do not of course claim to be a definitive account of how people utilised domestic space in early medieval Ireland. Rather, this study attempted to engage with the structures themselves, to explore and attempt to understand their physical characteristics.

Towards an understanding of the use of domestic space

The issue of visibility is central to understanding how these spaces could have been exploited. The survey methodology outlined above helped formulate an understanding of how light moves and changes within these structures, giving us an insight into how they could have been used.

(i) Increased visibility at floor level

The first striking result was the fact that the level of visibility in each of the houses was much greater at floor level than at standing or modern sitting height. This is largely due to the low height of the door and walls which will only allow for limited diffusion of daylight in the upper levels of the structure. Another interesting observation was that during the day, firelight will have a negligible impact on the level of available light within the interior.

(ii) Effects of different building materials on visibility

- **Post and wattle:** Despite its orientation due west, this house type had the best level of overall visibility due to the fact that light can constantly filter through the wall material, thus giving a consistently effective working environment.

- **Wattle and daub:** Oriented due east the daub on the walls resulted in this house being more limited in terms of the spread of illumination meaning one would have to constantly shift positions to follow the best light.
- **Drystone:** This building had the poorest result, partly due to its orientation at north-north-east and also due to the thickness of its walls. Drystone-built roundhouses have an average wall thickness of 1m which means that the amount of light entering the doorway is funnelled into a narrower beam, thereby resulting in areas of darkness either side of the door.

(iii) Treatment of the door

Whether the door to the house is kept open or not during the day will have a huge impact on levels of visibility. Early medieval historical sources seem unclear on this point. Some contemporary legal documents seem to suggest it was kept shut, others that it was left open. However, they all present a strong awareness of the demarcation between private and public space (MacNeill 1923, 292).

(iv) Fire and the creation of a smoke ceiling

When a fire is lit, the smoke rises into the space beneath the rafters to form a smoke ceiling roughly five feet above the floor. From there, it gradually percolates out through the hollow reeds of the thatch. The smoke ceiling essentially reduces visibility when standing up and forces you to sit down when doing any practical work. When this is coupled with the readings from the light survey, it seems the most logical use of space from a practical (and respiratory!) point of view is to sit on low stools or the floor itself, beneath the smoke from the fire and capitalising on the highest light levels.



Fig.2: Decaying roundhouse, showing detail of collapse

(v) Preservative effect of smoke upon the structure of post and wattle houses

Fire and smoke also have a number of structural benefits as outlined in the summary of the post and wattle house's collapse:

- Lack of fire within the structure or percolation of smoke through the reeds of the thatch led it to become waterlogged and increasingly heavy.
- Due to lack of internal warmth, the wall posts became damp and eventually rotted through.
- Although the wattle wall material remained intact, the weight of the waterlogged roof became too much for the posts and they snapped at ground level, essentially causing the house to "sit down" (Fig. 2).

In contrast, the other post and wattle house which was constructed at the same time but which has regularly had fires lit within it, remains in far better condition.

Conclusions

The purpose of this study was not to define every possible activity that could be undertaken within a roundhouse; rather it set out to discover the ways in which roundhouse design affects the way their interiors could have been used. The discussions briefly outlined

above indicate the various architectural elements and factors which will have impacted upon the use of the interior. Ultimately, they demonstrate a style of architecture which was eminently suitable to its environment and which provided a practical, versatile and highly usable domestic space.

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Fieldwork at West Halton (Lincs.)

Dawn Hadley
(University of Sheffield)

Fieldwork at West Halton (SE906207) in Lincolnshire was undertaken in August and September 2003 by the Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield. The site was chosen within the context of an on-going research project investigating the organisation and development of Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement and cemeteries. Previous investigations (Grenville and Parker-Pearson 1983a; *idem* 1983b) had suggested that the village green had a long history of occupation, stretching from the Iron Age to the early post-medieval period. Of particular interest to the current research project was the apparent evidence for continuous occupation throughout the Anglo-Saxon period, which is a comparatively rare feature of medieval settlements in this part of Lincolnshire. Moreover, the possibility had been raised that West Halton was the location of an Anglo-Saxon monastery. It was certainly the centre of a comparatively extensive parish, and according to the late seventeenth-century curate, Abraham de la Pryme, it had formerly been the largest church in the area, before collapsing during a storm. Moreover there is an intriguing account in the twelfth-century *Liber Eliensis* about the flight from Northumbria back to her native East Anglia by Æthelthryth, who crossed the Humber and allegedly founded a religious community before proceeding eventually to Ely (Cambs), and the possibility of West Halton being the location of this community is raised by the fact that the medieval church was, unusually, dedicated to the saint (Grenville and Parker-Pearson 1983a). The earlier excavations also suggested that the later medieval occupation was also of a high status nature, indicated by evidence for stone buildings of two storeys (evidenced by the remains of a stone staircase) and with glazed roof tiles and finials. With the aid of a generous grant from the *MSRG*, which permitted the preparation of detailed finds reports, a number of advances were made in our understanding of this development of this settlement.

Previous excavations had uncovered a succession of late medieval stone buildings in the southern part of the green, underneath which were two apparently substantial Anglo-Saxon ditches (Grenville and Parker-Pearson 1983a). Our excavations uncovered evidence of many more medieval buildings located in the southern and western parts of the green. Geophysical and earthwork survey detected several building platforms and a hollow way. A number of possible ditches were also detected by the geophysical survey – these may have preceded or been contemporary with the medieval buildings. Excavation revealed the substantial stone wall of a medieval building in one trench, along with the demolition debris from this building. The wall was 0.70m wide and stood to a height of 0.80m above the foundation course. Later medieval bricks were also recovered, particularly from inside the building. They suggest that there was either a brick building in the vicinity or that the stone building had a brick-built

extension. The majority of the pottery recovered dated to the sixteenth century or earlier, and this along with the complete absence of clay pipes, suggests that this building had been abandoned by the late sixteenth century, and probably substantially earlier given the very small amounts of pottery post-dating the mid-fourteenth century. Beneath this wall was a small pit from which two sherds of early Anglo-Saxon pottery were recovered. To the east of the building a section of a substantial ditch was excavated, but no dating material was recovered. Thus the relationship of this ditch to the two ditches excavated in 1983 is not clear.

In the second trench several relatively insubstantial stone walls were excavated. It was unclear whether this was a domestic building. Many fragments of late medieval painted window glass were recovered, which can be dated stylistically to c.1400 (Hugh Willmott, *pers. comm.*). Lead window comes and dressed stone were also found. The dressed stone had been reused in later walls, indicating that a more substantial, high status building had been demolished prior to the construction of the excavated walls.

Analysis of the pottery assemblage was undertaken by Jane Young and Anne Boyle. They suggested that the early to mid-Anglo-Saxon pottery from the site hints at 'the possible domestic nature of the site', with little imported pottery, and, therefore, that previous speculation about the possible location of a religious community cannot be resolved by analysis of the pottery alone. The status of the site in the later Anglo-Saxon period remains equally unclear. Fewer late Anglo-Saxon sherds were recovered than early-mid Anglo-Saxon pottery, and this leads Boyle and Young to the tentative suggestion that there may have been a hiatus in occupation in the area of the 2003 trenches in the eighth and ninth centuries and also the eleventh to later twelfth century. Of the later medieval pottery, Young and Boyle commented that it consisted mainly of medieval jugs and jars, and occasionally bowls, and that the assemblage appears to contain mainly vessels for use in the kitchen or for drinking; no high class or specific industrial vessels are present. Much of the pottery was local or from nearby regional centres with almost all of the wares coming from the vicinity of Lincolnshire and the Humber basin. Regional medieval imports from centres such as Nottingham, Lincoln, Toynton All Saints, Scarborough and York were almost completely absent, as were foreign imports. This appears to contrast with other finds from the site that indicate higher status buildings, including painted window glass, dressed stone, and, from the earlier excavations, glazed ridge tiles.

In many respects the field season in 2003 raised more questions than it answered, and while it is clear that there are extensive settlement remains beneath the village green at West Halton, the nature of the settlement

remains elusive. The funding from the MSRG provided the basis for further fieldwork in 2004, and a report on that fieldwork will be submitted once the post-excavation reports are available. As it stands, both for the Anglo-Saxon period and for the later medieval period a contrast has emerged between the ways in which the status of the site has been assessed from a range of evidence. Earlier excavations point to the longevity of settlement, the substantial Anglo-Saxon ditches, the stone buildings of two storeys and the glazed roof furniture as evidence for high status occupation in both the Anglo-Saxon (when the presence

of a monastery was mooted) and in the later Middle Ages (when it was suggested that the site was a manorial complex), and the latter conclusion is, perhaps, supported by the presence of painted window glass and dressed stone. Yet the recent analysis of the Anglo-Saxon and medieval pottery has queried such deductions. In advance of the analysis of the pottery from the more recent excavations it would be premature to attempt to resolve this conundrum, but it does, at least, raise important issues about the ways in which we classify the status of Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlements on the basis of archaeological evidence.

Suffolk- Summary of projects 2003/2004

John Newman

Field Team, Archaeological Service, Suffolk C.C.

Developer-funded work in Suffolk in 2003 and 2004 has been the usual mixture of small projects related to village infill and urban fringe expansion that is typical of the normal scale of planning applications in a largely rural area, combined with a few larger scale investigations. The results from the small-scale investigations produce interesting findings when considered together though individual sites are rarely of particular note. Thus the aggregate sum of the findings seen against a broader archaeological and historical background is of far greater value than the individual site results.

For example, areas of former glebe land have been examined through evaluation trial trenching and site monitoring in close proximity to parish churches in various villages with curiously negative results over the last few years. Land close to the parish church and central to well established villages such as Barningham, Earl Soham, Finningham, Lavenham, Stonham Aspal and Thorndon might be expected to contain some evidence of medieval activity. However archaeological investigations have produced exceptionally blank results from these sites given that village activity has been flowing to and fro in their vicinity since late Saxon times at least. This lack of archaeological material covering both features cut into the ground, such as evidence for timber built structures, and more simple pits and ditches is in addition to a striking scarcity of stray ceramic and metal finds in the top and subsoil.

The interpretation of such negative archaeological results is, in many ways, more difficult than conclusions drawn from more positive findings. One conclusion with former glebe land may be that ecclesiastical control over such areas was strong enough to successfully discourage any form of activity that might lead to the deposition of archaeological finds in the form of domestic or related debris. Perhaps these areas of glebe survived up to modern times as secluded plots of land for local ecclesiastical enjoyment with the most likely land uses such as long time pasture or orchard likely to leave few artefacts in the ground.

Here PPG16-generated site investigations, albeit on a modest scale, on small village infill developments is producing interesting and valuable results when viewed together against information on past land use from documentary and map sources. The archaeological pattern created by the complex mesh of social and tenurial obligations and rights in a medieval village is unlikely to be clear from the rather blunt approach of trial trenching alone. However the relevant site records may become interpretable when an inter-disciplinary approach is used and information from map, documentary and place name evidence is also analysed in tandem with the archaeological record.

Details of two larger-scale field projects at Carlton Colville and Coddenham are included in the Excavation and Discovery section of this report.

The Wallingford Burgh to Borough Research Project: Report on the East Bank Survey, 2004

Neil Christie, Oliver Creighton, Helena Hamerow, Deirdre O'Sullivan
(Universities of Leicester, Exeter, Oxford)

In November 2004, the latest field season of the *Wallingford Burh to Borough Project* comprised a short period of geophysical and topographical survey of open garden land in the central sector of the eastern flank of the town (fig.1). The fieldwork forms part of a long-term research project unravelling the origins and development of this frequently cited yet poorly understood Saxon burh and medieval town (see project webpages at: http://www.le.ac.uk/ar/njc10/wallingford_project/ detailing work undertaken in the 2002-3 seasons; interims are published in *South Midlands Archaeology* and also in the Annual Report of the MSRSG). Here the aim was to attempt to trace the possible line of an eastern riverside *burh*/borough defensive rampart. Previous reconstructions of the defensive and urban configuration of late Saxon Wallingford, based in large part of the data supplied in the early tenth-century document known as the *Burghal Hidage*, have suggested that there was no formal rampart on the riverside, but that a defensive 'bridgehead' lay across the river, forming a triangular, ditched 'wedge' of land protecting the eastern approach and outlet of the bridge (this line is thought to have been fossilised in the historic parish boundary between Wallingford and Crowmarsh). Our survey was intended to see if there were any indications of a rampart along the riverside of the town's east flank as an alternative or complement to the putative 'bridgehead'.

For November, access was kindly granted by the respective owners to survey the sizeable gardens of three main houses lying on the west bank of the Thames, namely The Lodge (previously 'The Cottage'), Bridge House and Coach House (fig.1). These gardens are a mix of grassed lawns, beds, terraces, shrubs and trees; a line of trees had previously stood near the river edge, but only a few of these have been retained. Traces of a former public path on the bank were also evident. Much landscaping is present in front of Bridge House, in the form of levelling to create a broad horizontal lawn (perhaps a former bowling green); for the other properties the lawns and grounds gently slope down to the river, whose edge is built up by a wall to prevent erosion (The opposite bank – the area known as Riverside Meadows, surveyed in 2003 – lacks a walled revetment and has accordingly seen significant erosion). Flooding occasionally occurs on the west bank, but rarely extends close to the withdrawn built properties. The study zone lies immediately south and south east of the church of St Peter's, which stands in a very elevated, enclosed plot close to the presumed east gate of Wallingford. This church was wholly rebuilt in the eighteenth century following severe damage to its predecessor in the Civil War. Although the build up of soil within the walled church yard can in part be linked to its use as a cemetery, nonetheless the top of the enclosure wall stands nearly four meters above the level

of the garden adjoining the Lodge (the soil level in the enclosure is c. 3m above this same level). One possibility is that the church overlay or formed part of the defences adjacent to the lost east gate.

Using a RM15 resistivity meter and grids of 10 x 10m, the area surveyed comprised c. 380m² with 44 grids examined; the presence of sheds, gravel and tarmac paths and driveways, plus flowerbeds, closer to the properties restrict access in some grids. Alongside the resistivity survey, a Total Station survey was undertaken to map the few visible, but generally low, earthworks as a comparison for the resistivity results.

The earthworks plotted in the study area were linked predominantly to landscaping, notably between Bridge House and the Thames, with a sunken west flank and a raised east side, to form a level grassed area of c. 30 x 30m (see fig.2). Slight traces of a terracing aligned with the western flank of this Bridge House lawn were identifiable in both the Lodge and Coach House gardens, best evident in the latter. This alignment is roughly parallel to the river and may simply denote contemporary garden landscaping; alternatively it represents an edge to the floodplain and denotes earlier

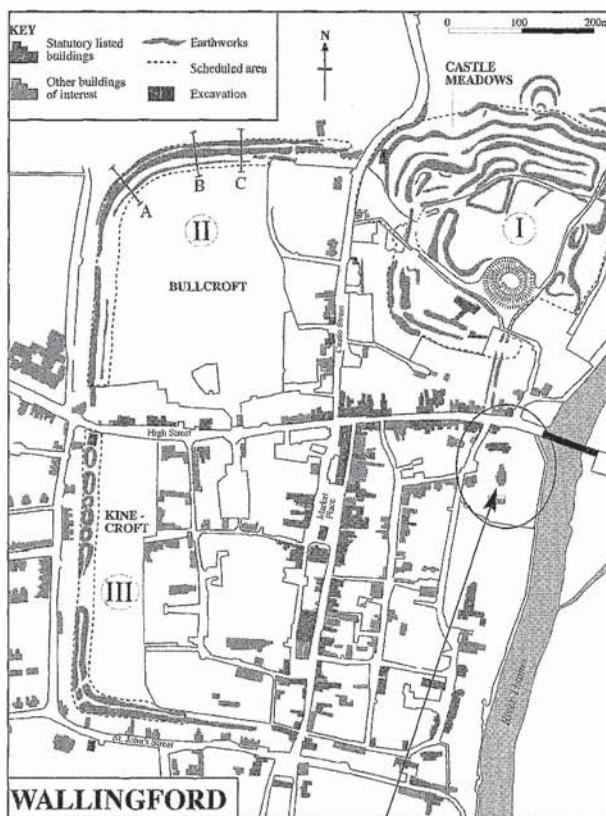


Figure 1: Wallingford town plan. Area of survey on west bank of the river Thames, south and south east of the church of St Peter's (shown in black).

efforts at water control. The only other feature, but one of potential importance, lies between Bridge House and St Peter's church and its enclosure wall: here a definite break in slope is recorded, which noticeably coincides with a significant rebuild of a section of the church's brick enclosure wall; cracking is evident also at the 'end' to the slope break. Unfortunately no southward continuation of this feature could be recognised, due to extensive modern intrusions, notably the tarmac road and driveway and the location of the Coach House and its new conservatory and patio. No archaeological features were identified in a watching brief during the construction of the latter in the 1990s, perhaps on account of earlier clearance and levelling.

The geophysical survey proved largely negative in terms of potential archaeological features. This was not unexpected given the riverside position of the study area and the known flood activity in the eastern parts of this. The grid survey matched the topographic data regarding the levelling and landscaping activity east of the Boat House, recognising in particular the build up of materials to raise the south-eastern and north-eastern corners of the lawn. Of the feature noted between the Bridge House and the church enclosure wall, the resistivity supported the presence of activity, although it cannot be excluded that this is relatively recent in date and relates to garden terracing. No coherent indications of a continuation of this feature/bank were present in the patio/conservatory zone of the Coach House, although the extension here severely limited scope to trace this. The possibility that the bank feature may belong to a burh rampart cannot therefore yet be advanced and a trench excavation may be required to ascertain its age and function.

Nonetheless, late Saxon activity can be recognised in the study area on the basis of potsherds collected from the soil of flower beds close to Bridge House and in the lower part of the Coach House garden and orchard. Two small bags of body and rim sherds were recovered comprising materials of ninth- to eleventh-century date; noticeably few medieval sherds were found. The owner of the Lodge was also in possession of a likely Saxo-Norman spearhead discovered by metal-detecting in the north-east, riverside corner of the gardens.

Thanks are extended to the British Academy for continued support to the Wallingford Burh to Borough Research Project; their Small Research Grant funding covered the November fieldwork and will also cover the programmed season in late Summer 2005 at the



Figure 2: Resistivity grid preparation east of Bridge House, Wallingford

Riverside Meadows, across the Thames, examining through trenches the potential medieval earthworks surveyed in 2003. We must also thank the Marc Fitch Fund for a grant towards the costs of a research assistant working on the unpublished archives of the 1965-68 and 1972 castle area excavations.

Finally, we acknowledge the ongoing support of the Medieval Settlement Research Group, which kindly awarded a small research grant in December 2004 for illustration of grave-goods from the sixth-century Anglo-Saxon cemetery of Wallingford. The cemetery, identified at the south-west corner of the town, seemingly outside the extant rampart, was partially excavated in the 1930s and summarily reported by E.T. Leeds in the late 1930s. As the origins of Wallingford remain a key question (preceding the burh are traces of Roman activity from the town's interior in the form of numerous small finds which have generally been considered as evidence for either a Roman small town, road station or villa), a better understanding of the status of the cemetery is vital. Although the cemetery and some of its finds were discussed by Leeds, the site was never fully analysed and no inventory of the graves and grave-goods exists. While most of the skeletal material cannot now be traced, the grant enables us to undertake re-analysis and illustration of the metal and other finds (in the collections of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford), to be published in full as part of the Wallingford Project.

Discovering Barcombe and Hamsey: Contrasting communities?

A Sussex Archaeological Society community research project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Pamela Combes and Sue Rowland.

Domesday Book reveals two wealthy and contrasting manors at Hamsey and Barcombe in 1086. No significant nucleated settlement has survived at either of the early manorial centres, both of which lie adjacent to their respective parish churches. The primary aim of the project will be to establish whether these relatively isolated centres are indeed shrunken medieval settlements, as has often been assumed, or whether early medieval settlement was originally more dispersed.

The recent discovery, and current excavation, of a Roman Villa close to Barcombe church also raises questions about how far the villa and its estate might have influenced the medieval administration of the area. Barcombe lay at the centre of the medieval hundred to which it gave its name. Newick to the north (which unfortunately our resources do not allow us to include in this project) and Hamsey to the south, represent the two other boroughs (townships) within the hundred.

The project is multidisciplinary comprising not only a tenement survey of the type undertaken already in several Sussex parishes but also building, woodland, hedgerow and churchyard surveys. Early medieval documentation is sparse and place-name analysis and archaeological fieldwork, led by the information gained from maps and documentary research, will be utilised to supplement the meagre archival sources.

The study area: Parishes and Manors

It is important to emphasize that the land associated with the parishes and the two principal manors with which the study is concerned are not synonymous. For the purpose of the project, we are studying all the land encompassed within the ancient ecclesiastical parish boundaries as recorded on the tithes maps of c1840. In Barcombe that includes Balneath (now in Chailey) as well as a detached portion of the parish at Sharpsbridge in Newick.

The manorial structure within the same area is far more complex. The parish of Hamsey encompassed the manors of Hamsey and Coombe as well as a detached portion of Allington, while Barcombe parish encompasses not only the manors of Barcombe and Camois Court but also the manor house and part of Balneath manor (the rest of which lies principally in Chailey) as well as detached portions of Allington, Rodmell, Warningore, Houndean and Otehall.

Vuggles, a farm lying to the north of the modern parish of Barcombe, exemplifies the complexity of the earlier parochial and manorial administration in the area. Into the 20th century it was still administered ecclesiastically as a detached portion of Newick, which lies to the north of Barcombe, and manorially as part of Rodmell which lies at least 13k away, south of Lewes.

Hamsey and Barcombe manors in Domesday Book

The decline, by 1086, from pre-Conquest value in both hides and cash recorded for these substantial manors, reveals that both, but most significantly Hamsey, had been deprived of outlying landholdings following the Conquest.

Comparisons

The survey records the significance of industrial and commercial activity in Barcombe with its three and a half mills (the great survey is ever enigmatic! What exactly comprised half a mill is uncertain – what is clear is the overall rental value to the lord) and 18 ‘*hagae*’ (closes) in the borough of Lewes. By comparison, Hamsey was predominantly an agricultural community, with grazing, a significant 200 acres of meadow, and woodland for 10 pigs.

Manor value/assets	Barcombe	Hamsey
Hides before 1066	13	25
Hides in 1086	10	14
Value before 1066	£12	£20
Value 1086	£8	£10
Villans	24	16
Bordars	2	14
Ploughlands	20	13
Ploughs in lordship	2	2 (hides)
Tenants ploughs	9	10
Churches	1	1
Mills	3 – render 20s	
Closes in Lewes	18 – render 8s 7d	
Meadow	200 acres	
Woodland	10 pigs	
Grazing	renders 13 s	

Table of Domesday data: Barcombe and Hamsey

Other data recorded in the table above also demonstrate the distinctiveness of the two communities in 1086. In Barcombe, the disparity between the assessment of 20 ploughlands and the 11 actual ploughs recorded (both in lordship and in the hands of tenants) suggests that, in the eyes of the Domesday surveyors, the arable potential of the manor was not being fully exploited. On the other hand, assuming that there were in fact two ploughs in Lordship in Hamsey, and that possible scribal error accounts for the anomalous 2 hides actually recorded,

the number of ploughs in use there was only one short of the full assessment.

The recorded population also suggests some demographic variation within the manors. Hamsey had a marginally larger recorded population of 30 individuals, of whom 16 were villans and 14 bordars. In Barcombe out of a total recorded population of 26 only 2 were bordars.

Late estate and ecclesiastical development

At Hamsey the medieval manor house was already ruined by 1780, but significant mansion houses were developed elsewhere within the parish, most notably at Coombe, but Offham House and Shelley's Folly also represent this later phase of development. At Barcombe, Court House farm undoubtedly represents the core of the medieval manorial complex; it survives as a pleasant but not grand, timber-framed farm house, but the original manor house, Camois Court, was lost by 1709. Here, as at Hamsey, large mansion houses with their associated estates were developed at a later date, first at Conyboro, and later at Sutton Hall Barcombe House, and Barcombe Place.

Barcombe House stands close to the site of Barcombe Mills where the tradition of milling, already established by the 11th century, was maintained for over 850 years. The last mill finally closed, following a disastrous fire, in 1939.

In both parishes churches were built in the 19th century at what were, by then, the more densely populated centres of Offham and Spithurst. It is curious, however, that St Bartholomew's in Barcombe was built at Spithurst and not at the more significant nucleated settlement of Barcombe Cross – the reason for that anomaly should become clear as the work progresses.

Work yet to be done

We aim to record all the data we assemble on a GIS system. The data will be made generally available both on a web site and CD when the project is complete.

Certain aspects of the project will also be published in appropriate journals.

Documentary research relating to the tenement survey and the building surveys is well under way in Hamsey but, as yet, almost no work has been undertaken on the numerous manorial or parochial documents recording land in Barcombe. Wills alone, recorded in the ESRO and PRO lists, number 330 and there may be other strays yet to be identified. All of them contain evidence crucial to our study.

The Hamsey building survey is complete and in Barcombe work has begun on the 30 or more houses we have listed as worthy of assessment, and there may well be even more of which we are not aware – appearances can deceive!

A churchyard survey is being undertaken at the parish church of St. Mary, Barcombe to complement the survey that has already been completed at Hamsey.

Of the total of 7,700 acres of land which comprised the two parishes in 1801, only a paltry few have been fieldwalked or assessed for their archaeological potential. The length of hedgerow yet to be surveyed is immense and the woodland survey has only just begun...

Unlike the Time Team, who appear to achieve miracles in three days, we have nearly three years to complete the work – but even then the task is intimidating!

Regular reports of work in progress will be posted on the Sussex Archaeological Society web-site from March 2004.

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The decayed medieval town of Trelech

by Ray Howell

Continuing research excavations by University of Wales Newport targeted features indicated in a geophysical survey conducted in a field behind the Lion Inn public house. Of particular interest was indication of the continuation of a road first seen in excavation on Trelech Farm, now a modern housing estate, in 1997 when approximately 9.5m of the deeply rutted road surface was revealed. Test pitting confirmed that the road continued to the north and subsequent work including geophysical survey and test pitting in a paddock near Middleton House indicates that it continued to the south forming a 'five lane confluence' near the present entrance to Court Farm. It may be significant that the area behind Middleton House is described as 'Middle Town' on the Tithe map apportionment of 1847 (Gwent Record Office, D1579.38). The 2004 excavations investigated additional sections of this road which was well metalled with closely compacted small (generally c. 4.5cm) stone cobbles (Figure 1a, 1b). Subsequent trial trenches confirmed the road surface both north and south of the main excavation. In places the road was built on a hard-core base of iron slag approximately 3.5m wide. The metalled road itself was approximately 3m in width with a ditch running parallel to the west and well-defined wheel ruts approximately 1.5m wide marking the surface. These dimensions not surprisingly mirror the findings of the 1997 excavations. This road

has now been fully confirmed by geophysical survey and excavation; it has been surveyed and excavated or partially excavated in eight places along a length of over 250m.

There was significant medieval activity by the side of the road in the main excavation in the northeast corner of the field with a sequence of stone surfaces and associated thirteenth century pottery assemblages some 50cm in depth. A sequence of working surfaces seems the best interpretation of this material. To the south slots, daub and concentrations of medieval ceramics near the road suggest timber frame construction. Additional medieval activity was found on a platform above a stone-lined well in the southwest of the field. In order to understand this activity more fully large open area excavation is required and it is hoped to revisit the field in 2005. It is interesting that the nature of medieval activity along this road differs in scale from the very large buildings excavated in Church Field West in 2002-3. It seems increasingly likely that this is a consequence of the initial implantation in Trelech, once one of the largest towns in Wales, being located within an extended castle bailey (See Phillips 2005).

Reference:

Phillips, N. (2005) 'The timber motte and bailey castles of Gwent and Eryng, AD1050 – 1250' (Ph.D. thesis, University of Wales)



Figure 1a: The road surface is shown with tightly packed cobbling and wheel ruts. A ditch ran parallel to the road on its west side.



Figure 1b: The road surface is shown with tightly packed cobbling and wheel ruts. A ditch ran parallel to the road on its west side.

The Whittlewood Project: Excavation of a Medieval Manor at Wicken, 2004

by Mark Page and Richard Jones (University of Leicester)

Fieldwork undertaken in July and August 2004 – the final summer season of the project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Board – included the partial excavation of a medieval manorial complex in the village of Wicken (Northants.). The work was carried out by staff and students of the universities of Leicester, Sheffield, and Southampton. In addition to the principal funding by the AHRB, financial assistance was also received from the Medieval Settlement Research Group, the Royal Archaeological Institute, the Society of Antiquaries, and the Society for Medieval Archaeology.

The manor of Wick Dive

In the Middle Ages the village of Wicken was divided between two manors. To the north of the stream running through the centre of the village lay the manor of Wick Dive; to the south lay the manor of Wick Hamon. The two manors were in existence before the Norman Conquest. The manor of Wick Dive was held by members of the Dive family from the early thirteenth century to the mid-fourteenth, except for a short period caused by forfeiture following the death of John de Dive at the battle of Evesham in 1265 (Riden 2002, 419-20). The manor house of Wick Dive lay to the north-west of Wick Dive churchyard (Figure 1). In 1281 the capital messuage with a garden was valued at 8*s.* a year; a dovecote was worth an additional 2*s.* (PRO, C133/28/19). In 1427 the manor was described as comprising a hall, chamber, kitchen, and barn, worth nothing yearly, and a dovecote, worth 2*s.* a year (*CIPM*, XXII, no. 482). At this time the manor was occupied by William Lucy and his wife Margaret, tenants of Edmund earl of March (Riden 2002, 420).

The remains of a medieval dovecote have been identified within the manorial enclosure at Wick Dive. The surrounding earthworks suggest that this area may have been redesigned, possibly in the twelfth century, involving the creation or extension of the manorial complex and the removal of a number of peasant tenements. At about the same time, the village experienced considerable outward growth. Both the ceramic evidence and the regularity of the building plots suggest that a long row of peasant houses was laid out in a single moment of development. Late medieval Wick Dive thus appears to have been a planned settlement, probably in association with the building or rebuilding of the manor house. By 1250 the village had reached its greatest extent; after 1400 it was in decline. In only around half of the test-pits which produced twelfth- to fourteenth-century pottery were later fabrics found. This corresponds with the available documentary evidence: a taxation schedule of 1489 reveals a 26 per cent reduction in Wicken's assessment since 1334, a greater fall than in any of the other villages of the Whittlewood project area (PRO, E179/155/109). The number of unfree tenants recorded in the extents of 1281 and 1427 declined even further, more than halving from 22 to 9.

The manor of Wick Hamon

The manor of Wick Hamon was held by descendants of Hamon son of Mainfelin, who flourished in the mid-twelfth century, for 200 years until 1367; they adopted the surname Wolverton in the early fourteenth century. Before 1250 the village of Wick Hamon appears to have been much smaller than its neighbour Wick Dive, and it is possible that the main area of settlement lay about 1 mile to the south, in a place later known as Elm Green. Ceramic evidence, dating from 1100-1250, suggests that Elm Green was a rambling settlement of some size, which continued to flourish into the fourteenth century. Elm Green lay on the edge of a deer park created by a member of the Hamon family in the thirteenth century, which was re-inclosed in 1290 after it had fallen into decay during the time that the manor was held in dower (Riden 2002, 418). Wick Hamon grew considerably in size after 1250, and like its neighbour was probably planned. In the fifteenth century, again like Wick Dive, the village experienced decline.

According to the VCH, 'there appears to be no tradition of a capital messuage belonging to the medieval manor of Wick Hamon, presumably because until the sale of 1367 it was held in demesne by a family seated close by at Wolverton and afterwards formed part of an estate centred elsewhere in Cleley hundred' (Riden 2002, 422-3). This judgement is based in part on a surviving extent of the manor dated 1248 which does not record a manor house at Wick Hamon; however, a small garden worth 1*s.* and a dovecote worth 2*s.* were listed, suggesting the existence of some sort of manorial complex (PRO, C132/6/1). This may have been located on the opposite side of the road from the parish church (demolished in 1619), where the foundations of a circular dovecote (Figure 2) were uncovered during the excavation in 2004, together with other buildings which probably belonged to the medieval manor.

The manors of Wick Dive and Wick Hamon were united in single ownership by Richard Woodville of Grafton in 1449. The estate was sold to John Spencer of Snitterfield (Warwicks.) in 1511, the founder of the Spencer family of Althorp. In 1587 a later John Spencer secured the union of Wick Dive and Wick Hamon into a single parish, after which the church of St James, Wick Hamon, was allowed to decay until permission was granted for its demolition (Riden 2002, 420, 423, 435).

The manor site

The property in which the dovecote and other buildings were found is now called Glebe Cottage. In the nineteenth century it was known as Smiths Close and was listed as glebe land on the tithe map of 1838 (PRO, IR30/24/140). It is not clear for how long this property had been part of the glebe; it may well have been the 'little close' described in the glebe terrier of 1631 'wherein the parsonage house of Wick Hamon stands,

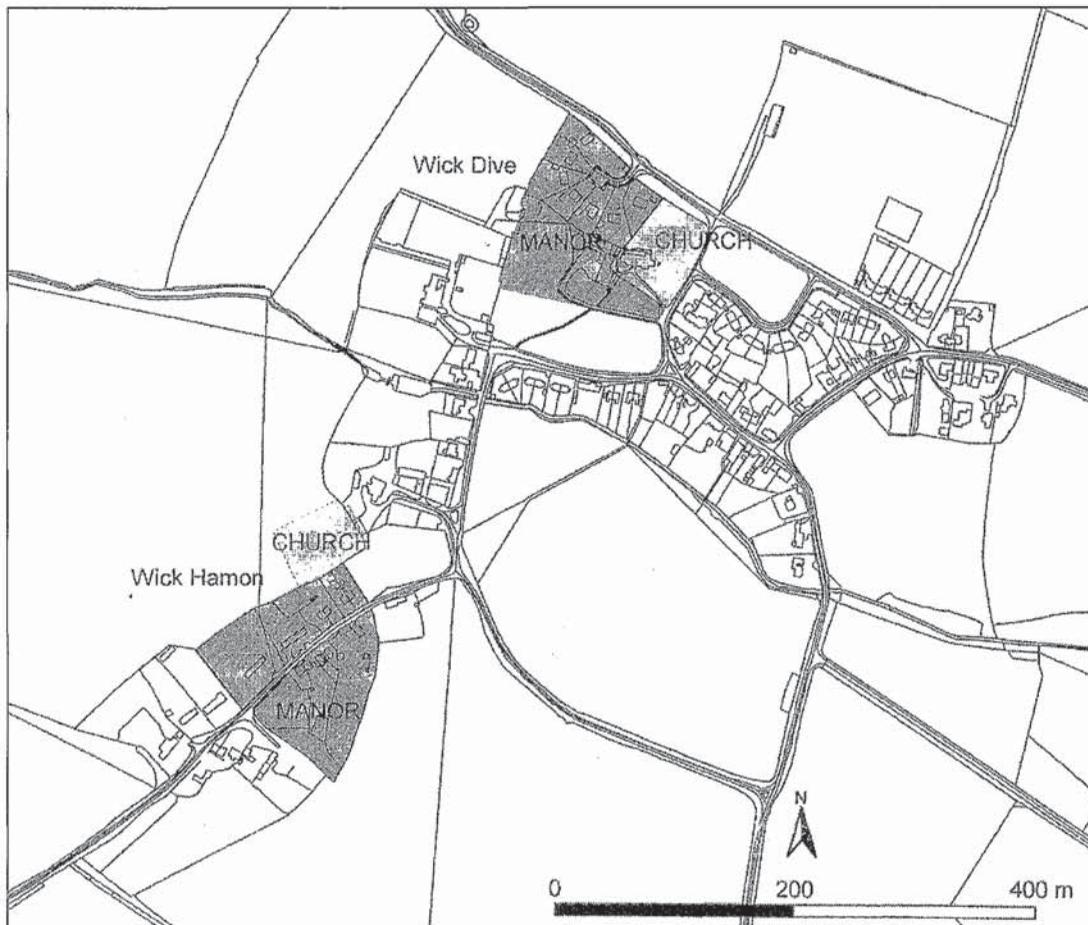


Figure 1: The manor site of Wick Hamon and Wick Dive.

with a garden at the south end of it and some apple trees in the close', which lay adjacent to Larks Close (NRO, Wicken glebe terrier, 7 Jan. 1631). The tithe map reveals that Larks Close was a large pasture field which surrounded Smiths Close to the south and east. The parsonage house belonging to Wick Hamon was repaired and improved by the rector who was instituted to the united benefice of Wick Hamon and Wick Dive in 1690. It was still standing 30 years later but was described as 'a very mean building' (Riden 2002, 433). In 1838 it was occupied by Martha Smith; the rector lived in the former parsonage house of Wick Dive, described in the tithe award as 'the rectory house, pleasure grounds and garden' (PRO, IR29/24/140).

The dovecote and other buildings excavated in Smiths Close almost certainly did not belong to the church of Wick Hamon in the Middle Ages. In the mid-thirteenth century Wick Hamon was a chapelry, probably dependent upon the church of Wick Dive. The advowson belonged to the lord of Wick Hamon and was valued at 5 marks (£3 6s. 8d.) in 1248 (PRO, C132/6/1). The chapel was not included in the taxation of 1254, but by 1278 Wick Hamon had been granted parochial status. In 1291 the rectory was valued at £1, compared to £4 6s. 8d. for Wick Dive; in 1535 the living at Wick Hamon was valued at £5 8s. 11d., compared to £10 3s. 5d. for Wick Dive (Riden 2002, 432-3; Bridges 1791, I, 333). These figures do not suggest that the chaplain, later the

rector, of Wick Hamon was sufficiently wealthy to be able to afford the elaborate structures found in Smiths Close. It is much more likely that they belonged to the lord of Wick Hamon (who possessed a dovecote according to the extent of 1248) and that the land became part of the glebe at a later date, perhaps after the unification of the two manors in 1449.

An open area excavation was carried out at Glebe Cottage following the discovery in 2003 of faced masonry associated with medieval pottery in a test-pit. Subsequent geophysical survey (ground penetrating radar undertaken by Jonathan Gudgeon) revealed the partial floor plans of a number of structures. These were investigated more thoroughly in 2004. The excavation identified a well-made dovecote constructed in local limestone (Figure 2). The stepped base of the external wall and the lack of nails or tiles in the demolition layers suggest that it was 'beehive' in form. An internal cistern for capturing rainwater, with a drain to the outside, indicates that the apex of the roof was left open providing access for the birds. The lack of evidence for a central potence provides further corroborative evidence for this hypothesis. No nest holes survived, presumably originally set higher than the surviving walls. Access was almost certainly gained from a small entrance on the north-eastern side, protected from the prevailing westerly winds.



Figure 2: The internal cistern of the dovecote.

Below the dovecote, and separated from it by a large open ditch, was an area containing floors, hearths, and robbed out walls. This building, the complete ground plan of which has not been recovered, can nevertheless be interpreted as a malthouse/bakehouse and/or brewhouse (Figure 3). The principal feature was a raised stone plinth on which was set an oval oven and hearths, heat fed to them via a flue leading from a sunken stoke hole. This contained considerable quantities of charred plant remains including carbonized peas, beans, and lentils as well as cereal grains, indicating that straw was used as the principal fuel – a fuel later recognized as producing a good heat for malting. The hearths too produced grains, indicating localized processing, drying, and burning of organic material. This plant assemblage provides the first insight into the crops being grown on the manor in the absence of documentary evidence, and appears to indicate the mixing of legumes and cereals within the open fields.

The ceramic evidence indicates that both this structure and the dovecote were constructed in the middle of the thirteenth century, perhaps by William son of Hamon, whose death in 1248 provides our only documentary reference to the dovecote. The buildings were abandoned in the mid-fifteenth century, possibly following the acquisition of Wick Dive by the lord of Wick Hamon, Richard Woodville. The Woodvilles and

their successors appear to have used the manor house at Wick Dive when they visited the parish, the buildings of which may have survived until the late seventeenth century (Riden 2002, 422). The manorial complex at Wick Hamon was thus rendered redundant.

Bibliography and abbreviations

- Bridges, J. 1791 *The History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire*, 2 vols, Oxford.
 CIPM: *Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem*.
 NRO: Northamptonshire Record Office.
 PRO: The National Archives: Public Record Office.
 Riden, P. (ed.) 2002 *The Victoria County History of Northamptonshire, V, Cleley Hundred*, Woodbridge.



Figure 3: The stoke hole, hearth surfaces, and oven of the malthouse/bakehouse and/or brewhouse.

Discovery and Excavation 2004

Buckinghamshire

Broughton, Broughton Farm. NGR SP 9040 4030.

An intermittent archaeological watching brief was maintained between May 2003 and June 2004 during the removal of topsoil prior to construction. The entire development site proved to be covered with the remains of ridge-and-furrow cultivation. No other pre-modern archaeological features or artefacts were observed.

R. J. Ivens

Hanslope, 12 High Street. NGR SP 80250 46930.

A continuous watching brief was maintained during groundworks for a new house and garage. Two probable pits, a ditch and a spread of stone rubble (driveway ?) were noted. No pre-modern artefacts were observed and the recorded archaeological features may not be of any great antiquity.

R. J. Ivens

Lavendon, 15 High Street. NGR SP 9168 5361.

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of foundation trenches for a new extension. No pre-modern archaeological deposits or artefacts were identified.

R. J. Ivens

Olney, 20 Bridge Street. NGR SP 8893 5106.

A watching brief was maintained during the groundworks for a small extension. The property is a part of the former Bell Inn (reputedly founded c. 1670). The area of the watching brief proved to have been much disturbed in recent times and no pre-modern contexts or artefacts were identified.

R. J. Ivens

Sherington, Mercer's Farm. NGR SP 8895 4632.

A limited archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of foundation trenches for a new extension to Mercer's Farmhouse. No significant pre-modern archaeological deposits were identified.

R. J. Ivens

Stony Stratford, 75 High Street. NGR SP 7860 4047.

A trial trench evaluation was carried out in advance of a new development. The evaluation showed that the site has been subjected to considerable nineteenth century and later disturbance. The find of redeposited medieval roof tile and pottery and a few late seventeenth-century pot sherds (some redeposited) suggest medieval and early post-medieval activity in the vicinity. The heavily robbed remains of a possible, though undated, property boundary wall was identified.

R. J. Ivens

Cambridgeshire

Boxworth TL 3496 6446

A community excavation, designed to research a series of earthworks and involve local people in their heritage, took place at Spring Common in Boxworth during the summer of 2004. The project was funded by the Local Heritage Initiative, CBA Mid Anglia and South Cambridgeshire District Council. It was organised by Mr Ian Taylor and the Boxworth Village Research Group, with the assistance of Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Unit (AFU). Work included an earthwork survey (AFU), a geophysical survey (Northamptonshire Archaeology) and excavation by volunteers.

Spring Common is currently used for winter pasture and retains many upstanding earthworks including a hollow way marking the line of the original medieval High Street. Although the earthworks have been recorded by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments as being of probable medieval date, Roman finds have previously been recovered from the site. The majority of the features and artefacts recovered during the recent investigations proved to be Iron Age and Roman, although there was a significant medieval presence in one area. Two parallel, curvilinear ditches (enclosing an area approximately 15m in diameter) contained early medieval pottery and may represent a managed hay stack, animal pen or possibly a windmill. Interestingly, a graffito windmill is located on an adjacent 17th-century timber barn. Further excavation would be required to clarify the extent and character of medieval occupation.

Aileen Connor

Densett Village, Bourn Parish (TL 5330 2572)

As part of a research project into a previously unknown rural medieval iron industry based in West Cambridgeshire, a programme of fieldwalking, geophysical survey and trial trenching was carried out on the lost settlement of Densett in Bourn parish. Fieldwalking and documentary research by David Baxter had identified abandoned medieval properties and concentrations of surface finds including domestic material and industrial waste from both smithing and smelting. During August 2004 a magnetometer survey was supplemented by smaller amounts of resistivity, while trenching was designed to investigate domestic remains and putative industrial features including possible smelting or smithing hearths and areas of features associated with characteristic bloomery slags.

Eight linear evaluation trenches were excavated during late September and early October 2004 and located a possible concentration of domestic properties fronting onto Densett Street, dating to the 12th to late 14th or 15th centuries. Only limited evidence for metalworking was identified. Areas of anomalies initially interpreted as possible industrial hearths were found largely to consist of recent burnt material and dumped rubbish backfilled into former ponds that may have originated as quarries.

Adjacent to known mill sites along the Bourn Brook a dense and well-preserved group of features proved to be of 13th to 14th century in date and included significant quantities of ironworking waste, such as slag that probably derived from a later medieval water-powered bloomery. Elsewhere, a colluvial profile contained substantial ironworking waste including burnt ceramic and vitrified brick that probably represents smelting hearth material displaced from working areas located slightly further upslope.

The work has confirmed the presence of medieval ironworking at Densett, representing both smithing and smelting found in association with well-preserved settlement remains. The findings of this evaluation will be used to plan highly selective further investigations in 2005.

Paul Sperry

Northborough, St. Andrew's Church (TF 1525 0796)
Peterborough UA

Construction of a new retaining wall to the churchyard of 13th century St. Andrew's church was monitored for Tindall Davies and Partners by staff of Archaeological Project Services. A Middle Saxon pit containing pottery of the period was identified, together with two ditches that, although undated, may be contemporary with the pit.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Old Fletton, High Street (TL 1989 9700)
Peterborough UA

On behalf of Wilsmead Trading Ltd, S. Malone of Archaeological Project Services supervised an evaluation in the historic core of Old Fletton and near to previous discoveries of medieval and post-medieval remains. However, archaeological remains were restricted to the late post-medieval period, including remains of 19th century buildings.

Steve Malone

Peterborough, Crocus Grove (TF 1920 0181)
Peterborough UA

Although immediately adjacent to a medieval windmill site, a watching brief, by B. Martin of Archaeological Project Services for F. E. Peacock Construction Ltd, identified only recent remains.

Neil Parker

Woodston, Oundle Road (TL 177974)
Peterborough UA

A. Russell of Archaeological Project Services supervised an evaluation on behalf of George Wimpey East Midlands Ltd close to the site of an Early Saxon cemetery and other Saxon remains. However, no archaeological remains were revealed and artefacts were mostly 18th century and later.

Mark Peachey

Cumbria

Hackthorpe, Penrith (NY 542 231)

The development area lies to the west and north-west of Lowther Castle Hotel in the heart of Hackthorpe, a village with medieval origins. A desk-based assessment and trial trenching evaluation were undertaken by Oxford Archaeology (North) in 2001 (Heawood 2001). Two evaluation trenches revealed features of archaeological interest: a possible structural beam slot or boundary ditch; a pit containing charred plant remains and pottery dateable to the 12th to 14th centuries; and another pit containing industrial residues which was considered likely to be of medieval date, although no dating evidence was recovered. As a consequence of the evaluation results, further excavation work was requested by Cumbria County Council Archaeology Service. An area measuring 28m by 24m was stripped of topsoil by machine and hand-cleaned to identify features.

A small number of features were discovered during the excavation. A shallow linear ditched feature may be the remains of a former field boundary ditch or a beam slot. Three small pits were morphologically distinct, did not appear to form any pattern and did not contain any datable material apart from one piece of bottle glass from the fill of one.

A small number of finds were recovered during the excavation, consisting of shards of late 19th/early 20th century bottle glass, one bovine tooth, and pottery dateable to the 12th-14th centuries together with more recent ceramics. During the evaluation pottery dateable to the 12th to 14th centuries was also recovered. None of the finds recovered during the excavation were from securely stratified contexts.

The date of the features recorded during the evaluation and excavation are, with one exception, unknown, but it is likely that none of the features is earlier than the 12th-14th centuries. It is impossible, on morphological or spatial patterning grounds, to group the features and hence it would be unwise to assume that they are contemporary or that they all are indicative of Medieval settlement remains.

Heawood, R. 2001 *Land at Hackthorpe, Penrith, Cumbria*. Draft Evaluation Report. Issue no. 2000-2001/116, Oxford Archaeology (North).

Melanie Johnson

Derbyshire

Alvaston, A6 Bypass (SK 402 323 – SK 390 339)
Derby City

Road construction was monitored by T. Rayner of Archaeological Project Services for Jackson Civil Engineering as previous investigations along the route had identified remains of prehistoric and later date. On the flood plain of the lower River Derwent a fish weir constructed of timber was identified and was radiocarbon dated to 1000-1250 AD. An oak tree, dated to the 13th century, was raised from an extinct watercourse and implies that at least some of the braided

channels of the river valley were open in the medieval period. Medieval ridge and furrow was recorded and Iron Age and Roman remains were also identified.

Tobin Rayner

Humberside – North East Lincolnshire UA

Bradley, Bradley Road (TA 2436 0604)

Although close to the former site of earthworks of the shrunken medieval settlement of Bradley, a watching brief by staff of Archaeological Project Services did not clearly identify any medieval remains. However, an undated gully and a track and pond of recent date were revealed.

Victoria Mellor

Humberside – North Lincolnshire

Barrow Upon Humber, Cherry Lane (TA 0715 2177)

A watching brief, by F. Walker of Archaeological Project Services, was carried out for Mr Goodburn in an area of medieval and earlier remains. A linear drainage feature or pond of 12th century date was revealed, together with two pits, both undated but one likely to be medieval, the other post-medieval.

James Snee

Leicestershire

Ashwell, South View Farm, Brookdene (SK 866 136) Rutland County

On behalf of E. Sherriff (Rearsby) Ltd, staff of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief during development in the historic core of Ashwell. However, archaeological remains were restricted to an undated but apparently recent pit and no artefacts were retrieved.

Michael Wood

Bottesford, Grantham Road (SK 814 388) Melton Borough, Leicestershire

A watching brief was maintained by T. Bradley-Lovekin of Archaeological Project Services, during development by Greenwood Properties (UK) Ltd close to watermills documented in the Domesday Book of 1086. However, no archaeological remains or artefacts were revealed.

Andrew Failes

Cottesmore, Main street (SK 9036 1362) Rutland County

A. Clements of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief, for Paul Brook Building Contractor, during development in the historic core of the village. A stone wall was revealed and although undated is thought to be associated with an adjacent 18th century cottage. Artefacts of 18th-20th century date occurred abundantly and probably reflect occupation at the site during this time.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Knossington, The Grange (SK 7999 0865) Melton Borough, Leicestershire

On behalf of Knossington Grange School Ltd, T. Bradley Lovekin of Archaeological Project Services supervised an evaluation within the grounds of Knossington Grange, a 19th century country house on the edge of the medieval village core and near to previous discoveries of mesolithic and Roman artefacts. However, no artefacts or remains of earlier than 20th century date were identified during the investigation.

Tom Bradley-Lovekin

Nailstone, Church Road (SK 418 071) Hinckley and Bosworth District, Leicestershire

Development in the historic core of Nailstone, immediately adjacent to the 13th century parish church, was the subject of a watching brief, undertaken on behalf of Mr and Mrs Crane by A. Clements of Archaeological Project Services. A 19th century pit was identified beneath a levelling deposit. Footings for existing modern buildings were also noted. No artefacts earlier than the 18th century were retrieved.

Aaron Clements

Oakham, Ashwell Road (SK 884 096) Rutland County

Staff of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief for Barratt East Midlands Homes during development to the north of the historic core of Oakham. Previous investigations on other parts of the same development site had revealed undated ditches and recovered artefacts of prehistoric, Roman, medieval and later date. The present investigation identified further undated ditches. These extend the previous discoveries and seem to be related to, or part of, an extended north-south boundary evident on historic maps of Oakham and stretching as far south as Oakham Castle or beyond. This would tend to suggest the feature had a Late Saxon or medieval origin.

Andrew Failes

Oakham, Northgate (SK 8579 0897) Rutland County

Development in the historic core of Oakham, on Northgate which is referred to as early as 1501, was subject to a watching brief, carried out by staff of Archaeological Project Services for Wynbrook Homes. Pits and ditches containing Stamford ware pottery and dated to the Saxo-Norman period were revealed. A post-medieval pit and wall footing or path of brick were also identified. The absence of artefacts dating between the 12th and 18th centuries suggests the site was unoccupied during this period.

Neil Parker

Lincolnshire

Barrowby, Church Street (SK 8786 3633) South Kesteven District

Staff of Archaeological Project Services carried out a

watching brief, for Taylor Pearson Construction Ltd, during development in the historic core of Barrowby. However, only recent remains and artefacts were revealed.

Victoria Mellor

Bicker, Bicker Fen (TF 196 396) Boston Borough

Although in an area of Late Saxon and medieval salt-making, a watching brief, by staff of Archaeological Project Services for Wind Prospect Ltd, revealed only a post-medieval ploughsoil was revealed.

Mark Peachey

Bracebridge, Newark Road (SK 966 683) Lincoln City

Development alongside the Fosse Way Roman road and close to the medieval Brace Bridge was monitored by staff of Archaeological Project Services for Wynbrook Homes. Medieval occupation in the form of ditches and gullies, mostly of 13th-14th century date, was identified, together with wall footings and robber trenches. Iron Age and Roman remains were also recorded.

Thomas Bradley-Lovekin

Brinkhill, Ormsby Road (TF 3725 7368) East Lindsey District

A watching brief was carried out, by staff of Archaeological Project Services for Mrs P. Best, during development immediately adjacent to one of the medieval moats at Brinkhill. Although no archaeological remains were revealed, Middle Saxon pottery was recovered from the subsoil.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Carlby, High Street (TF 0512 1394) South Kesteven District

On behalf of Abbeydale Homes, F. Walker of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief during development in the historic village core. Although no archaeological remains were identified a moderate quantity of medieval pottery was recovered.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Crowland, Cluttons Close (TF 2394 1047) South Holland District

Development close to the historic core of the village was monitored by T. Bradley-Lovekin of Archaeological Project Services for Mrs. R. Evans. Several pits and ditches were revealed and although all of these were undated the ditches were truncated by a large 17th century quarry pit and, consequently, are likely to be medieval.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Crowland, West Street (TF 2366 1015) South Holland District

F. Walker of Archaeological Project Services monitored

development near the historic village centre for Mrs. L. Wycherley. However, only a post-medieval subsoil and dumped deposit were revealed.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Deeping St. James, Priory Close (TF 1577 0970) South Holland District

On behalf of Copland Building Contractors, M. Nugent of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief during development near to the medieval parish church that may be the only surviving element of a priory established in 1139. Ponds of medieval and post-medieval date were revealed, together with a post-medieval pit and an undated ditch. Artefacts of Roman to early post-medieval date were recovered and included a glazed medieval ridge tile.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Donington, High Street (TF 2094 3571) South Holland District

Staff of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief, for Alford Investments Ltd, during development in the historic core of Donington. Post-medieval structural remains were identified and artefacts of medieval and later date were recovered.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Friskney, Manor Farm, Small End (TF 4495 5550) East Lindsey District

Development within a medieval moated enclosure was subject to a watching brief, carried out by F. Walker of Archaeological Project Services for Mr. P. Wilkinson. However, no remains associated with the moat were revealed, though a peat layer of probable Iron Age date was identified.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Fulbeck, Hurlingham Business Park (SK 975 504) South Kesteven District

A watching brief, by staff of Archaeological Project Services, was carried out for Molsom and Partners during development close to the site of a medieval grange established in the 12th century. However, only a single undated ditch was revealed.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Gendney, Red House Farm (TF 417 285) South Holland District

A watching brief, by staff of Archaeological Project Services, was carried out for Wind Prospect Ltd during development near to remains of Late Saxon and medieval salt-making. A post-medieval ploughsoil was revealed but no archaeological remains were encountered. A probable saltern mound was observed nearby but was unaffected by the development.

Mark Peachey

Holdingham, Peterborough Way (TF 0610 4705)
North Kesteven District

A watching brief, by staff of Archaeological Project Services for Rippon Homes Ltd, was carried out as the development site lay close to a Middle Saxon settlement and Roman villa. However, archaeological remains were limited to an undated pit and subsoils related to the ridge and furrow on the site. Artefacts of Roman and post-medieval date were retrieved.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Kirton-in-Holland, Boston Road (TF 3070 3860)
Boston Borough

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by staff of Archaeological Project Services on behalf of R. K. Wilson Builders as the site is within the historic core of Kirton and close to previous discoveries of Late Saxon remains. A medieval subsoil, cut through by numerous drainage ditches of post-medieval date, was revealed.

Aaron Clements

Marston, Olde Barn Hotel (SK 8870 4285) South
Kesteven District

Extensions to an existing building in an area of prehistoric remains were monitored for J. Hallam Associates by staff of Archaeological Project Services. A brick wall of a building constructed, on map evidence, between 1814 and 1891 was revealed, in addition to a probable medieval field boundary ditch.

Neil Parker

Old Leake, School Lane (TF 4057 5045) Boston
Borough

An archaeological evaluation, supervised by R. Holt of Archaeological Project Services, was undertaken on behalf of Broadgate Homes Ltd close to the historic core of Old Leake and near to previous discoveries of Saxo-Norman remains. Boundary ditches and ploughmarks of Saxo-Norman date were revealed but were spatially restricted. Nonetheless, they suggest the area had an agricultural function at that time, though a group of refuse pits of the same date suggest contemporary occupation was close by. Medieval ditches and gullies, again mainly agricultural in nature, were identified, together with a large refuse pit of 15th century date. Post medieval remains were also spatially restricted and comprised a linear group of large pits, possible quarries. These contained mis-fired brick and may be associated with brick making.

Gary Taylor

Orby, The Green (TF 4920 6729) East Lindsey
District

Although immediately adjacent to the medieval moated site at Orby, a watching brief by staff of Archaeological Project Services did not reveal any medieval remains.

Thomas Bradley-Lovekin

Partney, Maddison Lane (TF 4120 6841) East
Lindsey District

Although in an area of Saxon and medieval remains, a watching brief by A. Clements of Archaeological Project Services for BUJ and Palmer Architects did not reveal any archaeological evidence.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Washingborough, Main Road (TF 021 707) North
Kesteven District

Land on the postulated line of the Car Dyke Roman waterway was the subject of an evaluation, supervised by R. Holt of Archaeological Project Services. No evidence of the Car Dyke was found but a narrow metalled track, containing much medieval ceramic, was identified. Prehistoric remains were also revealed.

Ray Holt

Weston, Wykeham, Wollhall Farm (TF 2757 2590 –
TF 2842 2493) South Holland District

An evaluation, supervised by R. Holt of Archaeological Project Services for Langwith Builders Ltd, was undertaken along the route of an access road through an area of medieval and earlier remains. A group of post-medieval ditches, probably field boundaries, were revealed. A very thin scatter of medieval pottery suggests the land was in agricultural use from this time.

Ray Holt

Wigtoft, Main Road (TF 2616 3666) Boston Borough

Staff of Archaeological Project Services carried out a watching brief, for Mr and Mrs P. Allitt, during development in the centre of Wigtoft and near to previous discoveries of Late Saxon remains. Medieval pits, ditches and dumped deposits were revealed and a post-medieval ditch was also recorded.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Norfolk

Binham, Priory Crescent (TF 9827 3943) North
Norfolk District

On behalf of Oxbury and Co., M. Peachey of Archaeological Project Services supervised an evaluation at the southern edge of Binham village and close to previous discoveries of artefacts of prehistoric to medieval date. However, no archaeological remains were revealed and only a small quantity of post-medieval tile was recovered.

Mark Peachey

Denver, West Hall Farm (TF 6042 0247) King's Lynn
and West Norfolk Borough

Development near to previous discoveries of Roman, Middle Saxon and medieval remains was monitored by V. Mellor of Archaeological Project Services for I. J. M. Cable Architectural Design. A ditch was revealed and

although undated does not appear on maps of mid-19th century or later date, nor matches the alignments of adjacent field boundaries, and is thus thought to be post-medieval or probably earlier. A prehistoric flint and a fragment of 19th century pottery were recovered.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

Upwell, New Road (TF 505 027) King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough

A proposed development site close to the 13th century church of St Peter and 14th century Welle Hall, was the subject of a trial trench evaluation, supervised by M. Williams of Archaeological Project Services for N. Turner Building Design on behalf of Mr and Mrs Turco. A Late Saxon ditch was revealed, together with several other ditches and pits that were undated but similar in nature and stratigraphically comparable to the Late Saxon feature. One pit contained a single piece of Roman brick, probably redeposited but reflecting other evidence of Roman activity around Upwell. These Saxon and other remains were buried by 1m of flood silts. Recent ditches and refuse pits cut into these natural silts.

Mark Williams

Walpole St. Peter, West Drove North (TF 4990 1659) King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough

A watching brief by F. Walker of Archaeological Project Services for Mr P. Parnett examined development in the historic core of the village. Although no archaeological remains were revealed a large collection of post-medieval, predominantly 17th-18th century, artefacts was recovered, suggesting occupation of this date in the proximity.

Paul Cope-Faulkner

West Lynn, Clenchwarton Road (TF 6074 1960) King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough

Following an evaluation that identified medieval salt-making evidence at the site, an excavation was supervised by V. Mellor of Archaeological Project Services. Gullies, channels or ditches, pits and a pond, all dated to the 13th century and all likely to be associated with salt production at the site, were identified. The previously identified mound, which had earlier been thought to be the dumped waste from salt-making, was proved to be the overbank deposits of an extinct channel, probably the edge of a former course of the River Great Ouse. A fragment of lead waste from one of the gullies may have been part of a boiling pan. Briquetage was also retrieved and indicates that this ceramic saltmaking equipment was still in use in the area during the medieval period.

Victoria Mellor

Whissonsett, Church Close (TF 9193 2339) Breckland District

An evaluation by trial trenching was supervised by V.

Mellor of Archaeological Project Services for Broadland Housing Association. The investigation site lies immediately north of the 13th century parish church which contains part of a Late Saxon cross found in the churchyard. Additionally, artefacts of Roman to medieval date, as well as human remains, have previously been found on land adjoining the current investigation site. The investigation recovered a small amount of prehistoric flintwork and Roman artefacts, though the restricted quantities involved suggested the focus of occupation in both periods lay elsewhere. The site was apparently first occupied in the Middle Saxon period with boundary ditches and gullies created. An intact human burial, and further disarticulated human bone was recovered, this evidence complementing previous discoveries of human remains in the proximity and suggesting the area functioned as a cemetery in the Middle Saxon period. Occupation of the site continued through the Late Saxon period but then apparently terminated abruptly. The small quantity of medieval material recovered may imply the area was given over to agriculture at that time. Post-medieval artefacts are more numerous and probably reflect expansion of the village and habitation of the period coming closer to the investigation area.

Victoria Mellor

Worstead, Laburnum Cottage, Back Street (TG 3029 2598) North Norfolk District

An evaluation by trial trenching was supervised by A. Russell of Archaeological Project Services for Worstead Properties. The site is close to the historic core of the village and near to the postulated site of St. Andrew's church, abandoned in the 16th century. To the rear of the site the evaluation revealed numerous large pits, possibly originally sand quarries, which were backfilled with much 19th-early 20th century refuse. At the street frontage a small undated pit was revealed. This was sealed by a metalised surface that was in turn truncated by a pit containing late 18th century artefacts. No earlier remains were encountered. Laburnum Cottage itself was also examined. This survey indicated that the core of the building was probably late 18th century in origin, with major alteration and additions made to it in the later 19th and 20th centuries.

Steve Malone

Northamptonshire

Potterspury, 1 Woods Lane. SP 7603 4326.

An archaeological watching brief was maintained during the mechanical excavation of the foundation trenches and the reduction of the oversite of a small house extension. A stone-built and water-filled well was observed just beyond the NE corner of the new extension. No other pre-modern features were noted during the course of the watching brief of the site which had been much disturbed by clearance in the 1950s.

R. J. Ivens

Northumberland

Berwick-upon-Tweed, Castle Terrace (NT 9876 5407)

An evaluation by Headland Archaeology on the outskirts of Berwick revealed further features associated with the abandoned medieval village of Bondington. Some 17 trial trenches were excavated on behalf of Berwick-upon-Tweed Corporation (Freemen) Trustees, of which two revealed a series of rubble spreads, possible paved surfaces, and un-mortared stone wall foundations. Although no coherent structures were identified, the deposits were associated with medieval pottery and a piece of lead window came, and did not extend into a third trench to the W. It is suggested that the remains show the former village clustered around the site of the Church of St Lawrence at Cheviot House. Trenches excavated to the N. of Cheviot House revealed a sequence of demolition deposits rich in charcoal, bone and medieval pottery.

Berwick-upon-Tweed, Dewar's Lane, John Dewar's Granary (NT 9980 5273)

Five trial trenches were excavated by Headland Archaeology on land surrounding John Dewar's Granary. A series of medieval midden deposits were uncovered, dating from the 12th to 15th centuries. Beneath the midden deposit was a cobbled surface and a flagstone surface.

Corbridge, Main Street, Bishop's Garage (NY 9909 6438)

Five evaluation trenches were excavated within the medieval extent of Corbridge by North Pennines Archaeology. One trench revealed the remains of a sub-circular, stone-built structure. It had a radius of 0.8 m and a stone flagged floor and is believed to be a probable corn-drying kiln. Environmental sampling of a black silty loam deposit inside the structure revealed a considerable amount of coal and charred material, as well as grain. The kiln is thought to be part of a wider medieval complex, perhaps of combined industrial and domestic activity.

Corbridge, Main Street, Eastfield House (NY 9908 6435)

An evaluation trench, 10 m by 2 m, was excavated by North Pennines Archaeology within the medieval town of Corbridge and exposed the probable remains of one or more timber structures. The linear and circular features were cut into the natural substrate which occurred at a depth of 1.1 m. The features comprised two gullies and two large postholes associated with 13th and 14th century pottery, as well as a series of small undated pits. Environmental samples indicated the presence of charred grain, wood and charcoal.

Cornhill-on-Tweed, main Street (NT 8606 3936)

An evaluation by Headland Archaeology uncovered evidence of medieval buildings at the E. end of Cornhill-on-Tweed village. Cornhill is first recorded in the early

13th century when it was part of the Bishop of Durham's estate of Norham. Some seven trial trenches were excavated and three revealed medieval walls. The remains in two of the trenches stood several courses high. Although no floor surfaces survived or any stratified deposits, several pieces of medieval pottery were found in association with them. The walls are thought to represent at least two, or possibly three, medieval buildings of quite substantial nature.

Suffolk

Bury St. Edmunds, Eastgate Barns, Eastern Way (TL/8665; BSE 229).

An evaluation followed by an excavation were undertaken by S.C.C.A.S. ahead of a development on the site of Eastgate Barns. The site is believed to have once been the property of the cellarer of Bury Abbey. Also known as Holderness Barns and Grange Farm, this was where the cellarer would have held court and from where his business, on behalf of the Abbey, was conducted. It later became a manor house with an associated farm. Ruined structures were still standing as late as 2003, though nothing was still standing when the archaeological evaluation took place.

Remains of several structures were found, including a mortared-flint wall with a surviving internal clay floor, built over an earlier kiln. The kiln was only fired at fairly low temperatures, suggesting a possible use as a malting kiln or corn dryer. This kiln was in turn built over an earlier structure, the remains of which were in the form of a series of trenches, probably for ground beams. These three structures were all preserved under the post-medieval farmhouse.

Two further structures were found further to the south, one of which was a trench-and-posthole based structure. The second was a rectangular, 3.4 by 2.6m, flint-and-mortar structure with a laid red cement floor. The entire ground plan of the structure was visible. There were also visible repairs to its north-east corner, including the addition of a buttress. Further work in this area of the site showed a series of yard surfaces, boundary walls and a chalk and gravel road leading to Eastgate Street.

The post-excavation work is in its preliminary stages and the finds are yet to be fully analysed.

John Duffy

Carlton Colville, Carlton Hall (TM/5090; CAC 004).

The present Hall is an 18th-19th century structure believed to be on the site of the medieval hall and possible Saxon manorial centre. Archaeological features and finds belonging to the high medieval period (12th to 14th centuries) have been recorded by S.C.C.A.S. within footing trenches for an extension to the south-west of the Hall. Medieval ditches on a similar alignment to the present Hall could represent the expansion or shift of a ditched enclosure for an earlier phase of the settlement.

A single Early Saxon pottery sherd indicates activity of this period to the south of the Hall; a feature of similar date was located on St Peter's Road to the south-east.

Late Saxon settlement evidence has been discovered to the east of the Hall (CAC 030) and now medieval deposits have been located to its immediate west, indicating that the present structure is likely to be over the medieval hall and the Saxon manorial centre.

Jezz Meredith

Carlton Colville, St Peters Road (SMR-CAC 030, TM 51 89), near Lowestoft

Excavation work over an area of some 2,000 square metres immediately to the east of Carlton Hall and 70 metres north-east of the parish church revealed good evidence for two widely separated periods of activity. Initial pottery dating indicates a significant phase of middle Neolithic activity with small pits and possible post built structures while nearby cremation burials may be associated with this early phase or with a later prehistoric phase. Here radiocarbon dates may have to be relied on to securely place the burials in a chronological framework.

The second major period of activity on the site is represented by numerous fence and ditch boundary lines of late Saxon and medieval date. Thetford type ware pottery of late Saxon to early medieval date was recovered from various features which is interesting as the site is close to Carlton Hall, a known Domesday Book period manorial centre. In addition numerous archaeological investigations have now been undertaken in the area of Carlton Colville as this forms one of the major expansion zones for Lowestoft. Therefore

archaeological information from any site is of interest to help build up a full picture of the post Roman settlement pattern dominated by the excavation of a major 6th/7th century settlement at the base of Bloodmoor Hill by the Cambridge University Archaeological Unit (CAC 016, TM 52 89). An excavation that is supplemented by various other investigations across the parish, one of which has identified another hall type structure of early to middle Saxon date on the Carlton Colville bypass some 950m north-west of the Bloodmoor Hill settlement (CAC 026, TM 51 90). Here, it may be suggested, there is potential evidence for a pattern of nucleated and dispersed settlement existing contemporaneously in the Carlton Colville area in the early to middle Saxon period.

In addition excavations have located a pattern of later, medieval, green edge settlement developing in the parish. The latter investigations being round the former edges of both the Carlton and Whitton green areas indicative of the dispersed medieval settlement pattern that is characteristic of much of East Anglia.

Here any archaeological work close to the parish church is of crucial importance, as one would expect the middle to late Saxon settlement nucleus to be in this area. However an initial field walking survey immediately to the west of the church has only revealed a few Iron Age and medieval pottery sherds and no evidence of the hoped for later Saxon settlement while areas immediately to the east and south of the church are already built-up.

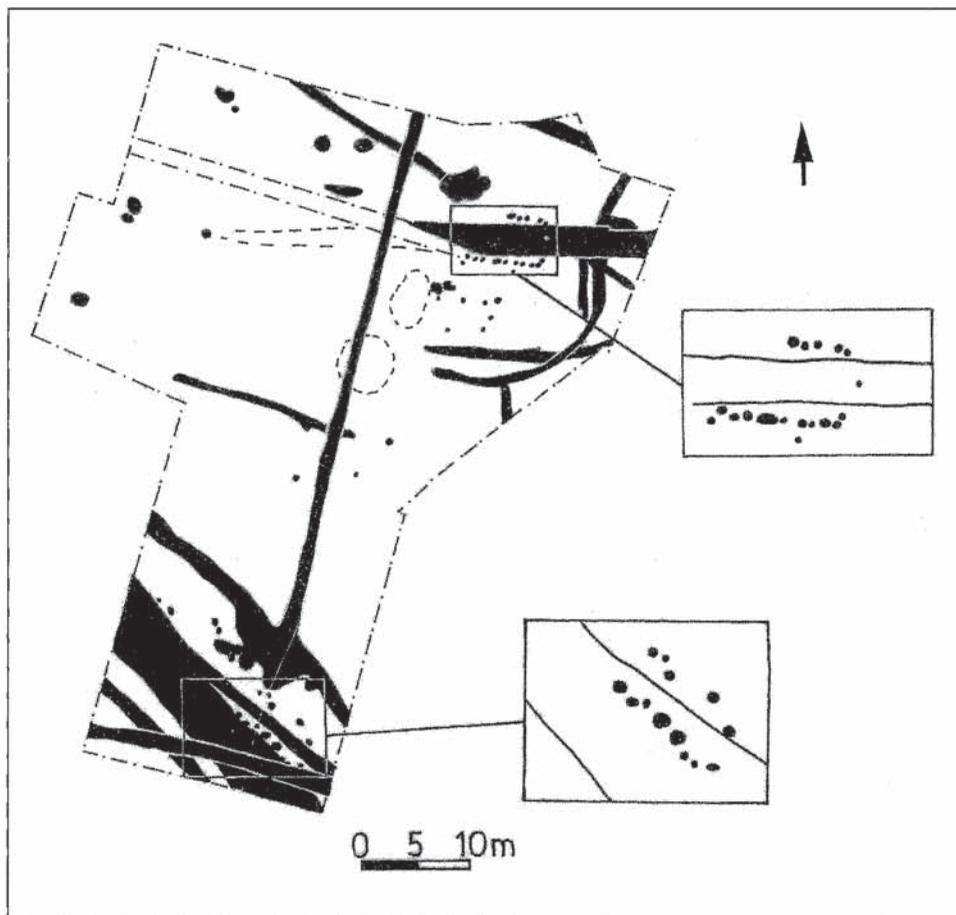


Figure 1: Murrills Road, Purdis Farm (PFM 008). Excavation plan, with enlarged views of the late Saxon/early Medieval buildings.

Chevington, Chevington Hall, (TL/7860; CHV 021).

Evidence of a medieval building, consisting of a sequence of floors and a probable post setting, was found by S.C.C.A.S. during an evaluation. The layered floors suggest that there were at least two phases to the building and pottery evidence indicates that these were occupied during the 13th-14th centuries. The substantial post setting was thought to be an aisle post and therefore supported a building with a very wide roof span – probably a large hall or barn.

David Gill

Coddenham (SMR- CDD 022, TM 12 54)

An evaluation by geophysical survey and trial trenching was commissioned by the BBC for their 'Hidden Treasures' series to follow up a wealth of 6th century and, more notably, 7th century Anglo-Saxon artefacts and coins found by a local metal detector user. Geophysical survey was only partially successful (considering the mixed nature of the chalk, sand and gravel natural drift geology) in identifying some 'targets,' notably two possible sunken featured buildings and an 18th century cottage site, the trial trenching confirmed the site as a settlement of high status. One major structure of 7th century date was located, planned and partially excavated. This structure was some 11 metres by 7 metres and was constructed using the post-in-trench method, which only begins to appear in the 7th century, with opposing entrances in the long sides.

A hall type structure of this size is another good indicator of Coddenham's site status which can already be seen to be of the highest level in the 7th century with numerous Merovingian and early English gold coins, primary silver sceattas (coins), and gold and copper alloy artefacts. The metal working evidence from the site already hinted at by gold scrap ready for re-use, unfinished copper alloy items and off-cuts was further supported by the excavation of an iron smiths hearth base.

The parish of Coddenham in general is of even greater interest when historical and map sources are studied, as its complex Domesday Book entry with numerous churches mentioned indicates a possible Anglo-Saxon minster status. This may have relevance to the wealthy middle Saxon site examined for the 'Hidden Treasures' series as the tithe map shows a complex pattern of strips across this field. This is unlike any other in the parish, with a number of the strips being noted as glebe land and therefore still having a link to an earlier ecclesiastical pattern of land holding. While it may be fanciful to suggest that such a complex pattern of glebe land over a wealthy middle Saxon site in a former minster parish is meaningful it does open avenues for both archaeological and historical research and reconstruction of a fascinating landscape.

Eriswell, Family Support Complex, RAF Lakenheath (TL/7380; ERL 139).

Excavation by S.C.C.A.S. in advance of the construction of a new complex uncovered features dating to the Middle Saxon period. These mainly comprised east-

west aligned ditches and relate to Middle Saxon occupation identified to the immediate north and east at site ERL 116.

Jo Caruth

Friston, Barber's Point (TM/4357; FRS 001).

A training excavation for volunteers was carried out on a Roman site on the edge of the River Alde that had been previously examined in 1907. A prior magnetic survey of the site by Aline and David Black (Colchester Archaeological Trust) clearly showed a ditched enclosure and other linear features. Excavation revealed a thick buried soil deposit containing Roman pottery dating from the 1st to the 3rd centuries AD. Abundant briquetage suggested that salt production was carried out on or near the site. A large enclosure ditch with a recut was identified, as was another large outer ditch. A smaller ditch cut this at right-angles and contained Middle Saxon pottery.

A series of chalk-filled post-holes, some of nearly 1m in diameter, were encountered within the enclosing ditch. No dating evidence has been recovered from these although at least two phases are recognised stratigraphically; a line of smaller posts were cut from a higher level than the large chalk-filled posts. It is possible that the smaller post-holes are part of a Saxon hall-type building.

A detailed contour survey of the site conducted by volunteers and directed by David Gill and John Duffy (S.C.C.A.S.) showed that the site was located on a slight rise. An examination of auger samples dug by volunteers and analysed by Mike Godwin, showed that a branch of the River Alde had flowed behind Barber's Point making it an island within the river. He also suggested that sea-level fluctuations would have inundated the island from the 3rd to the 7th century, perhaps accounting for the break between the early Roman and the Middle Saxon occupation of Barber's Point.

Jezz Meredith

Lakenheath, land to the rear of 132 High Street (TL/7182; LKH 136).

Four trenches were dug by S.C.C.A.S. for an evaluation, which showed a high level of preservation of the natural subsoil beneath a deep garden topsoil. Two trenches located a series of nine ditches, predominantly aligned north-south, containing pottery dating to the 12th-13th centuries. These ditches were roughly parallel to each other and were on a similar alignment to the High Street and the surrounding modern property boundaries, indicating that the current land division in the area is a continuation of the medieval layout. Layers sealing these ditches contained material of a later medieval/post-medieval date indicating that these ditches had fallen out of use during the medieval period and, with the deep build up of topsoil, indicates that the site has probably been used as domestic gardens since then. The trenches clearly showed that a large house, shown on J. Hodkinson's map of 1783, was not present in the development area.

John Craven

Mildenhall, 30 Acre Field, RAF Mildenhall
(TL/6777; MNL 532).

A second season of excavations were carried out by S.C.C.A.S. prior to the construction of a new sports field. An area of woodland (3,500 sq m) immediately to the south of the previous excavation was de-stumped and the topsoil removed under archaeological supervision. The earliest evidence consisted of an Early Bronze Age crouched inhumation. Ditch systems dating from the late Iron Age/early Roman periods, identified during the first season were shown to continue. Three probable Roman burials and a possible cremation were excavated close to the site of where burials were found in 2003. Towards the eastern edge of the site several pits and a sunken-featured building were found, which is the first evidence for Early Saxon occupation on the site. The building pit measured 2.5m x 3m with internal posts at either end. Further excavations are due to take place in 2005.

Andrew Tester

Purdis Farm, 'Larks Meadow' development, Murrills Road (TM/2042; PFM 008).

An evaluation by S.C.C.A.S. before a new phase of house building produced evidence for a probable road surface, thought to be 11th-12th century in date due to the presence of Thetford-type ware, and a group of postholes, ditches and a pit containing further Thetford-type ware and some residual Middle Saxon Ipswich ware.

A subsequent excavation revealed further evidence of the road surface to the south of the site, with a probably contemporary building (measuring approximately 8m x 4.4m) adjacent to it (Fig. 1). Around the building were three pits with abundant iron slag and evidence of burning, as well as a saddle quern, suggesting that this might have been a smithy adjacent to the road.

To the north of the site, another building of probable Late Saxon/early medieval date (measuring approximately 7.8m x 4m) was seen, possibly related to another road surface. This road appears to run through the building, probably cutting it. A further group of postholes to the south of this did not form part of any obvious structure. A very concentrated series of pits, possibly a latrine related to the building were revealed as well as a complex of probable enclosure ditches. These all appeared to be Late Saxon in date as Thetford-type ware was again present.

Clare McLannahan

Weybread, Greenacres, The Street (TM/2479; WYB 055).

During the construction of a rear extension a large quantity of pottery was reported by the owners. A single large pit was recorded by S.C.C.A.S. and over 300 sherds (representing more than 50 vessels) of Late Medieval and Transitional Ware were recovered from its partially excavated fill. Jug forms predominated and it is likely that the majority were wasters from a single firing, suggesting a kiln site close by.

Rhodri Gardner

Warwickshire

Ettington, West of Hockley Lane (SP 272 489)

As part of a continuing programme of investigation on behalf of Taylor Woodrow Development Ltd, two further areas were excavated between October and December 2004 on the Banbury Road frontage of the site within the medieval village.

A pebble surface on the southern limit of the excavated area may be part of a medieval yard surface and a series of gullies and postholes across this part of the site, many containing 12th- to 14th-century pottery, probably formed fence or palisade structures along property boundaries. A stone-lined drain constructed of limestone blocks contained several sherds of 12th/13th-century pottery; this would have drained waste water from a yard or away from a nearby building. Several pits containing some domestic debris including medieval pottery may have functioned as rubbish pits. All these features probably lay within a yard or garden behind a medieval building or farmhouse closer to the modern street frontage.

Peter Thompson, Warwickshire Museum

Long Lawford, west of Caldecott Arms, Chapel Street (SP 4716 7595)

Following an evaluation in 2003 further excavation was undertaken on a site in the centre of the medieval settlement in January 2004 on behalf of IG Land and Planning Ltd. The excavation revealed further evidence for Romano-British and medieval activity. Further ditches containing Romano-British pottery may have been field boundaries or possibly belonged to settlement enclosures. A sequence of medieval ditches was also revealed and these probably marked property boundaries within the medieval settlement.

Peter Thompson, Warwickshire Museum

Wibtoft, Gable End, Green Lane (SP 4789 8756)

Observation during the construction of a new house within the medieval village in April-June 2004 on behalf of DRE Property Services recorded a number of 12th/13th- to 14th-century features. Back from the frontage there were two small sections of probable wall foundation, probably belonging to outbuildings, and several pits or gullies. To the south-east, nearer the frontage, was an undated cobbled surface.

Christopher Jones and Bryn Gethin, Warwickshire Museum

Withybrook, Hilltop Cottage (SP 433 844)

An evaluation involving two trial trenches on a site in the northern part of the medieval village, in July 2004 on behalf of Mr P Hardy, revealed a yard surface, a terraced area and a possible structural slot, all containing 13th- to 15th-century pottery. Occupation seems to have ceased in the late medieval/early post-medieval period until the area was built on in the 19th century.

Christopher Jones and Catherine Coutts, Warwickshire Museum

West Midlands

Solihull, Tanhouse Farm Road (SP 1527 8300)

An evaluation involving two trial trenches on a possible medieval moated site in December 2004 on behalf of Grainger Homes Ltd revealed the ditch of the northern arm of the moat, but not the eastern. No evidence for medieval occupation was recorded and it is possible that the building complex shown on 19th century maps was a post-medieval tannery rather than a moated site.

Catherine Coutts, Warwickshire Museum

Europe

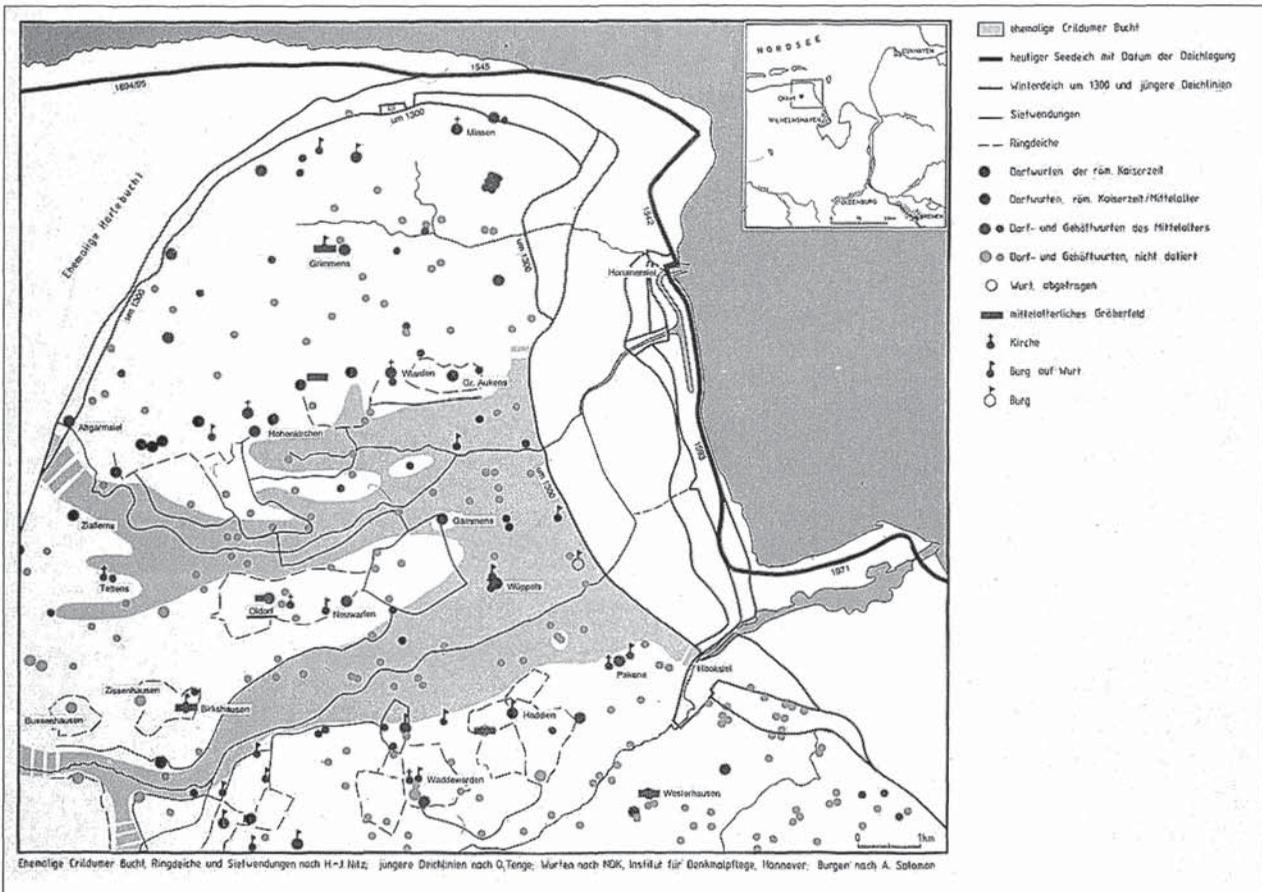
Germany

Friesland

From 1990 to 1997 the “Lower Saxony Institute for Historical Coastal Research”, Wilhelmshaven, Germany conducted archaeological excavations to

examine the settlement history of medieval time in the historical Landscape of Wangerland, district area of Friesland, Lower Saxony. These were accompanied by historic-geographical work to reconstruct the system of early dike-lines, i.e. fieldwork for mapping remainders of ancient dike-lines, interpretation of aerial photos, cutting small sections across remainders of ancient dike-lines and analysing topographical maps produced from digitized surface data. The last ones are sheets of a scale of 1:5000 with a grid-width of 12,50 m (distance between two levelling spots) called “Digital Model of Topography”. It is now in the state of being processed with “Geosoft” by the technical staff of our institute. The results so far are encouraging, so we soon can work with a map reflecting a very delicate picture of the topography, and I hope now to be able to reconstruct some more ancient dike-lines. There are several options for printing out the map varying in contrast and shade.

Johannes Ely



Book Reviews

P.A. Stamper and R.A. Croft, *The South Manor Area (Wharram. A Study of Settlement on the Yorkshire Wolds, VIII*; York University Archaeological Publications, 10, 2000) ISBN 946722 18 8, xiv + 223pp., 11 plates, 100 figs., 39 tables; **P.A. Rahtz and L. Watts, *The North Manor Area and North-West Enclosure (Wharram, A Study of Settlement on the Yorkshire Wolds, IX***, York University Archaeological Publications, 11, 2004) ISBN 0 946722 19 6, xviii + 426pp., 42 plates, 173 figs., 93 tables.

A stranger to the Wharram project might be encouraged by the titles of these two volumes to believe that they were concerned with the two known manor houses at Wharram Percy. One report has some new information about the south manor which was built in the late twelfth century and abandoned c.1250, and the other tells us a little about the large complex of buildings of the north manor, occupied in the late thirteenth century, and which fell out of use by about 1400. But the south manor was excavated in the 1950s and published in 1979, and the north manor buildings have never been the subject of large scale excavation. These reports are mainly concerned with work in the apparent backyard to the west of the south manor, and a patch of land outside the buildings of the North Manor, including the holloway that ran past the manor house to join them main village street. Together they explore the problem of Wharram's origins, before either of the manor houses were built, in the Iron Age, and the Roman and the Middle Saxon periods.

The North Manor volume gives a detailed account of a number of trenches and a series of 10 metre by 10 metre squares, some excavated in the 1980s by staff and students from York University, and others in earlier campaigns to investigate boundary features around the settlement. The authors are concerned with establishing complex stratigraphic relationships, and there is a strong methodological theme running through the volume, with comments about record sheets, problems of residual finds, sampling systems, and other general issues in archaeological technique and interpretation. The reader is helped through the mass of data by a very clear discussion towards the end of the volume of the development of the site, which is connected to the regional context and Wharram as a whole, through successive periods. In the Iron Age and the early Roman period, which here run into one another, a series of rectangular ditched enclosures faced on to a road flanked by ditches. The ditches are known from geophysical survey, but the excavation sectioned some of them, and located an entrance from the road into an enclosure. In the late Roman period the area was reorganised, and a corn drying or malting kiln built (in two phases) which might have been attached to a nearby though still undiscovered villa. After 400 AD there is little evidence of occupation. Two grubenhauser appear to belong to the seventh century or later. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries some timber buildings, hearths and other features preceded the building of the manor house, which went out of use according to the

documents in the fourteenth century, but some occupation in the fifteenth is suggested by the pottery. During the middle ages the holloway that had been formed in the Roman period continued to be a major feature of the village plan, and the thirteenth-century manor house was aligned on it.

The excavations were meticulously conducted, the report is admirably thorough, and the interpretation both honest and ambitious, but we are still left with many unsolved problems. How was it the case that the enclosures and road of the first century AD continued to influence the layout of the medieval settlement until its final abandonment around 1500? There seems to be a gap in the evidence for two centuries after the end of the Roman occupation, during which time the ditches filled and were used as convenient sites for grubenhauser. How can the discontinuity in the excavated evidence be reconciled with the continuity or at least coincidence of boundaries found in the topography? The other major problem concerns the antecedents of the thirteenth-century north manor. Had there really been a Roman villa, nearby, which may have served as a remote predecessor and ultimate origin of the site as a centre of authority? The evidence is indirect – some flutiles, tesserae and similar hints of a high status structure – and the significance of these is denied in a comment by Cool. Perhaps the manor house was established in the early middle ages? The structures of the twelfth century could belong to peasant houses, and the thirteenth-century manorial site could have been entirely new.

The South Manor report is less complex and is presented without so much methodological agonising. The excavated area produced some Roman material, and there were features linked with the twelfth-century manor house, such as a storage pit apparently designed to keep perishable food cool. Foundations of some outbuildings, including a possible cart shed, were located, associated with the late medieval peasant houses that replaced the manor house. The Middle Saxon period saw the most intense occupation here, with boundary ditches, a small building, a smithy, and a large number of finds of pottery, metal work (including part of a sword hilt), lava querns, composite bone combs and an eighth century coin*. Julian Richards offers an overview at the end of the volume. He argues that this was a high status site, comparable in its density of finds with nearby 'productive' sites. Was it part of a monastic complex? Or does it show that secular elites were occupying this part of the plateau four centuries before the twelfth-century manor house? There is little material, however, from the site dated to the period 900-1150, though Richards still hankers after the idea that Wharram was planned after a Scandinavian land taking around 900. The 'lynchet' feature, which defines the back of the tofts along the row of houses in this part of the planned village, was sectioned as part of this excavation and dated to the twelfth century, when the manor house was built in one of the newly defined plots alongside the peasant houses. The planning of Wharram may belong to that century, even if a nucleated

settlement formed much earlier. Perhaps both manor houses on the plateau were new foundations of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, and the earliest centre of lordly authority was located down in the valley, near to the church.

This review has focussed on the central themes which these reports illuminate. There are many other good things in them, such as the presentation of pottery, small finds and environmental evidence. The art of cooking with bakestones is discussed, and the simple entertainment provided by 'buzzers' (made of bone) is explained. There are also essays on related themes which will ultimately form part of the grand synthesis of Wharram, notably a discussion of the Domesday evidence by Roffe, and a comment on the place name and its regional parallels by Gelling.

Numbers X and XI of the Wharram series are in the pipeline, so we can now look forward to XII, the overall synthesis. These reports show that framing these final conclusions will be no easy task, as there are so many rival interpretations and divergent opinions. Those who devise the synthesis will however be helped by the high quality of these detailed site reports and specialist work on the finds. We are reminded by tributes at the beginning of the north manor volume that John Hurst will not be a contributor to volume XII, though those who write that important conclusion to the Wharram project will be aware of his presence.

**found by the author of this review, a significant point omitted by the authors of the report.*

Christopher Dyer

Williamson, Tom *Shaping Medieval Landscapes. Settlement, Society, Environment*, Windgather Press, 2003. 214pp. 59 illustrations. This paperback edition 2004, ISBN 0-9545575-8-1. £16.99

Considering how close this subject is to the interest of members of M.S.R.G. I suspect that most will have already read this book and will read this review only to see what someone else thinks of it! (*nb* I am not responsible for the delay in reviewing it). However, if there is anybody out there who has yet to read and/or purchase it then you are strongly recommended to do so.

The book is basically about the processes which shaped medieval landscapes, fields and field systems. Williamson's thesis is, in a nutshell, that 'variations in settlement patterns and field systems were primarily the consequence of environmental factors' (p.21). In this view he is to some extent turning the clock back (but not as far as some) to the geographical determinism of old.

His book opens with a discussion of the characteristics of so-called 'ancient' and 'planned' landscapes already evident in the sixteenth century, when, quoting from Homans, William Harrison observed that. "*It is so, that our soile being divided into champaine ground and woodland, the houses of the first lie uniformelie builded in everie town together, with streets and lanes; whereas in the woodland countries... they stand scattered abroad, each one dwelling in the midst of his own occupieng*". Williamson's first chapter is a most useful survey of the history of the debate over this contrast and about the origins of settlement forms and open-field agriculture especially since H.L.Gray's seminal work of 1915. He thereby joins a distinguished list of scholars who have stressed the role of different variables, be they ethnic, demographic, social, legal or technological. His book is a testimony to both the continuing fascination of the questions and to the many unresolved answers.

In order to progress the debate Williamson focuses on the area he knows best, East Anglia, generously extended into the east Midlands which, fortunately allows him to draw on the very detailed work of recent years in Northamptonshire. He stresses throughout the complexity of landscapes and, in many areas, notably West Cambridgeshire, South Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire, the intermingling of nucleated and dispersed settlement. Seeking to explain these differences he, like Kerridge before him, returns to the fundamentals of agricultural practice and to farming responses to particular soils. The once-popular adage "the answer lies in the soil" is only a slight exaggeration of his position. He argues, especially in his final chapter, that 'broad landscape types can be explained in environmental terms: as responses to particular challenges posed or restrictions imposed by soils and topography' (p.180). In his view, critical factors were the extent of meadow, hay making, the nature of soils and the length of time over which they could be effectively worked, the lie of the land and the nature of waste. Again in his own words... 'different forms of settlement and field system... were the outcome of rational adjustments to complex environmental circumstances made by farmers and managers living in a real world, structured by the rhythm of the seasons and the demands of the soil'. Maybe, but this still does not explain why, for example, many of the heavy soils of the Midland counties have nucleated villages while those of Suffolk have dispersed settlements. However, this well-researched, copiously referenced book does make us think again about the role of environmental factors in the complex evolution of our landscapes.

Robin Glasscock

Select Bibliography of Works on Medieval Rural Settlement 2004

Compiled by Mark Page

This list includes books and articles on British rural settlement and landscape between the fifth century and the fifteenth, published in 2004, together with anything which seems to have been omitted from previous bibliographies. Any omissions may be sent to Dr M. Page, Centre for English Local History, University of Leicester, Marc Fitch House, 5 Salisbury Road, Leicester LE1 7QR, or to mrp15@le.ac.uk, for inclusion in next year's list.

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Membership Changes 2004

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P STOLES (Shepton Mallet)
C WHEELER (Wantage)

LAPSED (and therefore reluctantly struck off)

D C LAW
T PEARCE

INFORMATION WANTED (addresses not known)

M WATKIN (was in Gloucester)
M REDDY (was in Walmer)
N FAULKNER (was in London)
DJ GRIFFITHS (was in Grimsby)

A PENMAN (was in Castle Douglas)
I PICKERING (was in Glasgow)
D J SMITH (was in Norwich)

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
MIEVEAL SETTLEMENT RESEARCH GROUP**
Registered Charity No 801634

Objectives

The objective of the Group is the advancement of public education through the promotion of interdisciplinary involvement in the collection, analysis and dissemination of data relating to the history, geography and archaeology of medieval rural settlement.

Trustees Address

Mr P L Everson (President) c/o Dr R E Glasscock

C N Christie (Secretary) Department of Archaeology, University of Leicester LE1 7RH

Dr R E Glasscock (Treasurer) St John's College, Cambridge CB2 1TP

Ms C Lewis (Editor) Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge CB2 3DZ

Review of activity during the year

The Group's activities (policymaking, conferences and publication) have continued as before. The range of interests and issues is reflected in the content of the accompanying Report 19 covering the year 2004-2005.

Result of the year

The excess of receipts over payments amounted to £1964 (2004; deficit of £1247).

Reserves policy

The trustees' policy is to maintain reserves at a level to enable the long term and other research projects to be sustained in the foreseeable future.

Grant making policy

The charity makes grants towards research project sand other bodies involved in similar areas of education and research in respect of medieval settlement.

Investments policy

The charity's funds are invested in National Savings deposits that are regarded as a safe liquid investment with an adequate return, and suitable for a small charity.

Risk policy

The trustees have reviewed the major risks facing the charity and presently conclude that no specific action is required.

RE Glasscock, Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO
THE TRUSTEES OF MIEVEAL SETTLEMENT RESEARCH GROUP**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 January 2005 which are set out on the following page.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the account. The charity's trustees consider than an audit is not required for this year under Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 43(3)(a) of the Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act;
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

S Gerrish BA FCA
Chartered Accountant
5 Potton Drive
Wickford
Essex SS12 9GD

9 June 2004

MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT RESEARCH GROUP

Registered Charity No 801634

GENERAL FUNDS - RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
Financial Year ended 31 January 2005

	2004-5	2003-4		2004-5	2003-4
	£	£		£	£
RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
<u>Donations, legacies and other similar sources</u>			<u>Charitable Payments</u>		
Donations	67	—	Grants paid		
Income tax recovered through gift aid	1,108	555	Grants	994	400
			Ruralia V	—	1,000
			Charitable Activity		
<u>Operating activities to further the charity's objects</u>			Annual report printing and postage	3,557	3,569
Subscriptions	4,522	4,395	Conference expenses	69	295
Publication Sales	146	314	Whittlewood project	1,000	1,500
Conference Receipts	1,138	310			
AGM & Seminar receipts	70	—	Management and administration		
			Secretarial and Committee expenses	305	201
<u>Investment Income Receipts</u>			AGM expenses	275	177
Current account interest	1	2	CBA Affiliation fees	81	79
Deposit account interest	2,438	1,285	Postage and stationery	1,196	887
			New leaflet	49	—
	<u>9,490</u>	<u>6,861</u>		<u>7,526</u>	<u>8,108</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Balance of receipts over payments	1,964	(1,247)	Bank current account	1,382	298
Balance brought forward	36,954	38,201	National Savings deposit account	41,093	36,656
			Creditors	(3,557)	—
Balance carried forward	<u>38,918</u>	<u>36,954</u>	Net Assets	<u>38,918</u>	<u>36,954</u>

Note 1 Accounting policies

Historical Cost convention

The Receipts and Payments account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Stocks of Publications

Stocks of publications are not valued or included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Note 2 Funds

All funds of the charity are unrestricted.

