





# Field-walking near Bures St Mary, Suffolk, March 2011

Carenza Lewis and Catherine Ranson













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# 1 Summary

Over a period of two days in March 2011 a programme of community field-walking was undertaken on a field known as Tile Field, south of Bures St Mary in Suffolk. The field-walking was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the Managing a Masterpiece programme in the Stour Valley and enabled 67 local residents and volunteers living in the surrounding area to take part in the field-walking which was supervised by Access Cambridge Archaeology at the University of Cambridge and directed by Dr Carenza Lewis.

With just one field walked, results are difficult to interpret, but they suggest that site was lightly used throughout most of the prehistoric period from the Mesolithic onwards, with a short episode of localised more intensive use in the late Bronze age or early Iron Age. From the Roman period the site appears to have been in use as arable, perhaps manured from a settlement nearby. Small amounts of pottery hint at some human presence in the Anglo-Saxon period, and possibly of a small farmstead or cottage just to the north of the site in the high medieval period up to about 1400 AD. Thereafter the site seems to been used as fields, with very little post-medieval or modern material recovered, apart from very large amounts of roof tile primarily found in one corner of the site, possibly brought there from elsewhere.

The field-walking successfully engaged a large number of volunteers from the local area, who reported favourably on their experience.





#### 2 Introduction

Two single days of archaeological field-walking were undertaken on the 13<sup>th</sup> March and the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011 on a field known locally as 'Tile Field', just east of the village of Bures St Mary in Suffolk. The field-walking was funded by Managing a Masterpiece in conjunction and directed with Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA) as a community project. The field-walking was undertaken by 67 local residents and volunteers over the two days, including members of Bures History Society, Sudbury History Society, Colchester Archaeological Group and Colchester Young Archaeologists Club along with 10 students from Clare Middle School.

# 2.1 The Managing a Masterpiece Project

Managing a Masterpiece (http://www.managingamasterpiece.org/) is a £1.1 million Landscape Partnership Scheme for the Stour Valley with £910,000 of that awarded by the National Heritage Memorial Fund for 62 projects within three programmes over three years. Delivery of the scheme began on 1 June 2010. The Managing a Masterpiece vision is for a Stour Valley where the landscape is understood cared for and celebrated by communities with the knowledge, skills and opportunities needed to manage and enjoy it. The scheme consists of three programmes, under which there are fifteen projects and around sixty outputs across a range of work including archaeology, access, public training events, outreach projects to traditionally hard to reach groups, school projects, built conservation projects, public survey of heritage features, production of a heritage compendium, use of church towers as interpretation points, website development, provision of a Hopper Bus, new walking and cycling leaflets, new art exhibitions and projects, restoration of a Stour lighter (barge), new hedge and tree planting and management, new displays for museums and practical conservation management. Programme 1, 'Understanding the Masterpiece' seeks to increase awareness and understanding of the Stour Valley by residents and those with an interest in its landscape and heritage assets, by learning more about them and how they are managed, and actively working to manage and restore the key features. A component of the Understanding the Masterpiece programme is 'Project 1f: Stripping Back the Layers' which comprises archaeological projects carried out by community volunteers trained, supervised and led by professional archaeologists and summarised in a chapter of the Stour Valley Heritage Compendium. The archaeological field-walking on Tile Field comprised one of the smaller projects associated with 'Stripping Back the Layers'.

# 2.2 Access Cambridge Archaeology

Access Cambridge Archaeology (ACA) (<a href="http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/">http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/</a>) is an archaeological outreach organisation based in the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research in the University of Cambridge which aims to enhance economic, social and personal well-being through active engagement with archaeology. It was set up by Dr Carenza Lewis in 2004 and specialises in providing opportunities for members of the public to take part in purposeful, research-orientated archaeological investigations including excavation. Educational events and courses range in length from a few hours to a week or more, and involve members of the public of all ages.

Thousands of members of the public have taken part in scores of programmes run by ACA, including teenagers involved in Higher Education Field Academy (HEFA) test pit excavation programmes intended since 2005 to build academic skills, confidence and aspirations. More widely, ACA has involved thousands of members of the public of all ages and





backgrounds, including those with special needs, in a wide range of archaeological activities including field-walking, excavation, analysis and reporting. These have included projects funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and events in 2011-12 as part of the Cultural Olympiad for the 2012 London Olympic Games.





# 3 Aims, objectives and desired outcomes

#### 3.1 Aims

The aims of the field-walking at Tile Field were as follows:

- To engage with local communities and 'hard to reach groups', widening the participation of people in the heritage of the valley.
- To allow local community participants to develop a wide range of practical and analytical archaeological skills.
- To increase knowledge and understanding of the historical development of the land now encompassed within Tile Field.
- To increase understanding of the area to support employment, sustainable tourism and encourage inward investment.

# 3.2 Objectives

The objectives of the field-walking at Tile Field were as follows:

- To investigate the archaeology of the Tile Field through archaeological field-walking.
- To provide the opportunity for a minimum of 30 volunteers to learn new practical and analytical archaeological skills.
- To provide 60 person-days of hands-on archaeological training and experience.
- To support and engage with members of local communities and 'hard to reach' groups through involvement with the project.

#### 3.3 Desired outcomes

The desired outcomes of the field-walking at Tile Field were as follows:

- A minimum of 30 people with new archaeological skills.
- A minimum of 30 people with an enhanced understanding and awareness of the archaeological resource and potential of the landscape around Tile Field.
- A local population more engaged and informed about the historic landscape around Tile Field.





# 4 Methodology

The field-walking was carried out using line-walking with stints at 10m intervals. Field-walkers worked across the field systematically, in order along the base line, starting with 0/0-10, then 10/0-10, 20/0-10 and so on until the next transect was started at 0/10-20. Each walker scanned 1m either side of their line for 15 minutes, achieving a coverage of 20% of the walked area.

# 4.1 Pre-field-walking

- Novice volunteers were briefed on the aims and methods of the field-walking and shown examples of material likely to be found, including worked flint, fire-cracked flint and pottery sherds ranging in date from Neolithic to 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Field-walkers were instructed to pick up all items thought to be human artefacts, of any date and material.
- A base line was set up along the longest and straightest edge of the field; at Tile Field this extended approximately east-west, along the southern boundary of the field, from which the grid was set out starting from the south eastern corner.
- This base line transect was marked every 10m with canes.
- Stints to be walked were orientated approximately north-south with each stint being 10m long and marked with canes to enable walkers to keep to their stint.
- Canes at every 100m mark were highlighted with red and white bunting to aid in locating the correct stints to be walked.

# 4.2 Field-walking methods

- The volunteers were divided into groups of 1-3 people allowing those who wished to work together to do so. Most walkers worked singly or in pairs
- Each 10m stint was walked for 15 minutes with an area 1m either side of the line scanned visually.
- Finds were collected by field-walkers and checked in with the site supervisor after each stint was completed.

# 4.3 On-site archaeological supervision

 Three archaeologists from ACA were on hand for the duration of the field-walking, with one supervisor specifically assigned to directing the volunteers from a central base as well as recording which stints have been walked. Volunteers assisted with marking out stints for walkers to follow. A pottery specialist was on site to spot date ceramic finds.

# 4.4 On-site recording

- A scale plan map of the field and grid was drawn at 1:1000 with the transects and stints marked when completed to avoid repetition.
- Finds bags were labelled prior to being supplied to volunteers with transect and stint numbers, for example: 0/0-10, with also the site code (which includes the settlement name code and year of excavation).
- The site code for the field-walking in Bures was BUR/11.

# 4.5 Finds processing

All collected finds were retained for initial identification and processing.





 Non-metallic inorganic finds and bone (unless in very poor condition) were washed, thoroughly dried and bagged separately for each spit walked. This was done during post-excavation when also the animal bone, pottery, burnt clay, flint and burnt stone are bagged separately, ready to be given to specialists.

# 4.6 Finds recording and retention

Few excavations or field-walking surveys retain all the finds that are made if they are deemed to be of little or no research value. Surface collection during field-walking may produce significant quantities of modern material, not all of which will have research value.

#### 4.6.1 Finds appropriate for recording, analysis, reporting, retention and curation

- All pottery
- All faunal remains, worked and burnt stone
- Any other finds II other finds from contexts pre-dating 1800 have been retained.
- All finds pre-dating 1900 have been retained

#### 4.6.2 Finds appropriate for disposal after recording and reporting

- The following finds which are not considered to warrant any further analysis were sorted, counted, weighed, photographed and then discarded: Slate, coal, plastic, Perspex, modern glass, modern metal objects (including nails), concrete, modern mortar, modern fabric, shoes and other modern items (including batteries and shotgun cartridges), naturally occurring animal shells, unworked flint and other unworked stone (including fossils).
- C20th window and vessel glass was sorted, counted, weighed and then discarded.
- Modern tile (floor, roof and wall) was discarded after counting and weighing, with a sample of each type of pre-modern tile retained with the remainder discarded after counting and weighing. Any decorated examples were retained unless recovered in very large quantities in which case representative samples were retained with the remainder discarded after counting, weighing and photographing.
- Brick was sorted, counted, weighed and then discarded. One sample of any examples of CBM that appeared to be pre-modern was retained
- Most metal finds of modern date were discarded. Metal finds of likely pre-modern date were retained if considered useful for future study. Modern nails were discarded but handmade nails were retained.

#### 4.6.3 Legal ownership of finds

- Ownership of objects rests in the first instance with the landowner, except where other law overrides this (e.g. Treasure Act 1996, 2006, Burials Act 1857).
- Owners of private unscheduled land where field-walking is undertaken who enquire
  about the final destination of finds from their property will be informed that ACA
  prefers to retain these in the short term for analysis and ideally also in the longer term
  in order that the excavation archives will be as complete as possible.
- NB: Most land-owners are not concerned about retaining ownership of the finds and are happy to donate them to ACA.
- Any requests by owners for the final return of finds to them will be agreed. Finds will
  be returned after recording, analysis and reporting is complete, accompanied by a
  letter inviting them to treat the finds with care, retain them in association with
  identifying documentation and to consider donating them to ACA/University of
  Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology should they ever change their
  minds about wishing to have possession of them.





• If the landowners are unwilling, for whatever reason, to donate any or all of the finds from the excavation on their land to ACA, the requested finds are returned to them after recording and analysis is completed, safely packaged and conserved (if required), accompanied by a letter explaining how they should be cared for and asking for them to be returned to the University of Cambridge if for any reason the owners no longer wish to retain them, and that if they are moved from the address to which they were returned the ACA should be informed. The location of such finds will be stated in the site archive.

#### 4.6.4 Curation of retained archaeological finds

- All finds which are not discarded or returned to owners are retained and stored in conditions where they will not deteriorate. Most finds are stored in cool dry condition in sealed plastic finds bags, with small pierced holes to ventilate them. Pottery, bone and flint have been bagged separately from other finds.
- Finds which are more fragile, including ancient glass or metal objects, are stored in small boxes protected by padding and if necessary, acid free paper. Metal objects are curated with silica gel packets if necessary to prevent deterioration.
- All finds bags/boxes from the field-walking days have been bagged/boxed together.
   All bags and boxes used for storage will be clearly marked in permanent marker with the site code and the transect and stint walked





# 5 Location, geology and topography

#### 5.1 Location

The village of Bures lies either side of the River Stour, which here forms the county boundary between Essex and Suffolk. The village is thus divided into two halves, with Bures Hamlet in Essex and Bures St Mary in Suffolk. The village sits on the B1508 road at the crossing point of the River Stour, connecting the village with Sudbury, c.10km to the north and Colchester, C.14km to the south-east.

'Tile Field' lies east of the village of Bures St Mary and just east of Hold Farm, between 35m and 50m OD on the south-facing slopes of a spur of land leading down to the valley of the River Stour. The south eastern corner of Tile Field is at NGR TL 92760 34022.

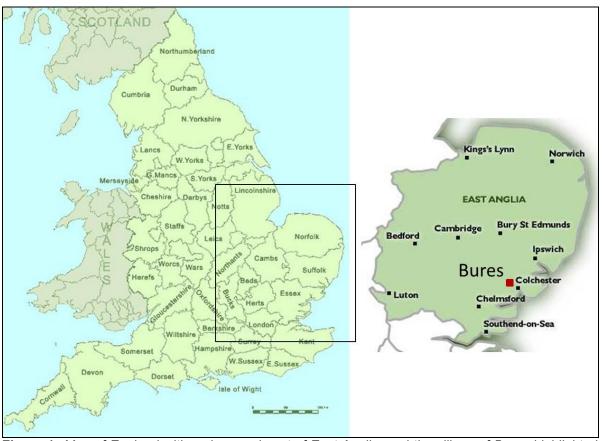


Figure 1: Map of England with a close up insert of East Anglia, and the village of Bures highlighted in red.

Bures St Mary is centred on Church Square leading to the crossing of the River Stour on Bridge Street into a Y formation of roads, the northern branch leading out to Sudbury on the B1058 and the southern branch following the course of the river until the next crossing at the A134 by Nayland. The historic core of the village is centred on the church and High Street where the buildings often front the road, leaving no room for a pavement, often giving it a closed-in feeling, whereas around the church and leading onto Nayland Road, the road is wider giving more of a sense of space.

The village is set in one corner of the parish and is where the majority of the population reside. The rest of the parish extends to the north and east consisting of a dispersed scatter





of rural farmsteads and arable land. The population of Bures St Mary was calculated at 728 in the 2001 census<sup>1</sup>.

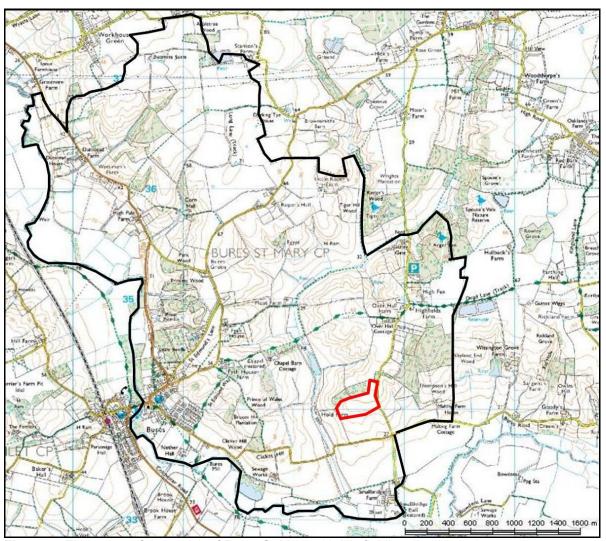


Figure 2: The extent of the parish of Bures St Mary with 'tile field' outlined in red

The local amenities are spread throughout both sides of the river in Bures and the village boasts a newsagent, post office, a delicatessen, a hair dresser, a doctor's surgery, two churches, three pubs, two garages, a primary school, a guest house and a bus and a railway station. There are also weekly mobile amenities in the village, consisting of a library, a fruit and vegetable stall, a fish and chip van and a fishmonger. There is also a recreation ground with sports pitches and a clubhouse<sup>2</sup>. Bures today is mainly a commuter village, although agriculture does still dominate as well as employment in local service industries. The railway line runs north-south through Bures Hamlet, in Essex, as part of the Great Eastern Line between Marks Tey and Sudbury, which opened in July 1849<sup>3</sup>.

'Tile Field' is situated to the east of Bures St Mary, in the south eastern corner of the parish.

<sup>1</sup> http://www.bures-online.co.uk/info/info.htm (Accessed December 2012)

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http://crc.rocktimeweb.net/Uploads/Bures-Village-Parish-Plan-2004\_FileFile\_FILE1331.pdf
December 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.bures-online.co.uk/rail/rail.htm (Accessed December 2012)



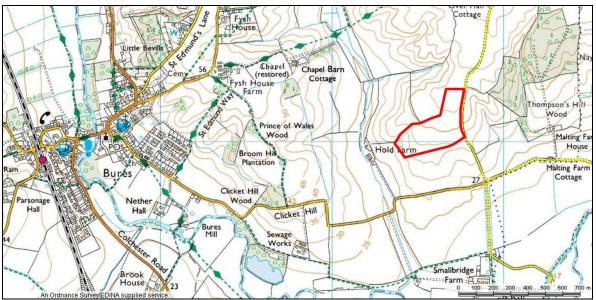


Figure 3: The location of 'tile field' in relation to the village of Bures St Mary and the River Stour to the south

# 5.2 Geology and Topography

Suffolk is a coastal county in East Anglia, bounded by the North Sea to the east, Norfolk to the north, Essex to the south, with Cambridgeshire to the west. The River Stour dominates the topography of the south Suffolk and north Essex, which rises in east Cambridgeshire to join the North Sea at Harwich and also forms the county boundary. The site is set on higher ground over-looking Bures St Mary and a tributary of the River Stour between 35m OD and 55m OD.

The topography of the River Stour around Bures has been classified as 'ancient rolling farmlands', which incorporates the landscapes of both north Essex and south Suffolk and is indicative of a rolling arable landscape, with field patterns of both ancient random enclosures as well as post World War II open agricultural changes. Small areas of ancient woodland are scattered throughout, although more so on the Suffolk side and the settlements are usually quite dispersed with a network of winding lanes and paths lined with hedgerows connecting them<sup>4</sup>

The underlying geology consists of Lowestoft formation with London clay and fine alluviums and occasional patches of glacial sands and gravels also evident along the river valleys<sup>5</sup>.

http://www.managingamasterpiece.org/images/stories/documents/Doc%202%20Landscape%20Char acter%20Study.pdf (Accessed December 2012)





# 6 Historical and Archaeological Background

# 6.1 Historical background

Bures is referred to in the Domesday Book in both the Suffolk and Essex volumes, as 'Bura' or 'Bure' (Reaney 1935). The meaning of Bures could stem from an Old English word 'bur', meaning a dwelling or cottage or could be of French origin, acquired after the Norman Conquest. There are villages in France called Bures which may have given the name 'de Bures' to one of the knights who accompanied William the Conqueror in his campaign<sup>6</sup>. Other references to the village name have been recorded as 'Burva', 'Burum', 'Buers' and 'Bewers' between the 9<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries and it was during the early 1600's that the name of Bures became established<sup>7</sup>.

The chapel of St Stephen (BSM 013) is the first recorded church in Bures and was built on an area of high ground c.1.6km northeast of the village and only 800m northwest of tile field on the road towards Assington. The chapel was dedicated to St Stephen in 1218 by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton, at the request of a local knight Gilbert de Tany, whose private chapel it was. It is thought however that the chapel's origins date from at least the Late Saxon period as it is believed that the chapel was the coronation place of King Edmund in AD 855, the chosen heir of King Offa who at the age of 14, became one of the last kings of East Anglia. Edmund was killed not long after in AD 869 by Danish invaders for refusing to renounce his Christianity<sup>8</sup>. His coronation was documented to have been at *Bura*, an ancient royal hill, some 300 years after the event. After the reformation, the chapel fell into disuse and subsequent disrepair, although it was briefly converted into a hospital for the plague of 1739<sup>9</sup>, cottages and utilised as an agricultural barn until it was finally restored in the 1930's by the Probert family who owned it. The chapel has since been re-consecrated.

The church of St Mary (BSM 015) was recorded in the Domesday Book as 'a church with 18 acres of free land' (Williams & Martin 2003). A charter dated to 1075 AD mentions a church in 'Buri' and the British Museum have stated that this refers to the village of Bures, so it seems that the church at that time was already dedicated to St Mary<sup>10</sup>. The present church dates to the 14<sup>th</sup> century with additions continuing into the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The dedication of the church may have been changed to All Saints in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, with references to this occurring though the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, although the suffix 'St Mary' was (and is) still used to describe the village. It was not until the 18<sup>th</sup> century that the name of St Mary was once again used to describe the church<sup>11</sup>. More than 30 acres of land was recorded to belong to the church by the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century; while from the early 12<sup>th</sup> century the church and lands were gifted to the priory at Stoke-By-Clare, which also had a number of other local churches under its jurisdiction, until the dissolution in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Harper-Bill & Mortimer 1984).

The River Stour, rising by Haverhill in Cambridgeshire and entering the sea at Harwich, was made navigable as a commercial waterway during an Act of Parliament in 1705 between Sudbury and Manningtree and was fully opened in 1709<sup>12</sup>. It became a busy trading route,

http://www.bures-online.co.uk/chapel/chapel\_barn.htm (Accessed December 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> http://www.b<u>ures-online.co.uk/origin/origin.htm</u> (Accessed December 2012)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ibid

http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nvjack/fylbrigg/church\_of\_st\_mary.htm (Accessed December 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>http://www.babergh.gov.uk/assets/Uploads-BDC/Economy/Heritage/Con-Area-Apps/BureStMary2007CAA.pdf (Accessed December 2012)





with traders going as far inland as to Sudbury to sell wool, coal and bricks<sup>13</sup>, and it was not closed until 1912, and unfortunately today most of the locks have now gone. The earliest recorded evidence of use of the river however, was in 1628, when King Charles I granted the rights for the river to become navigable<sup>14</sup>.

Bures mill is situated on the northern bank of the river and just to the south of the village. It was the first recorded mill in Bures was most likely sited in the same area as the current mill, in 1190. The current structure was built in 1640, with extensions added in the 18<sup>th</sup> century<sup>15</sup>, mill production ceased in 1990 and many outbuildings have been demolished and the original mill has now been converted to a private dwelling.

The original railway line was opened between Marks Tey and Sudbury in July of 1849, and came through Bures Hamlet, on the Essex side of the river. Extensions to both Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill were completed by the summer of 1865 and parts of the line stated to close from 1961, and the line around Bures was closed to freight in 1964<sup>16</sup> but with local opposition to close the line entirely, it has remained open as a passenger service and is utilised by many commuters today. The line is known today as the Gainsborough Line, referring to the artist Thomas Gainsborough and his connections with Sudbury<sup>17</sup>.

# 6.2 Archaeological background

#### 6.2.1 Prehistoric

A range of flint scatters, including implements and tools have been recorded along the River Stour, and throughout the parish of Bures St Mary, mainly dating from the Mesolithic period through to the Late Bronze Age.

Prehistoric finds from within 2km of Tile Field include, from the higher ground overlooking the River Stour close to Tile Field, Bronze Age artefacts including a bronze socketed axe blade fragment (BSM 030) from TL 91 33. A Late Bronze Age, bronze sword blade fragment (BSM 036) was also identified close to scatters of later Roman, Saxon and medieval finds from High Fen, just north of the site.

Two unidentified, although probably later prehistoric, flints were also found on the surface from a spur of land overlooking the River Stour (BSM 048) associated with Roman material from TL 92 34.

#### 6.2.2 Roman

All HER records dating to the Roman period derive from scatters of finds. There has so far been no evidence for occupation or settlements in Bures that date to the Romano-British period. Romano-British finds from within 2km of Tile Field include a scatter of Roman finds recorded at High Fen, directly to the north of the site, including a 3<sup>rd</sup> century coin of Antoninianus (BSM 036), five 4<sup>th</sup> century coins including one from Constantine (BSM 016) and a collection of five coins dating from Severus Alexander (AD 222-235) to Magnetius/Decentius (AD350-353) (BSM 035). Another Roman coin was also found

http://www.managingamasterpiece.org/images/stories/documents/Doc 2 Landscape Character Study.pdf (Accessed December 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> http://www.bures-online.co.uk/navigation/navigation.htm (Accessed December 2012)

http://www.bures-online.co.uk/mill/mill.htm (Accessed December 2012)

http://www.bures-online.co.uk/rail/rail.htm (Accessed December 2012)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/assets/Publications/Management-Plan-Docs/DV-AONB7996ManagementStrategyPlan.pdf (Accessed December 2012)





through metal detecting, a forged denarius, with a bronze core with silver coating, and dating to AD 68-69 (BSM 030). A Roman bronze handle (BSM Misc.) was also found during metal detecting at Hold Farm, which is situated less than 200m east of Tile Field.

A further surface scatter of Roman tegula (BSM 048) have also been recorded in a similar location to Tile Field from a spur overlooking the River Stour at TL 92 34 and were found in the same area as scatters of prehistoric flints.

#### 6.2.3 Anglo-Saxon

The Anglo-Saxon records on the HER are similar to those dating to the Roman period, in that they consist of only a few scattered finds, with no recorded evidence to date for any settlement.

All the spot finds recorded within c.2km of Tile Field were in the south-eastern corner of the parish and were found through metal detecting. A harness fitting and other finds were recorded from an un-named field (BSM 039) at TL 91 35 as well as a bronze strap end fragment with an animal interlace design on both faces and potentially dating to the 10<sup>th</sup> century (BSM 020) from TL 92 35. Stray Anglo-Saxon finds have also been recovered at High Fen, directly to the north of Tile Field, including a caterpillar brooch associated with both earlier Roman and later medieval finds (BSM 035).

#### 6.2.4 Medieval

A settlement may have been established at Bures by the time Domesday book was compiled, although there is no physical evidence pre-dating the 14<sup>th</sup> century to positively confirm this. The HER records include a number of listed buildings dating from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, as well as the Chapel of St Stephen (BSM 013) (discussed above) less than 1km to the northwest of Tile Field, and the Church of St Mary (BSM 015). Smallbridge Farm is a medieval moated site situated c.800m due south of Tile Field on the northern banks of the River Stour. Another likely medieval moated site is Moat Farm, situated c.1km north-west of Tile Field.

A scatter of medieval finds have been recorded on the HER, although the majority have been found closer to the village with very little close to the area of field-walking at Tile Field. The finds that have been recorded were identified through field-walking and consist of a silver coin (BSM Misc.) that was found at TL 91 35, and a short cross penny of Henry III (1217-1242), which was recovered at High Fen, just to the north of Tile Field along with both Roman and Saxon finds (BSM 035). A further metal-detected find of gilded bronze, which was found bent, broken and corroded and is probably medieval or later in date (BSM Misc.) was also recorded at TL 92 34.

#### 6.2.5 Post medieval and later

The arrival of the railways and the River Navigation Act during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries meant that the village of Bures was less isolated within the landscape and also meant that there was improved access to the village. A number of listed buildings date from the 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century and later. Hold Farm is the closest building to Tile Field, and is a Grade II listed farmhouse, built alongside a stream feeding into the River Stour. It dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> century and was recorded to have been a flax mill, with later additions in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>





centuries<sup>18</sup>. The earliest maps to show the site of Tile Field in detail date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and do not indicate any buildings on the site (fig 4).

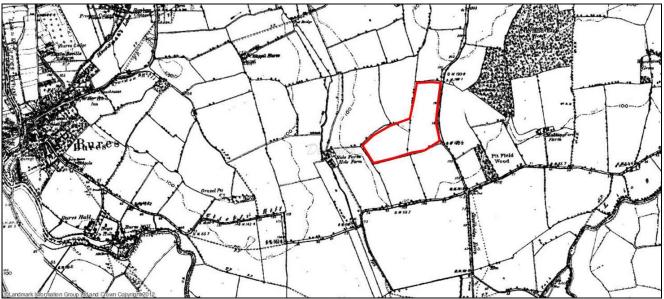


Figure 4: 1880's map of 'tile field' in relation to Bures St Mary and the River Stour (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

A water mill and leat was recorded of a map of 1736 of the parish, but the mill could well be earlier in date (BSM 025). The site of a suggested kiln site (BSM Misc.) and a suggested brickworks site (BSM Misc.) have both been recorded based on the field names noted on the Tithe map during the 19<sup>th</sup> century and are situated to the south-west of the parish close to the area around Tile Field

A small number of post medieval dated finds are recorded on the HER that have been found though the parish. Only a few of these finds were recorded close to the area fieldwalked (within a 2km radius) and consist of a silver lead dress pin fragment (BSM 030) that was found at TL 91 33, a bronze seal matrix that was found through metal detecting at Hold Farm, immediately east of the site (BSM Misc.) and a bronze weight (BSM 039) from TL 91 35. A gilded bronze fragment (BSM Misc.) also found at TL 91 34 may be either medieval or post medieval in date.

#### 6.2.6 Undated

A number of cropmarks are identified in the HER but have been classed as undated as no archaeological excavations have yet taken place to determine their date and purpose. Ring ditches, barrows, enclosures ditches, trackways, boundary ditches and areas of ancient woodland have all been recorded in the parish. The undated features that have been recorded within a 2km radius to the field-walking site have only been included in this report.

A series of possible cropmarks and features have been recorded at Smallbridge Farm, most likely due to its position along the River Stour, also suggesting that these may well be prehistoric in date. A possible cursus has been identified (BSM 008), as well as a long barrow, situated at right angles to the cursus (BSM 010) with another at its eastern end (BSM 011) with a ring ditch with the cursus itself (BSM 009). A large circular feature identified as a ring ditch has also been recorded at Bures Hall (BSM 028), although this may alternatively originally have been a garden feature.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> http://list.english-heritage.org.uk/resu<u>ltsingle.aspx?uid=1351943</u> (Accessed February 2013)





To the northwest of Smallbridge Farm, ditches have also been recorded as part of a rectangular enclosure (BSM 001), as well as a ring ditch (BSM 014) from TL 92 33, an enclosure/ring ditch (BSM 007) from TL 92 34 and another cropmark (BSM 006) at TL 91 33. Aerial photographs have also identified other possible features, including one of a circular cropmark (BSM 004) at TL 92 33 and two areas of ancient woodland have been recorded close to Tile Field as Arger Fen (BSM 023) at TL 93 35 and Nayland End Wood (BSM 024) at TL 93 34.

# 6.3 Previous archaeological investigation

Previous archaeological work in and around Bures St Mary has been limited in extent, mainly undertaken by local amateur groups, particularly the Colchester Archaeological Group, which has so far mainly focused its attention in this area nearer Bures Hamlet, on the Essex side of the river.

Work has also been undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bures Primary School on Nayland Road in 2007. The footing trenches were monitored for an extension to the rear of the school that was also formerly occupied by a temporary structure, but no finds or features were found (Atfield 2007).

Further archaeological monitoring was undertaken at Bures Mill in 2009 when monitoring of footing trenches was undertaken prior to development at the rear of the property. Evidence for previous flooding was noted before the mill was built, no earlier that the later medieval/post medieval periods with domestic waste finds from the post medieval to the present day (Muldowney 2009).

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken in Friends Field in Bures St Mary in the summer of 2012 prior to the development of a housing estate on land that was an orchard. Results are awaiting publication<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> http://www.bures-online.co.uk/orchard/orchard.htm (Accessed December 2012)





# 7 Results of the field-walking near Bures St Mary

The field-walking near Bures St Mary in Suffolk was undertaken on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011 in a field known locally as 'Tile Field'. The area walked is shown in figure 5 (below).

A total of 299 10m stints were walked over the two days starting from the south side of the field, with 132 stints (between 0/0-10 and 70/40-50) walked on 13<sup>th</sup> March and the remaining 167 on 24<sup>th</sup> March (80/40-50 and 170/90-100). The total area walked was approximately 3ha. The field surface was well-weathered when walked and had been sown with wheat which was at a very early stage of growth and did not obscure any of the field surface, hence ground surface visibility was 100%. Weather conditions on 13<sup>th</sup> March were overcast but dry for most of the day with rain falling briefly at the end of the day only, while the final 13 stints of that day were completed (those 30-40m north of the baseline between 260-300m west of 0,0). Weather conditions on 24<sup>th</sup> March were sun all day and dry.

Tile Field slopes gently down to the west, with the north-eastern limit of the walked area approximately 20 higher at just over 50m OD than its north-western limit at a little under 35m OD. There is thus some scope for solifluxion or hill wash to have carried material down towards or beyond the north-western limits of the walked area, or for surface finds to have been obscured by a build-up of soil, although given the relatively slight gradient this is considered unlikely to have caused significant relocation.

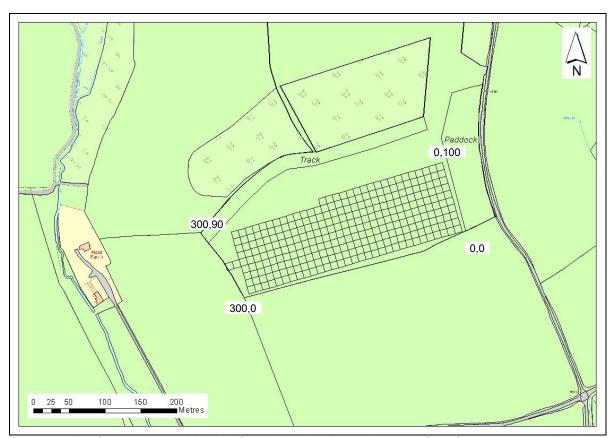


Figure 5: The field-walking grid in 'tile field', showing the total extent of the field that was walked and corner grid point coordinates (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

The pottery and flint distribution maps for the field-walking can be seen in the following sections, in chronological order. The circles used to represent the distribution of finds are shown within the grid squares immediately east of each stint walked.





#### 7.1 Prehistoric

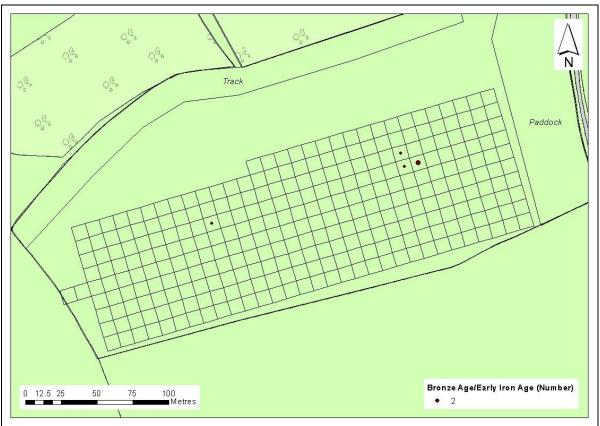


Figure 6: Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

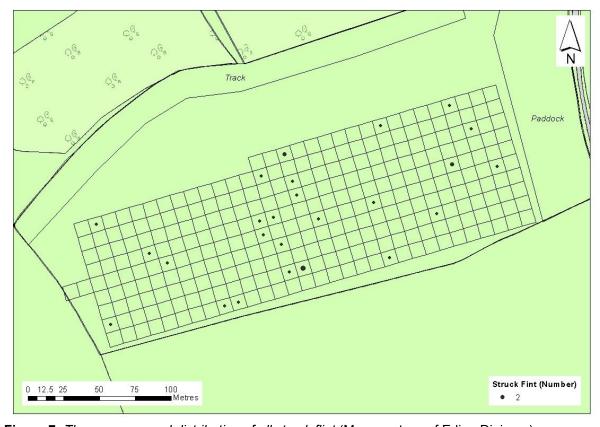


Figure 7: The presence and distribution of all struck flint (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)



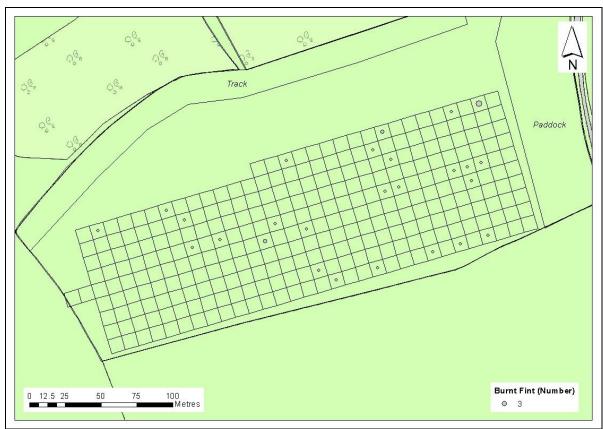


Figure 8: The presence and distribution of burnt flint (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)



Figure 9: The presence and distribution of all finds of probable prehistoric date (burnt/fire-cracked flint, struck flint and pottery) (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)





There was a small amount of Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery identified through the field-walking in 'Tile Field', but a small cluster was noted around the 70/60-70 and 80/60-70 stints towards the north-eastern corner of the grid. This was all identified as of late Bronze Age-early Iron Age date (c.1200-500 BC).

Worked flint was widely albeit thinly distributed across the field, with no significant concentrations apparent, although the number of flints recovered was lower in the west of the field. It is possible this may be at least partly due to soil creep burying earlier deposits.

The distribution of burnt fire-cracked stone is included in this section, despite the fact that it cannot be specifically dated as prehistoric. Its distribution is similar to that of the struck flint and again, there seems to be no specific cluster.

#### 7.2 Roman

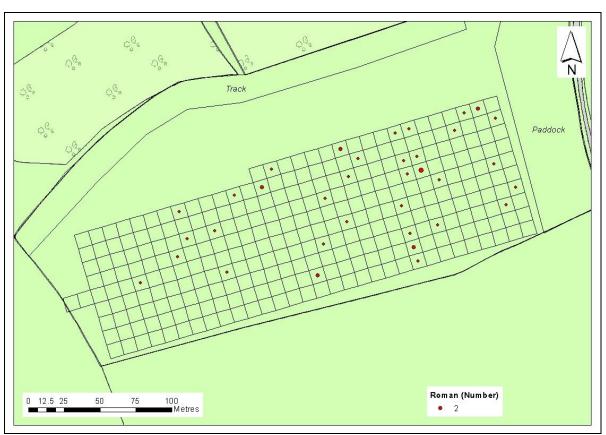


Figure 10: Roman pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

The distribution of Roman pottery across 'Tile Field' is quite widespread with little sign of clustering, although again there does appear to be less material of this date in the western third of the field, which may be due to solifluxion. The sherds ranged widely in size, from 1g – 61g. A single fragment of box flue tile was recorded towards the north-eastern corner of the grid (fig 11).



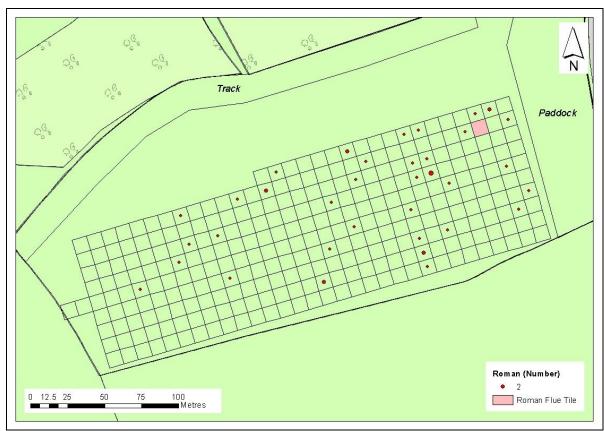


Figure 11: Roman pottery and Roman box flue tile distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

# 7.3 Anglo Saxon

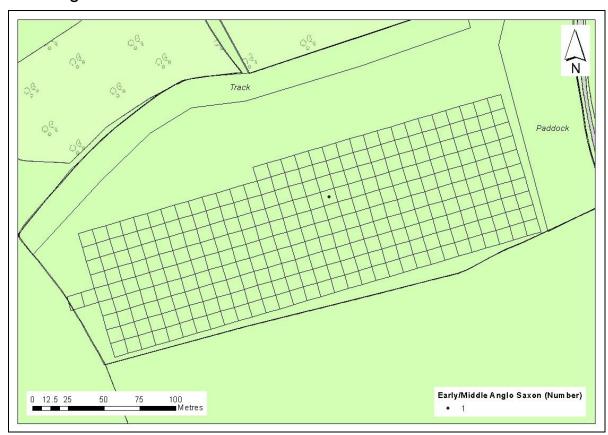


Figure 12: Early/Middle Saxon pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)



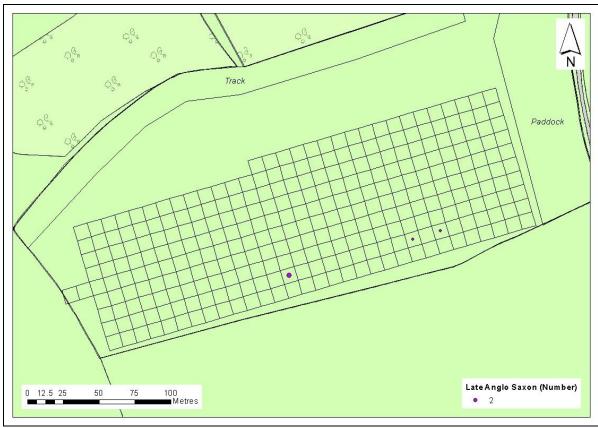


Figure 13: Late Saxon pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

The amount of Anglo-Saxon pottery recovered from the field-walking was very limited. A single sherd of Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon pottery (c.450-700AD). was recovered towards the middle of the field and four sherds dating to the late Anglo-Saxon from the south of the field between stints 10-20 (For a combined map of all Anglo-Saxon pottery, see appendix 13.4)





# 7.4 Medieval

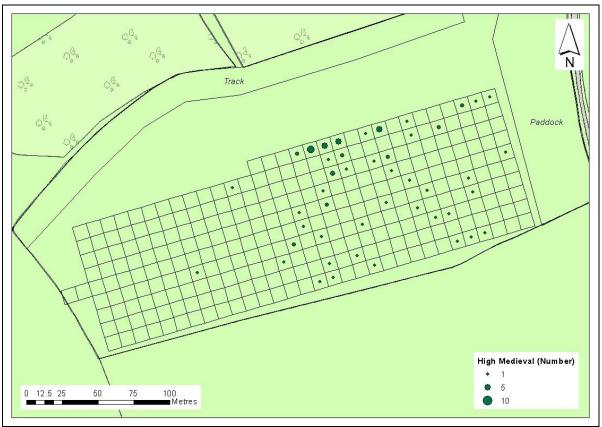


Figure 14: High Medieval pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

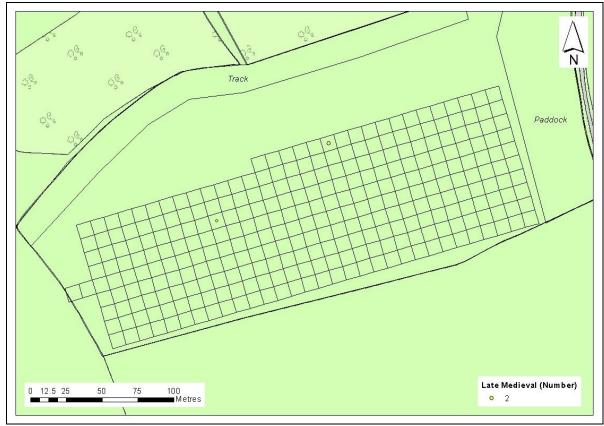


Figure 15: Late Medieval pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)





Pottery of high medieval date was recovered greater numbers than for any other period in a distribution that notably favoured the eastern half of the walked area, with a possible concentration along the northern edge of the grid. In contrast there are only three sherds of late medieval pottery that have been identified, one of which is in the same area as the high medieval cluster to the north of the field-walking grid. (For a combined map of all medieval pottery, see appendix 13.4)

#### 7.5 Post Medieval

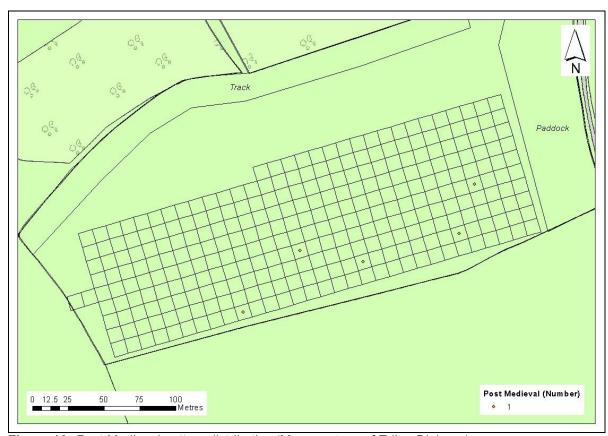


Figure 16: Post Medieval pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

The volume of post-medieval pottery from 'Tile Field' is very limited with just five single sherds identified through the southern half of the field only, scattered over quite a large area with no clustering evident.





# 7.6 19<sup>th</sup> century

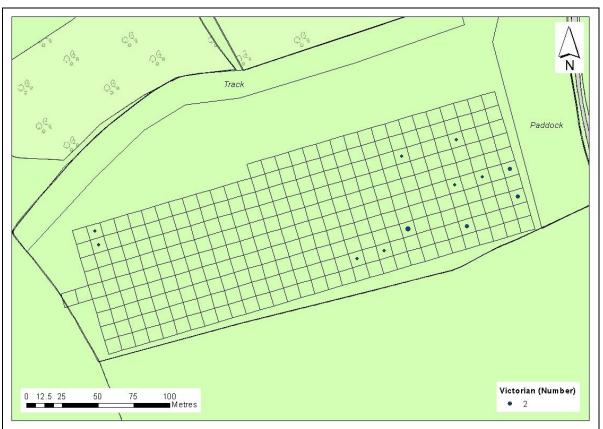


Figure 17: 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)

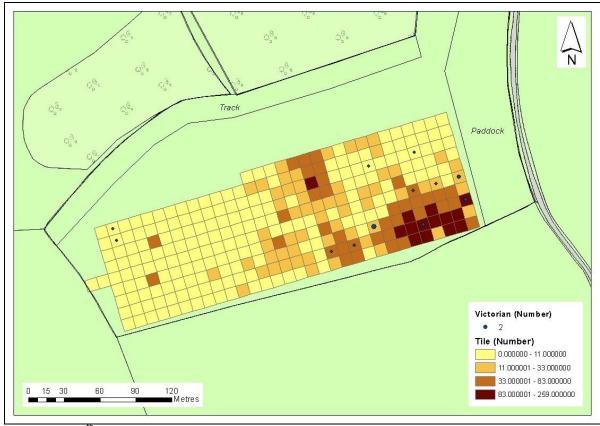


Figure 18: 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery and tile distribution (Map courtesy of Edina Digimap)





The small amount of 19<sup>th</sup> century and later pottery recovered from Tile Field was mostly found in the eastern half of the field, particularly in its south eastern corner. This broadly correlates with the areas where the greatest volume of red ceramic roof tile was recovered. This tile was densely spread across the south-east corner of the field and much more thinly scattered elsewhere, present in much smaller quantities on the western side of the field, and generally likewise on the north, although a slight increase in volume was apparent approximately midway along the northern side of the area walked. A total number of 5,299 fragments of tile were picked up, most from the south eastern corner of the field.

A list of all the finds recovered during the field-walking, along with the numbers of tile for each stint, can be seen in appendix 13.3.





#### 8 Discussion

The results of the field-walking in 2011 on Tile Field, Bures, carried out over 3ha at 20% coverage in optimum (100%) visibility by novice field-walkers, are discussed below in chronological order by historic period. Interpreting data from field-walking is never straightforward, but attempting this for a single field is particularly problematic as there is no scope for local comparisons to be made. If we accept that 'With the single exception of 'manuring scatter' all field-walking finds ultimately derive from significant archaeological contexts' (Foard 1978, 363), then we could simply note the locations of finds, and their different dates and leave it at that. However, more meaningful patterns revealing variations in land use can become evident when densities of finds can be compared across a larger area such as a parish or more (eq Lobb and Rose 1996; Rogerson et al 1997; Davison 1990, Parry 2006; Gerrard and Aston 2007). This allows areas of more and less intensive use to be distinguished, enabling patterns of settlement, agriculture, industry, ritual and other land use to be reconstructed (with varying degrees of confidence). But in the case of Tile Field, we have no neighbouring field-walking data to compare the 2011 pottery distributions against. Nonetheless, some potentially interesting observations can be made of the 2011 data.

# 8.1 Prehistoric period

The limited amount of prehistoric material that was recovered from Tile Field indicates at the very least that there was prehistoric activity in this area. The wide, thin spread of struck across the field, hints at episodic low-intensity activity probably spanning thousands of years, with material of Mesolithic date the earliest identified.

However, one the small cluster of flint-tempered late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery identified in the east of the field is particularly interesting, as pottery of this date is very scarce: it was made and used in smaller quantities than in the Roman or Medieval and post-medieval periods, it is less likely to survive well in ploughed soil and is more difficult to spot during field-walking, therefore 'finds from these periods have a greater significance even if they are small in quantity' (Davison 1990, 12). The rarity of pottery of this date is demonstrated in other field-walking projects: no was found across the walked area of the entire parish of Shapwick (Somerset) (Gerrard and Aston 151-2), or from four parishes at Raunds (Northants), where c. 3,000 ha (71% of the landsurface) was walked at 7% coverage (Parry 2006, 8). East Anglia seems to produce a slightly more pottery of this date, but nonetheless quantities recovered from Caldecote (Norfolk) were so small they were considered to 'add nothing' to the understanding of this period (Rogerson et al 1997, 83) while in the three-parish survey of Hales, Heckingham and Loddon (Norfolk) only five out of several hundred sites produced more than two sherds of flint-tempered prehistoric pottery (Davison 1990).

On Tile Field, Bures, the three stints where late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was found in 2012 were all walked by different people and not all on the same day, so the cluster is not likely to represent collection bias by a particularly eagle-eyed walker (Orton 2000). On all these grounds, then, the cluster of three sherds is therefore considered significant, and reasonably likely to be indicative of more intensive activity in this area in the later Bronze Age, possibly relating either to settlement or funerary activity (both hinted at by finds and crop-marks nearby (see above, section 6.2.1





# 8.2 Roman period

The recovery of just over 40 sherds of Romano-British pottery from a 3ha area, walked at 20% coverage, suggests it is unlikely that Tile Field was the site of indicate intensive activity (such as settlement, extraction, production or ritual). Comparison with other field-walked sites shows that, for example, in the Lower Kennett Valley (Berkshire) only 'discrete high density clusters' of Romano-British pottery were considered indicative of settlement (Lobb and Rose 1996, 64); at Raunds (Northants), sites identified as settlements displayed pottery densities ranging from 32-626 sherds per hectare Parry 2006, 74, table 4.25); while at Caldecote (Norfolk) several hundred sherds were recovered from a 6.5ha walked area (Rogerson et al 1997. At Bures, Tile Field displayed an average density of c. 14 sherds per hectare, therefore is deemed likely to have been in use as arable, with pottery brought to the site when manure from domestic muck-heaps in a nearby settlement was spread on the fields to fertilise it. The volume of pottery suggests this settlement is likely to be either small or distant, or the manuring was not carried out for very long or very often (Millett 1985; Shennan 1981; Shennan 1985; Parry 2006). The distribution of Romano-British pottery slightly favours the northern and eastern side of Tile Field, although the pattern is not strong enough to clearly indicate that this putative settlement may have lain in this direction. The fragment of Roman box flue tile is the only hint that a substantially constructed building may have been present nearby, but this is given some support by the previous identification of tegula from fields nearby (see above section 6.2.2).

# 8.3 Anglo-Saxon period

The recovery of a single sherd of Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon pottery on Tile Field is intriguingly enigmatic. It would be easy to dismiss it as incidental and irrelevant, possibly incorporated during manuring of fields. However, early Anglo-Saxon settlements do not generally tend to yield very much pottery even during excavation, and field-walking elsewhere shows that stray finds of pottery of this date away from 'sites' are generally uncommon (see for example Davison 1990, fig 7; Rogerson et al 1997, fig 10), while manuring is not commonly associated with early/middle Anglo-Saxon farming (Jones ref). On the other hand, at Raunds a larger number of isolated find spots of single sherds was evident (Parry 2006, Fig G). Overall, it is probably safest to conclude that no pottery find of this date should be dismissed out of hand, bearing in mind Glen Foard's comment 'locations producing more than five sherds are 'sites', while other locations producing fewer sherds are potentially 'sites', but possibly indicate Saxon field ditches or even manuring scatter. The most plausible interpretation is that these 'sites' are isolated farmsteads or hamlets, but further work may necessitate reinterpretation.' (Foard 1978, 367). The early Anglo-Saxon pottery at Tile Field therefore may be indicative of settlement in the vicinity, and certainly indicates use of this part of the landscape for some purpose at this time. It is worth noting that the site, on a south-facing spur over-looking a stream valley, is exactly the sort of location favoured for settlement of this date (Shennan 1981), and the presence of possible Bronze Age funerary activity nearby might support the inference that there may have been some sort of more intensive use of the site in the early Anglo-Saxon period, just possibly a small area of habitation, which might itself have been attracted by the presence of a visible burial site (Williams 2006).

The recovery of four sherds of late Saxon pottery from Tile Field is also difficult to interpret. As manuring remains uncommon at this date and pottery, while used in greater quantities than in the  $5^{th} - 8^{th}$  centuries, still tends be recovered in smaller quantities than is the case for later periods, so this material should not be dismissed. At the very least the finfds at Tile Field can be used with reasonable confidence to infer that the site was not heavily wooded in the later Anglo-Saxon period, and probably in use as arable. The recovery pattern from the field-walking suggests this material favours the south side of the field, a pattern which is





notably different to that of later material. While it is possible that this pottery is derived from settlement or some other sort of intensive use in the vicinity, a larger quantity would normally be expected were a settlement of this date to have been close by (eg cf Rogerson et al 1997, figs 45 & 46).

#### 8.4 Medieval

With more than 60 sherds of pottery of high medieval date recovered from Tile Field, there is clear indication of some sort of moderately intensive human use of the area at this time. although this is not necessarily indicative of settlement on this site, especially when the 20% coverage achieved is borne in mind. While there is no agreed limit for the density of sherds which should be taken to assume the former presence of a settlement site, it is recognised that 'Roman, Medieval, and Iron Age sites produce hundreds of sherds when intensively walked.' (Foard 1987, 363). At Burghfield in the Lower Kennett Valley the recovery of 62 sherds from one hectare was considered likely to represent the site of a building (Lobb and Rose 1996, 64-5), while the 6.5ha walked area of the deserted medieval settlement at Caldectote (Norfolk) produced hundreds of medieval sherds. The overall density at Tile Field, Bures therefore seems likely to derive from manuring of arable rather than settlement. However, the Tile Field distribution does show a marked tendency to cluster in the area midway along the northern perimeter of the walked area, and it is possible that this may indicate some small area of settlement, perhaps a medieval farmstead or cottage, beyond the walked area in that direction, as while 'twenty-to-thirty thirteenth/fourteenth century pieces derived from the surface of a large field indicates no more than manuring distribution; if 25 of those sherds came from a small area, say 100 square metres in one corner of that field, then it might be considered a small site' (Davison 1990, 12). This is given some support by the tendency of a small amount of the roof tile recovered to concentrate in this same area, suggesting that a tile-roofed medieval building may have lain nearby. That said, none of the recovered tile could be dated to the medieval period by visual inspection.

The significant reduction in number of sherds of late medieval date recovered from Tile Field suggests that although the land was probably still farmed, manuring was considerably reduced and the putative nearby settlement abandoned from the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 8.5 Post-medieval and later

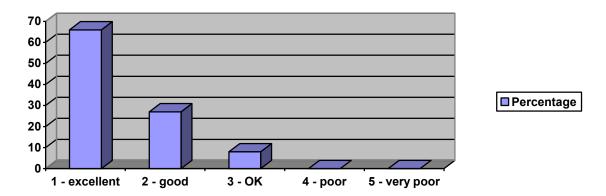
The later medieval pattern, with minimal pottery recovered, is replicated in subsequent centuries, suggesting that use of this land remained minimal. If it was under cultivation, it does not appear to have been manured with material derived from domestic manure heaps. The finds are widely spread out, possibly partly due to solifluxion and ploughing. Finds of Victorian period occur in marginally greater number, and this material seems to concentrate in the eastern half of the field, possibly reflecting earlier sub-division with this side once a separate field which may have been subjected to more intense farming. The most notable finds, deemed likely to be post-medieval or 19th century in date were the vast quantities of tile that were also picked up during the field-walking - from which the field was given its informal name of 'tile field'. As over 5,000 fragments of tile were recorded it seems more than likely that these are from a farmhouse or outbuildings, possibly located near Tile Field but demolished before the earliest maps were produced, as no building is shown here in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The observable pattern that the distribution of the tile is similar to that of the 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery suggests the tile may be of this date. The marked absence of clay tobacco pipe suggests that the site is unlikely to have been a working area of frequent of long-standing use in the 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, giving some support to the inference that much of the tile may have been brought to Tile Field as hard core (perhaps to provide hardstanding for a short-lived building or a hayrick), rather than deriving from a building nearby.





# 9 Social and community aims

The 67 local residents and volunteers took part in the field-walking over the two days reported extremely positively on their experience, and showed the project to have achieved its aims of engaging people living locally. Overall, in written feedback, 92% of respondents rated their experience of the field-walking as 'excellent' or 'good' (fig. 19, below), while 91% would recommend the activity to others.



**Figure 19:** Participants' overall rating of their time spent field-walking (original returns retained by ACA)

Most participants had a prior interest in heritage with 50% of participants being members of the National Trust, and 36% members of a local historical or archaeological society although only 6% were members of English Heritage. The field-walking succeeded in attracting local people, with 39% of participants described themselves as local residents. Other participants came mostly from relatively nearby in south Suffolk, ranging as far as Ipswich, Felixstowe and Clare. None of the participants claimed to have prior experience in field-walking, with just 16% having taken part in an archaeological fieldwork before, although many had an interest which extended to trips and visits to local archaeological excavations, but 36% described themselves as having no prior experience. The field-walking thus succeeded in providing participants with new experience in archaeological fieldwork. 75% of respondents said they felt more engaged with the archaeology and heritage of the area than they had before they took part in the field-walking.





#### 10 Conclusion

The field-walking at Tile Field recovered archaeological evidence which indicated the area was lightly used throughout most of the prehistoric period from the Mesolithic onwards, with a short episode of more intensive use, perhaps related to settlement or ritual activity, in the late Bronze age or early Iron Age. In the Roman period the site appears to have been in use as arable, perhaps manured from a settlement not too faraway, and a similar situation may possibly have pertained in the Anglo-Saxon period, with the presence of a small farmstead or cottage just to the north of the site looking more likely in the high medieval period. This settlement did not continue into the later medieval period, and since at least the 15<sup>th</sup> century the site has been very lightly used, until a large volume of tile was deposited at one corner of the site, possibly brought there from elsewhere.

# 11 Acknowledgments

The 2011 field-walking at Tile Field, Bures was funded as part of 'Managing a Masterpiece' by the Heritage Lottery Fund their support is gratefully acknowledged. The Bures Field-walking was directed by Dr Carenza Lewis and supervised by Catherine Ranson, with help from Clemency Cooper. Managing a Masterpiece was responsible for pre-excavation arrangements, and thanks for this are due to Chris Burton and Dan King for their support in this and also on site during the field-walking. Tim Underwood and Leigh Alston of Bures History Society helped advertise the project, and we are grateful to members of Bures History Society, Sudbury History Society, Colchester Archaeological Group and Colchester Young Archaeologists Club and Clare Middle School who all helped promote the project to their members. Finally, thanks are due to all the 67 volunteers who took part in the field-walking and worked so assiduously to recover new evidence for the past.





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#### 13 Appendices

#### 13.1 Pottery Report – Paul Blinkhorn

All field-walking was undertaken in 'Tile Field', to the east of Bures St Mary, centred on TL 592554 – 234026. This was undertaken over two separate days, one of the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011 and the other on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

**LBA/EIA:** Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. Simple, hand-made pots with burnt white flint mixed in with the clay. Date to around 1200 – 500 BC

**RB:** Roman Greyware. This was one of the most common types of Roman pottery, and was made in many different places in Britain. Lots of different types of vessels were made, especially cooking pots. It was most common in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD, but in some places, continued in use until the 4<sup>th</sup> century.

**EMS: Early Anglo-Saxon.** Crude pottery made by the pagan Anglo-Saxons. Was first made after the Roman pottery industries ceased production after the legions withdrew. Most people probably made their own pottery of this type, dug from clay close to where they lived and fired in bonfires. Most pots were plain, simple forms such as jars and bowls, but some, usually used as cremation urns, were decorated with stamps and scored linear patterns. First made around AD450, very rare after AD700.

**THET:** Thetford ware. So-called because archaeologists first found it in Thetford, but the first place to make it was Ipswich, around AD850. Potters first began to make it in Thetford sometime around AD925, and carried on until around AD1100. Many kilns are known from the town. It was made in Norwich from about AD1000, and soon after at many of the main towns in England at that time. The pots are usually grey, and the clay has lots of tiny grains of sand in it, making the surface feel a little like fine sandpaper. Most pots were simple jars, but very large storage pots over 1m high were also made, along with jugs, bowls and lamps. It is found all over East Anglia and eastern England as far north as Lincoln and as far south as London.

**EMW:** Early Medieval Sandy Ware: AD1100-1400. Hard fabric with plentiful quartz sand mixed in with the clay. Manufactured at a wide range of generally unknown sites all over eastern England. Mostly cooking pots, but bowls and occasionally jugs also known.

**HED:** Hedingham Ware: Late  $12^{th} - 14^{th}$  century. Fine orange/red glazed pottery, made at Sible Hedingham in Essex. The surfaces of the sherds have a sparkly appearance due to there being large quantities of mica, a glassy mineral, in the clay. Pots usually glazed jugs.

**HG:** Hertfordshire Greyware, Late  $12^{th} - 14^{th}$  century. Hard, grey sandy pottery found at sites all over Hertfordshire. Made at a number of different places, with the most recent and best-preserved evidence being from Hitchin. Range of simple jars, bowls and jugs.

**LMT:** Late medieval ware. 1400 – 1550. Hard reddish-orange pottery with sand visible in the clay body. Pale orange and dark green glazes, wide range of everyday vessel types. Some of the jugs, particular Colchester Wares, had geometric patterns in white slip painted under the glaze.

**GRE:** Glazed Red Earthenwares: Fine sandy earthenware, usually with a brown or green glaze, usually on the inner surface. Made at numerous locations all over England. Occurs





in a range of practical shapes for use in the households of the time, such as large mixing bowls, cauldrons and frying pans. It was first made around the middle of the 16th century, and in some places continued in use until the 19th century.

**ES:** English Stoneware: Very hard, grey fabric with white and/or brown surfaces. First made in Britain at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, became very common in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly for mineral water or ink bottles and beer jars.

**CR:** Creamware. This was the first pottery to be made which resembles modern 'china'. It was invented by Wedgewood, who made it famous by making dinner surfaces for some of the royal families of Europe. Made between 1740 and 1880, it was a pale cream-coloured ware with a clear glaze, and softer than bone china. There were lots of different types of pots which we would still recognise today: cups, saucers, plates, soup bowls etc. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was considered to be poor quality as better types of pottery were being made, so it was often painted with multi-coloured designs to try and make it more popular.

**VIC:** 'Victorian'. A wide range of different types of pottery, particularly the cups, plates and bowls with blue decoration which are still used today. First made around AD1800





		BA/	FΙΔ	R	B	E/I	MS	ТН	IET	F۱	/IVV	HE	-D	Н	G	1 1	ИΤ	GF	RF	Е	S	С	R	V	IC.
Trans	Stint	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt		Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No.	Wt	No	Wt		Wt	No	Wt
0	20-30																							2	21
0	30-40			1	23																				
0	40-50			-																				2	14
0	50-60													1	2										
0	80-90			1	5																				
0	90-100									1	20														
10	20-30			1	6																				
10	50-60			1	1																				
10	90-100			2	6					1	4														
20	40-50																							1	1
20	90-100			1	2					2	7														
30	0-10									1	8														
30	10-20																								
30	30-40									1	2														
30	40-50									1	10							1	15						
30	70-80																							1	2
30	80-90			1	11																				
40	0-10									1	9														
40	10-20																							2	6
40	40-50																							1	1
40	80-90									2	8														
50	0-10									1	3														
50	10-20																			1	7				
50	20-30													1	27										
50	50-60			1	23																				
60	10-20							1	6																
60	20-30			1	57							1	7												
60	40-50									1	8														
60	60-70	3	24	3	18																				
60	70-80			1	5																				





60	80-90									1	8												
60	90-100			1	14					1	3												
70	30-40									1	12												
70	50-60									1	2												
70	60-70	1	3	1	11																		
70	70-80	1	1	1	2																	1	4
70	90-100			1	1																		
80	0-10			1	5																		
80	10-20			2	10			1	10														
80	20-30			1	30																	3	12
80	30-40																						
80	40-50			1	3																		
80	60-70									1	1												
80	70-80									2	6												
80	90-100									1	4			3	12								
90	20-30																						
90	40-50									1	3												
90	70-80									1	6												
90	90-100									1	4												
100	10-20																					1	11
100	80-90			1	5																		
110	0-10									1	2												
110	30-40									1	6												
110	70-80			1	2					1	4												
110	80-90									1	15			1	21								
110	90-100			2	27					2	7			2	14								
120	10-20									1	5								1	6		1	6
120	40-50			1	61																		
120	70-80									3	9												
120	80-90									1	2												
120	90-100									2	33			3	22	2	13						
130	50-60											2	36										
130	60-70			1	3	1	4			1	11												





130	90-100								2	5		5	45									
140	0-10								1	1												
140	10-20								1	4												
140	30-40			1	9				1	15												
140	90-100								2	6												
150	0-10								1	3												
150	10-20			2	19																	
150	40-50											1	4									
150	50-60								1	2												
160	30-40								2	8						1	10					
160	90-100			1	2																	
170	10-20						3	12														
170	20-30								1	4												
170	80-90			2	12																	
190	80-90			1	1				1	2												
210	0-10																		1	2		
210	30-40			1	42																	
210	60-70	1	1	1	4									1	1							
230	30-40								1	6												
230	60-70			1	4																	
230	80-90			1	20																	
240	50-60			1	10																	
270	40-50			1	7																	
290	70-80																				1	5
290	80-90					46					46										1	12

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nce separated by date (Not Bold dates to 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011, **Bold** dates to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011)





### 13.2 Flint Report - David McOmish

Flint artefacts from the Bures field-walking excavations included struck flints and fire-cracked flint. These were identified to type and date if possible, with retouching and other distinguishing characteristics noted if present. In most instances a date could not be established. Flint artefacts are listed here in stint order with particular points of interest discussed in sections 8 and 9.

	Unworked Flint Nodule	Primary Working Waste flakes	Secondary Working Waste flakes	Fire- cracked Flint	Blades	Flakes	Tools	Comments
			1 - core					
150/70-80			reducer					
20/50-60				1				
180/40-50			1					
240/80-90				1				
150/60-70			1 - core reducer					
90/80-90				1				
80/70-80				1				
80/90-100				2				
90/50-60				1				
30/90-100				1				
170/30-40		1 - ? core reducer						
180/40-50		reducer		2				
150/40-50				1				
170/50-60				1				
170/50-60		1		_				
140/0-10				1				
210/50-60				1				
150/10-20				1				
30/90-100			1					
230/70-80				1				
10/90-100				4				
10/40-50			1					
100/40-50							1	Mesolithic core
170/10-20		1 - ? core reducer						?Mesolithic core
30/40-50				1				
250/40-50			1					
220/0-10			1					
50/0-10				1				
100/0-10				1				
100/0-10			1					
80/50-60				1				





ı	l i	1	Ī	I	I	1	İ	1
		1 - ? core	2					
160/10-20		reducer	2					
30/50-60				1				
180/50-60		1						
230/50-60				1				
260/50-60			1					
30/0-10				1				
210/0-10		1						
290/80-90					1			Possible fabricator/strike- a-light
140/40-50			1					
150/90- 100				1				
170/80-90			1					
40/50-60				1				
290/80-90				1				
110/0-10				1				
20/70-80		1 - ? core reducer						
300/10-20			1					
40/50-60					1		1	Flake core - ?Meso
60/20-30			1					
80/90-100		1						
150/90- 100			2					

Table 2: All flint and burnt stone identified through the field-walking at Bures for both days.





## 13.3 Other Finds – Catherine Ranson

Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0-10	82	CBM x59, thick clear curved glass x1
0-10	186	CBM x 40
0-10	136	0
0-10	12	0
0-10	91	CBM x5
0-10	96	CBM x46
0-10	53	CBM x19
0-10	39	CBM x10, clear curved container glass x1
0-10	13	CBM x10
0-10	0	0
0-10	37	CBM x2
0-10	53	CBM x32, Grey Shot gun cartridge frag? x1
0-10	19	0
0-10	9	CBM x13
0-10	17	CBM x14, Modern drain frag x1
0-10	10	CBM x3
0-10	9	CBM x14
0-10	5	CBM x8, clear plastic bottle
0-10	4	0
0-10	7	CBM x1
0-10	12	Perspex x1
0-10	8	0
0-10	4	Clear flat glass x1
0-10	0	Orange twine
0-10	1	0
0-10	1	0
0-10	3	0
0-10	0	Pink Shotgun Cartridge x1
0-10	1	CP Stem x1
0-10	0	Pink Shot gun Cartridges x2
0-10	2	0
	Total: 910	
	0-10 0-10 0-10 0-10 0-10 0-10 0-10 0-10	0-10         82           0-10         186           0-10         12           0-10         91           0-10         96           0-10         39           0-10         39           0-10         13           0-10         0           0-10         37           0-10         53           0-10         19           0-10         9           0-10         17           0-10         9           0-10         9           0-10         9           0-10         4           0-10         4           0-10         4           0-10         4           0-10         1           0-10         1           0-10         1           0-10         1           0-10         0           0-10         0           0-10         1           0-10         0           0-10         0           0-10         0           0-10         0           0-10         0           0-10         0

**Table 4:** Other finds from the stint 0-10 (dating from 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0	10-20	20	0
10	10-20	98	0
20	10-20	112	0
30	10-20	259	CBM x47
40	10-20	109	CBM x16
50	10-20	122	CBM x25
60	10-20	104	CBM x52
70	10-20	60	CBM x7
80	10-20	50	CBM x10
90	10-20	32	CBM x36
100	10-20	45	CBM x13
110	10-20	36	CBM x2
120	10-20	53	CBM x26, clear plastic shotgun cartridge? x1
130	10-20	5	Red shotgun cartridge x1
140	10-20	25	CBM x24
150	10-20	29	CBM x14
160	10-20	15	CBM x3, slag? x1





170	10-20	27	CBM x2
180	10-20	15	Animal bone (bird femur?)
190	10-20	8	CBM x3, end of shotgun cartridge x1
200	10-20	2	0
210	10-20	10	0
220	10-20	3	0
230	10-20	2	CBM x1
240	10-20	2	Thin flat plate iron
250	10-20	5	0
260	10-20	2	0
270	10-20	1	Strip of black plastic
280	10-20	0	0
290	10-20	1	0
300	10-20	1	0
		Total: 1253	

**Table 5**: Other finds from stint 10-20 (dating from 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of	Other Finds
_		Tile	ODM -00 and abstruct contribute of
0	20-30	101	CBM x30, red shotgun cartridge x1
10	20-30	74	CBM x27, thick clear curved glass x1
20	20-30	83	CBM x28
30	20-30	103	CBM x45
40	20-30	53	CBM x3
50	20-30	86	CBM x49, slate x1
60	20-30	37	CBM x10
70	20-30	72	CBM x15, slate x1
80	20-30	18	Brick fragment x1, CBM x12
90	20-30	0	0
100	20-30	20	CBM x7
110	20-30	38	CBM x4, clear glass container rim x1, clear plastic shotgun cartridge? x
120	20-30	18	CBM x26
130	20-30	7	CBM x10
140	20-30	5	0
150	20-30	12	CBM x26
160	20-30	30	CBM x19
170	20-30	18	CBM x22
180	20-30	5	CBM x2
190	20-30	16	0
200	20-30	0	0
210	20-30	2	0
220	20-30	12	CBM x2
230	20-30	9	CBM x3
240	20-30	5	0
250	20-30	0	CBM x1
260	20-30	4	CBM x2
270	20-30	0	0
280	20-30	2	CBM x1
290	20-30	8	0
300	20-30	3	0
		Total: 841	

**Table 6:** Other finds from the stint 20-30 (dating from 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011)





Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0	30-40	25	CBM x11, red shotgun cartridge x2
10	30-40	40	CBM x7
20	30-40	42	Thin clear flat glass x1, red shotgun cartridge x1
30	30-40	59	CBM x19, thick green bottle glass x1
40	30-40	35	CBM x7
50	30-40	42	CBM x25
60	30-40	34	CBM x10, brick fragment x1
70	30-40	9	CBM x4
80	30-40	7	CBM x3
90	30-40	6	CBM x2, blue shotgun cartridge x1
100	30-40	4	CBM x2
110	30-40	12	Brick fragment x1, CBM x8
120	30-40	44	CBM x10
130	30-40	1	0
140	30-40	18	CBM x13
150	30-40	12	CBM x9
160	30-40	36	0
170	30-40	17	CBM x1
180	30-40	11	CBM x3
190	30-40	4	CBM x3
200	30-40	3	0
210	30-40	6	CBM x1
220	30-40	0	0
230	30-40	5	CBM x1, slag? x1
240	30-40	2	0
250	30-40	0	0
260	30-40	0	0
270	30-40	42	CBM x4
280	30-40	0	Clear plastic shotgun cartridge? x1
290	30-40	1	0
300	30-40	0	0
		Total: 517	

**Table 7:** Other finds from the stint 30-40 (dating from 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0	40-50	12	0
10	40-50	8	0
20	40-50	15	CBM x1
30	40-50	33	CBM x8
40	40-50	52	CBM x7, animal bone (scapula) x2
50	40-50	16	0
60	40-50	8	CBM x1
70	40-50	0	0
80	40-50	19	CBM x2
90	40-50	4	0
100	40-50	18	CBM x8
110	40-50	11	Oblong stone with rounded edges x1
120	40-50	27	CBM x9
130	40-50	7	0
140	40-50	9	CBM x3
150	40-50	6	CBM x1
160	40-50	10	CBM x7
170	40-50	17	CBM x4
180	40-50	10	Green bottle glass x1
190	40-50	0	0





200	40-50	0	0
210	40-50	6	0
220	40-50	4	0
230	40-50	8	CBM x2
240	40-50	2	0
250	40-50	1	CBM x1
260	40-50	4	CBM x2
270	40-50	1	0
280	40-50	0	0
290	40-50	1	0
300	40-50	0	0
310	40-50	0	0
320	40-50	1	0
		Total: 310	

Table 8: Other finds from stint 40-50 (dating from 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011 up to 70/40-50. 80/40-50 dates from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0	50-60	27	CBM x8
10	50-60	5	0
20	50-60	6	Concrete tile x1, blue shotgun cartridge? x1, animal bone x1
30	50-60	2	0
40	50-60	1	0
50	50-60	37	CBM x4
60	50-60	0	0
70	50-60	18	CBM x2
80	50-60	14	CBM x5
90	50-60	6	0
100	50-60	26	0
110	50-60	14	0
120	50-60	29	CBM x7
130	50-60	12	0
140	50-60	23	CBM x1
150	50-60	40	CBM x1
160	50-60	5	CBM x4
170	50-60	7	0
180	50-60	2	0
190	50-60	0	0
200	50-60	3	CBM x1
210	50-60	9	CBM x3
220	50-60	3	CBM x1
230	50-60	1	CBM x1
240	50-60	4	0
250	50-60	2	Light blue bottle glass x1slag? x2
260	50-60	1	0
270	50-60	2	0
280	50-60	0	CBM x1
290	50-60	0	0
300	50-60	0	0
		Total: 299	

**Table 9**: Other finds from the stint 50-60 (dating from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011)





Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0	60-70	4	0
10	60-70	13	CBM x3
20	60-70	4	CBM x1
30	60-70	7	CBM x2
40	60-70	3	0
50	60-70	26	CBM x4
60	60-70	25	0
70	60-70	3	0
80	60-70	5	CBM x5, animal tooth (cow?)
90	60-70	6	CBM x2
100	60-70	20	CBM x3
110	60-70	40	CBM x8, animal bone (femur x1)
120	60-70	52	CBM x10
130	60-70	19	CBM x1, white marble like stone x1
140	60-70	0	0
150	60-70	18	CBM x1
160	60-70	8	CBM x5
170	60-70	7	CBM x1
180	60-70	1	0
190	60-70	0	0
200	60-70	0	CBM x1
210	60-70	0	0
220	60-70	2	Corroded iron blade? x1
230	60-70	2	0
240	60-70	1	CBM x4
250	60-70	3	0
260	60-70	45	CBM x3
270	60-70	0	Lumps of iron? x4
280	60-70	6	0
290	60-70	5	CBM x1
300	60-70	2	Coal x1
		Total: 314	

**Table 10**: Other finds from the stint 60-70 (dating from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0	70-80	7	CBM x6, Handmade iron nail x1
10	70-80	8	0
20	70-80	1	0
30	70-80	2	0
40	70-80	0	0
50	70-80	0	0
60	70-80	2	0
70	70-80	0	CBM x1, scrunched foil? x1
80	70-80	3	Red brick x1, CBM x1, clear flat glass x1
90	70-80	11	CBM x1
100	70-80	8	0
110	70-80	59	CBM x1, thin flat strip of leather? X1
120	70-80	104	CBM x12
130	70-80	27	CBM x3
140	70-80	23	0
150	70-80	25	CBM x2
160	70-80	1	White marble like stone? x1
170	70-80	0	Green bottle glass x1
180	70-80	6	CBM x1
190	70-80	1	CBM x1



200	70-80	8	0
210	70-80	0	0
220	70-80	0	0
230	70-80	0	0
240	70-80	0	0
250	70-80	4	CBM x1
260	70-80	1	0
270	70-80	1	0
280	70-80	1	CBM x1
290	70-80	2	CBM x1
300	70-80	2	0
		Total: 307	

**Table 11**: Other finds from the stint 70-80 (dating from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Trans S	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0 8	0-90	5	0
10 8	0-90	7	CBM x44
20 8	0-90	1	CBM x1, box flue tile x1
30 8	0-90	1	0
40 8	0-90	11	0
50 8	0-90	10	Clear container glass x1
60 8	0-90	20	0
70 8	0-90	11	0
80 8	0-90	0	0
90 8	0-90	4	CBM x2
100 8	0-90	8	0
110 8	0-90	61	CBM x5
120 8	0-90	43	CBM x3
130 8	0-90	23	CBM x5
140 8	0-90	14	Modern drain fragment x1
150 8	0-90	10	0
160 8	0-90	16	CBM x5
170 8	0-90	12	CBM x5
180 8	0-90	9	0
190 8	0-90	3	CBM/slag/vitrified? X1
200 8	0-90	8	0
210 8	0-90	1	CBM x2, corroded iron lump x1
220 8	0-90	2	0
230 8	0-90	0	CBM x1
	0-90	2	0
250 8	0-90	1	CBM x3
260 8	0-90	1	0
270 8	0-90	2	CBM x4
280 8	0-90	0	0
290 8	0-90	0	0
300 8	0-90	2	CBM x1

 Table 12: Other finds from the stint 80-90 (dating from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Trans	Stint	No. of Sherds of Tile	Other Finds
0	90-100	6	0
10	90-100	4	CBM x1
20	90-100	4	CBM x2
30	90-100	7	0





40	90-100	4	0
50	90-100	5	Slate x1
60	90-100	25	CBM x3
70	90-100	15	Dark green bottle glass x1
80	90-100	12	CBM x1
90	90-100	9	CBM x2, concrete x1
100	90-100	13	CBM x4
110	90-100	36	0
120	90-100	44	Modern drain fragment? x1
130	90-100	35	CBM x3
140	90-100	22	CBM x3, slate x1
150	90-100	7	CBM x2
160	90-100	5	0
170	90-100	7	0
180	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
190	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
200	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
210	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
220	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
230	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
240	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
250	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
260	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
270	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
280	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
290	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
300	90-100	Not walked	Not walked
		Total: 260	

Table 13: Other finds from the stint 90-100 (dating from 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011)

Total tile fragments collected through the field-walking: 5299





# 13.4 Maps

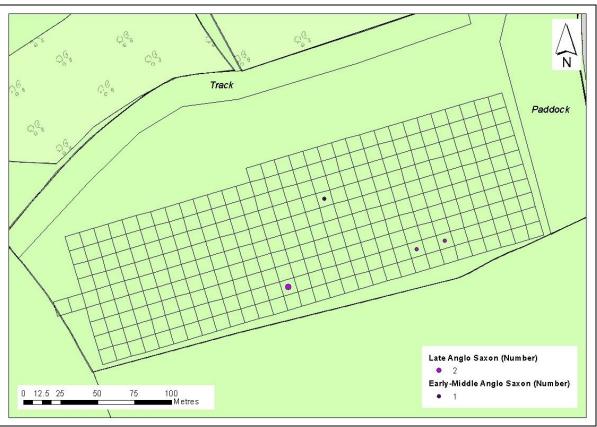


Figure 20: All Anglo Saxon pottery identified through field-walking



Figure 21: All medieval pottery identified through field-walking