
Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society

(incorporating the Cambs and Hunts Archaeological Society)

Volume LXXXI

for 1992



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Field-Work in Cambridgeshire: July 1991–December 1992

Alison Taylor & Christopher Evans

The following field-work has been carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Section:

Alison Taylor

Excavations

Abbots Ripton TL230781

Steve Kemp, for Abbots Ripton Estates

Assessment trenches within the medieval village revealed a brick and timber parsonage dating to the sixteenth century (also shown on a map in 1623),¹ and medieval pottery indicating earlier settlement adjacent to the church. No archaeological features were noted in other trenches.

Balsham, Fleam Dyke TL548541

Gerry Wait, for English Heritage

A section across the bank and ditch of Fleam Dyke revealed an unexpectedly massive defensive earthwork, its ditch originally 4.5 m. deep and 8 m. wide, with near vertical sides and a flat bottom. At least two phases of ditch were observed — the earlier ditch was V-shaped — and three phases of bank. Artefacts were scarce, but confirmed a post-Roman date.

Barnack, Prehistoric Features TF057068

Tim Reynolds, for Star Quarries

Trial trenches through prehistoric cropmarks

¹ Cambridgeshire Record Office, Huntingdon Branch PM 4/2/C.

adjacent to the Welland revealed a buried prehistoric landscape including a hengiform monument, ring-ditches, a late Iron Age/Roman trackway, Iron Age plough marks and a river channel containing waterlogged wood, carbon-dated to 1980 ± 60 BP (Beta 53123), all sealed beneath post-Roman alluvium. Three Bronze Age burials (no grave goods) were found in a ditch in the quarry face, and carbon-dated to 3560 ± 70 BP (Beta 53122).

Barrington, Anglo-Saxon Cemetery
TL37464959

Tim Malim, for English Heritage and South Cambridgeshire District Council

Approximately 2000 sq.m. in five trenches were opened by mechanical digger. Most burials were immediately apparent once the ploughsoil had been removed and all of the features were planned after hoe-cleaning. A magnetometer survey completed in April 1991 had already given a useful plot of major ditches, although it did not enable smaller features, such as graves, to be located. All of the graves that had been uncovered were excavated, but Iron Age features were only sampled, as the threat from ploughing was limited to their upper level.

The earliest feature was a ring ditch on the brow of Edix Hill 18 m. in diameter. It had been severely truncated by ploughing. It is thought to belong to a Bronze Age barrow which was presumably visible in Anglo-Saxon times and perhaps helped attract the cemetery to this site. However, extensive evidence for settlement remains dated only to the Iron Age. This included gullies and ditches, the largest still surviving to 1.5 m. wide by 1 m. deep, post-holes and pits, with one large area containing possible storage pits of which 28 were sampled. These were sur-

prisingly uniform, with flat bottoms, straight or beehive sides and were approximately 0.3 m. to 0.5 m. deep by 1.5 m. in diameter, though some were smaller and several were up to 2.5 m. in diameter. The only finds were small quantities of pottery and animal bone, one large jet ring and a ritual deposit of a complete dog skeleton with a cow skull over its head. Ritual dog deposits are not uncommon in Iron Age pits, but the association with cow skull has not previously been recognised. All of the features other than the graves appeared to have belonged to this Iron Age phase, but a strategy of minimal sampling, and the complications of dating both Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon features where domestic pottery is scarce, left some question marks.

Sixty-five Anglo-Saxon burials were excavated. Their state of preservation varied from approximately 5% of bone surviving in graves within the ploughsoil, to rare instances of 100% survival in deeper-cut graves. Bone itself was superbly preserved, so that even the smallest infant bones were retrieved, but there had been substantial damage by coprolite mining (which had removed the southern limits of the site), nineteenth-century land drains and excavations, metal-detecting and ploughing. Metalwork was normally in good condition but organic remains only survived as mineralised deposits. The burials ranged in date from early sixth to late seventh century.

Graves on the brow of the hill were most closely positioned and had suffered considerable disturbance. Shallow burials were severely damaged and artefacts were scarce. An interesting aspect of work this year was the recognition of graves which had been excavated in the nineteenth century, where artefacts had been removed and bones replaced, sometimes very neatly.

Study of human bone — one of the most rewarding aspects of the analysis of the finds from this cemetery — has produced very interesting results such as indications of leprosy, cancer, high levels of osteoarthritis, and evidence of good overall health and diet.

As in previous years, almost all of the richest graves were those of women. One very early grave contained a pair of silver wrist-clasps (Hines A) with a pair of 'marigold' design saucer brooches, 18 amber and two crystal beads. Slightly later, c.520 AD, a woman was buried with a pair of very small saucer brooches (one gilded) and a record number of beads for this cemetery (189 amber, three glass, two 'white substance' and one crystal), plus a latchlifter and a pair of wrist-clasps. She was part of a double burial with a man, who was accompa-

nied by a spear (Swanton H2), knife and buckle. Two burials later in the sixth century had bags of objects with large purse-rings of ivory (or possibly mammoth tusk). One of these burials also had a great number of beads (146 amber and nine glass) and a pair of six-spiral decorated saucer brooches. The latest seventh-century burial had been virtually destroyed by ploughing, but its jaw area survived, accompanied by a necklace of seven silver rings, five blue and green beads and two gold pendants. One of these pendants was circular with a red glass setting; the other was a crystal in a gold sling.

Six men had spears, but only one grave had a shield-boss. An unusually deeply cut grave contained the only shield boss plus a spear, knife, buckle and bronze bucket.

Child bones normally had no grave goods associated with them, but one infant of about three years had a plain pot and eight glass beads. A neonatal infant was buried under the head of a slightly-built young woman, probably the mother, and another infant lay on a man's pelvis. A rare find was a child burial which had a small spear by his head. One part of the cemetery had a concentration of six children close together.

In one area an Iron Age ditch, in-filled by Anglo-Saxon times, was used for a string of 12 burials, of which eight were in double graves. Plague is a possible explanation to account for so many multiple burials, the re-use of a ditch in an area of scarce burials being explained by the ease of digging graves as opposed to excavating chalk marl in dry conditions.

Other grave goods in this cemetery included a bunch of four keys, two small-long brooches and one cruciform brooch, five pairs of bronze wrist-clasps, and two pots.

Interim reports on the first two years' work are available from Cambridgeshire County Council and the third report is in preparation. Artefacts will be deposited in Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Bottisham, Villa Complex and Possible Roman Temple TL557605

Ben Robinson, for National Rivers Authority

Two concentric square or rectangular timber-frame structures (20 m. in length), with a circular structure at one end, were identified in a pipe trench, adjacent to a substantial Roman masonry building. An adjacent pit contained an iron ladle and knife and several small rivetted copper alloy sheets.

Brampton, Neolithic Mortuary(?) Enclosure at the End of a Cursus TL204716

Tim Malim, for English Heritage

One-metre-wide parallel ditches enclosed an area 90 m. long by 17 m.–20 m. wide. Orientation was from northwest–southwest, and the enclosure ditches curved in at both ends, leaving openings of 5 m. wide and 7 m. wide respectively.

A shallow horseshoe-shaped ring ditch was located within the eastern terminals, but no obvious monumental details were noticed at the western end. However, a number of narrow gullies crossed the monument, spreading out from it as antennae ditches, and these appeared to terminate internally as large post-holes. Several pits with evidence of burning were found on the west side, two of them cutting the original main ditch of the monument.

Finds were few, and their absence is significant, suggesting deliberate cleaning or a lack of domestic activity in the vicinity.

Brampton, Prehistoric Ditches and Settlement TL201715

Tim Malim, for Ekens Professional

Assessment trenches revealed the presence of an Iron Age 'settlement' enclosure containing the eavesdrip gully of at least one roundhouse (7.5 m. diameter), an associated contemporary ditched field system, and a series of earlier parallel ditches running north–south, which probably date to the Neolithic period. The density of finds was very low.

Brampton, Roman Rural Settlement TL206715

Ben Robinson, for English Heritage

A droveway separated small rectangular enclosures from an area of intensive farming-related activity, including an animal-powered grinding machine and four possible grain-drying kilns. Building stones and tiles indicate a substantial building in the area.

Catworth TL08657496

Lesley Hoyland, for Henry Boot, Southern Ltd

Assessment trenches revealed no archaeological remains.

Colne, Medieval Pottery Kiln TL37057603

Kit Watson, for THN and B. Bluff

Trial excavations within a farmyard on the outskirts of the present village revealed the first clear evidence for a medieval pottery kiln in this county. Two stoke-pits and large dumps of pottery sherds, including several obvious 'wasters', were discovered. A full report is awaited, but provisional notes by Hilary Healey revealed three fabric types, of which type 1, and possible type 2, seem to belong to the thirteenth century and type 3 to the sixteenth century. Type 1 (dark-brown to black surface, red and grey core) included jugs, pipkins, bowls, 'ginger jars' and at least one bung-hole jar; type 2 (harder fired, grey sandy ware) included jugs, bowls and a flat base, probably of a jug; type 3 (red, sandy fabric, some with white slip covered by glaze) included jugs, bowls, jars and two-handled jars with bung-holes. Glazed roundels on some of these sherds are strikingly like sherds from Bourne, Lincolnshire. This may suggest activities by itinerant potters around the Fen-edge.

Ely, High Barns TL550815

Gary Haley, for Wilcon Homes

Assessment trenches revealed no archaeological remains.

Eye TF22500285

Ken Welsh, for Peterborough City Council

Assessment trenches revealed sparse undatable features.

Fowlmere, Round Moat TL424458

Gary Haley, for Cambridgeshire County Council

A trial trench was excavated in the moat ditch to assess whether water-logged deposits survived, and whether removal of recent silts would enable a water-filled moat to be restored. The ditch profile (which was unexpectedly steep-sided and flat-bottomed) was recorded, but all of the deposits were completely dry. Unfortunately this seems to be typical of moats in Cambridgeshire, with most of them ceasing to hold water over the last five years, due to the fall in the water-table.

Fulbourn TL52555680

Simon Bray, for Vogan and Co. Ltd

Assessment trenches revealed no archaeological features.

Fulbourn, Worsted Street Roman Road
TL529519

Gerry Wait, for English Heritage

Three sections showed that the agger west of the A11 consists of pre-Roman soil horizons, a foundation of rammed chalk and gravel metalling, with side-ditches. East of the A11 (which was a major Roman road) the apparent route of the Roman road had neither certain evidence of side-ditches nor of deliberate make-up.

Godmanchester, London Street, Roman Cemetery TL24707020

Lesley Hoyland, for Twigden Homes

Thirteen Roman skeletons were excavated. Eight were regularly spaced in rows, lying east-west, three being in nailed coffins. There were no gravegoods, although a bronze bangle and iron knife occurred as stray finds. The rest of the bones were already disturbed. This is clearly part of a larger cemetery.

Godmanchester, The Parks, Roman Cemetery and Settlement TL24707085

Tim Reynolds, for Church Commissioners

Six late-Roman burials, one with a pair of bronze bangles, and a number of second- and third-century pits, ditches and foundation trenches were located, but there was no sign of a putative Roman road.

Great Wilbraham, Borrow-Pit TL556546

Simon Bray, for R. and R. Civil Engineering

Assessment trenches revealed no archaeological remains.

Harston, Manor Farm Multiperiod Cropmarks
TL418498

Tim Malim, for English Heritage

These were reported in *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society* 80(1991) p.119.

The following carbon dates have subsequently been received:

- i) 3460 ± 80 BP. Charcoal associated with human cremation in ring-ditch (Ox A 3639);
- ii) 3420 ± 90 BP. Charcoal from posthole within ring-ditch (Ox A 3638);
- iii) 1485 ± 75 BP. Charcoal from fill of Grubenhäus (Ox A 3637).

Hinxton, Roman Agricultural Cropmarks
TL487466

Gerry Wait, for Mineral Planning Services

These cropmarks proved to be unusually regular enclosures with little trace of settlement. One burnt-clay and stone structure is thought to be a corn-drying kiln. There seems to have been no earlier occupation and it is thought the site was used for purely agricultural activities associated with a nearby villa.

Huntingdon, Mill Common TL23887148

Stephanie Leith, for Huntingdonshire District Council

Test pits revealed evidence of early medieval quarrying, some of it associated with reconstruction of the town in the late Saxon period.

Little Linton TL556473

Simon Bray, for S. Taylor Esq.

Early Saxon and medieval ditches were revealed on the site of the deserted village.

Little Linton Pipeline TL556473

Drew Shotliff, for Anglian Water Services

Investigations along a pipeline affecting medieval village earthworks identified new sites of various date. A substantial Neolithic/early Bronze Age flint scatter was recorded. Possible middle Iron Age occupation was identified. Further evidence for the presence of Roman buildings on the western outskirts of Linton was uncovered. A cobbled street surface was found to be an integral part of the earthworks of the site of the deserted medieval village of Little Linton. Dating evidence recovered from the latter indicated that houses surviving as earthworks were built at some point during the ninth to eleventh centuries.

Little Paxton, Neolithic Features TL179620

Mary Alexander, for Potton Investments

Assessment trenches revealed Neolithic post-holes and gullies, and field-walking produced numerous worked flints.

Milton, Mere Way Roman Road TL462632

Richard Ozanne, for Cambridge Water Company

The course of the Roman road has shifted slightly to the west of where it was formerly thought to have run: it survives as a green lane. Flanking ditches of the Roman road were 16 m. apart between the centres, and were 1.2 m.–1.4 m. wide and 60 cm. – 70 cm. deep. The agger was 45 cm. high and 10 cm. wide, and made up of hard-packed clay.

Orwell, Medieval Village TL36125034

Paul Sperry, for South Cambridgeshire District Council

Assessment trenches in the centre of the village on two artificial ditched platforms produced a quantity of redeposited Roman pottery, but there was little evidence of medieval occupation on most of the site. Chalk foundations and clunch walls survived from buildings on the street frontage. Elsewhere, drainage ditches had been maintained to keep land dry enough for orchards and other land uses.

Pampisford, Brent Ditch TL51454753

Ben Robinson, for English Heritage

Two trenches through the Anglo-Saxon dyke at a point where the bank had been removed and the ditch ploughed flat showed that the original ditch had been 7 m. wide and 2.4 m. deep, with steep sides and a flat bottom similar to Devil's and Fleam Dykes. Four Roman coins were found near the base of the ditch.

Peterborough, Newark Hill TF208007

Ian Meadows, for Cambridgeshire County Council

Assessment trenches revealed extensive Iron Age and Roman features, one Iron Age silver coin (Coritanian), and early Saxon fragments, including part of a small-long brooch.

Stretham, Medieval Occupation TL511746

Lesley Hoyland, for the Church Commissioners

Saxo-Norman and early medieval ditches were found west of the present village, adjacent to a twelfth-century stone building which was excavated in 1990. The ditches indicated a gradual shift of this village eastwards, away from the Roman road.

Swaffham Prior, Devil's Dyke TL58456438

Gerry Wait, for Cambridge Water Company

A small section (8 m. x 3 m.) was excavated across the lower fill of the ditch. The ditch proved unexpectedly shallow (only 0.75 m. at the centre), as ditch fill had accumulated extremely slowly. It was also unexpectedly flat-bottomed and steep-sided. Three phases representing initial fill, stabilisation in open (grazed) conditions and a recent elder-dominated scrub growth were documented. Preservation of land molluscs was excellent.

Wicken, Dimnocks Cote TL545722

Simon Bray, for Euston Lime (Ltd)

Assessment trenches revealed Bronze Age ditches.

Wimblington (Stonea Camp) TL448931

Tim Malim, for English Heritage and Cambridgeshire County Council

A third season's excavations produced additional information about the Iron Age defences. The defensive ditches ranged in size from 3 m.–5 m. wide and 1 m.–2 m. deep. Well-preserved organic remains showed that on the western side ditches had held running water, but later may have been deliberately slighted, and an adult male (without grave goods) had been pushed into the upper fills. Other human bones from basal fills have been carbon-dated to 2070 ± 65 BP (Ox A 3620). Environmental evidence showed that the camp had been constructed in a managed wooded landscape of oak and birch and that the southern ditches had originally been water-filled. Trenching of the interior showed no evidence for settlement, perhaps a result of destruction from post-War ploughing. One ring-ditch was investigated. Its ditch contained post-settings but there were no features in the interior, and so its origins as a hut or ritual structure is still undecided.

Wisbech Market Place TL462096

Lesley Hoyland, for Fenland District Council

Small trial holes were excavated to determine whether proposed construction works associated with pedestrianisation of the town centre would disturb archaeological deposits. Features associated with nineteenth-century market stalls were noted, and traces of a sixteenth-century dump. Signs of medieval occupation were only apparent in sondages 1 m. in depth.

Watching briefs and, where necessary, *emergency excavations*, were carried out on the following pipelines: Childerley (medieval village and deer park); Chippenham Park and Fen River; Coton to Longstanton (Iron Age settlement); Diddington to Priory Hill (early Roman ditch and artefacts); Dullingham to Swaffhams (see Bottisham above); Hemingford to Huntingdon (middle Iron Age features); Impington to Girton (see Mere Way above); Linton and Gamlingay; Longstanton to Bluntisham; Swaffham Bulbeck to Bottisham (medieval water management system); Swavesey to Over; Thetford Aqueduct.

Surveys of earthworks were carried out at Doddington (Pocket Park), Huntingdon (Buttermel Meadow) and March (The Sconce).

In addition to the above excavations, archaeological *assessment reports* were prepared on the following development proposals: Alconbury-Fletton Parkway (A1 widening); Cambridge (Northern Relief Road); Cambridge (Southern Relief Road); Cambridge-Ely (A10 Corridor); Chippenham/Kennett (Borrow pits); Ely (Cambridge Road); Market Deeping (bypass); Sutton (nearby land), Peterborough.

Reports on all of the projects described above are available from the County Archaeological Office, Shire Hall, Cambridge.

Excavations have also been undertaken by the following organisations:

Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit

Diddington TL199653

Iain Ferris and Peter Leach, for English China Clay Quarries

Assessment trenches located separate areas of Iron Age and Roman occupation and field systems.

Board of Continuing Education

Madingley TL393603

David Trump

A trial trench beside the medieval hollow-way revealed three phases of a substantial ditch and the cobbled surface of the village street. Much medieval pottery was recovered.

Cambridge Archaeological Unit University of Cambridge

Christopher Evans

A1(M) Field Survey

An extensive field survey programme has been conducted throughout the autumn and winter 1992-3. The project consists of an initial, rapid field-walking survey of the archaeology of an irregular route corridor approximately 2 km. wide extending from the A605/Fletton Parkway junction (Peterborough) northwest to Stamford (23 km.). This was not intended to be a comprehensive field assessment, but rather an extension of a consultative desk-top report prepared by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. The survey focused on areas judged to have considerable potential, which had not previously been field-walked, and which would be affected by the choice of route. In total over 700 ha. were field-walked. The vast majority were walked on wide transects designed to locate sites, while a small number of fields were walked in more detail to more define accurately site locations. Some 27 new sites have been located, and another five accurately plotted.

New archaeological sites by period and underlying geology.

	Gravels	Limestone	Clays	Total
Neolithic	0	7	0	7 (25%)
Bronze Age	1	4	0	5 (18%)
Iron Age	0	1	0	1 (4%)
Roman	3	9	1	13 (46%)
Medieval	0	1	1	2 (7%)
Totals	4	22	2	28
	14%	79%	7%	

(one multi-period site counted twice)

These results are preliminary as the final fields have yet to be walked, and a finds study has yet to begin.

Cambridge — Brownlow Road TL442608

Archaeological investigations were carried out south of Brownlow Road in September 1991. During the investigations Roman features were discovered in the north of the development area; a single ditch of that period was recorded in the southwestern corner. The only other archaeological deposits discovered were of post-medieval and modern dates.

Cambridge — Cavendish Laboratories TL448582

In July 1991, workmen digging the foundation pits for electron microscopes in the Old Cavendish Laboratories, Free School Lane discovered substantial structural remains (walls up to 1 m. high) belonging to the medieval Austin Friary. A rescue excavation revealed evidence of Saxo-Norman occupation (yard surfaces and a ditch). The post-dissolution development of the site saw the construction of a cellared house and the Cavendish Laboratory. As a result of these investigations, the decision was taken to shift the position of the foundations so as to preserve *in situ* (i.e. bury) the Friary-related remains.

Cambridge — The Kitchens, Emmanuel College TL452583

In March 1992, a watching brief was conducted on two developer-dug trenches. In one, a substantial wall was observed relating to early

College buildings dated to the 1580s. Further foundations and a cobbled surface representing three phases of activity were recorded in the other trench: the footing of a pre-College building as depicted on the Lyne map; two walls of the demolished Bungay Building and a path associated with it, which were part of the earliest phase of the College; and two brick culverts related to nineteenth-century kitchen extensions.

Cambridge — Jesus College Library TL542588

Anticipating the construction of a Library and Computing Centre in July 1992, an assessment was undertaken within the College grounds south of the Chapel. This area is thought to have been the fairground (later known as Garlick Fair) of the Nuns of St Radegund who occupied the site from the early thirteenth century (the College was established in 1500). Thirteenth- to fourteenth-century quarries, a ditch and a well, as well as a spread of moulded cob-/daub-like mortar fragments (possibly demolition debris from the fair-yard wall), were excavated. Post-medieval quarries, minor pits and postholes, and a College-associated midden, were also found. These remains were sealed by a massive eighteenth-century make-up horizon. Whilst carried on a sixteenth- to seventeenth-century foundation, the (Listed) brick wall that borders the eastern side of the site proved to be of late nineteenth- to twentieth-century date (it had been thought to be contemporary with its footings, hence the reason for its Listing).

Cambridge — Magdalene Street TL446590

A watching brief was conducted in July 1991 in advance of the construction of a rear extension to 21 Magdalene Street. Medieval structural features were recorded.

Cambridge — Newnham House TL444577

Archaeological excavations were undertaken in July 1991 in the courtyard of Newnham House, Newnham Road, in advance of an extensive redevelopment programme. Numerous nineteenth-century services and wall foundations were revealed. Two medieval pits, probably associated with a nearby fourteenth-century manor, were excavated.

Cambridge — St Andrew's the Great TL450584

The excavation in September 1992 of a trench across the north aisle and nave of the church, founded in the thirteenth century, revealed evidence of Saxo-Norman extra-mural activity. Footings relating to both the medieval and seventeenth-century churches were found to cut early cemetery deposits. The area occupied by the present north aisle may have been used as the cemetery until the building of the present church. A sequence of floors associated with the standing church was also exposed, suggesting that the building had subsequently been raised to its present level.

Cambridge — St John's College, Chapel Court TL447580

Following on from assessment works in 1991, excavations were carried out in the Master's Garden and Chapel Court throughout the spring of 1992, in advance of a major extension to the College Library. Two trenches were opened on either side of the Penrose Building: I in Chapel Court and II in the Master's Garden. The excavation uncovered a sequence from the Roman period to the nineteenth century. In Trench I there was a number of inter-cutting Roman gravel quarry pits and substantial dumped spreads of domestic refuse of third- to fourth-century date. Between the fourth and tenth centuries the site seems to have been subject to flooding. The alluvial layers that resulted contained little cultural material. However, there was considerable evidence from the Saxo-Norman period, consisting of two post-built structures with clay floors. Quantities of burnt grain were found in association with both and, with one, a hearth.

During the thirteenth to nineteenth centuries, the area between Bridge Street and the east-west channel was intensively occupied, with separate developments occurring in the individual properties at different times. Although shifting over time, the boundaries of these properties were generally set out at right angles to Bridge Street. Throughout the period, gravel surfaces were laid down, walls built and drains dug. In the easternmost properties two clay-lined tanks were dug, probably for the storage of fish and shellfish. The remaining areas of the site, in which none of the above features occurred, seem to have been gardens into which spoil and refuse were worked.

Cambridge — St John's College, Forecourt TL448587

During November 1991, a trench was dug in the lawn in front of St John's College Chapel in advance of service groundworks. Early walls were uncovered which are believed to be the east end of the Infirmary, dating to the thirteenth century. Additional structures were also discovered, which had not previously been recorded on plans of the College buildings.

Cambridge — St John's College, Playing Fields TL440585

To mitigate archaeological destruction within the Anglo-Saxon cemetery known to lie in St John's Playing Field, two trial trenches were dug in the summer of 1991 in advance of service groundworks. While ditches probably associated with a Romano-British field system were recovered, neither funerary-related features nor even Anglo-Saxon artefacts were found.

Cambridge — Trinity College, Burrell's Field TL440585

Excavations in August 1992 on the western First Terrace-edge of the Cam, beside the Bin Brook, revealed a later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age sub-circular ditch enclosure. Also identified was a series of Romano-British and medieval field boundaries relating to the utilisation of the River's floodplain water-meadows.

Cambridge — Trinity College, Gateway TL448586

In August 1991, a small sondage was excavated in the northern front lawn of Trinity College. Sealed by medieval yard surfaces, evidence of Saxo-Norman occupation was recovered. Natural sub-soils were encountered at a relatively high level, suggesting the location of a major east-west oriented natural ridge/terrace scarp.

Cambridge — Trinity College, The Music Rooms TL447587

During renovations to the 'Undercroft' located on the north side of the College in July 1992, a

watching brief was carried out. Three walls were exposed, one of which was probably the north wall of the fifteenth-century Cloister Court of the King's Hall. The remaining two relate to a small building which was erected after the demolition of the court in 1694.

Cottenham — Gravel Diggers Farm, The Lots
TL489696

A programme of geophysical survey, field-walking, metal-detecting and open-area excavation was undertaken in September 1992 on land east of Long Drove, northeast of the village in Cottenham. Geophysical survey successfully located a number of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century land drains of a local type called 'bush-drains' and a single, presumably ancient, ditch. The field-walking and metal-detecting surveys repeated the results of the assessment: that few or no archaeological remains were present in the ploughsoil. The open-area excavations allowed the single ditch and the bush-drains to be sample-excavated. In spite of the excavation of eight, one-metre-wide sections, no dating evidence was recovered from this ditch. On the basis of a similarity of alignment with putatively Roman field systems to the west, this single feature is tentatively assigned to the Roman period. It would appear that there was no domestic occupation and very little intensive agricultural use of this area during any archaeological or historical period.

Coveney — The Wardy Hill Ringwork TL475820

Throughout the autumn of 1991, much of the Cambridge Archaeological Unit's energies were directed toward the English Heritage-funded excavation of this defended late Iron Age enclosure. Situated on the flank of Wardy Hill, the site would have commanded the northern approach into The Cove, a large marsh embayment on the north side of the Isle of Ely. Comparable to Wessex hillforts, the remarkable landward defenses (triple rampart entrance ditches) of the ringwork are without parallel in the region.

Six round buildings were excavated within the interior (one household unit/module rebuilt through time) and there is evidence to suggest that the ringwork may have been a high status residence. Earlier (Bronze Age?) features extend along the western side of the site. The ringwork was found to have truncated a burnt

flint mound and much later Neolithic/Bronze Age flintwork was recovered.

Duxford

In September 1991, 11 trial trenches were excavated in the field immediately east of Duxford Airfield. Three sites were discovered, two of which could be contiguous: Hunt's Road (TL472466) and Chuck-a-Bush View (SMR: 09741; TL 475470). These include various linear features comprising extensive Roman field systems. Within the former area a large hollow, associated with Early Neolithic flint extraction, and a Bronze Age ditch enclosure, were also discovered. At the site of Coldham's Moat (SMR: 01007; TL478467) a seventeenth-century garden moat was found to overlie a previously unknown Saxo-Norman and early medieval manorial complex.

Ely — Upherds Lane TL535806

An archaeological assessment and excavation were conducted in May 1992 in advance of a small residential development. The earliest archaeological feature, apparently of Saxo-Norman date, may have been a paddock-related boundary ditch. A phase of medieval ridge-and-furrow agriculture in the south of the site was preceded by the cutting of a series of ditches, probably of boundary or drainage function. Following enclosure in the post-medieval period, the site appears to have remained under pasture for centuries with perhaps episodic arable activity.

Ely — Walsingham House TL541801

Anticipating an extension to Walsingham House within the Cathedral precinct, a 7 m. by 3 m. trench was excavated in September 1991. Iron Age, Romano-British, Saxo-Norman, medieval and post-medieval remains were discovered. A late Iron Age/early Roman pit and small gully were found: the first features of that date to be excavated in the city. Saxo-Norman and early medieval quarrying was followed by gardening under the aegis of the Cathedral and new building works in the eighteenth to nineteenth centuries.

Fen Drayton Reservoir TL333690

A field assessment was undertaken in October 1992 on a 25 ha. site, lying on the edge of the

alluvial terraces of the River Great Ouse just west of where it empties into the fen, northwest of Fen Drayton village. The investigations confirmed that the single cropmark known within the area represents a Romano-British settlement which originated in the second half of the fourth century AD. Two previously unknown sites were also revealed. The first, of Neolithic date, is an extensive area of ditches, gullies, post-holes and pits and is potentially a settlement. This had been plough-damaged in antiquity and subsequently buried by alluvium. The second site is marked by a small area of ditches of two phases, one probably Iron Age and the second Roman or later. The Iron Age features contained small quantities of pottery and bones and suggest a settlement in the vicinity. The second phase ditches may relate to management of the area as watermeadow. A complex series of alluvial deposits, probably of late-Roman to post-Roman date, was also recorded.

The Fenland Management Programme

As part of this English Heritage-funded project, four artefact scatters were assessed throughout 1992. In all but one instance, a variant of the project's basic site sampling policy was employed. Following gridded surface collection, one-metre-square test pits were excavated on a site-appropriate grid (20 m.–40 m.) in order to evaluate densities ploughsoil finds. Each were subsequently machine-expanded into five-metre-square test stations so as to investigate whether features survive in association.

No features did survive at either the small Neolithic scatter site at Stocking Drove Farm, Chatteris (TL398818), nor at the larger, very dense, spread of the same date at Honey Hill, Ramsey (TL235855). From the latter, some 9000 worked flints had been recovered during the course of field-walking from the 1 ha. hill-top. Unfortunately the site is totally ploughed-out, existing only in the ploughsoil and no buried soil horizon survives. A more extensive early Bronze Age scatter was tested at Eye Hill Farm, Soham (TL582772). While severely damaged by ploughing, a contemporary field system was discovered over part of the area. A middle/late Bronze Age spread at Lingwood Farm, Cottenham (TL451713) proved to have largely escaped arable damage. A buried soil survives, and rectilinear post-hole buildings, pits and, again, field boundary ditches were excavated. In one test station a length of ditch, of massive pro-

portions, was found to have had great quantities of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age domestic refuse back-filled into it. Still waterlogged, half of a composite circular object (oak-dowelled ash planks, possibly a wheel), an oak plank, posts, and much roundwood were recovered from this remarkable feature.

Flint Cross — Heydon Grange TL418425

In November and December 1991, an area of approximately 85 ha., southeast of Flint Cross, was field-walked. Although the area is noteworthy for its fine listed seventeenth-century barn (Heydon Grange) and the Bran Dyke, field-walking produced no finds associated with either. Six early Neolithic flint scatters (probably settlement-related) were, however, discovered in the north of the area.

Godmanchester — The Parks TL246708

In June 1991, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 'The Parks' in advance of the redevelopment of an area of rough ground within which earthwork remains, associated with a nearby scheduled medieval manor (SAM 107), are located. Two major phases of land use were revealed: Roman quarry ditches and medieval fish tanks; the latter were probably associated with the manor.

Kirtling — Kirtling Towers TL687575

A series of works was carried out at the scheduled ancient monument of Kirtling Towers, Kirtling in the autumn of 1991. During a watching brief for a service trench, which followed the present line of the western drive, a number of foundations was observed. Most probably relate to the Tudor walled gardens, though one (behind the present house) may be the entrance stairs of Lord North's house (demolished in the eighteenth century).

Several trial trenches were also dug in advance of the lowering of the inner southeastern edge of the moat. The evidence suggests that the revetment bank of the present moat is of Tudor date. It seals a buried soil which overlies Saxo-Norman deposits. A third trench, to the southeast of the present house, demonstrated that the present three-sided moat was originally four-sided, and again was constructed in the Tudor period or just before.

Linton TL575465

A site of potential archaeological importance, proposed for housing development, was assessed by both trial pits and geophysical survey in August 1991. Some 100 m. to the southeast is the site of a Romano-British walled inhumation cemetery (SMR: O6198) and, in an adjacent field, a villa. Most of the development area was heavily covered by woods; no pre-modern finds or features were recovered.

Madingley — Madingley Hall TL392604

In August 1991, an evaluation was conducted in the grounds of the Hall to mitigate the impact of construction works involving an extension to the northwestern wing and, to the south, an access road. The investigations of the wing extension revealed a substantial late nineteenth-/early twentieth-century landscape bank of upcast natural. No evidence was found of earlier activity.

A trench which was excavated along the line of the access road revealed archaeological remains largely relating to the nearby medieval village of Madingley and to the later landscaped grounds southeast of the Hall. Two Saxo-Norman ditches were also excavated. The concentration of features within the evaluation trench warranted full excavation of the road area; this took place in January 1992. This excavation highlighted the extensive tree-planted landscape of the Hall-related period (sixteenth century plus) and, therefore, the dramatic change of land use from the earlier village-related croft and toft agriculture. One further (possible) Saxo-Norman feature was excavated which, together with the ditches investigated during the evaluation, substantiates the Saxo-Norman origins of Madingley.

Peterborough — The Fengate Depot Site TL212895

In September 1992, a field evaluation was undertaken across a 1.5 ha. site south of Pryor's Storey's Bar sub-site and southwest of the Cat's Water Iron Age settlement. Sealed by alluvium, a c.0.20 m.–0.40 m. thick buried soil survives on the site and, locally, occupation spreads and feature-associated upcast banks. A small ring-ditch (18 m. diameter), probably

surrounding a later Neolithic/early Bronze barrow, was investigated in the northwestern quarter of the area. Around this deflected the double-ditches of the rectilinear Bronze Age field system that extends throughout this and adjacent fields. While sharing the general alignment and of similar character as that previously excavated to the northeast, here the Bronze Age system differs inasmuch as it is truly co-axial in layout and its double-ditches defined large (c.70 sq.m.) sub-square 'lots'. Two contemporary round buildings were discovered and, in a quarter of one of the field blocks, the original ditch system had been modified so as to enclose an embanked settlement compound. Extensive evidence of Iron Age settlement was found along the southern fen-edge margin of the site and traces of Romano-British occupation along its western side. An Iron Age field system, in part maintained through Roman times, was found to extend across the site, probably the fields associated with the Cat's Water hamlet.

St Ives — Meadow Lane TL329706

Two fields east of St Ives were assessed in December 1991 in advance of gravel quarrying. In the northern field of the application area, trial trenches encountered a Romano-British agricultural landscape (trackways and field boundary ditches). Many of the features were partially waterlogged and are almost certainly associated with the Romano-British settlement, now destroyed, which lay some 100 m. to the west. The southern field produced no archaeological features.

West Wrattling

The area between West Wrattling and Weston Colville (approximately 110 ha.) was field-walked and the earthworks next to Hall Farm, Weston Colville were trial-trenched during August and September 1991. The area of earthworks revealed no structural remains, but only stock enclosures of tofts and a headland. Under the headland, however, possible Bronze Age features were discovered (TL614529).

Three further sites of significance were discovered through field-walking: a Roman farmstead ranging in date from the first to third centuries AD; a Saxon site up on higher ground, possibly a farmstead or cemetery; and two medieval windmill mounds.

Weston Colville — Moat House TL621533

A trial trench was dug in September 1991, in advance of the construction of an extension to an eighteenth-century house within a fourteenth(?)-century moat in Weston Colville. A series of ditches was discovered: two representing earlier field boundaries and a third, which was possibly a drainage channel associated with the moat. These features were truncated and overlain by a cobbled surface associated with the present house.

Nene Valley Research Committee

Haddon, Roman Bath House and Early Saxon Occupation TL140932

Steve Upex

Foundations of a Roman bath house dating to the third century were uncovered. Large quantities of early Saxon pottery and other artefacts were found both in the upper layers and also adjacent to the hypocaust.

Peterborough Museum

Longthorpe, Holywell Fish Ponds TL16899098

Ian Meadows

Trial trenches revealed traces of a medieval water management system as an earthen dam,

and of seventeenth-century garden walls. These walls related to the formalisation of the area into a garden associated with Thorpe Hall.

Peterborough, Bishops Road Gardens TL194984

Ian Meadows

A trench on the south side of the Cathedral precincts revealed a series of medieval and post-medieval roads outside the precinct wall. In the lower levels remains of a re-cut ditch were found, which had possibly formed part of the Saxon burghal defences.

Tempus Reparatum

Buckden TL203666

Mike Coxah, for Redland Quarries

Assessment trenches located occupation evidence dating from late Iron Age to early Roman times, including the drainage gully of a circular hut and a well.

Mepal TL425840

Jonathan Hunn, for Redland Quarries

Assessment trenches located early prehistoric ditches and one (previously unrecognised) ring-ditch.

Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society

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Theses: Mark Campbell, 'The changing residential patterns in Toronto, 1880-1910' (unpubl. M.A. thesis, University of Toronto 1971).

Articles: K.R. Dark, 'Archaeological survey at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 1984', *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society* 74 (1985) pp.81-4.

Chapters in books: John Patten, 'Changing occupational structures in the East Anglian countryside, 1500-1700', in H.S.A. Fox and R.A. Butlin (eds), *Change in the Countryside: Essays on Rural England, 1500-1900* (London 1979) pp.103-21.

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