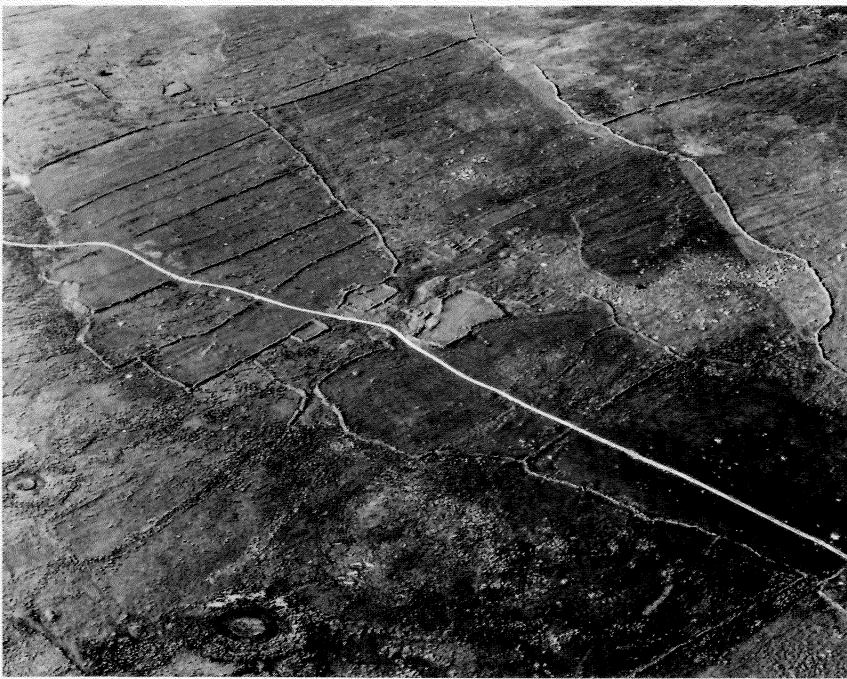


Medieval Settlement Research Group



**Annual
Report
7
1992**

Medieval Settlement Research Group

Annual Report 7 1992

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AN EDITORIAL COMMENT

I am pleased to be able to present the seventh Annual Report of the M.S.R.G., for 1992, to the members of the Group. This volume is much of a length with the sixth report and includes a summary of the Spring 1993 conference at Exeter, as well as the normal mixture of notices concerning work recently undertaken, short articles and reviews.

Like Reports Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6, this volume has been printed by Silk and Terry Ltd. of Birmingham. My grateful thanks to Michael Silk for his professional advice and all the work undertaken by himself and his colleagues.

The Annual Report is the mouthpiece of the Group. It exists to foster the research areas of interest to its membership, to facilitate the exchange of views and to spread information. Its contents are limited to what the editor receives. I would like to express my gratitude to all the many members who have sent contributions for this volume and to take this opportunity to urge members (and non-members) to send me their contributions for volume 8. I am keen to receive short reports on work undertaken in 1993 (or earlier if unreported to date) and brief articles or comments on any aspect of medieval settlement which you would like to share with other members. Let us try to keep the Annual Report as relevant, up-to-date, inclusive and stimulating as possible. Letters, Articles, Figures and Plates, please, to the Editor (address on page 2), by the end of April 1994, for the 8th Annual Report.

Nick Higham

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday, 4 December**, at **Marc Fitch House, University of Leicester, Leicester**. The theme of the seminar will be seasonal settlement.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE: 1994

The Annual Conference will be held at **Rewley House, University of Oxford** on the **11th-13th February, 1994**. The theme will be **Medieval Rural Settlement and Towns**. A programme and application form is enclosed.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIEVAL CONGRESS

Members may like to know that the Group is hoping to run a session at the International Medieval Congress on **4th-7th July, 1994**, at Addall near Leeds, on the subject: **Medieval Rural Settlement in Britain: Inventory and Prospect**.

In 1995 the group will hold a meeting jointly with the **Society for Medieval Archaeology** at the **British Museum**, on a Saturday late in March, to discuss the results of the Leverhulme Project.

A MOATED SITE, CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE AND MORE

Members may also like to know that Orpington & District Archaeological Society will be holding a half-day conference from 2pm on Saturday 30th October on the theme 'Scadbury under the Walsinghams: a moated site and its history'. Scadbury is a moated site now under excavation. The conference will focus on the site's archaeology and its history during the 16th-17th centuries when it was the seat of the powerful Walsingham family, courtiers of Elizabeth I and patrons of Christopher Marlowe.

Speakers will include social historian Joan Thirsk (on the Walsinghams and the Kentish gentry), author Charles Nicholl (on Christopher Marlowe), architectural historian Kenneth Gravett and the site's director Alan Hart.

The venue is Farrington's School, Chislehurst, Kent (accessible by public transport), and tickets are available from B J Bull, 36 Walden Road, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 5DL, price £4 (£3.50 students/OAPs). Cheques should be payable to ODAS; please enclose a sae.

There will also be an opportunity to visit the excavations at Scadbury on two public open days, 18th-19th September. Free guided tours will be given from 2-4.30 pm. Limited car parking is available at the site for the elderly or disabled. For more information, or a car park ticket (for specified day), apply to the address above enclosing a sae.

GENERAL NOTICES

RESEARCH GRANTS

The Group has some limited resources for the support of research by members within its field of interest. Small grants are available annually up to a maximum of £500 for projects relating to medieval settlement. Preference will normally be given to field survey, documentary research and the preparation of graphics rather than to excavation and the preparation of reports for publication. A summary report of the work will be required within a year and, subject to editorial consideration, may be published in the *Annual Report*.

CORRIGENDA

No corrigenda have been brought to the editor's attention.

MSRG: Annual Conference at Exeter, 13-14 March, 1992 (held jointly with the Department of Continuing and Adult Education, University of Exeter) MEDIEVAL RURAL SETTLEMENT IN DEVON AND CORNWALL

Summaries of the papers presented, variously by contributors and the editor.

Maurice Beresford: William Hoskins: an Appreciation

It was William Hoskins who was uniquely responsible for first putting a sense of place, or locality, into the study of history. Through his books, particularly those written about Exeter and *The Making of the English Landscape*, his broadcasts on radio 3 and television, and through the books which then accompanied those series, William reached thousands of the general public, whom he encouraged into that love affair with the countryside which has been such an enduring characteristic of the post-war middle classes.

William came from a grammar school background and was taken on as an economic historian working in adult education at Exeter, before transferring to Leicester to lecture in commerce. It was at Leicester that he developed his interest in landscape, lecturing for the first time in 1937 in Medieval Archaeology – a term which he may have coined, but always retaining both a research and a teaching interest in economic and social history. His interests lay primarily in quantification, population, taxation and wealth, as his volumes on Exeter's history demonstrate. After a not particularly happy period at Oxford, William returned to Leicester to become head of the first (and only) Department of English Local History so far founded.

Harold Fox – in his lecture on 'Settlements in medieval Devon, 1100-1500: some new themes and new evidence' – decided to look at types of site for which there are some indications, however slender, for that rare thing – knowledge of the way in which a settlement comes first to be occupied. His first examples were taken from among the moorside farms and hamlets of Dartmoor. He discussed a good deal of new evidence which is telling us that some manors distant from Dartmoor once owned blocks of land on the moor itself and suggested that these territorial linkages testify to the practice in the past (largely pre-Conquest) of transhumance, as they do in Kent, for example. In time (*circa* 1100-1300) some transhumance sites on Dartmoor were transformed into permanently occupied settlements, as one might expect in a period of growth of population. The two themes of initial seasonal use of settlement sites and the conversion of some seasonal sites to permanently occupied places were then extended to the fishing villages of the South Devon Coast. A rapid survey of surviving settlement on the coast was followed by a discussion of medieval documentary evidence which shows that, at least until about 1450, much of the activity on the shores of sea and estuary was in fact carried out as a by-employment from settlements situated a little way inland: the coast itself (except at port sites) was not permanently occupied, although fishing and salt-making did give rise to seasonally used huts on the shore. Then, in the late fifteenth century

and the sixteenth, one finds the conversion of these 'coastal sheilings' into permanently occupied fishing villages. By way of conclusion the social nature of these precarious villages, and reasons for their arrival in the landscape at the end of the middle ages, were tentatively discussed.

Paul Pattison: The Survey of Challacombe

This work on a remote, upland, Dartmoor township constitutes a contribution by R.C.H.M. to a wider management document. Since Challacombe extends over c. 16,000 acres of the valley of the West Webben, with 36 farms and a hamlet in the eastern-most of the two valleys, the survey took 3 years. The remains have attracted earlier interest: a survey was published in *Antiquity* in 1938 and a second had been produced by Desmond Bonney in 1971, but a more accurate and complete plan was required. Since no AP base was available the new survey was theodolite based. A surprising quantity of prehistoric evidence was revealed, even under later fields, and early reeves had been utilised in later boundaries.

There had been two medieval hamlets, one at Challacombe farm and the surviving one at East Challacombe. The deserted site was a single-row settlement, N-S, with 5 tenements in the early 17th century with unusually regular closes (by SW standards). Several survive as foundations.

The field system associated with this site is both extensive and complex. On Challacombe Down, long rectangular fields were laid out in a horseshoe shape around the contours with substantial, wide, but generally crude boundaries. Within are strip lynchets of very variable width and length forming sub-divisions. The Down summit was open but a portion had been infilled secondarily, with irregular fields. At Hamildon, on the east side of the area, large fields had been subdivided with lynchets running off a head dyke. Some later enclosures had expanded onto the moor, associated with clearance mounds c. 2.5m across so apparently not used for ploughing. At the north end there was evidence of extensive tin working with complex leets, which were certainly active in the 18th century, but which had made use of medieval field boundaries.

The origin of the field system is obscure but holdings were 30-60 acres in the 17th century. A core of infield was perennially cultivated and outfield was only temporarily (or abortively) ploughed up, on a pattern which has enabled some prehistoric remains to survive. The 17th century holdings combined closes with 'land-scores' (lynchets), but these were very scattered. Arable was still present in the 18th century. By the time the tithe was apportioned, the lynchets on holdings had been consolidated, but closes remained scattered.

The survey has produced an accurate statement in plan form of an archaeological landscape which offers at least hints of interpretation. This work has facilitated an agreement between the National Park and the Duchy which allows the farmer to extend his economic use while maintaining the archaeological features of this important landscape.

Peter Weddell and Chris Henderson: Survey, documentary research and excavation: Roadford and Sourton Down in context

Mid-Devon is an area which has been poorly researched archaeologically. In landscape terms it is a very conservative area, for long exhibiting very localised patterns of social behaviour. Major settlements mostly lie at c. 150m, on the tributaries of combes, some of which are occupied. Medieval population levels were very low. Tithe maps have formed the basis of recent settlement study, covering 6 townships including Southweek and Thrushelton. The principal boundaries are the river and streams. It was never highly manorialised and no early rentals or surveys survive in an area characterised by a high percentage of free tenancies.

At Southweek there was no trace of early buildings although a small manor house existed in the 17th century and the Kelly family had been resident lords early in the 16th. Their buildings and demesne were then leased. A 13th century document defined the boundaries of a free tenement which was virtually unchanged on the mid 19th century tithe survey. There is little information concerning medieval fields: enclosures occur at an early period and work on land-use zones has produced some evidence of woodland assarts; enclosures were sub-divided in the 17th and 18th centuries so had perhaps been even earlier.

The neighbouring parish of Ratten did provide court rolls which revealed evidence of a lost manorial settlement of Godescote, 3 floating free tenements, and fields of rye and oats and cattle, including 1 large herd. Godescote's history is one of settlement desertion: depopulation occurred in the 14th century, after which the surviving holding was enlarged and enclosed, to emerge as a holding of minor gentry or yeoman status. Lifton displayed a similar pattern. At West Wortha there was no trace of a manor but four 17th century holdings were built in a sub-oval enclosure with a hedge bank and ditch. The placename – a common type in Devon – signifies 'enclosure' and the whole was apparently a cluster of small, independent farms. At the higher site of Coxworthy a larger hamlet had developed with no hint of an enclosure.

The settlement pattern revealed certain general characteristics: the moor tops were unenclosed until the 18th – 19th centuries; the earlier sites (the DB settlements) lay in valley side locations but 4 sites of medieval date have been identified on lower ground, near the valley bottom; settlements generally form small hamlets, reducing to a single farm by the nineteenth century.

At Henard a mill was established probably in the 13th century. A mill building and pair of 19th century cottages survived on the site but there had been other buildings in the 19th century. Excavation revealed 8 or 9 small units, with small houses, which had been associated in the 19th century with lands of half acre – 12 acres. The buildings were compound but entirely of post-medieval date.

Medieval pottery implied earlier occupation but later activity had effectively destroyed most archaeological evidence of structures.

Pottery similarly revealed a medieval date for East Wortha although the site was undocumented, and it showed no evidence for the enclosure which the placename might suggest had existed. In contrast, West Wortha displayed hints of an enclosure: a late 17th century farmhouse was identified but the remaining structures were 19th century and the central part of the enclosure had been wrecked for earlier archaeology by late activity. 2 medieval buildings with paired corn dryers (apparently used for rye and oats), along with further structural fragments, were identified on the periphery.

Sourton Down lies NW of Dartmoor on a Roman – then medieval – road which was replaced thereafter by a second road alignment. This was a combe-top settlement which produced medieval pottery when excavated in 1991. It was used throughout the medieval period, ploughmarks respect the stone foundations of medieval buildings; 2 longhouses were identified with stone foundations and cob superstructure; the shippon of one had a secondary cobbled floor, beneath which post holes revealed that timber posts had previously divided up the interior into stalls; terraced areas had been hollowed out by the passage of cattle. The site was associated with both recent fixed boundaries and relict banks and 'ladder closes' across the road may have been associated with the medieval settlement.

No pottery was identified at Sourton Down previous to the 13th century, the earliest fabric being North Devon coarse ware. East Devon cooking wares are absent so it may not have been inhabited before c. 1200. Abandonment occurred by, or in, the 15th century, comparable to the very similar site at Hound Tor which was abandoned in the 14th century.

Peter Herring: Individual and community in Medieval Cornwall: the view from Brown Willy

Close analysis for postgraduate research of a detailed measured survey of the well-preserved deserted medieval settlement and associated strip-based field system on Brown Willy, the highest hill on Bodmin Moor, was extended into a more general study of the relations between individual farming households and the co-operative and communal groups which they formed by considering other archaeological sites on the Moor and by using models of farming communities partly derived from ethnography (mainly studies of early modern Irish, Scottish and Welsh communities). Both communalism/co-operation and individualism are clearly visible in the medieval field archaeology of Brown Willy and Bodmin Moor: shared pastures, fields (subdivided arable) and amenities (wells, corn-drying barns, tracks, townplaces etc) on the one hand, and separately held or owned dwellings, cow-houses, barns, mowhays, strips etc. on the other. A dynamic relationship between the two fundamental levels of society, the individual and the co-operative group, represented by the household and the hamlet, was perceptible in the arrangements within the irregular Bodmin Moor settlements. A fairly standard minimum distance of c. 20m between long-houses, within shouting but beyond talking distance of each other, and the apparently deliberate placing

of individually held features on the 'back' sides of farmsteads, away from the communal townplaces, emphasised the distinctly private nature of individuals' property.

The dynamism was, of course, based on the tension created by communalism both supporting individuals – routine co-operation making agricultural production feasible or variable – and also restricting them through the communal rules, customs and responsibilities designed to protect individuals' rights inhibiting experimentation and entrepreneurialism. Ultimately, however, the individual or household, as the basic economic and social unit, was able to force change in the later medieval period in Cornwall, breaking out of communal systems in three distinct ways.

At Brown Willy the hamlet appears to have *disintegrated*, presumably after a hamlet meeting to secure agreement, probably by the late 13th century. Instead of one hamlet and its single field system there were now three settlements spaced through the old fields, the shrunken hamlet at Lower Brown Willy and new single farms with adapted strip fields at Higher Brown Willy and Slades. Although such clear archaeological evidence for disintegration is rare in Cornwall, there are in toponymy scores of examples of split Cornish townships from the 13th and early 14th centuries; places with prefixes to their names like Higher and Lower, Great and Little, East and West.

More common though are the two other forms of assertion of the individual. Consolidation of strips by agreement and then their enclosure from the subdivided arable produced the fossilised furlongs and strips common throughout Cornwall. These tend to be associated with larger hamlets where agreements to completely disintegrate may not have been possible. Probably even more common was the absorption of all of a hamlet's land by one dominant household (Harold Fox's engrossment). Both archaeology and contemporary documentation indicate that most Cornish hamlets were small, usually less than 6 farmsteads, and shrinkage to single farms was thus quite feasible. Once in control the single households could extensively reorganise the field systems, producing the relatively irregular patterns which dominate the lowland Cornish landscape in which, however, the shapes of furlongs or bundles of strips are often still visible.

It was suggested that the relatively early assertion of the individual in Cornwall may have been due to a combination of comparatively unrestricted tenurial arrangements (perhaps visible archaeologically in certain field patterns) and the increasing commercialisation of a rural economy already enriched by a great diversity of occupations, not just the burgeoning tin industry but also shipping, fishing and victualling, quarrying and wool processing.

Peter Rose: Cornish settlements – patterns and origins

The pattern of settlement and land use in Cornwall today is firmly rooted in the medieval period. A study of the dispersed pattern of medieval hamlets and farms (some six or seven thousand of them) provides a documented framework which gives a context both to post-medieval developments and to prehistoric precursors.

Work in this area by the Cornwall Archaeological Unit has

depended on a county-wide 1:25000 map coverage compiled by Ann Preston-Jones using the Institute of Cornish Studies Place-Name Index compiled by Dr Oliver Padel. The maps aim to record all documented settlements and show, amongst other things, the earliest reference to each place. A series of overlay maps showing just the documented medieval settlements gives a good idea of the pattern of medieval settlement. Indeed the frequency of Cornish place-name elements such as *tre* and *bod* suggest that the pattern is predominantly pre-Norman in date.¹

An accompanying list of documented settlements provides a starting point for identifying the archaeological resource, as it notes those settlements which are deserted or 'lost', an estimated 750 places in total. Many are relatively easy to locate because they survived long enough to be mapped in the 18th or 19th centuries before they were finally abandoned. An example is Tybesta near Grampond, an important Domesday manor where in the 14th century there were 4 messuages, reduced to a single farm by 1840 and now deserted. What is the archaeological potential of such sites? Magnetometer survey at Tybesta by the English Heritage Ancient Monuments Lab (Neil Linford and Mark Coles) has revealed a complex of enclosures of which the 1840's farm forms only a very small part. Another survey by the same team has recorded enclosures adjoining the present farm of Porthcollum, St Erth, first recorded in 1317. The survey was in conjunction with excavations by Jim Navin of Exeter University; the enclosure ditches have produced bar lug pottery of presumed 9th-11th century date. It is likely that similar results would be achieved around very many Cornish farms. One of our priorities at the CAU is to systematically identify the deserted settlements and look for evidence of shrinkage. As a start, this will be a feature of a Rapid Identification Survey in north east Cornwall commissioned by the RCHME.

Working from the settlement overlay maps it is possible to get a good general view of patterns of settlement and land use, and identify, for example, the contrast between the historic settled areas, with densely spread farms and hamlets, and the historic heath or moorland areas, devoid of settlement. Some of the latter are still apparent in the landscape today, such as Bodmin Moor and parts of West Penwith, but in other cases virtually nothing of the heathland survives. As an example, the extent of an area of heath approximately 5 x 5 km between Truro and St Agnes can be reconstructed from the contrast between the rigidly rectangular fields cut out of the heath in the 18th and 19th centuries and the more irregular and sinuous boundaries associated with documented medieval settlements. Such distinctions between the historic heathland and the historic settled areas are likely to go back well into prehistory. A simple mapping exercise therefore provides an invaluable starting point in investigating the history of the landscape.

The settlement overlays also provide a pattern which can be compared to that of the late Iron Age and Roman period. Both the Romano-British courtyard house settlements in West Penwith and the enclosed farming settlements ('rounds') prevalent through Iron Age and R-B Cornwall, are similar to medieval settlements in their general characteristics, being densely scattered farms and hamlets, and similar too in their general distribution and in the areas they avoid (i.e. the 'historic heathland'). When the medieval

and late prehistoric settlements are plotted together the general impression is that they are actually part of the same pattern, with the courtyard house settlements and rounds representing those settlements which have gone out of use, and the documented medieval settlements those which have continued, mostly to the present day.

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1. O. Padel, 1985. *Cornish Place-Name Elements* (Cambridge).

Field visit to Dartmoor (Reported by Christopher Dyer)

Members of the group enjoyed a field visit in excellent spring weather led by Deborah Griffith, archaeological officer to the Dartmoor National Park. At Challacombe both the settlement and field systems were admired. The lecture on these the previous day made the visit even more rewarding, though to see the fields was a revelation, because it had not been apparent from the slides that in spite of the lynchets and terracing of the strip fields, they still sloped at a remarkable angle, presenting a considerable challenge to the medieval ploughman. The preservation of the whole landscape, coinciding with the territory of a medieval hamlet, is exactly the type of venture advocated by the Group, and we hope that in the future representative medieval landscapes from other parts of England will be similarly preserved. We heard though of the complexities of the administration of such a project, involving a number of different interest groups, with difficult decisions to be made in balancing archaeological conservation, the protection of wildlife, and the needs of farming and tourism.

In the afternoon the group saw a model of conservation and display of a medieval farmstead at Hutholes, where the public were given access to a well-kept site and provided with interpretative information. This was a sad contrast with Houndtor, a site in the guardianship of English Heritage, the walls of which are deteriorating where no effort has been made to display or explain an important site. We realized also that more survey work needs to be done, like that at Challacombe, on the surrounding fields and landscape.

THE DESERTED SETTLEMENT OF DOLPHENBY, CUMBERLAND by Brian K. Roberts and Michael Alexander.

Dolphenby is a deserted hamlet, perhaps occupied between about 1100 and the early nineteenth century. The plan presented here is based upon 30 x 30 equilateral triangles laid out from a base-line kept straight by a theodolite but measured with a chain, and was created by First Year undergraduate students. We thank them for their assiduity and patience, and the landowner, Mr. Holden Hindley, for kindly allowing us to work on the site. The earthworks lie in a pasture field to north of but not immediately adjacent to the present farm of that name (GR NY 573314). They are shown on air photographs in the possession of Cumbria County Council¹ which reveal the presence of what appear to be a series of long-house farmsteads, in number at least four, possibly six. This is confirmed by the field mapping.

The visible buildings form a rather irregular row on the north-eastern side of a rather flat area of land gently

sloping to the north-west, free of ridge and furrow, generally free of buildings and to be interpreted as a green. Above the well-marked lynchet along the south-western edge of the green the very slight remains of structures can be seen but there must be a suspicion that digging might reveal others which have been buried beneath a plough-headland. The straight narrow ridge and furrow of this part of the site is probably 'late', i.e. not earlier than the eighteenth century and at its northern end seems to overlie earthworks. At the east end of the settlement's northern row a well-marked enclosure lies over the ridge and furrow and this can be interpreted as the last surviving farmstead on the site, perhaps the immediate precursor of the present Dolphenby Farm. That use, if not occupation, continued into the nineteenth century is suggested by pottery of that date from the molehills of this area. Nevertheless, these same molehills, and others scattered along the north row, have also produced medieval pottery in some quantity and, although this has to be professionally assessed, occupation back to at least the thirteenth century is attested.

The ridge and furrow on the northern and eastern side of the site poses particular problems of interpretation. That to the east comprises broad (ox-ploughed?) ridges which have subsequently been split by later work with a horse-plough. The most easterly sub-rectangular toft lies over this ploughing. The ploughing immediately behind the visible buildings, is truncated by the ha-ha which delimits the northern side of the site and appears to be narrow rig of relatively late date. At two points, however, it follows and overlies earlier banks, extending backwards at right angles to the NW-SE orientation of the row. These may reasonably be interpreted as the traces of former 'long toft' boundaries which are a key morphological feature in most village plans of the Eden valley.² It is probably the creation of a ploughed field over these which has complicated the toft area-green boundary at the north-western end of this row, perhaps intruding upon a roadway skirting edge of the green.

There are at least three structures visible on the green, one on rising land at the south-eastern end is large enough to be either a building or, more probably, a pound; further to the north-west, on a wetter area, are the faint traces of a rectangular structure, just detectable beneath the enveloping turf, set near, but not related to a high domed mound. This latter is as likely to be a natural residual of drift as wholly artificial, but in height and general character is comparable to a small motte, apparently wholly without outworks, such as is still to be seen in the Irish planted village of Newcastle Lyons, in another region of Norman planted settlements.³ The north western sector of the green, effectively dammed by the ha-ha wall, now tends to be marshy, but was no doubt once more freely draining although coursed by natural spring-flows. Finally, immediately to the south and east of the site lie other earthworks, a roadway, with possible shallow quarries and traces of a major boundary bank, which is more visible within the adjacent wood. In the fields to the south recent ploughing has eliminated all earthworks, 'recent' because the slight rise of the plough-truncated boundary bank is visible *beneath* the quite modern barbed wire fence delimiting the southern edge of the site yet it is no longer to be seen in the field to the south. One known feature of the site has not been discovered with certainty: about

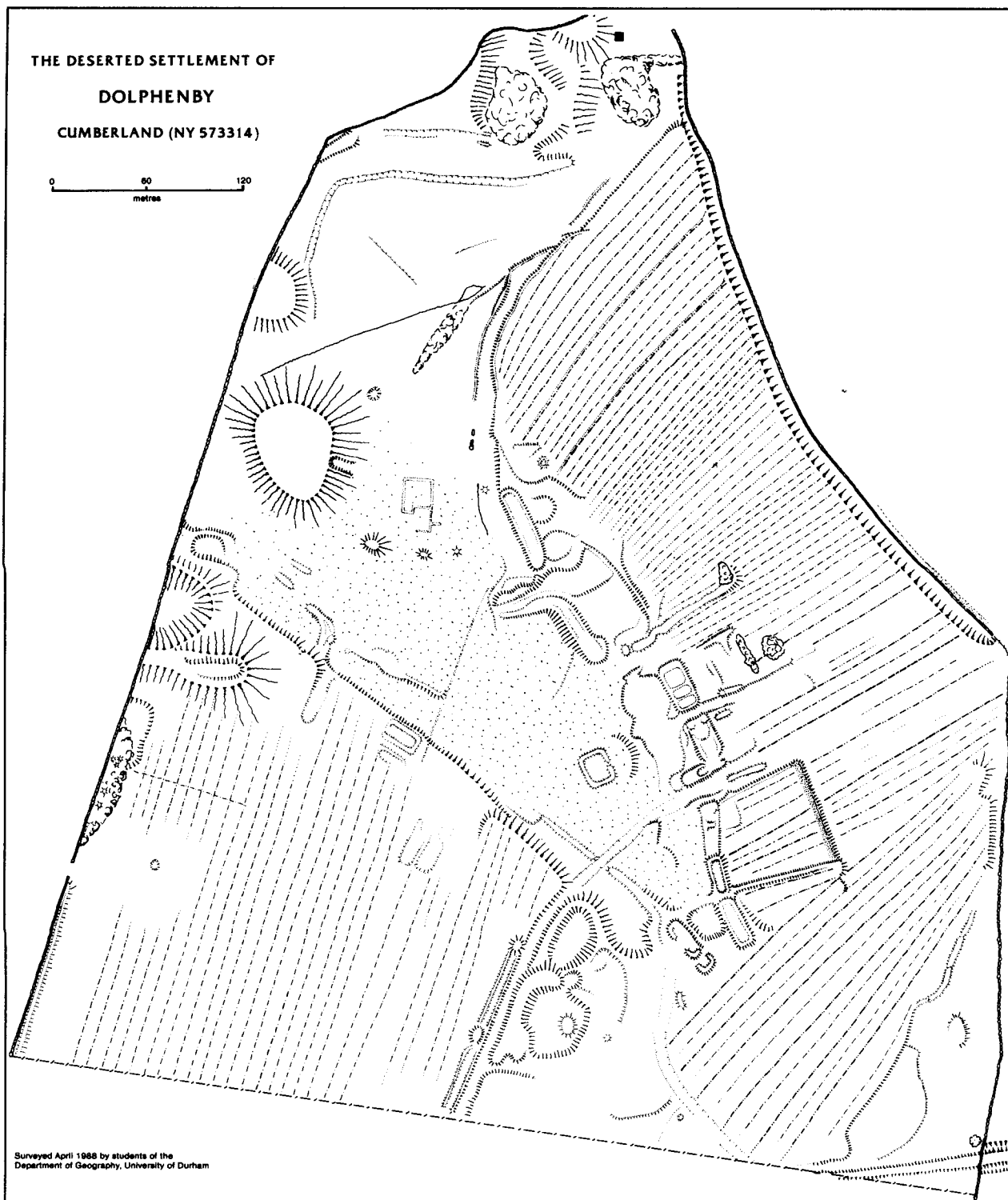


Figure 1: The Deserted Settlement of Dolphenby

twenty years ago an outbreak of foot and mouth disease necessitated the slaughter of the estate's stock, and these were buried in at least two, if not three, large graves, somewhere in the area. It is possible that these are to be seen in the areas of disturbed ground, over the ridge and furrow, to the north of the northern row, or in the disturbance at the north-western end of the green.

Dolphenby is a depopulated, planted settlement established during the early decades of the twelfth century. It is a doubly important site because excavation could resolve a

troubled question; was the twelfth century plantation taking place upon an the site of an earlier settlement from which Scandinavian suffix *-by* was ultimately derived or was it located upon a wholly new site? *Dolphinerbi* is first documented in 1202, as a personal name (*Gilbertus de Dolphinerbi*) and is one of a group of settlements incorporating eleventh or twelfth century Christian names and the Scandinavian suffix *-by*. Debate concerning these involves the extent to which names of this group represent the re-naming of an older generation of settlements bearing Scandinavian names or are wholly new plantations of the

period 1100-1130.⁴ This was a time of colonisation sponsored by the English crown, following the taking of Carlisle by William Rufus in 1092, a conquest actively consolidated by Henry I.⁵ Surviving village plans, as at Gamblesby and Glassonby, frequently show traces of regular or part-regular rows of tofts, usually with a green, behind which long strips, either 'long tofts (<250m)' or 'strip tofts' (>350m), form a core furlong for the townfields. In a few cases, as at Farmanby (GR NY 593372), field evidence suggest that there need never have been more than a single farmstead on the site, in such a case the *locator* presumably being willing to render any services himself or with his family.

In an area where much work has been done on the putative prehistoric and Romano-British remains, the recording of earthworks associated with the deserted and surviving settlements of the medieval period remains an urgent necessity, for the lowland settlement foci, as well as being of intrinsic importance in themselves, are of wider significance in tracing and reconstructing the transition phases between what is properly 'prehistoric' and what is properly 'historic'.

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RECENT RESEARCH INTO THE MEDIEVAL LANDSCAPE OF SOUTH WEST WALES: THE DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST'S HISTORIC SETTLEMENT PROJECT by Jonathan Kissock

In the summer of 1992 the Dyfed Archaeological Trust embarked upon a broad-based analysis of the historic settlements of part of south west Wales. This programme is financed by Cadw and is intended to run for three years. This item has the intention of setting out the aims and objectives of the project and the progress made towards achieving them.

Two contrasting areas have been selected for examination: the districts of South Pembrokeshire and Dinefwr. There are clear differences between the two in terms of physical form and settlement history. South Pembrokeshire is a lowland region which is surrounded by water on three of its four sides, whereas Dinefwr is an inland, upland area.

South Pembrokeshire was seized by the Norman conquerors in the late eleventh and early twelfth centuries. It was subsequently settled by immigrants from England, Normandy and, possibly also, from Flanders and, before long, manorialised and anglicised. Dinefwr remained an area of more dispersed settlement, probably with the essentially pastoral economy thought to be characteristic of much of mid-Wales. The southern part of Dinefwr district lies within the south Wales coalfield and hence it contains significant relic industrial settlements. To date work has concentrated entirely on South Pembrokeshire; thus the author has been able to build upon his previous work here (MSRG Annual Report 5, pp. 6-7.)

Although the Dyfed Archaeological Trust maintains an extensive sites and monuments record for the whole of the county, it is – by its very nature – incomplete. It reflects, on one hand, the interest of past generations of scholars, and on the other, responses to threats to a range of sites and monuments. Recent demands placed on the sites and monuments record have served to show that there are some deficiencies in the existing record in terms of the information which can be used in the planning process. One context in which this is noticeable is the evaluation of proposals made for building on currently unused land within village boundaries. The aim of the project is to rectify the deficiencies by identifying those areas and types of sites within the historic landscape which are most at risk and to suggest possible excavation programmes, fieldwork strategies and conservation priorities.

In order to enable the Trust to respond to these perceived threats the research has, in part, focused on seventy nine settlements selected because they are now villages. This selection was based upon examination of maps and a consideration of the lists of nucleations for which both the South Pembrokeshire District Council and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park had drawn up local plans. This selection was widened by the incorporation of a further thirty three settlements. None of these can be considered as a nucleation today, nevertheless there is evidence to suggest that a substantial proportion of them were centres of importance in the medieval period. The identification of this group is an important step towards identifying locations which may have been deserted – to a greater or lesser degree – since the medieval period.

The project began with the identification of all relevant documentation. Some of this came from printed sources – the indices to the *Calendars of Inquisitions Post Mortem*, *Ministers' Accounts* and *Letters Patent* were searched and relevant entries copied. Material was also taken from the British Library catalogues of manuscripts, the *Black Book of St. David's*, the writings of Gerald of Wales and a wide range of other sources. The card catalogues of both the Departments of Pictures and Maps and Manuscripts at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, and the Pembrokeshire County Record Office, Haverfordwest, were also searched in order to identify more source material. Early work also included an examination of the Trust's extensive holdings of air photographs and the collation of map sources. This material together with a thorough reading of secondary sources provided the basis for a series of summary maps and for a review of the history of settlement patterns over the period from c. AD 800 to c. AD 1500.

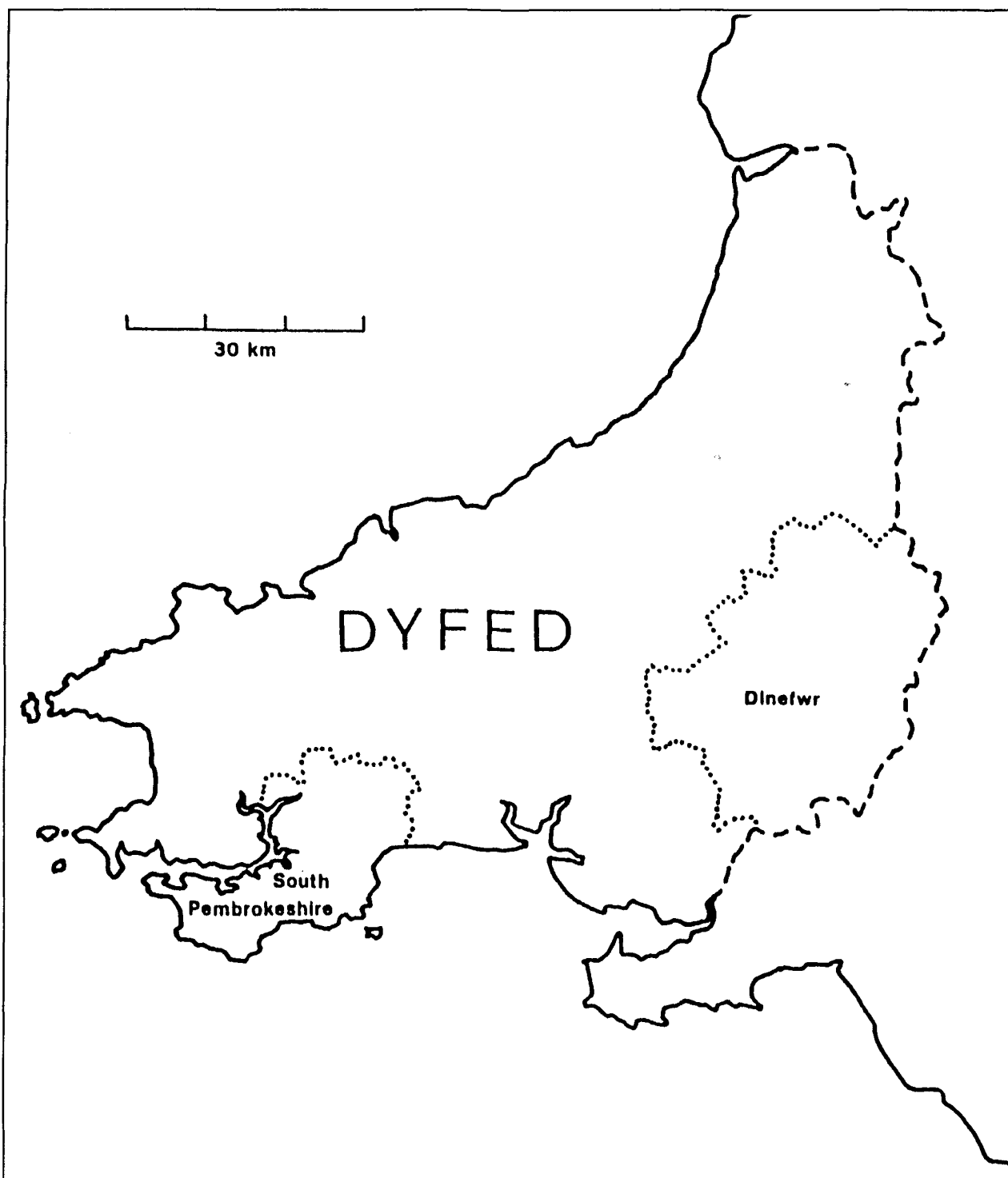


Figure 2: South West Wales

This review was essentially a piece of preliminary analysis identifying areas and themes which will repay more thorough examination in the future.

These summary maps have formed the basis for a series of analytical studies of various categories of evidence. The range of material they cover is diverse. It includes evidence for activity in the early Christian period, village morphology, tenurial patterns in the middle ages, the location and value of churches (as given in the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas) and the nature of placenames. Maps made to date have indicated that it is possible to differentiate between primary and

secondary settlement and, possibly "pockets" of Celtic survival within the Anglo-Norman landscape. This information has also been presented in a matrix format making it possible to search for correlations between various categories of evidence with the aim of compiling a multi-faceted typology of settlements.

A very important element of the work has been the rapid survey of the seventy nine villages. The purpose of these field visits was to establish the extent of surviving features (house platforms, hollow ways, boundary features etc.) which can be examined in greater detail, perhaps by

geophysical methods or trial excavation. Suitable locations were identified in seventeen of the villages; this figure indicates that there is some potential for future archaeological work in virtually a third of the fifty locations shown as nucleated settlements on the second edition of the Ordnance Surveys 25":1 mile county series maps (which were made just before the First World War). Fieldwork is now underway on the thirty three minor settlements.

Detailed files have been constructed on a community by community basis. As far as possible each file contains comparable information under a series of standardised headings. These include settlement morphology, archaeology, field systems, churches and mills. References are also included to early documentary sources, maps drawn prior to the tithe maps and to placename evolution. Copies of the modern and second edition 25":1 mile maps are included; many of these have been annotated to give an interpretative account of settlement history and origins, also marked are the sites which would repay further investigations and the areas which have been rendered sterile by modern activity. Certain files also contain aerial photographs.

Three different products are envisaged as resulting from the Historic Settlements Project. First, the series of community files which will form a major resource for sites and monuments record enhancement, for development control work and for detailed comment on local plans. Second a pair of historic settlement project reports for each of the two district councils. Third, a monograph or a series of broad-based, well researched papers which will serve to illuminate various themes in the history area.

NEW LIGHT ON A MISSING 13TH CENTURY NEW TOWN IN DORSET by Thomas C. Welsh

In 1286 King Edward I appointed officials to lay out a new town with a harbour at or near a place called Gotowre super Mare in the parish of Studland, Dorset (Patent Rolls 1281, 217). This was to have sufficient streets and lanes and adequate sites for a market and church and plots for merchants and others. Under a separate charter the burgesses of the new town were to have all the liberties given to the citizens of London, a weekly market and an annual fair (Charter Rolls II, 337). Thereafter the new town vanishes without trace. In 1921 it returned to popular awareness when remains were found at Goathorn, but these were shown to be early 17th century (Bowen & Taylor 1964). The whereabouts of the new town continue to attract speculation.

According to the founding charter the location was "in a place called Gotowre super Mare, in the parish of Stodlaund and on the King's land, which was late of Robert de Muchegros and contiguous to the said place". Previous authorities have not paid close attention to these details, most going no further than the first two components (e.g., Bowen & Taylor 1964) or have rephrased the third and fourth component (Beresford & St Joseph 1958), but none quote what may be the crucial detail "contiguous to the said place". It has been assumed that one piece of land is being described, whereas there may be two, one called Gotowre super Mare and the other on the King's land adjoining the first.

Between 1279 and 1281 there had been a dispute between the King and the claimants of Studland over the advowson of the church, which was in the hands of the King since the death of Robert Walerand in 1272 (Coram Regis Roll 50 & 56/Drew's Index, Patent Rolls 1272, 328). In 1269 Walerand had granted Studland except the advowson of the church to Tarrant Abbey (Hutchins 1774, Charter Rolls II, 230). Robert de Muchegros died in 1281 (Fine Rolls 1277, 141; Cal Inq pm IV, 404), and he is not mentioned in the claim on Studland. Nor is land in Dorset mentioned, although in 1277 Dorset possessions were security on a debt (Close Rolls 412). His estates were settled in the same year on his widow, Agnes, the heiress Hawine being a minor. This may indicate that the second piece of land lay outside Studland but perhaps adjoining it. There are two possibilities. There was a strip of land across Studland which gave the parish of Swanage access to Poole Harbour, containing the eastern side of Goathorn (see map in Bowen and Taylor 1964). It is this location, around SZ 004851 and 011853 which has been the chief subject of speculation. The other possibility is the area south of Ower, on the south-west shore of Newton Bay, either side of the present parish boundary at SZ 001853. It is the writer's opinion that this is the more likely location of the new town.

The Ower peninsula belonged to Milton Abbey, a gift of one hide of land by King Athelstan, confirmed in 1311 (Patent Rolls I 389/90). A landing place on the north shore had been used to transport Purbeck limestone as early as the 13th century. On the west side of Ower is a low lying tract called Shotover Moor (SY 993855), the name resembling Gotowre, and possibly signifying land next to Ower. The area is well served by tracks, particularly from Corfe to the south-west, and along the Claywell Valley, but also a swathe of hollow ways extending south from Game Copse (SZ 002854) across Newton Heath, which bears less obvious relationship to the Ower Passage landing place, although it was in use in the 19th century. A ditch can be traced from SY 996855 across the south side of Ower Farm to SY 998855 and from there northwards to SY 999857. This appears to exclude the south-west side of Newton Bay and may mark the southern limit of the Milton Abbey lands. This part of Newton Bay comprises several low promontories and inlets, sheltered to the north by Cleavel Point. On the west is the Claywell Valley leading to a narrow inlet, while within 150 metres south of Ower Farm the ground rises steeply to a level promontory, the northernmost part of which is almost separated by a small valley extending in from the west side at SY 999851, and a smaller indentation from the east. The location affords both space and potential for defence.

Surveys carried out by the writer in 1988 and 1989 identified building platforms and earthworks suggesting jetties, not necessarily ancient, at SY 996852, and a ditch and bank and bank enclosure north of Game Copse at SY 999853, as well as the aforementioned ditches and trackways. During rescue surveys ahead of the oil pipeline the Trust for Wessex Archaeology excavated remains just south of Ower Farmhouse at SY 998853, and further east towards Newton Cottage at SZ 003852 (DNHAS 1989).

Without wishing to repeat the erroneous prediction at Goathorn, this paper has made a case for considering the neck of the Ower peninsula as an alternative site for Gotowre super Mare.

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MEDIEVAL RURAL SETTLEMENTS IN THE MONUMENTS PROTECTION PROGRAMME by Stuart Wrathmell

In July 1991 this Group's then President, Paul Harvey, wrote to English Heritage to express concern about the application of the Monuments Protection Programme (MPP) to medieval rural settlement sites; in particular, about the 'narrow definitions applied in identifying the extent of earthworks on the ground', and the consequent omission of those parts of sites which did not have good earthworks. It was also the Group's view that areas of surrounding ridge-and-furrow should receive better protection.

After some discussion, English Heritage commissioned the writer to look again not only at these particular issues, but also at more general questions, including the basic classification of settlement sites and the biases in selection caused by regional variation in earthwork survival. The brief specified that this review should be carried out in full consultation with the Group's committee; the purpose of this note is to inform the wider membership about the results.

The first nettle to be grasped was that of classification. The earliest definition of MPP Monument Classes had replicated the settlement categories established by the Medieval Village Research Group: 'deserted villages' and 'shrunk/shifted villages', along with the residual 'inhabited villages' and 'farmsteads'. In the review, it has been proposed that the aim of scheduling a sample of sites in each of these categories should be abandoned and that, instead, medieval rural settlement should be divided into two new classes: 'villages' (i.e., nucleated settlements) and 'dispersed settlements'. The thinking behind this proposal is that the form which a settlement took in the Middle Ages holds greater research significance than the extent of present habitation. The degree to which medieval village sites are currently encumbered by farmsteads and cottages is, of course, an important consideration for both research potential and management, but it is one which can be dealt with adequately in the assessment of individual sites.

The distinction drawn between nucleated and dispersed settlement embodies the second fundamental proposal: that regional diversity in the forms of rural settlement is *itself* a matter of national importance, and should therefore provide a framework for the MPP selection process. Brian Roberts has drawn the accompanying map (Fig.3) which for the first time provides reliable and precise boundaries

for England's regions of nucleation and dispersion. He has defined a Central Province, where nucleated settlements predominate, flanked by areas of (mainly) dispersion in the South Eastern Province and in the Northern and Western Province. The boundaries are based upon the distribution of some 7,500 nucleated settlements as they were recorded in the mid-19th century; there is sufficient evidence to show that these boundaries have existed for many centuries.

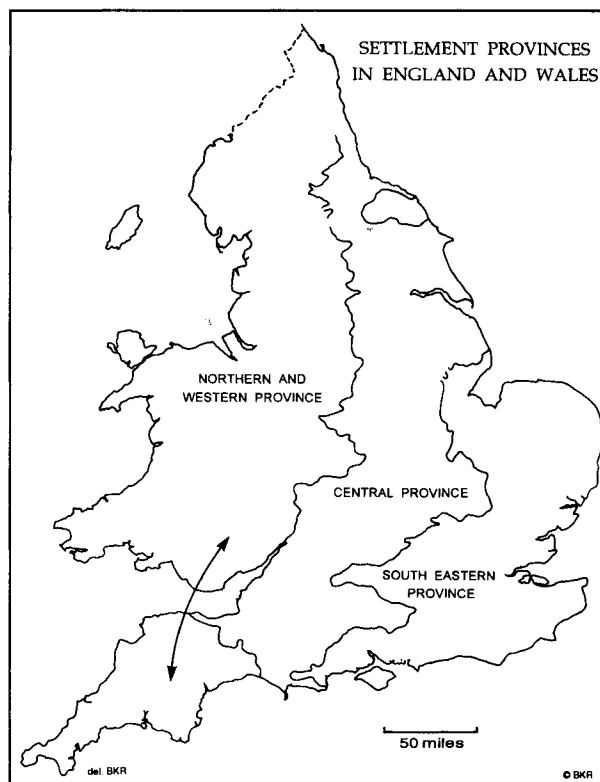


Figure 3: Dispersed and nucleated settlement provinces, defined by Brian Roberts

It has been proposed in the review that these provincial boundaries should be taken into account when sites are being selected for scheduling, primarily to ensure that dispersed medieval settlement receives appropriate emphasis in areas where this form of settlement was the norm. Equally, account should be taken of the sub-provincial regions which can be identified on the basis of land use, lithology, soils and additional characteristics; otherwise, undue emphasis on the quality and extent of earthworks might distort the pattern of selection and lead, for example, to the under-representation of arable regions and the over-representation of sites in unimproved upland pastures. For similar reasons, it has been proposed that special consideration be given to sites abandoned during the Anglo-Saxon and Norman periods: these are typically discovered through the identification of pottery scatters and crop marks, and therefore in circumstances where earthworks do not exist.

Two other considerations have been highlighted in the proposals. The first concerns the extent of scheduling on village sites which retain earthworks of variable quality. It is regarded as important that statutory protection should be offered to the *whole* of the settlement area, not just to those parts with good quality earthworks; furthermore, it is important (where feasible) to include small areas of ridge-

and-furrow adjacent to the settlement. In this way, a sample of the physical remains of medieval ploughlands can be protected; the scheduling of extensive areas of relict field systems, as samples of former agrarian management systems, is an issue which lay outside the scope of the review.

The second consideration relates to dispersed settlements. It is evident from documentary sources that some dispersed farmstead groups (perhaps linked by ties of kinship) shared subdivided arable fields and jointly exploited common pastures. It has been proposed that such links, where they can be established, should be emphasised in the selection process: in simple terms, that two such related abandoned farmsteads should both receive protection even if one of them has only moderate quality earthworks.

These proposals have been accepted by English Heritage, and discussions on their implementation have begun. It has been estimated that there are in the region of 15,000 medieval villas in England. Perhaps as many as two-thirds of these once contained nucleated settlements; the rest supported dispersed farmsteads and small hamlets. It is hoped that the remains of these settlements will now receive appropriate representation among England's scheduled ancient monuments, through the selection processes of the Monuments Protection Programme.

CRESSING TEMPLE, ESSEX: THE LANDSCAPE OF A TEMPLAR PRECEPTORY by John Hunter

Cressing Temple was an early preceptory of the Knights Templar in England, its land being granted by Matilda and then confirmed by Stephen in 1147. It is notable today for its two barns regarded as exemplars of 13th century carpentry. The site was acquired by Essex County Council in 1987 as a centre for learning and research, and for public use and enjoyment. Archaeological investigation has preceded the construction of an access road and car park, the restoration of the walled garden and provision of services. This has revealed evidence for Bronze Age and Roman occupation, but none post-Roman until the establishment of the preceptory.

The landscape setting and hinterland of the preceptory was studied for a paper at a conference held in September 1992: "Cressing Temple, Past, Present and Future".

Tithe exemptions for the Order continued for their successors and are recorded in the Tithe Maps of the 1840s. This allowed a reconstruction of the Templars' demesne including Kingswood, land associated with the Mill, and a block forming the demesne farm of which 666 acres were arable. A written survey of 1656 and estate map of 1794 enabled definition of the land uses and open fields subsequently divided for more tightly planned rotations.

To the north of the demesne farm and bounded by manorial woodlands on the northern parish boundary, lay a dense, irregular patchwork of crofts and small farms, based on the parish church, five greens (surviving in 1777), and containing two moated sites and all the listed buildings of pre-1600 date other than the Temple site itself. The church appears to pre-date the Templars and the adjoining area has revealed Iron Age evidence.

To the south of the demesne farm, the landscape remained wooded until partial recording in estate maps of 1716. These show a patchwork of woods with a few crofts and closes. It would appear that woodland in the 12th century covered both this area and that of the farm. The dating of the Templar barns (c. 1220 and c. 1265) by dendrochronology suggest a phased clearance of woodland. If the land was already farmed, the barns would be of similar date. An earlier barn may have been superseded and re-erected in the locality.

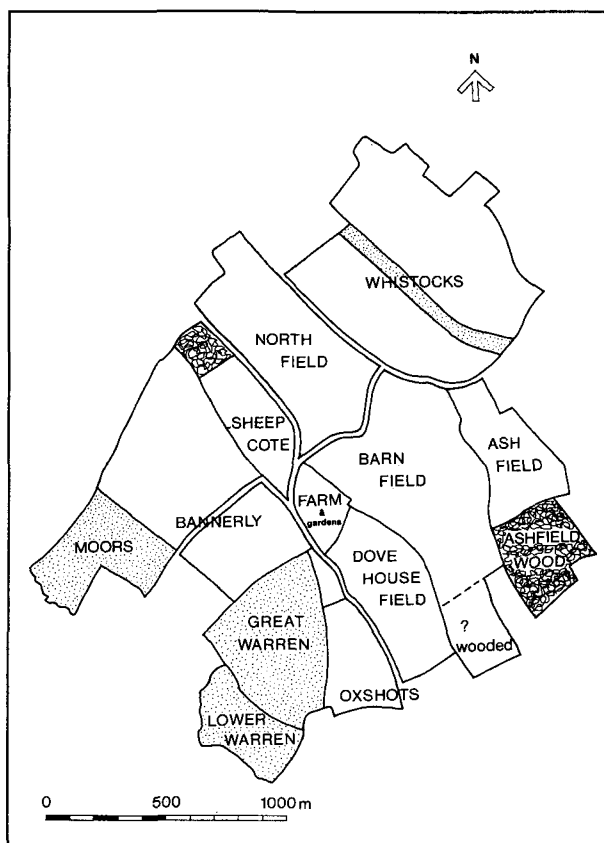


Figure 4: Cressing Temple, Demesne farm c. 1300

Roughly parallel field boundaries stretch through the Templar demesne and continue southwards, relicts of earlier clearance. It is argued that these boundaries remained under a spread of secondary woodland and were subsequently re-used as the land was reclaimed by the Templars and their southern neighbours.

Today the Templars' fields are much as they were in 1300. Later sub-divisions have been removed in the interest of larger fields for mechanized farming. There was no late reorganisation of fields as with parliamentary enclosure.

The site of the preceptory was selected on unencumbered land on a gully with natural drainage. The peripheral ditches were later enlarged as "moats" at a date later than the original construction of the Barley Barn. The dimensions of the barn were later reduced, permitting widening of the adjacent ditch. Later moated sites in Essex are located on level sites which allow a regular and formal display of water.

The conference papers are to be published in September 1993.

MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENTS IN BEDFORDSHIRE AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE : – AN INTERIM REPORT

by **Carenza Lewis and Patrick Mitchell Fox**,
under the overall direction of **Christopher Dyer**.

This report summarises the results to date of the Leverhulme Trust research project into *English Settlements and Landscapes in the Middle Ages* at the University of Birmingham, and is an interim statement following the initial report in MSRG Annual Report last year (Dyer, C, MSRG 6 1991, 23-4). The project is being supported by the Leverhulme Trust and the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME). Progress to date has been good, and the task of compiling and mapping information relating to medieval settlement has been completed for Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire. Draft reports describing and analysing the results of the work in these counties have been prepared. This statement summarises those reports, and includes simplified examples of some of the maps originally produced at 1:50,000 and 1:250,000. Various aspects of the work have been presented for discussion at three seminars at the University of Birmingham and at IFA 1993 in Bradford. Further seminars and lectures are planned, and it is hoped that the work will form the basis for a MSRG conference in the future. The work has been warmly received, and as a result, it is hoped that the results of the project can be published in monograph form. Many individuals, too numerous to name in this interim report, have given generously of their time and advice and made the progress to date possible. Staff within the Sites and Monuments records for Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire, RCHME, and the IBM information centre and School of History at the University of Birmingham have been generous with access to the records they hold and technical advice and support.

Information has been collected from accessible sources including pre-Conquest charters, Domesday Book, inquisitions post mortem, lay subsidies, English place-name volumes, county Sites and Monuments Records, the National Archaeological Record, Medieval Settlement Research Group archives, geological maps, modern Ordnance Survey maps and early C19 county maps.

From documentary sources data has been collected that relates both to settlement itself, such as chronological indications, and to its historical context, particularly those aspects that seem most likely to have had the capacity to influence its form and pattern. These aspects are foremost: population and wealth, lordship and institutional structures, social structures, land-use and agrarian organisation as well as non-agricultural activity, namely trade and industry. Given the absence of explicit evidence bearing on the matter, the aim is to illuminate the process which gave rise to variant settlement forms and patterns, by examining the correlations between them and the historical data.

Research into the physical aspects of settlement development has included evidence for settlement date and layout, in the form of archaeological or cartographic evidence, evidence for shrinkage or desertion, and evidence for the wider context of settlement development including boundaries and settlement units, the nature of the landscape and the evidence for antecedent settlement patterns.

BEDFORDSHIRE

Bedfordshire is the smallest county in the project area, occupying c. 122,000 hectares north of the Chilterns and south-west of the Cambridgeshire Fens. Notwithstanding its small size, more than nine hundred sites of possible, probable or certain medieval date have been identified during the course of the research. Bedfordshire falls into three major topographical zones, which have some bearing on the development of settlement within the county.

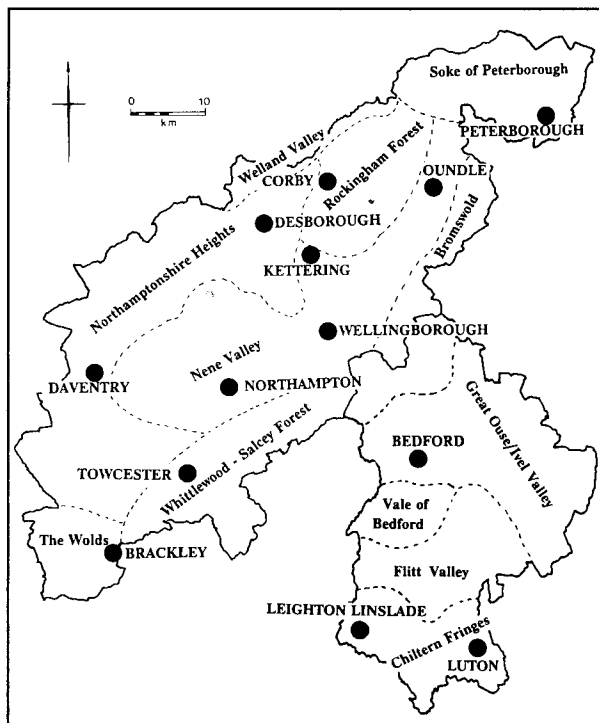


Figure 5: Bedfordshire

The northern part is drained by the Great Ouse and its tributaries, whose wide valleys are flanked by extensive swathes of obdurate Boulder Clay deposits. With the advantage of easily managed soils and the proximity of the river, these valleys are likely always to have been the prime areas for settlement and archaeological evidence for earlier periods shows that they were intensively occupied in the Iron Age and Roman periods. Evidence for settlement in the C5th-C11th AD is considerably more meagre than for either of the preceding periods, but this scarcity is likely to be at least partly due to the ephemeral nature of the material evidence for this period, and the extensive modern settlement which denies the opportunity for fieldwork or excavation. It is clear from the late pre-Conquest period onward that the river valleys were the favoured areas for settlements: all the parishes which include land within the valleys have the eponymous settlements of the Domesday manors sited close to the river. Most of these are extensive nucleated villages characteristically taking the form of rows or streets rather than clustered nucleations. Only in the far north, adjoining the Northamptonshire border are regular clustered nucleated landscapes to be found. Few of these settlements show signs of extensive shrinkage or shift, and even fewer are deserted. There is some evidence of a repeated pattern of settlement hierarchy, probably linked to function, as those parts of the same parishes which lie further away from the river valleys are occupied by much smaller settlements, which are more commonly

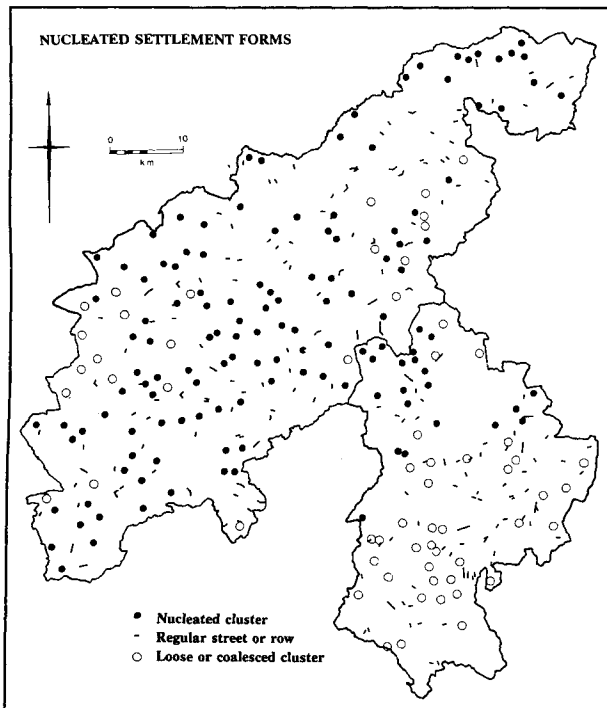


Figure 6

deserted or shrunken and first appear in the historical sources in the C13 or later. A third tier comprising single farmsteads of documented or probable medieval date, but with no sign of settlement around them, lies even further away from the focal river valleys, close to the parish boundaries. Moated sites within these parishes, though uncommon, are most frequently found in the river valley settlements. If, as seems likely, the arrangement of settlement within these parishes reflects that within the medieval manorial units, then the pattern appears to be one of major settlements at the manorial centres on the alluvial

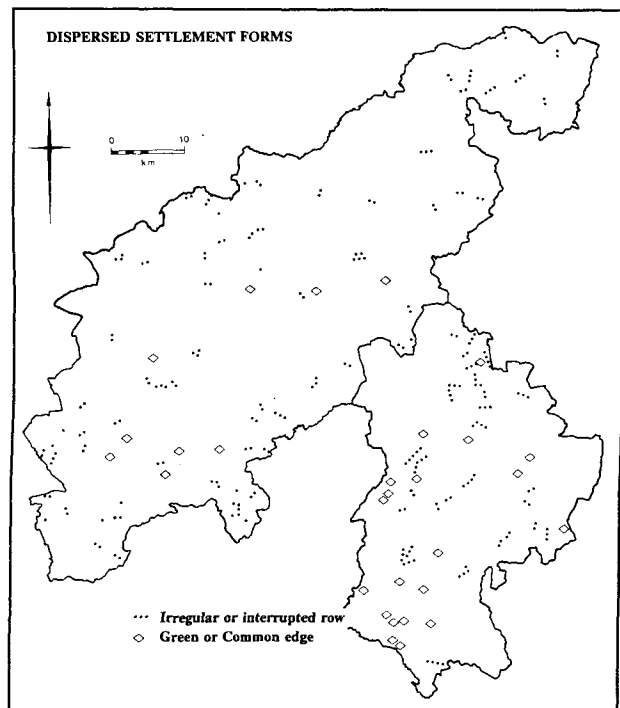


Figure 7

terraces. These would have formed the bases for the management of the whole of the economic unit, including the so-called "peripheral" areas which were the scene for the founding, re-founding or fostering of small settlements away from the valleys and agricultural activity extended into previously under-exploited areas. These would be likely to be abandoned as the need for such production eased in the later middle ages, eliminating their *raison d'être*. A similarly planned management of the landscape is indicated in many of the clayland parishes which do not include land extending down into the valleys, although the

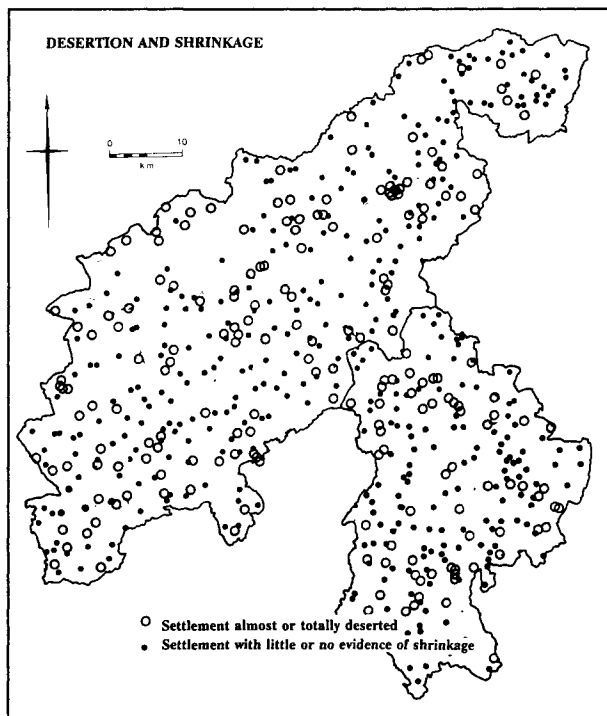


Figure 8

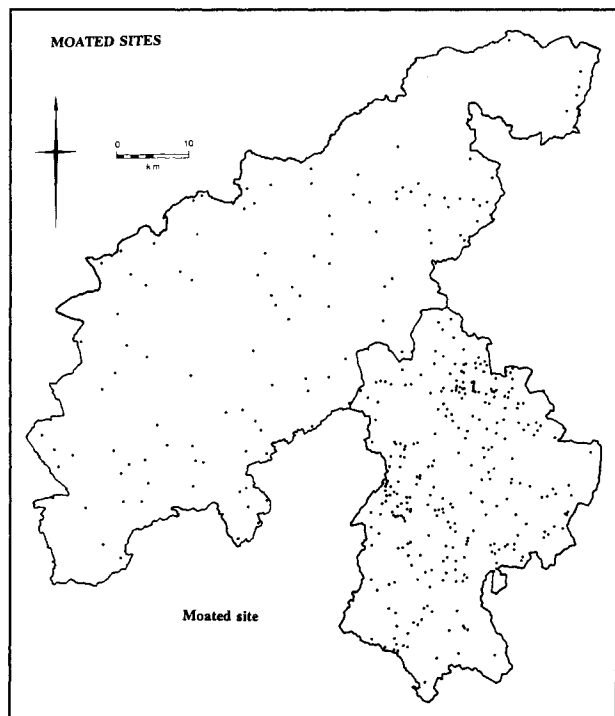


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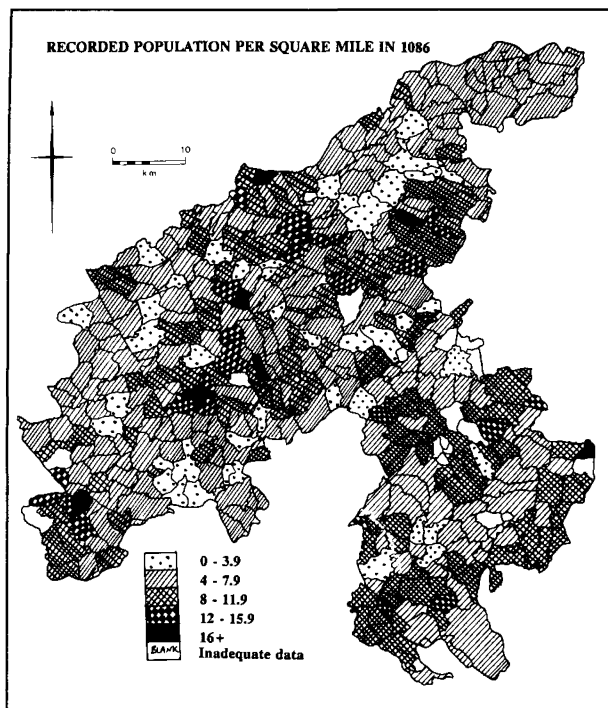


Figure 10

settlement forms are almost all dispersed types, notably common edge or interrupted / irregular row. The frequent occurrence of moated sites attests to their functional rather than status-related use in these parishes.

In the centre of the county, the pattern of settlement is markedly different, and this clearly due in part to its distinct landscape. In contrast to the gently undulating clayland valleys of the north, this area is characterised by more sharply defined greensand valleys which remain extensively wooded throughout the medieval period. Here the settlement pattern is more confused, with large loosely

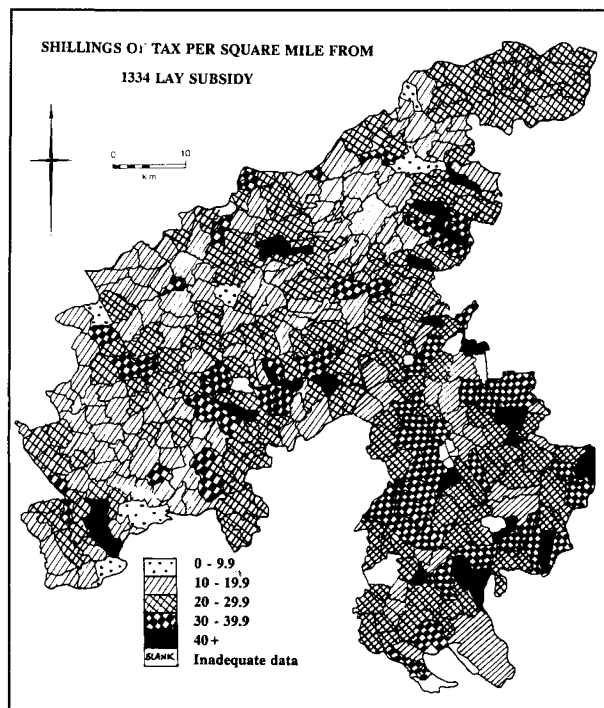


Figure 11

clustered settlements apparently developing as a result of the coalescence of a number of smaller constituent elements, perhaps reflecting a more idiosyncratic and less ordered development than that suggested by the more compact nucleated villages seen in the far north of the county. There are also a large number of dispersed settlements, with single farmsteads and "end" place name elements are commonplace. Many of the small market towns are located in this part of the county and it may have been an area of more commercial and industrial activity than in the northern claylands. Few settlements are extensively shrunken or

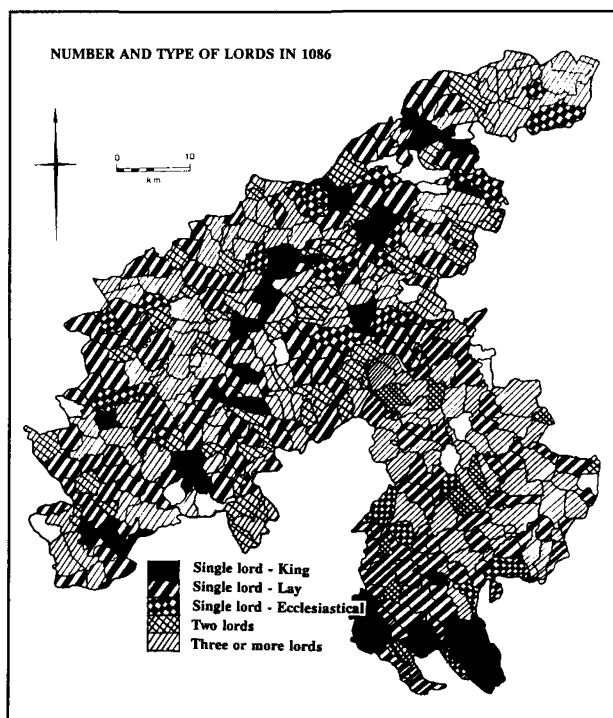


Figure 12

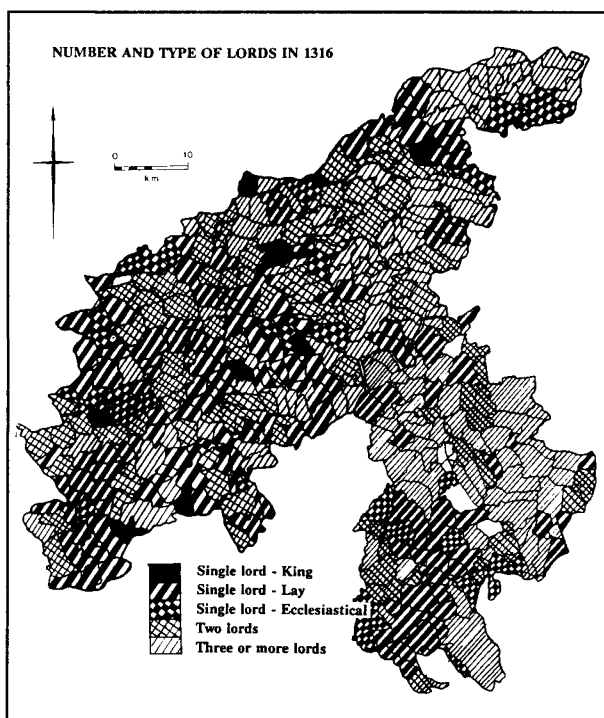


Figure 13

deserted, although those that are tend to be sited on the clay watershed to the south.

The southern tip of the county rises onto the edge of the Chalk of the Chilterns, and it is only here that the land rises above 200m and provides the strongest topographical contrast with the rest of the county. The area drains south into the Thames and really forms part of southern rather than midland England. Recorded archaeological evidence, although somewhat biased by the greater amount of fieldwork carried out in the area, indicates that this strategic crossing point over the Chilterns was important in the Iron Age, with several hillforts and enclosures, and a concentration of settlements only matched by the Ouse Valley. This importance appears to be maintained in the Roman period and into the early post-Roman era. This is perhaps reflected in the extensive royal interests here in the late pre-Conquest period, but by then economic and settlement activity seems to have declined. Settlement is thinly scattered and dispersed in form, and with the exception of the planned town of Dunstable founded in the C12, there is little evidence for managed settlement and landscape development of the type indicated further north.

Useful population and wealth indices come from Domesday Book, and later from the lay subsidy rolls of 1309, 1332 and 1334. Domesday Book reveals that the major river valleys (the Ouse in the north, the Ivel and the Ousel in the south) appear to have consistently higher densities of population. Areas of consistently lower population densities are found away from these valleys, especially on the higher ground, the claylands of the north and west, the Greensand ridge in the centre and the Chiltern fringes in the far south. These patterns of C11 population density correlate closely with the density of plough teams recorded in Domesday Book, and this is further emphasised by the strong inverse correlation with the quantities of recorded woodland. Away from the river valleys the woodlands are frequently rated in hundreds, or even thousands of pigs, while the river valley manors are frequently totally devoid of recorded woodland. Clearly the variations in population density are related to patterns of land use and economy.

Despite notable clearances in the areas of high Domesday woodland in the post-Conquest period and an indicated population expansion of a factor as high as six in some places, the relative patterns of population density indicated in the fourteenth century sources are much the same as those of Domesday Book. The most notable exception to this is the Vale of Bedford, where by the fourteenth century it is recorded as one of the most densely populated parts of the county, suggesting a disproportionately high rate of post-Conquest population growth. "Midland" type common field systems are found to have existed in many parts of the county in areas of both higher and lower population, but are by no means universal. Other types of agrarian arrangements are often hard to identify in contemporary documents, but later sources do indicate the existence of less regular and extensive systems together with larger areas of closes, in the north-east, centre and far south.

There is little that is distinctive about the make up of the population of Bedfordshire in Domesday Book. Although the proportions of different groups do vary widely between different places, there is no identifiably significant patterning to this. Evidence from the later medieval period

suggests the county to have been notable for a high level of free as opposed to villein tenure amongst peasant holdings. However the geographical distribution of this evidence is quite limited and is particularly biased towards the north-west, owing to the survival of the 1279 Hundred Rolls for this area. In Domesday Book lay lords were by far the dominant group of landlords, and significant holdings in the hands of ecclesiastical lords are remarkably few. The king held a limited number of manors, grouped in the south of the county. The north seems to have been characterised particularly by smaller manors, where only rarely did they cover whole parishes, while conversely the south seems to have had more larger manors that did. This basic pattern seems to have persisted into the later middle ages, though no doubt with an infinity of changes in detail. The pre-conquest lordship of the county was notable for a significant number of cases where manors were held by substantial groups of apparently resident sokemen, often without known overlord, seemingly representing instances where "manorial lordship" was exercised by elements of the local peasant community. The development of a network of markets began before the Conquest, and all of the county was well within reach of at least one market certainly by 1250, and probably some time before. The east and the south particularly seem to have been favoured by a more prolific spread of markets than other areas.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Northampton lies in the centre of the Leverhulme project area, and the work of the project has benefited from extensive previous research in the county (RCHME, Hall, Foard). As a result of this, it is well known as an area of nucleated settlement and open fields. It lacks dramatic changes in terrain, but does fall into a number of distinct regions with varying settlement characteristics. More than eleven hundred medieval settlements including probable or possible settlements have been recorded in the course of the present research. This is fewer than might be expected, given the number found in the much smaller county of Bedfordshire, and clearly reflects the nucleated character of the settlement pattern.

Much of the county lies within the valley of the Nene, which has evidence for extensive settlement from at least the Iron Age onward. A dense spread of Roman settlements and several villas indicates that, like the Ouse Valley, the Nene was extensively occupied at this date. The evidence in the post-Roman era is considerably greater than in Bedfordshire, due mainly to the intense fieldwork carried out. This shows that the settlement pattern may have more commonly consisted of small scattered habitative units, most of which were abandoned by the C9-C10th. While this is certainly apparent around Brixworth, it is less clear along the main Nene Valley, where the density of modern settlement makes fieldwork impossible in many places. As in Bedfordshire, the eponymous Domesday manor settlements of the valley parishes are located along the alluvial terraces, with a mix of row and clustered nucleations. Few of the valley settlements have evidence for extensive shrinkage or desertion, and those that do are small and often appear in the historical record late or not at all, suggesting that they were places judged to have been of lesser importance. Some differences in the degree of cohesion of the larger polyfocal nucleations have been tentatively identified, with those settlements which appear

to have developed from a number of smaller units, rather than a single focus, concentrated in the northern Nene valley north-east and south-west of Oundle. This corresponds with a denser distribution of moated sites, which are generally relatively uncommon in Northamptonshire.

The two areas of royal forest, Rockingham, and Salcey-Whittlewood are strikingly dissimilar in their settlement pattern. Whittlewood-Salcey has evidence for extensive Roman settlement, although any contrast with other areas is clearly biased by the amount of fieldwork in this area, including several villas. There is, however, very little evidence for early post-Roman settlement, even in the areas where detailed fieldwork has been carried out. In the post-Conquest era, settlement is characteristically dispersed, with a high incidence of “cote” and “end” place name elements. There is also a high proportion of moated sites, many of which are occupied into the post-medieval period. Rockingham, in contrast has much less recorded evidence for Roman settlement and only one villa site. It does have noticeably more evidence for early post-Roman activity, in an area where less fieldwork has been carried out, and at least three churches have evidence of pre-Conquest construction. In the post-Conquest period settlement is most commonly in the form of rows sited within characteristically large parishes. A number of moated sites are scattered across the area, with a marked concentration, all later abandoned, in the pottery-producing Lyveden Valley close to the boundaries of several parishes.

The Northampton Heights in the west of the county is the only part where the land rises above 150m OD. The evidence for early settlement is patchy, but it appears to be less densely occupied than the Nene Valley environs. Archaeological evidence for the post-Roman era is very scarce, although a C10th century charter suggests that watersheds may have been important in delimiting estate boundaries, here as in other parts of the county, most notably around Brixworth. In the post-Conquest era, the settlement pattern is highly nucleated, with single settlements named after Domesday manors centrally located within regularly proportioned territories. Several of these appear to be of the coalesced type noted in the Lower Nene Valley and a scattering of dispersed settlement types suggests that the process of nucleation may have occurred later in this part of the county than in the Nene valley. The high incidence of extensively shrunken and deserted sites demonstrates both the regular planned layout of many of these settlements, and the contrast in their fortunes in the later medieval period. The Wolds, to the south, appears to represent a different settlement area, with more compact large nucleations mixed with dispersed types and very few moats. However, it is difficult to be confident of observations over such a small area which clearly extends beyond the bounds of the project area.

A similar problem is encountered in the Soke of Peterborough, where the low-lying terrain clearly forms part of the Peterborough fenlands, which extend east out of the project area. The study of the area is further complicated by the fact that it now lies within Cambridgeshire, and thus the archaeological evidence is affected by a different set of recording and curating biases. The southern part of the Soke is effectively similar to the Nene Valley, and the northern part lies within the Welland Valley with its characteristically nucleated pattern. Only in the far east is

the landscape truly that of the Fens. While clearly an area of activity in the Roman period, as the presence of the Car Dyke attests, the evidence for settlement is less good, and that for the post-Roman is very scarce. In the post-Conquest era, settlement is thin and dispersed into small single farmsteads, many with moated sites still in occupation.

The patterns of the density of the Domesday population as in Bedfordshire show a close relationship with the major features of topography and drainage within the county. The main river valleys, especially those of the Nene and its larger tributaries are areas of higher levels of population. Lower densities are found in the higher areas: notably the Heights in the west and north-west, the area in the north around Brigstock that was to lie at the heart of the forest of Rockingham, and the central southern area of the county that was to lie in the forests of Salcey and Whittlewood. One further and distinctive area of low population density is the Soke of Peterborough in the far east of the county on the edge of the fens. As in Bedfordshire these patterns show close correlation with those of the density of plough-teams in Domesday Book, and an inverse correlation with woodland. There is however, a notable exception to this in the Heights where despite low population and few plough teams there is little or no recorded woodland. In this case presumably there must have been significant areas under a different sort of cover not recorded by Domesday Book, perhaps heath, as suggested by the presence of place-names such as the Haddons (“heath hill”).

Northamptonshire is ill served by surviving taxation returns of the early fourteenth century, the earliest complete one is that of 1334. Unfortunately this taxation was levied on the vill rather than the individual and it does not record the names of tax payers, although it does give an assessment for each place. But to its advantage this is also a tax for which complete records survive for most of England, including all those in the project area, and thus it provides a useful source from which comparison can be made over the whole area. However for the late fourteenth century Northamptonshire is exceptional in its extensive surviving returns for the Poll Tax of 1377, one of the most complete records of population in the middle ages.

Again as in Bedfordshire there are relatively few radical differences to be found between the patterns of indicated relative levels of population and wealth from Domesday Book and the taxation records of the fourteenth century. The most significant rises appear to have been in the Soke of Peterborough and, less markedly, in the south of the county in the area of Whittlewood and Salcey forests.

The “midlands” type of common field system appears to have been more widespread than in Bedfordshire. Even some places that had somewhat irregular arrangements in the early modern period appear to have had a more regular form of organisation in earlier centuries, though often in the forest areas these field systems were by no means as extensive as outside. The nature of the arrangement of field systems in other areas such as the Soke of Peterborough remains obscure.

The Domesday Book population of Northamptonshire is noticeable for the presence of numbers of sokemen, although they constitute a small proportion overall. The distribution of the sokemen is weighted particularly towards the north and east of the county and they are entirely absent from the

west. In areas where they do occur their incidence is highly variable, with none at some places while accounting for the entire recorded population of others.

Readily available data on the social structure of the later middle ages is harder to come by, and the current picture is very fragmentary. The evidence suggests that villein tenures were the predominant form of peasant holding at most places, though significant elements of free holding have been found in a few cases, most conspicuously in the Soke of Peterborough.

The lords of Domesday Book were in the main laymen, although ecclesiastical holdings were more numerous than in Beds., and concentrate especially in the east. The king's lands were quite widespread, although to some extent grouping in areas which were to become royal forests. There were a greater number of small manors in the east of the county and coincidence in the extent of manor and parish was a more common feature of the west.

The chronology of the foundation of markets and their density was essentially similar to that of Bedfordshire, and similarly the east of Northamptonshire seems to have been an area of more conspicuous development, along with the south-west.

The mapping of the available data for Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire has revealed many interesting patterns with all sorts of implications which will be discussed in more detail in later publications of the results of the research. So far, it is, however, clear that no single factor can be attributed as an overall primary force in determining any particular aspect of settlement form or development. That such straightforward correlations have not been found is not surprising for individual factors were not free to operate in a vacuum. They were invariably interconnected and the effects of one would be likely to have been negated or reinforced by the actions of others, which would in their turn have been influenced by the effects of others again. Any study of the evidence for the nature of these patterns of effect and counter-effect in the medieval period is clearly subject to many problems, most notably the numerous biases present in the available evidence, and the possibility that some of the archaeological, and more specifically, historical, evidence does not in fact relate to the relevant formative or developmental periods for medieval settlement. However, the Leverhulme funded research is showing that these complicated systemic patterns of multi-factorial influence and interaction present within the society and economy of medieval England are retrievable using the present research methods, and that these patterns can be used to formulate hypotheses which can then be applied to other areas or types of site, within or beyond the present project.

THE ARCHIVES OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR MAURICE BERESFORD AND OF THE WHARRAM RESEARCH PROJECT

With his retirement from the University of Leeds in 1985 and the subsequent reduction of lecturing to occasional events, Professor Maurice Beresford has disposed of his extensive collection of 35 mm slide illustrations by gift to the Department of English Local History at the University of Leicester. There they will appropriately lie alongside the photographs taken for William Hoskins's books and lectures by Principal F. L. Attenborough. A numerical list has been prepared by Mr Neil Harvey. The subject matter, mainly in maps and air ground photographs, covers all periods and topics of economic history that lent themselves to visual illustration. A large proportion deal with medieval settlement.

Professor Beresford's manuscripts, comprising personal papers, letters, lecture notes taken as an undergraduate (1938-41), manuscripts of lectures, articles and books (1942-1992), reviews, and correspondence with co-authors (H. P. R. Finberg, J. G. Hurst and J. K. S. St. Joseph), have been presented to the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, where the 53 boxes form part of Special Collections. A rough handlist has been made by Neil Harvey which will serve until a full listing by the Library is possible.

For the moment Professor Beresford retains his notes from historical sources on the townships of Wharram Percy although in due course these, and a long series of unpublished research papers, should pass by gift to the Library of the University of Hull who already hold the transcripts of the poll taxes of 1337-81 made for him by Margaret Midgely.

Research notes and illustrations on the urban history of Leeds are being retained.

WHARRAM RESEARCH PROJECT

The complete archive for the excavations which took place at Wharram Percy from 1950-90 will eventually be deposited at the Hull and East Riding Museum. The museum already holds the finds, and some of the paper and photographic archive, from those sites which have been published. The rest are still in the care of the WRP and English Heritage, and will be transferred as publication occurs. Those wishing to consult that part of the archive held at Hull should contact Andrew Foxon, Hull City Council Museums and Art Galleries, 83 Alfred Gelder St., Hull HU1 1EP; enquiries about the remaining archive should go to either Stuart Wrathmell (0756 795532) or Ann Clark (0532 662456).

RESEARCH IN 1992

i. FIELDWORK

CHESHIRE

Susan Reynolds and Wayne Cocroft report that students from Chester College have surveyed two moats in Cheshire five miles southeast of Chester.

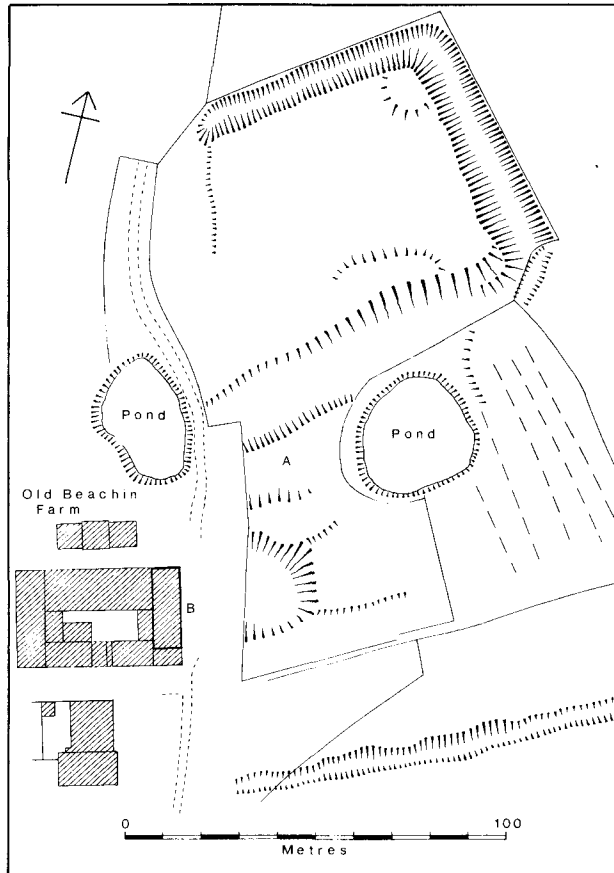


Figure 14: Old Beachin Farm, Cheshire

Old Beachin Farm moat (fig 14) is situated at SJ4446 5735 around 12m above O.D. over glacial till deposits. The moat lies beneath the crest of the shallow valley of Coddington Brook in an angle of the brook created by a narrow spur of gently rising ground. It lies within Coddington township in the north west corner of the parish of the same name and is away from the three township foci of Coddington, Aldersey Green and Chowley. These may perhaps be linked with the three manors that existed within the parish prior to the conquest (VCH 1987, 347). Its relatively isolated position combined with the occurrence of 'wood' field names to the north of the moat on the 1838 Tithe Award Map may imply that the moat lies within an area of relatively late assarting. Surrounding the moat is an enclosed landscape formerly covered by a complex pattern of ridge and furrow, largely lost through ploughing since the second world war (RAF CPE/UK 1935 frame 2325). Skirting the western edge of the moat is a former lane between Coddington and Aldford, which also passes the moat at Lea Hall described below.

The manor was held at Domesday by the earl of Chester (VCH 1987, 347). By the early thirteenth century, through

a series of subinfeudations the manors of Coddington and Beachin had passed to Ralph de Boteler. In 1438 the manors of Coddington, Beachin and Eggerley were purchased by William Massey from Philip Boteler. The manors of Coddington and Beachin after this date descended together until 1630 when Beachin was sold to Thomas Wilbraham. It had passed to the Yate's family by the mid-eighteenth century and was later purchased by Thomas Aldersey in 1870. It is apparent at least from the time of the purchase of the manor by Massey that the principal residence within the township was at Coddington Hall immediately to the north east of Coddington church. A hall on this site survived until around 1790 when it was destroyed by fire (Tansley 1913, 18). It is therefore likely for most of its history that the moat and its successors were tenanted farms. A picture confirmed by later commentators, Lyson (1810, 644) comments 'the manor house is occupied by a tenant' and this position was unaltered by the Tithe Award Map in 1839 and remained so into this century (Tansley 1913, 21).

The moat is situated to the north east of the present Beachin Farm, a late nineteenth century farmhouse with associated outbuildings. Three arms of the moat survive in earthwork form up to 1m in depth. The arms of the moat are dry and will hold water only in periods of exceptionally heavy rainfall. They are best preserved along the eastern and northern sides, each are around 70m in length and up to 15m in width. The rounded profile of the arms indicate that they have been smoothed by the action of the plough. The outer scarps have been additionally smoothed by the deposition of plough soil over them from the arable fields to the north and east. The southern arm may be traced as a smoothed scarp for 90m, its height diminishing on the inner side from east to west. The outer scarp of the southern arm is marked for most of its length by a hedge row, surviving as an earthwork for 32m at the west end. Little evidence was seen for the return of the moat along its western side, although the slight westward swing of the lane as it passes the moat may be indicative of its former line. The slight scarp to the west of the island probably represents the limit of recent land grading rather than the former extent of the island.

The moat island measures around 55m north to south and as described above no western limit could be defined on the surface. The moat island is under improved pasture, the only details that could be observed on it were a low mound on the north east corner and a slight rise along the southern edge.

Immediately to the south of the moat a post medieval farmhouse stood until the late nineteenth century. The plan of this farm was clearly portrayed by the Ordnance Survey in 1872, Cheshire sheet LIV.1. At (A) stood the farmhouse with a small outbuilding, probably in the moat ditch to the north. To the south of the farm were three farm buildings arranged around a courtyard, the westerly of these buildings (B) surviving within the present farm buildings. The two ponds were also depicted at this date differing only slightly

in shape from their present form. The enclosed ridging to the east of the farm was formerly part of a furlong to the east (RAF CPE/UK 1935 frame 2325), the extra definition given to one ridge by the scarping indicates the line of a hedge depicted in the nineteenth century. The surviving hedge to the south of the farm and the linear hollow to its south lie on the same alignment of a former furlong to the south. The present farm was built around the turn of the century and was described in 1913 as 'of recent date and everything in the building is up-to-date' (Tansley 1913, 21), the lay out of the new farm captured in the revised survey of the county, Ordnance Survey 1911 Cheshire sheet LIV.I.

The second moat surveyed, at **Leahall Farm** (fig 15), is situated at SJ 4319 5885 around 13m above O.D., on the crest of the northern valley side of Aldford Brook over glacial till deposits.

The moat is about one kilometre to the west of the village of Aldford in Leahall township within Bruera chapelry of St Oswalds church Chester, which chapelry became a separate parish in 1868 (Dodgson 1972). The moat lies within the adjacent township to Beachin Hall Farm within a similar enclosed landscape formerly covered by a complex pattern of ridge and furrow cultivation again largely lost since the second world war (RAF CPE/UK 1935 frame 1208). Below the moat is the highest crossing point of Aldford Brook on the lane formerly connecting Coddington to Aldford, the lane skirting the east and north sides of the moat. The 'coppice' element in the field names to the south of the moat may similarly be indicative of an area of relatively late assarting.

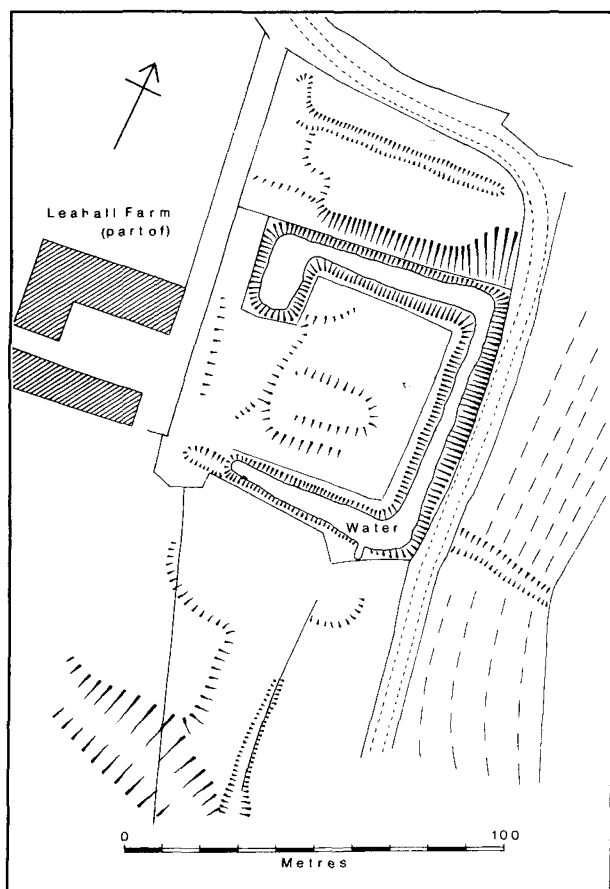


Figure 15: Leahall Farm, Cheshire

At the Domesday survey the manor was jointly held by the earl of Chester and Bigot of Loges, although by the end of the century it was in the hands of the Montalt family. Following the death of the last baron Montalt in 1277 the estate passed to the crown who granted it around 1337 to William Montacute, earl of Salisbury. It was purchased from him in 1354 by Sir John Wingfield who settled it on his daughter Maud, wife of Kendrick de Calveley. The manor descended within the Calveley family until the death of Sir Hugh Calveley in 1648 without issue. The estate remained intact until the death of his wife in 1714 when it was split between the heirs of Sir Hugh's sisters. The lands to the north in which the moat lies passed to Thomas Cotton. It remained in the Cotton family until it was sold to Joseph White in 1800 (Lyson 1810, 620; Ormerod 1882, 620), and he was still named as owner in 1839 on the Tithe Award Map. At this date a single building was shown on the moat island with two adjacent farms in separate tenancies to its east and west. By 1873 the two farms had been amalgamated to form Lea Hall farm by then part of the Duke of Westminster's Grosvenor estate in which it remains today. Lea Hall Farm house was reconstructed at this date by James Douglas (DOE 1985, 41) in a wider programme of improvements on the Grosvenor estate.

The moat lies between Leahall farm and the former Lea Farm to the north east. The moat survived as a four sided feature into this century, Ordnance Survey 1911, Cheshire XLVI. By the early 1960s, however the west side of the moat was largely filled, Ordnance Survey 1964, unpublished record card SJ 45 NW 9.

The north, south and east arms of the moat are around 12m in width, upto 1.5m in depth, and are sharply defined as the result of recent re-excavation. During this operation, the northern section of the west arm was re-excavated. The remainder of the west arm may be traced as a slight hollow despite having until recently been covered by an agricultural silo (pers. comm.). The moat island is rectangular, 52m x 43m. The slight rise to the north eastern corner may mark the site of a building shown on the 1839 Tithe Award Map. This is probably to be linked with the building described before the civil war as a 'fair ancient timber mansion' (Hughes 1852, 46) and later by Lyson as 'an old timber mansion surrounded by a moat' (Lyson 1810, 620). A further building may be indicated by a slightly elevated rectangular mound 23m x 14m in the centre of the island. To the north of the moat a linear hollow parallel to the moat arm marks the position of a former boundary.

These unremarkable remains however may belie a formerly more impressive monument. The documentary evidence suggests that there was once a chapel at Lea Hall. More importantly the visit of James I in 1617 (Lyson 1810, 620) would imply a house of substance large enough to accommodate the king and his retinue, and social sophistication perhaps embracing gardens. The only indication of any attached enclosure to the moated enclosure is an L shaped scarp on the falling ground to the south. There is however no trace of this extending into the field to the east of the small stream where features shown by aerial photography hint at the former presence of ridge and furrow on the same alignment as the furlong to the west of the lane.

To the south of the moat the western field has been deeply ploughed, smearing and virtually removing any traces of earthworks. A wide hollow up to 24m in width leading off a dog leg in the lane marks a former hollow way cutting into the escarpment as it made its way up from the stream crossing. The former line of the way survived as a field boundary depicted on the Tithe Award Map 1839. This was later reduced to a line of trees (Ordnance Survey 1872, Cheshire XVI). The present lane was probably diverted around the moat when the original Lea Hall was built, a change that had occurred by 1839.

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CLEVELAND

Richard Annis reports on work at **Bradley Hall, Wolsingham** (NZ1080 3620).

Detailed survey of the earthworks and of the south range of buildings at this moated site were carried out for the owner, Mr. J. Stephenson, in advance of consolidation work by English Heritage. Survey work was directed by Richard Annis of Cleveland County Archaeology Section. Peter Ryder compiled a history of the house and surveyed the substantial underground drains. The medieval remains consist of the vaulted S range of a winged or quadrangular house standing at the SE corner of a trapezoidal moat. Sizeable banks remain around the moat on the W and N sides, and there is slight earthwork evidence of structures inside. Outside the moat to the S are three depressions interpreted as fishponds; these are now overlain by ridge and furrow. The large underground drains, partly slab-roofed and partly vaulted, cross the line of the western arm of the moat and empty into the westernmost fishpond.

Though licence to crenellate was granted in 1431, structural evidence suggests that building could have begun in the late 14th century. The house was much altered in the late 16th century when the Bowes family converted it into an elaborate mansion. The eastern and southern arms of the moat were filled in, but the course of the channel can still be seen as a shallow depression in places.

The archive drawings are held at Cleveland County Archaeology Section, and a full account of the results of the topographic, structural and historical survey will be submitted to the *Durham Archaeological Journal*.

CLWYD AND POWYS

Bob Silvester reports on **Historic Settlements in Breconshire, Montgomeryshire and Wrexham Maelor**

During the later part of 1991, and 1992, the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust conducted rapid surveys of all the historic villages and small towns in the Brecon Beacons National Park (in conjunction with the National Park Authority's archaeologist), Brecknock Borough, Montgomeryshire District (Powys), and Wrexham Maelor (Clwyd).

The surveys were defined primarily in planning terms to identify areas of sensitivity in and around historic settlements where future developments might have a detrimental effect on known or suspected archaeology, and to provide the local authority with data on which to make informed decisions on the significance of the archaeological resource. Both the fieldwork and documentary/cartographic elements of the surveys resulted in the recovery of new information enabling the enhancement of the regional Sites and Monuments Record.

The Wrexham Maelor survey examined around 50 settlements of which nearly half could be classed as post-medieval industrial villages, though in some cases, such as Minera, there was evidently industrial activity in the 13th century. In the eastern part of Wrexham Maelor, the rather more rural areas show numerous moated sites, 'green' settlements and, with the exception of planned towns like Overton and Holt and a few other nucleated communities such as Hanmer, a generally dispersed pattern of settlement. Extensive tracts of ridge and furrow still exist in some places, and together the remains point to a landscape well worth further investigation.

Historic settlements in Montgomeryshire numbered around one hundred though some proved to be relatively recent developments. Few previously unknown earthworks were identified, a notable exception being in the vicinity of Llanllugan church. Circular churchyards are common in the district and several showed signs of subsequent modification: Hirnant, Llandrinio and Llanfair Caereinion were all originally larger. Of the small towns, Llanidloes and Welshpool are perhaps the most interesting, the latter because the combination of topography and early cartography hints at a Welsh predecessor to the north-east of the medieval borough.

Just over fifty settlements in Powys, Dyfed, Gwent and Mid-Glamorgan were examined during the Brecon Beacons National Park survey, though Brecon itself was excluded because of its size and complexity. As in Montgomeryshire, few new earthworks sites were recognised, but circular churchyards of presumed early medieval origin were again informative.

The areas of Brecknock Borough outside the National Park formed a separate study, where 54 settlements were examined. With a few exceptions, such as Builth Wells and Ystradgynlais, most of these settlements now comprise no more than a church and one or two houses and many may never have been significantly larger. However, the survey showed that 14 retain earthworks which appear to represent the remains of medieval activity. Few of these areas had been recorded previously although some, such as Llanfilhangel Tal-y-Llyn and Llanfilo, are surprisingly

extensive. As in Montgomeryshire circular churchyards are common with surviving evidence in all but 10 of the settlements studied.

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER

Hilary White reports on behalf of the **Hereford and Worcester Archaeological Service**, on the following projects:

Castlemorton, medieval village, (HWCM 7100), S0796372 A watching brief was maintained, on behalf of the Property Department of Hereford and Worcester County Council, during the building of a slurry pit to the east of the scheduled castle. This was suggested as part of the site of the associated medieval village. Two phases of medieval occupation were identified.

Central Marches Historic Town Survey: 1992 saw the start of this project commissioned by English Heritage. It is intended as the pilot project to create a model for surveys of historic towns. The area covered will be the counties of Hereford and Worcester and Shropshire. Towns to be surveyed are all those that reached "urban" status between 50AD and 1750AD. The project has two related aims: to refine the procedures used in development control work and to contribute to the development of archaeological policies for eventual incorporation in local development plans.

The survey will assimilate data from the SMRs with information to be gathered as the result of the survey. This will cover detailed searches of published and unpublished reports, interviews with fieldworkers, assessment of documentary, environmental and finds evidence, consideration of the potential of standing buildings and their associated deposits and topographical and cartographic studies. The information will be held on computer which combines a textual database and computerised mapping. Results will be presented in a report which will cover each town, summarising its history and development and interpreting the available archaeological data. For each town there will be an assessment of its archaeological potential and suggestions for future work.

Croft Castle Estate, (HWCM various): As part of the development of an archaeological management plan, an extensive landscape survey was undertaken of the whole estate, on behalf of the owners, the National Trust. A number of features of the medieval landscape were identified.

Droitwich, Kiddminster Rd, (HWCM 12215): S0893638 An evaluation was undertaken on behalf of William Davis, in advance of proposed redevelopment. The fragmentary remains of a post hole structure which had lasted long enough to require replacement of at least one of its main structural elements was associated with a ditch 6m wide and 1.5m deep. The ditch was dated to the 13th-14th centuries and environmental evidence suggests that intensive processing of agricultural products was taking place nearby. Taken together with the domestic nature and quantity of the pottery, it is suggested that this could represent a moated site.

Guarlford Court, (HWCM 5761): S0814454 During a site visit the remains of a, previously unpublished, substantial moat were identified surrounding the Court, which has a medieval hall at its core. This was once the

principal grange of Great Malvern Priory. A number of medieval wall and floor tiles were reported during renovation work.

Hindlip Police Museum, (HWCM 15599): S0881586. Rapid recording was undertaken of this 15th century manor house during renovation work, on behalf of West Mercia Police. Work included identification of a previously unrecognised garderobe tower.

Lulsley, medieval settlement, (HWCM 11243): S0744555. An additional area of earthwork remains of this deserted village site has been identified during a field visit.

Marches Uplands Survey: 1992 saw the continuation of this project commissioned by English Heritage. The brief is to investigate, for management purposes, the archaeological resource of the upland areas along the English side of the border with Wales, in the counties of Hereford and Worcester and Shropshire. The survey began with desk based studies. Fieldwork has now been completed in sample 1km wide transects, comprising rapid earthwork survey and fieldwalking. Environmental sampling has taken place in selected areas. The results are being analysed by computers using a Geographical Information System, allowing the combination of mapping and textual databases. Individual fieldwork transects are to be published as internal reports. Final publication will comprise a shorter report characterising the archaeological resource of the survey area and providing management policies and recommendations. This will be supported by a volume containing the survey results in more detail and statistics derived from these.

Oddingley, Medieval Settlement, (HWCM 15185): S0914591. The earthwork remains of a deserted village have been identified in an area to the west of the church. Several house platforms and a holloway are visible under a derelict orchard.

HUMBERSIDE

Ed Dennison reports that, amongst numerous projects undertaken by the Humberside Archaeology Unit in recent years, one was concerned with the analysis and recording of a ruined 16th century tower house at Paull, near Hull, while another was an assessment of a medieval moated site at Hedon.

Paull Holme Tower, Paull, North Humberside (formally East Riding) (NGR TA185249).

A non-destructive archaeological and architectural survey of Paull Holme tower was carried out with grant aid from English Heritage (HBMCE).¹ Although some work had previously been done on the ruined structure,² this new survey, which included a photographic survey and architectural analysis together with some historical research and earthwork and geophysical surveys of the surrounding area, allowed the scheduled ancient monument to be put into its local and regional context.

The following provides a summary of the work undertaken, with particular emphasis on the earthwork survey.

The surviving three storey brick-built tower was probably constructed by Robert Holme during the late 15th or early 16th centuries and was a later and structurally independent element of a larger manorial complex comprising two towers linked by a central timber-framed range. In the

1830s the southern portions were demolished, leaving the northern tower in its present isolated position. A sketch of 1840 shows that it was then still in use and in 1871 it was repaired and converted into a gazebo or lookout. This resulted in major alterations to the structure which included the removal of the internal floors, the rebuilding of the internal west wall, and the phased re-arrangement of most of the external and internal openings.

The medieval complex was originally associated with a moated enclosure and a village. The moat was recorded as being destroyed in 1973³ but the earthworks to the east of the tower (see fig. 16) do not appear to have been recognised.⁴ Although the small, deserted, but well documented, medieval village of Paull Holme is noted in the Victoria County History,⁵ it does not appear in any of the standard works.⁶

The earthworks around the tower include the faint remains of the earlier buildings (a) with a slight terrace (b) marking a possible access; the positions of the former were confirmed by subsequent geophysical survey. A narrow ditch to the north-east of the tower (c) marks the position of a narrow garderobe drain although this is marked as a "moat" on the early Ordnance Survey maps. Further to the south, the ground is disturbed but the remains of several modern buildings can be seen (eg. at d). The Ordnance Survey maps depict the moat as passing through the centre of this area but no earthwork features are apparent; to the east, the moat is visible as a shallow and then water-filled ditch (g) which continues to the west and east. Other earthworks to the north-west of the tower represent quarries (e) and modern debris (f).

An aerial photograph taken in 1946 shows that the village earthworks originally extended over a much wider area⁷ but these are now confined to a field to the south-east of the

tower. Here, the remains of five rectangular crofts marked by parallel banks and ditches (eg. at h) can be recognised with two levelled platforms (l and m) clearly visible; a third possible platform (n) lies to the west. Although some of these features have been disturbed by later ponds (eg. at i and k), all seem to have a regular pattern. To the north of the site there are other larger quarries (o and p) which are recorded as being worked by the Paull Gravel and Sand Company in the late 1920s.

The reason for the desertion of the village has not been fully determined. However, the historical survey revealed that in 1355 the attendant church was described as being "situated on the coast of the water of (the River) Humber" and was "almost entirely broken down and innudated". The majority of the earthworks appear to lie on lower ground to the south of the tower within 0.5km of the Humber estuary and it is possible that this village suffered from the same 12th century inundations as did the other well-documented examples including Ravenser Odd, Frimersk and Penisthorpe, further to the east.⁸

Twyers Hill, Hedon, North Humberside (NGR TA184289)

A non-destructive archaeological assessment of Twyers Hill, Hedon, was carried out during February 1992 at the request of Hull City Council.⁹

The eastern part of the site, which contains a moated enclosure, has been known as "Twyers" from at least the 12th century when William Le Gros, count of Aumale, gave various lands called Poller and Twyer to Alan, son of Hubert. His descendants subsequently took the name Twyer. A manor house was mentioned in the 14th and the 17th centuries, although it is possible that these two references do not relate to the same building. The house may also have

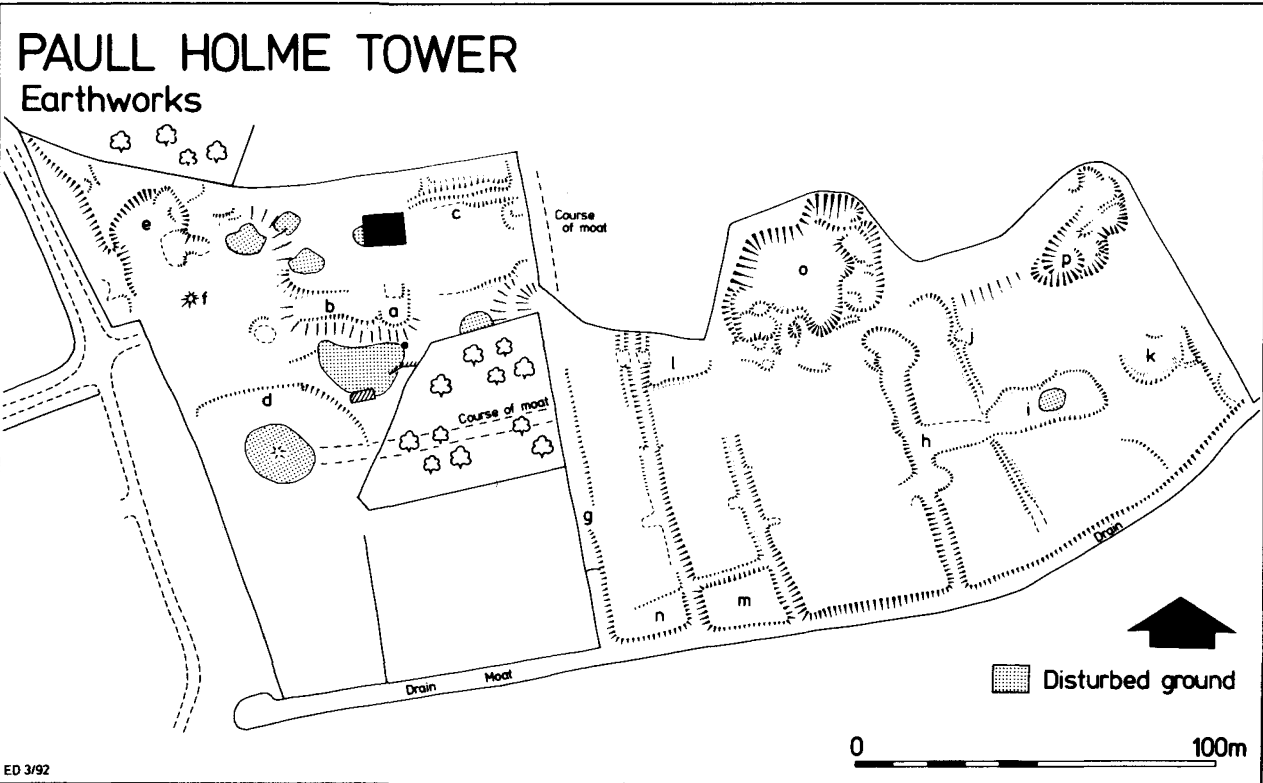


Figure 16: Paull Holme Tower, Paull

had a chapel, for ground called “Chapel Twyers” was mentioned in 1768 and Iveson’s 1804 map of Hedon depicts the “site of Twyer’s chapel” as a rectangular building with transepts.¹⁰

In 1884 Twyers Hill and the flatter land to the east was sold to the East Riding Club and Racecourse Company Limited. A racecourse, which included stands and an approximately 1.8km long east-west straight, was laid out and opened on 24th August 1888. The first two days racing attracted some 34,000 spectators but, despite this initial interest, the course was sold in 1895.¹¹

This racecourse did not affect the site of the medieval manor house. In 1895 it was described as “marked by evidences of very extensive foundations, outside which are many traces of deep and formidable moats. The position of the great hall can be distinctly traced. John Iveson’s plan indicates what he calls the ‘site of Twyer’s chapel’ approximately in the position and indicated by Mr. Iveson are the lines of a small rectangular building, lying east-west, and it is probable that, a century ago, evidence existed on the spot that here stood a chapel”.¹² Subsequent archaeological activity on the site has been limited to the recovery of various medieval artefacts including worked stone,¹³ and the 1992 assessment represents the first real attempt to delimit and interpret the surviving features.

The survey (see figure 17) showed that the most prominent earthwork feature is a large moated enclosure (a), the northern and eastern arms surviving as a ditch some 10m wide and between 0.5m and 1m deep. The latter has been altered by the construction of a later post-medieval pond in the eastern side (b). The southern arm, which seems to run parallel to a drain called the Reedmere Sewer, has been partly infilled and one section has been completely lost. As a result, it is difficult to be precise about the position of the western arm although it is likely to be represented by an L-shaped pond (c) which is of similar dimensions to the rest

of the moat. However, there are slight returns midway along the northern and southern arms which might suggest that the central enclosure was divided into two; the internal earthworks appear to be concentrated in the eastern half.

Although the enclosure is depicted on the various Ordnance Survey maps as a moat, the levels make it unlikely that the northern arm ever contained water. Both the ends of this section are significantly higher and unconnected to the adjoining ditches and the ditch itself has the appearance of a road or hollow-way which extends westwards on a slight embankment between the L-shaped pond (c) and another fishpond (h). It is probable, therefore, that the “moat” was water-filled on only three sides, suggesting a social and aesthetic, rather than any defensive, function.

The eastern half of the enclosure contains a series of vague earthworks, the most obvious of which define a rectangular platform measuring 60m by 30m (d). Slight earthworks suggest possible internal features, including a circular depression. A shallow east-west ditch separates the northern platform from another to the south (e) which also contains numerous but unidentifiable earthworks. To the west is a low rectangular platform 35m long by 15m wide (f); this platform, which appears to be divided by a slight bank, may represent the site of the church or chapel which is marked in this location on Iveson’s map of 1804.

The moated enclosure is surrounded by ridge and furrow. This is particularly well preserved to the north and east, with the ridges surviving up to 0.5m high. These earthworks are aligned with the enclosure and cut by later features, for example the disused Hull to Withernsea railway line or ponds (l and n), and so are assumed to be of medieval date. Other north-south ditches within the ridge and furrow respect the overall alignment and probably represent internal boundaries of the field system. A wind or post-mill mound (j) lies in an exposed position above a steep natural slope.

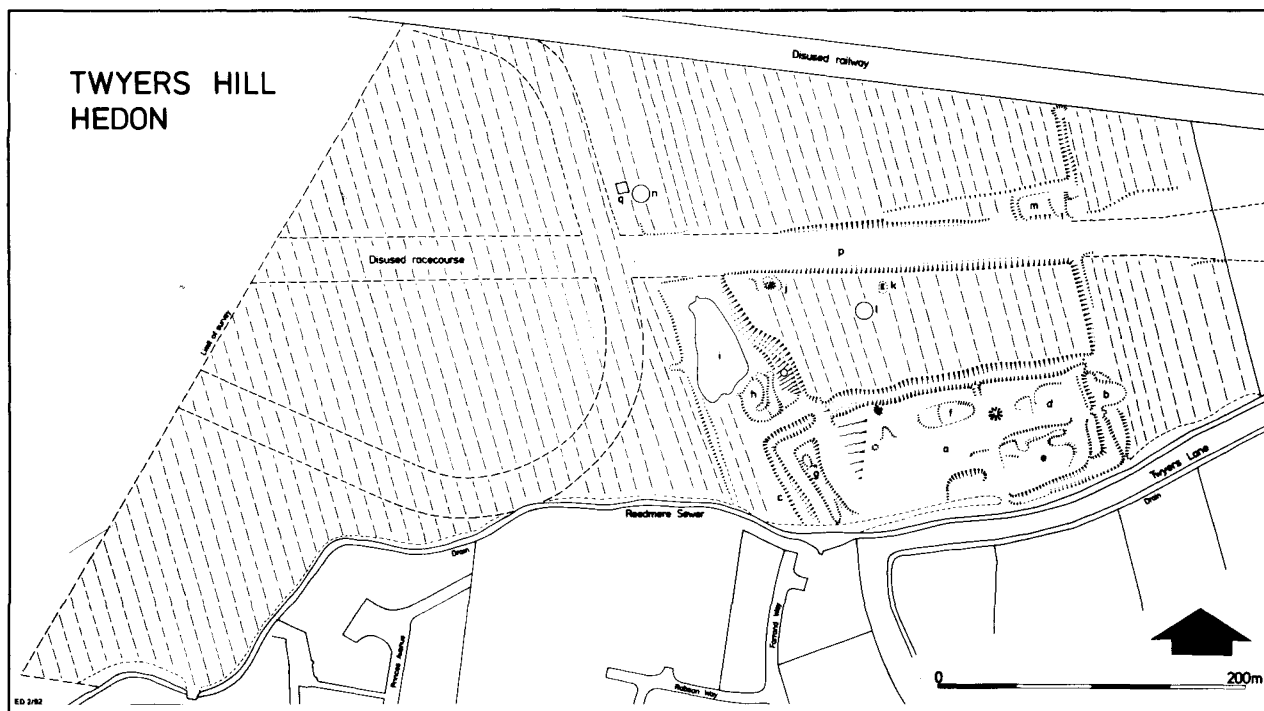


Figure 17: Twyers Hill, Hedon

In the western part of the site, beyond the natural scarp, is a set of fishponds. The southern-most pond (g) contains a small oval island and a narrow entrance but any evidence of a channel joining the main moat has been lost. Another pond to the north (h) is divided by a substantial bank which creates two areas of differing depths; the shallower eastern side has been cut out from the natural scarp. A third, much larger, water-filled pond lies to the north-west (i). Although an inlet channel is visible to the north, its banks have been eroded by cattle.

Passing through and disturbing the centre of the field system is a substantial east-west depression, 30m wide (p). This represents part of the long straight associated with the abandoned race course. In the area of the main circuit, the ridge and furrow survives as slight earthworks less than 0.25m high and it is obvious that only the eastern section of the straight, which required a line of sight over slightly higher land, involved any disturbance to the medieval features. Other features associated with the racecourse may be represented by a rectangular platform (m).

The assessment allowed an area of archaeological importance to be determined and it is hoped that further work will be undertaken to make this monument more accessible to the general public.

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NORFOLK

Brian Cushion reports that the following earthwork sites have been mapped at 1:1250 for the Norfolk Landscape Archaeology Section of the Norfolk Museums Service, as part of their Monument Management Project.

Coxford Priory (TF 848290)

The previously recorded layout by the O.S. has been considerably extended to provide more internal detail and also further to the south where the site extends into another meadow.

Tattersett (TF 849292)

A well defined hollow way with adjacent enclosure and a moated enclosure are located between the isolated church and the Manor Farm.

Broomsthorpe (Sengham) DMV. (TF 853285)

A hollow way, probable church outline and churchyard as well as other enclosures have been identified, some associated with a now ploughed out moat to the north.

Broomsthorpe fishponds (TF 851284)

These are probably associated with a forerunner of the present Broomsthorpe Hall, consisting of a group of 3 ponds in parallel, end on to another larger pond; with some leats evident.

Dunton MV (TF 878301)

Village earthworks on either side of the present roadway, church and farmstead, include a hollow way, tofts and other enclosures, as well as building outlines and ruins, in these latter cases, evidence of C20th desertion.

Well DMV (TF 720202)

A series of enclosures mapped are not wholly convincing as village earthworks.

Alan Davison has completed the fieldwalking and documentary survey for Norfolk Landscape Archaeology and English Heritage of the Mannington and Wolterton estates. It should be noted that details, as in previous reports (5,6), are given under medieval parish names. Mannington (TG 142 329) now forms part of Itteringham C.P. (TG 146 310), Wolterton (TG 164 322) of Wickmere C.P. (TG 168 333) and Calthorpe (TG 183 318) now lies within Erpingham C.P. (TG 195 315).

Little Barningham (TG 140 333). A map of c. 1565 shows that the site of Coldham's Manor was at the Lowes (TG 145 328) where a well-preserved earth bank athwart a stream, probably a mill dam, lies concealed by a wood.

Wolterton Traces of two of the roads shown leaving Wolterton Green on Corbridge's map of 1732 can still be seen. The south-eastern one appears as a short length of hollow way in grassland. The south-western one is preserved, by the addition of a ha-ha, as part of the park landscape.

Wickmere. Further fieldwalking near the isolated church provided stronger evidence of Iron Age and Middle and

Late Saxon activity with some hint of a possible Early Saxon presence.

Calthorpe. Three more Romano-British sites were found. One north-west of the village was substantial but yielded nothing obviously late; a smaller site to the south-west of the village may be associated with rectangular soil markings. A third, very small, on a gravel knoll commanding distant views, appears linked with a rectangular soil mark shown on aerial photographs.¹ The village seems to occupy its original site. The church mentioned in 1086, stands high at the western end of a sunken street leading down to a stream crossing. A late 13th century reference to a field land near the door of the church explains the scarcity of pottery to the south of the street. A sherd of Ipswich-type Ware, a quantity of Thetford-type Ware and much medieval pottery were collected from gaps between houses on the north side, suggesting a Middle Saxon origin and a late medieval contraction. A small isolated medieval site was found at some distance to the south on the line of a lost road leading to Blickling.

Itteringham. Near White House Farm (TG 162 308) two Romano-British concentrations were found. With building materials in quantity, they may be parts of one extensive feature. To the south-west of the farm medieval pottery was found, probably outliers of Nowers Manor which, with its chapel of St. Nicholas, seems to have lain nearby at TG 154 303.²

It is possible that White House Farm may stand on a replacement site for this manor; two fish ponds shown nearby on a map of 1738 are still in pasture to the south.

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SUFFOLK

John Newman reports that the following proposed road improvement schemes were examined for archaeological sites by fieldwalking all accessible arable land:

A12 Wickham Market to Saxmundham Improvement, (funded by the Department of Transport), new sites located:

Farnham (TM2659, FNM004): a scatter of Medieval coarseware pottery sherds on a site fronting onto the lane between Farnham village and Langham Bridge. A metal detector search of the site by local enthusiasts also recovered a copper alloy seal matrix depicting the letter "T" below a crown and a half-groat of Edward IV. Probable date range for the site – thirteenth to fifteenth century.

Farnham (TM3660, FNM005): a scatter of Medieval pottery sherds to the east of Molletts Farm. Date range – thirteenth to fourteenth century.

Farnham, (TM3659, FNM006, 007 and 008): a series of lithic scatters made up of flakes, a few scrapers and heavily burnt flints. Probable date range – Neolithic/Bronze Age.

A143 Rickingham and Botesdale Bypass (funded by County Surveyor's Department, Suffolk County Council), new sites located:

Rickingham Inferior (TM0275, RKN024): a small scatter

of Medieval pottery sherds. Date range – thirteenth/fourteenth century.

Rickingham Superior (TM0474, RKS024): a scatter of Medieval pottery sherds to the north east of the parish church, including some Thetford type ware. Date range – twelfth to fourteenth century.

Botesdale (TM0675, BOT013): a moderate scatter of Romano-British pottery sherds, also a scatter of heavily burnt flints.

Botesdale, (TM0575, BOT014) a scatter of Medieval and Post Medieval pottery sherds and tile and brick fragments adjacent to Bridewell Lane. Probable date range – thirteenth/fourteenth century to seventeenth/eighteenth century.

A143 Scole-Stuston Bypass, (funded by County Surveyor's Department, Suffolk County Council), new sites located:

Wortham, (TM0977, WTM020): a scatter of Early Anglo-Saxon pottery sherds, also a few sherds of Ipswich ware indicating a possible settlement site of fifth/sixth to seventh/eighth century date.

Palgrave/Stuston (TM1177, 1278 and 1378, PAL016, SUS018 and SUS019): two moderately dense lithic scatters, (PAL016 and SUS018), and one burnt flint scatter (SUS019).

A12 Saxmundham Bypass, Proposed Dualling, (funded by the County Surveyor's Department, Suffolk County Council), new sites located:

Saxmundham (TM3763, SXM007): a moderately dense scatter of Romano-British pottery sherds, also a few flint flakes and one scraper.

Kelsale cum Carlton (TM3865, KCC018): a scatter of heavily burnt flints.

Pipelines

Throughout 1992 numerous pipeline schemes were monitored for Anglian Water Services Ltd and the Suffolk Water Company. In some cases this work did lead onto small-scale excavations. However various other archaeological sites were located as scatters of ceramic or lithic material and were not investigated in any further detail. Sites in this category include the following:

Dunwich Village sewage scheme, (funded by Anglian Water Services Ltd):

Dunwich (TM4770, DUN018): scatter of Medieval pottery sherds. Date range thirteenth-fifteenth century. Dunwich (TM4770, DUN019): dense scatter of Medieval pottery sherds, also a scatter of heavily burnt flints. Date range thirteenth-fifteenth century. Dunwich, (TM4770, DUN017): small scatter of Medieval pottery sherds and heavily burnt flints.

The three Medieval sites above all lie to the rear of properties that front onto the northern side of St. James Street, just above the Dunwich River floodplain. Their presence indicates extra mural development along St James Street to the west of the town of Dunwich. Settlement along St James Street in the thirteenth to fifteenth century period was probably being encouraged by marine incursions into those areas of Dunwich town which were closer to the then coastline.

In connection with the Dunwich sewage scheme the following sites were also located on the Westleton side of the Dunwich River.

Westleton (TM4770, WLN019): following the discovery of a scatter of Medieval pottery sherds in mole and rabbit holes examination of an area of stripped pipeline revealed that all of the finds were lying in a layer of hillwash. It is possible that these pottery sherds have been washed downhill during periods of soil erosion from a nearby Medieval settlement site. Date range – thirteenth/fourteenth century.

Westleton (TM4771, WLN020): a moderately dense scatter of Medieval pottery sherds located in mole and rabbit holes.

Great Finborough Water Mains Replacement, (monitoring funded by Anglian Water Services Ltd)

Survey work before the above scheme commenced located two Medieval pottery scatters, (Combs parish, TM0256, COM011 and Great Finborough parish; TM0256, FNG011). Both sites front onto Jacks Lane and appear to be of thirteenth to fourteenth/fifteenth century date. However due to technical reasons both sites were bypassed by the water main and no further archaeological investigation was carried out.

Badingham-Dennington Sewage Scheme

Monitoring work along the above pipeline scheme located four scatters of Medieval pottery sherds. All of the sites located appear to be of thirteenth to fourteenth/fifteenth century date. They all front onto the road, (the A1120), just to the east of Dennington village, (TM2867, DNN025 to 028). Due to the constraints of this scheme not being funded no further archaeological investigation of these sites was carried out.

Shadingfield to Stove Trunk Main (funded by the Suffolk Water Company)

Monitoring work along the above scheme located various scatters of ceramic and lithic material. The following sites are worthy of particular note: Shadingfield (TM4384, SDG016): a moderately dense scatter of Medieval and early Post Medieval pottery sherds close to Park Farm. Date range thirteenth/fourteenth to sixteenth/seventeenth century.

Shadingfield (TM4383, SDG021): a dense scatter of Medieval pottery sherds in between Turnpike Farm and the London Road. Date range – thirteenth to fourteenth century.

SURREY

Dinah Saich reports on behalf of Surrey County Council on the following projects:

Hindhead Commons (SU890 369 – centred). A survey of the historic landscape was required for two reasons i) to help improve the property's management plan and ii) to establish what landscape features were threatened by the proposed widening of the A3. Work was carried out by volunteers, led by Steve Dyer of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit and the Surrey Archaeological Society; funding for the work was provided by Surrey County Council, the Surrey Archaeological Society and the National Trust. Work started in the Smallbrook Valley, where a

medieval field system, discernable as small field boundary banks, was surveyed. This system was superseded by a Tudor field system, with much larger earthworks. Evidence of settlement associated with these field systems has been located in the form of a number of building platforms. A small bank running alongside the stream below the fields has been interpreted as the boundary marker between the Hundreds of Farnham and Godalming. Documentary work on the Winchester Pipe Rolls is beginning to shed light on a large number of the surveyed earthworks.

Reigate, Castle Grounds (TQ 252 504). Evaluation and subsequent site watching of an area of the moat embankment at Reigate Castle, where a new pathway was to be put in at a lower level than the existing. The work was carried out by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit, directed by G. N. Hayman; funding was provided by Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. Two trenches were opened and a variety of layers exposed. The largest layer appears to be redeposited material from the cutting of the present moat. No finds were recovered from this layer; it may be relatively recent, associated with landscaping for the house just to the south. Below this the remains of a buried bank lying over a buried soil were found. Finds suggest that this bank was of 13th century date. The bank appeared to follow a slightly different course to that of the present embankment.

Runfold, Grange Road (SU 872 481, 881 485). Evaluation and subsequent excavation of part of the proposed Blackwater Valley route. Three sites were excavated, one opposite West Farm, one 70m to the east of this and another site 700m to the north east of these, opposite Springfield Cottages. Work was carried out by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit, directed by Graham Hayman; funding was provided by the Highways and Transport Department of Surrey County Council. The medieval features excavated were mainly pits and ditches, but an area of densely packed flints was also discovered adjacent to Grange Road, in the West Farm area. It is suggested that this may represent a track into a field from a more major "road", suggesting that Grange Road follows an ancient line of communication.

Titsey, Clacket Lane (TQ 422 546). The evaluation reported in the summaries for 1991 was followed up by more detailed excavation of two areas to be disturbed by the construction of a service station, one to the north of the M25, one to the south. Work was carried out by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit; funding was provided by English Heritage. In the northern area, the area of burnt soil was removed, along with large quantities of medieval pottery (provisionally dated to the 13th century), to reveal a small patch of intense burning – all that was left of a kiln. It is suggested that the original kiln structure was established above ground, rather than dug into the natural as with other Limpsfield kilns, because this area was low lying and therefore subject to flooding. Other features excavated consisted mainly of a large ditch with sufficient pottery in its backfill to suggest it is contemporary with the kiln and a concentration of cobbles with frequent sherds of pottery and some roof tile fragments – the remains of a small building associated with the work at the kiln.

Two areas of dark soil were excavated in the southern area, both containing frequent sherds of medieval pottery. One area revealed a small kiln – unlined, with a flue at each end,

the other area may have been used as a waster dump. A number of post holes excavated suggest there was at least one small structure here.

WARWICKSHIRE

Admington (SP200460).

Christopher Dyer has continued to work on this elongated parish, which straddles the escarpment of the Cotswolds, and includes a considerable area of the clay lowlands. The two townships involved, Admington and Lark Stoke, each contained a double settlement – Upper and Lower Admington, and Upper and Lower Stoke. The villages all seem to be of one-row type, and were associated with regular midland two-field systems.

The research involves a variety of activities designed to exploit all types of evidence. Field walking has produced a great deal of evidence of prehistoric exploitation of the area's resources in the form of flints ranging in date from the mesolithic to the bronze age. A second Romano-British site has been found, in addition to the high status site located in the previous season. A thin scatter of Romano-British pottery in many fields suggest widespread cultivation based on single farmsteads. As in the previous season the

uneven distribution of medieval pottery suggests considerable variations in the intensity of manuring, which is probably associated with an infield/outfield system of land management.

Work on aerial photographs by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments for England and Warwickshire Museum has resulted in a detailed map of ridge and furrow and other earthworks visible on the post-war vertical photographs. These reveal extensive ridge and furrow in Admington, except for an area of wood and common pasture on its southern extremity on the Cotswold escarpment.

Documentary research shows that the villages went through a period of contraction in the later middle ages (concentrated probably in the fifteenth century), but in common with many Feldon settlements in the region hardly grew at all in the two centuries after Domesday. If there was a period of growth here it was located in the pre-Conquest period. The documents are of great topographical value, because rentals and tax lists record the tenements in order, as the surveyors and assessors walked up the village street. The documents also allow the field system and demesne of Admington to be identified.

Earthwork survey has involved the plotting of ridge and furrow on the ground, and the planning of the settlement earthworks of Lower Admington, where there is a considerable area of platforms, toft boundaries and holloways, representing the shrinkage in population of the later medieval period.

WILTSHIRE

Graham Brown reports on his study of the parish of Enford (SU 1351)

Research into the medieval and post medieval settlement of the parish of Enford was undertaken during 1991-92, entailing the survey of four shrunken settlements while earthworks at a fifth were noted but not surveyed.

Enford parish lies 22 km north of Salisbury on Salisbury Plain. The parish is 3314 ha and is bisected by the River Avon which flows south to the English Channel at Christchurch. There are eight tithings in the parish, four on either side of the river with boundaries extending finger-like onto the Downs. Meadow was restricted to the river terraces while arable land lay close to the settlement and pasture on the Downs beyond. On the flood plain on either side of the river are extensive water meadows.

Compton (SU133521)

The settlement remains are to the south of Compton Farm and form two distinct blocks separated by a dry stream (a). To the north, on the flood plain, there are a number of amorphous earthworks of poorly preserved properties. Romano British and Saxon pottery was recovered from this area during pipe-laying. A large platform 30m x 15m, set on prominent ground (b), may be the site of a chapel mentioned in c. 1118. To the south of the stream, set above the flood plain, are a series of parallel property boundaries c. 30m apart; these are bounded by a back lane in the S and the stream in the N. Earthworks of possible platforms within each boundary generally occupy the higher ground to the S. At (c) is a former pond. Underlying the boundary bank which defines the W limit of the settlement are traces

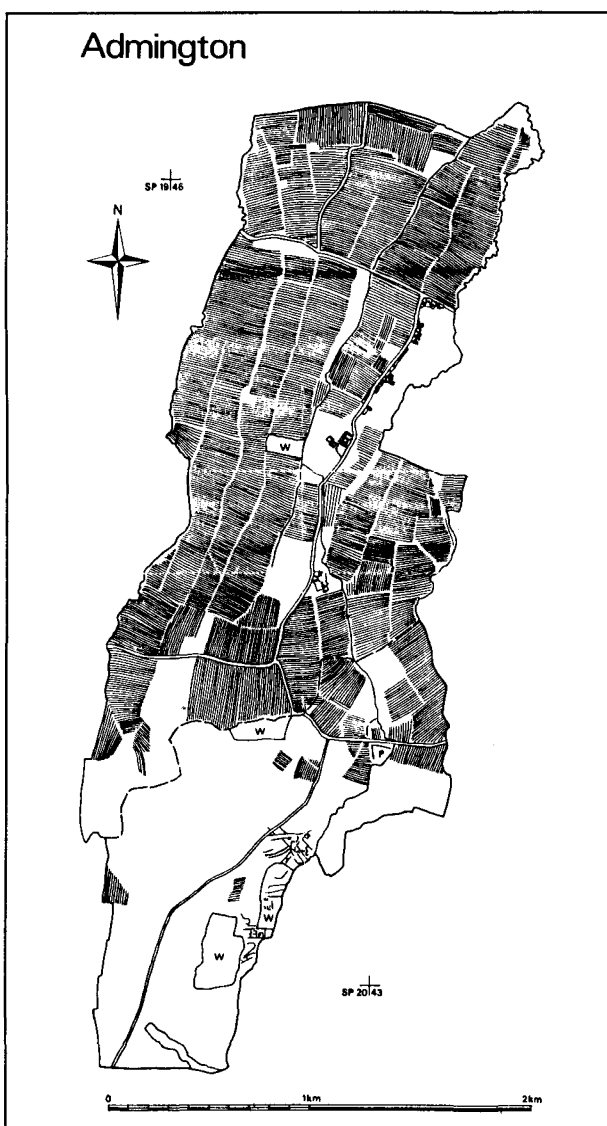


Figure 18: Admington, Warwickshire

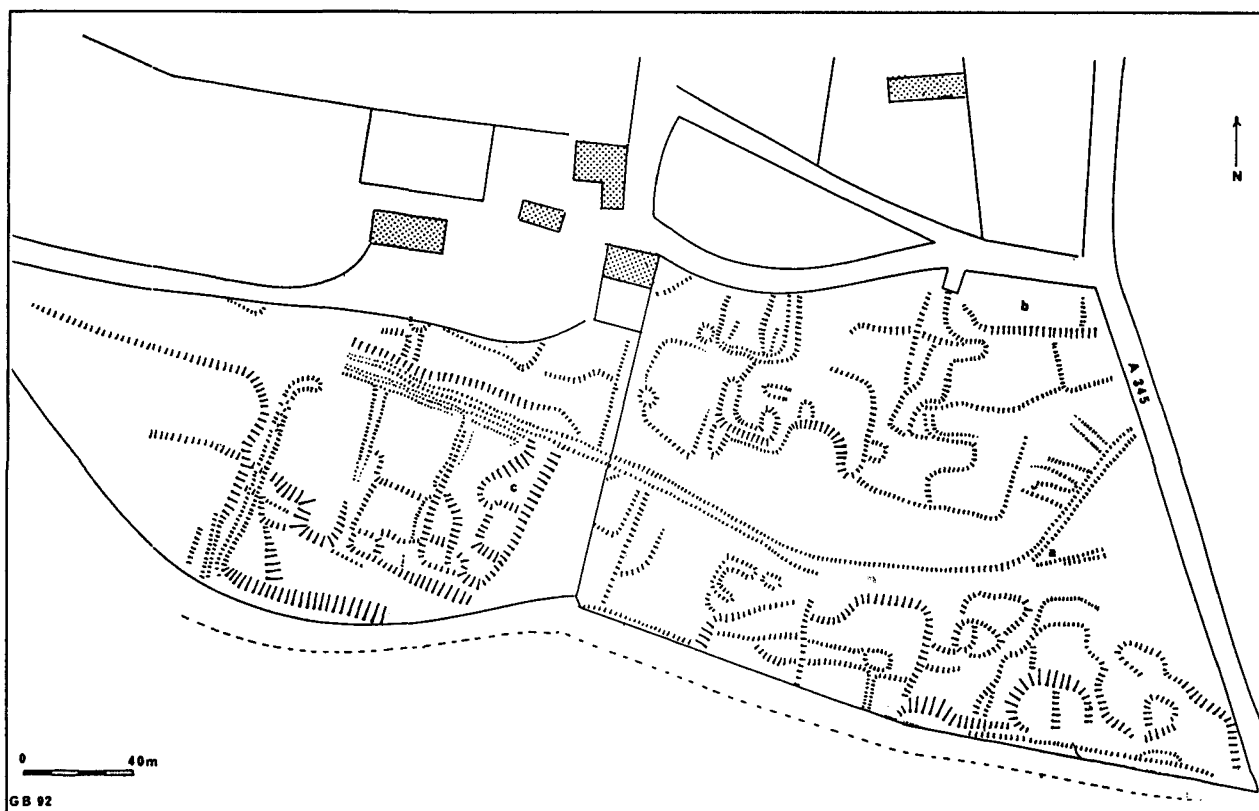


Figure 19: Compton in Enford, Wiltshire

of lynchets. Strip lynchets extend from this boundary bank W onto the Downs.

West Chisenbury (SU138528)

Settlement remains at West Chisenbury were recorded on either side of the A345, north of the farmhouse. The settlement comprises three possible elements. To the NE of the main settlement there is a paired moat complex. The larger of the two moats (a) comprises a ditch 10m wide and up to 1.3m deep. The second moat, immediately to the north, is smaller and consists of a rectilinear raised platform 0.4m high. The remains of a dovecote (c) and fishpond (b) were probably part of the demesne messuage mentioned in an IPM of 1361. To the west of the road is a truncated boundary bank with further building platforms. Earthworks to the S are poorly defined and appear to represent the remains of settlement on the river terrace. To the E of the road the third element comprises a number of enclosures on the low lying flood plain bounded on the N and E by a pronounced curving holloway which was later used as a "carrier" for the water meadow.

Coombe (SU150504)

Settlement remains at Coombe lie to the east of the farmhouse in a pasture field known as Chapel Field in 1806. The eastern limit of the settlement is marked by a pronounced boundary bank which extends north for 130m to a plantation. Just within the boundary bank, some distance from the settlement, two rectilinear enclosures abut a lynchet. The larger enclosures (25m x 25m) may be the site of the chapel mentioned in 1194. Further west there are three holloways and enclosures.

Longstreet (SU142514)

Shrunken settlement remains lie to the N and S of Longstreet Farm. They are defined by prominent regular boundary

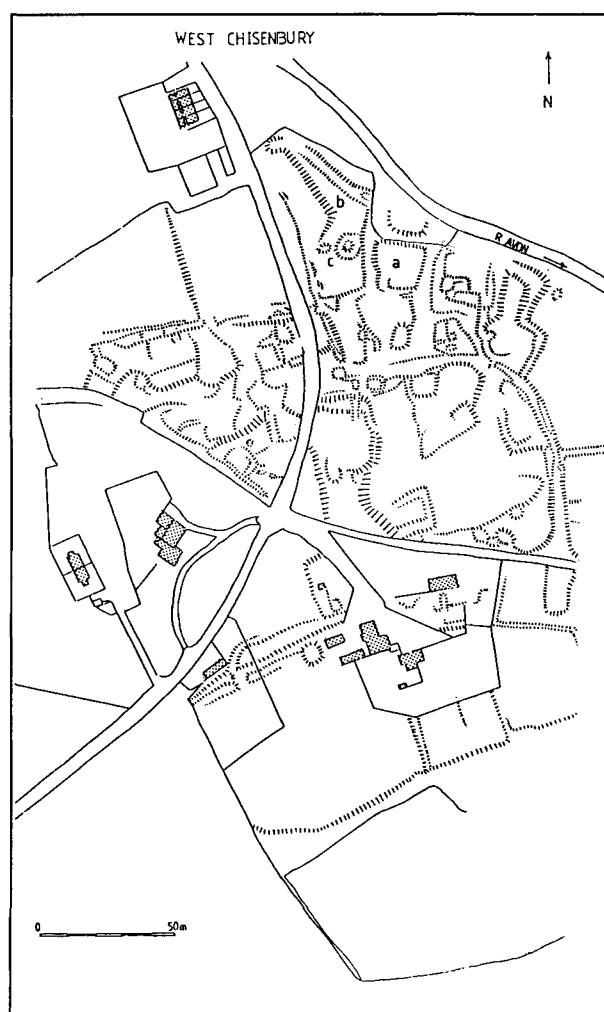


Figure 20: West Chisenbury

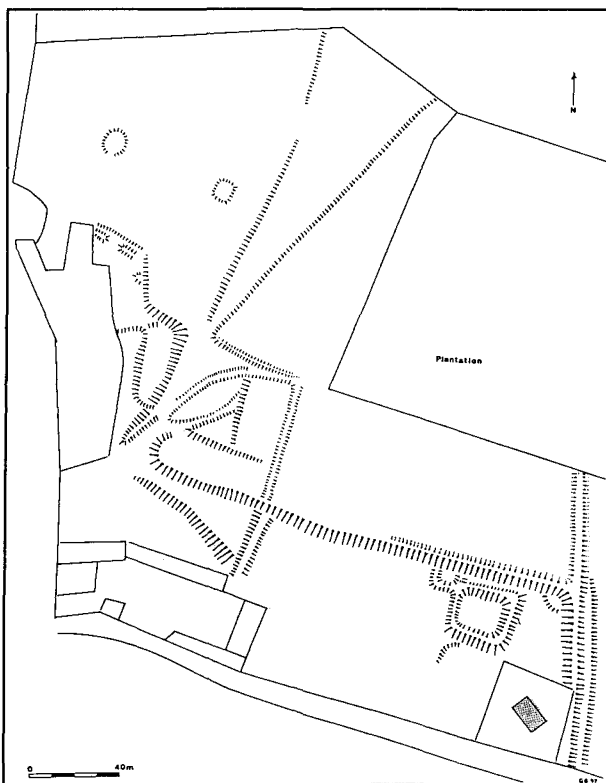


Figure 21: Coombe, Enford, Wiltshire

banks, each property 35-40m wide, and extend from a modern lane c140m W towards the river. Earthworks of possible building platforms lie to the east on higher ground. Water meadows lie to the W of the settlement.

East Chisenbury (SU142527)

Earthworks within the emparked manor farm of Chisenbury Priory were noted but not surveyed. They comprise a holloway to the NE of the manor house with at least four building platforms cut into a west-facing slope. Further S there are traces of ridge-and-furrow and a headland. This part of the settlement was probably abandoned when the manor was emparked in the 17c.

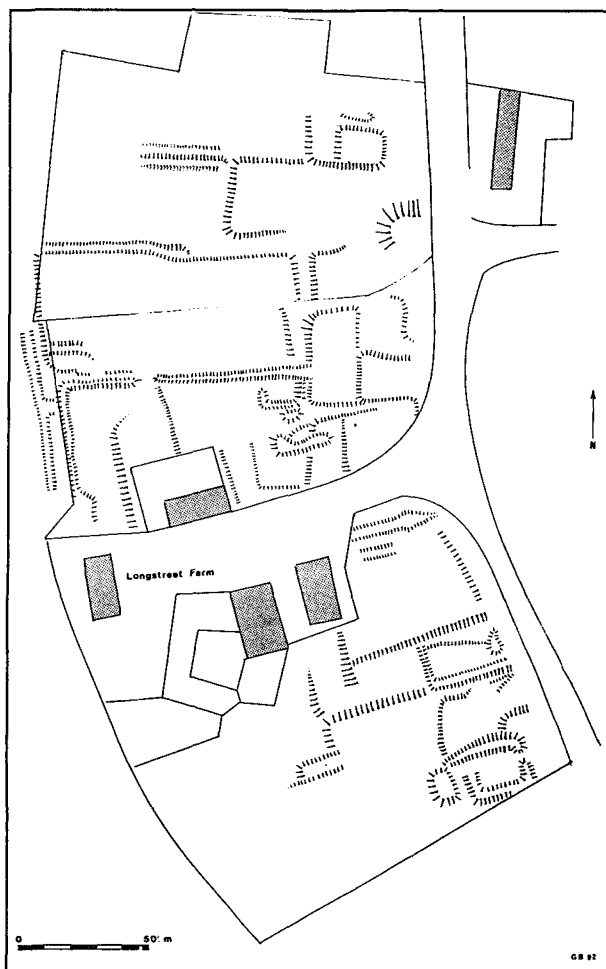


Figure 22: Longstreet, Enford, Wiltshire

RESEARCH IN 1992

ii. EXCAVATIONS

AVON

Redwick (ST 550 858)

Richard Newman reports that, as part of a major archaeological landscape survey, commissioned by English Heritage, of the area of the Avon Levels to be affected by the English approach roads to the new Severn crossing, Wessex Archaeology revealed evidence of medieval activity at the village of Redwick. An area of waste ground in Redwick, within the land take of one of the approach roads, was chosen for an excavation in order to establish the antiquity of a house now demolished, but present on 19th century maps, and to investigate the possibility of medieval occupation in the vicinity. Sherds of 14th-15th century pottery were found in association with a sub-rectangular stone platform, 0.1-0.3m deep with surface dimensions of 3.5 by 2.5m. A small slot was cut into the surface. It is possible that the structure was the remnant of a wider stone foundation. All other features recorded were of a post-medieval date.

BEDFORDSHIRE

Biggleswade, Stratton (TL 205438)

Drew Shotliff reports that September 1992 saw the completion of the fieldwork phase of an investigation of the deserted medieval settlement of Stratton. The background to this large scale rescue excavation and the initial results were described in last year's Annual Report. The work is being undertaken by Bedfordshire County Council Planning Department's Archaeology Service, with funding from English Heritage and the County Council.

A further 1.6 hectares of the site have been examined in detail, bringing the total excavated area to approximately 6 hectares. A watching brief was also maintained during topsoil stripping of a further 2.2 hectares. Subsequent phases of the development are still expected to release up to 5 more hectares of the medieval settlement for excavation.

The most recent excavation work has tended to confirm the 10th-14th century date range. However, the middle Saxon component of the settlement has been highlighted by the discovery of a small but complete "final phase" cemetery. Eleven inhumations were recovered. This represents the second cemetery found within the settlement. 200m to the north on the north-western limit of the excavated area a comparably sized group of burials were recovered. The absence of any grave goods seems to suggest a later date for this cemetery.

The western side of the settlement, where boundaries were fenced, can now be contrasted to the eastern side, where ditched enclosures were more common. The western limit of the settlement also appears to be defined by a series of regularly spaced wells. Approximately half of the more northerly, ploughed out moated site was examined. No structural remains survived on the platform. The moat itself had been re-dug several times but finds from the original, basal fills suggested it was first in use during the 14th century.

A MAP2 assessment of the results of the excavation is now being prepared for English Heritage. This includes the digitisation, using Auto Cad, of the 1:20 site plans. It is intended to use the latter in conjunction with the finds and structural databases as a means of interpreting and presenting the site.



Plate I: One of the better defined 10th-11th century buildings at Biggleswade, Stratton.

Complementary survey work within the immediate locality is also underway. The Society of Antiquaries have provided funding for a geophysical and fieldworking survey beyond the eastern edge of the excavated area, where the limit of the settlement is not yet clearly defined. The fieldwalking is being undertaken with the assistance of the Biggleswade History Society, who, it is hoped, will be able to undertake similar work on a broader scale in the future.

The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England have also offered to carry out a detailed survey of the scheduled moated site and related manorial earthworks, which still survive to the south-east of the excavated area.

BERKSHIRE

Julie Gardiner reports on the following project:

Bisham, Bisham Abbey (SU 8475 8495)

Watching briefs were carried out during the excavation of a short length of pipe trench and the laying of a gas main through the grounds of the National Sports Centre at Bisham Abbey.

It was thought that the trenches might disturb archaeological deposits relating to the occupation and/or destruction phases of the Abbey. The first mention of a house at Bisham is in the Domesday Book of 1086, while the oldest surviving part of the present building appears to have been built by the Knights Templars in the mid 12th century. The 13th century preceptory of the Abbey now forms the core of the house which was built in the 16th century following the dissolution of the monasteries, and which was extended and refurbished in the 1790s.

No certainly medieval or earlier deposits were recorded, much of the material exposed in the trenches consisting of rubble and brick-built structures of post-medieval or modern date. Several undated rubble and chalk layers were recorded towards the base of the gas main trench, some of which may relate to the early history of the Abbey and associated building.

Ashampstead, 'Uncommon' (SU 5757 7468)

Limited investigation was undertaken of a dense pottery scatter and possible associated structures which had been disturbed during landscaping works to the rear of a property known as 'Uncommon' at Ashampstead Common. A large quantity of pottery, all of 12th-13th century date, had already been collected from the site and its immediate surrounds by a local archaeologist who informed Wessex Archaeology of the site and its probable importance.

Investigation was restricted to the area which had already been disturbed for the purposes of extending a driveway. Here, beneath a dense scatter of pottery, burnt flint, ash, and charcoal, the lower part of a cobb-walled pottery kiln was found extending into the driveway, with an earlier stoke-pit beneath it.

Preliminary examination of the pottery revealed a restricted range of vessel types, mainly cooking pots with some shallow dishes and a few pitchers in a sandy fabric represented in the assemblages recovered during urban excavations in Reading, Newbury, Oxford, and Wallingford, and similar to the material produced by the Camley Gardens kilns in Maidenhead. A source for these products to the north-east of Newbury has already been postulated by researchers working on those pottery assemblages. It seems likely, therefore, that the kiln(s) at Ashampstead are an important part of the medieval pottery industry serving the Berkshire/Oxfordshire area during the later middle ages. It is hoped full analysis and publication of the material recovered to date can be combined with a geophysical survey to establish the full extent of the site. The site, as yet unscheduled, remains protected and secure with the kind permission and understanding of the owners.

Reddings Copse, near Newbury (SU 444 654)

Richard Newman reports that, during the course of archaeological evaluations along the route of the proposed A34 Newbury bypass (undertaken by Wessex Archaeology on behalf of the Department of Transport), evidence for medieval settlement was discovered at Reddings Copse. Seventy-four sherds of 12th-13th century pottery were recovered from a geotechnical test pit. Further pottery and medieval roof tile was recovered from fieldwalking nearby and some 225m to the south of the geotechnic pit an archaeological 1m² test pit produced 83 sherds of 12th-13th century pottery. This test pit was located close to

surviving ridge and furrow earthworks. Further evidence for medieval activity was discovered to the north of Reddings Copse where five sherds of 12th-13th century pottery together with 52 sherds of medieval roof tile, were recovered from an undefined linear feature recorded in a test pit.

In all evidence for medieval activity extended over a distance of at least 600m, although the density of artefactual evidence was not consistent throughout. The large quantities of artefacts found within some of the small test pits indicates that those particular pits are in occupation areas. On present evidence it is suggested that there is a relatively dispersed abandoned medieval settlement in the vicinity of Reddings Copse.

DEVON

WORK OF THE DARTMOOR TINWORKING RESEARCH GROUP: by Sandy Gerrard and Tom Greeves

The Dartmoor Tinworking Research Group established in 1991, exists to encourage further field and documentary research into the Dartmoor tin industry of all periods and to promote awareness and appreciation of its place within the Dartmoor landscape and its effect on Devon society and culture.

To date the research element of the Group's work have included the excavation of a tin processing site at Upper Merrivale (SX 55197664) and the earthwork survey of a streamwork at Beckamoor Combe (SX 535755).

Beckamoor Combe (Devon/West Devon)

The earthwork survey of the upper part of the tin streamwork at Beckamoor Combe was carried out by members of the Group supported by a grant from the British Archaeological Research Trust. This work confirmed that an eluvial deposit of tin had been exploited in a systematic manner using water to separate the heavy tin ore from the lighter clays, silts and sands in which it had originally been held. A series of parallel waste dumps provided important information concerning the techniques of extraction employed and the sequence in which the different deposits were exploited. Five separate reservoirs and a series of leats were recorded together with two tinnerns' buildings, a number of lengths of prehistoric field boundaries, a cairnfield, ring cairn and Second World War mortar emplacement. A plan showing the character of the streamwork and explanatory text has been published (Gerrard, 1992, 6-8). Further surveys are planned for 1993.

Upper Merivale (Devon/West Devon)

Excavations at the blowing and stamping mills at Upper Merivale have been supported by a large number of organisations including Dartmoor National Park, The Society of Antiquaries, The British Academy and The Devon Archaeological Society. Work to date has revealed a complex multi-phase tin processing site where ore was crushed and smelted during the medieval and post-medieval periods. In the final 17th century phase, separate crushing (stamping) and smelting (blowing) mills have been revealed (fig 23). Samples of material taken from these buildings should provide information concerning the efficiency and character of the processing operation. Within the blowing mill, the furnace and mould stone survive in situ and

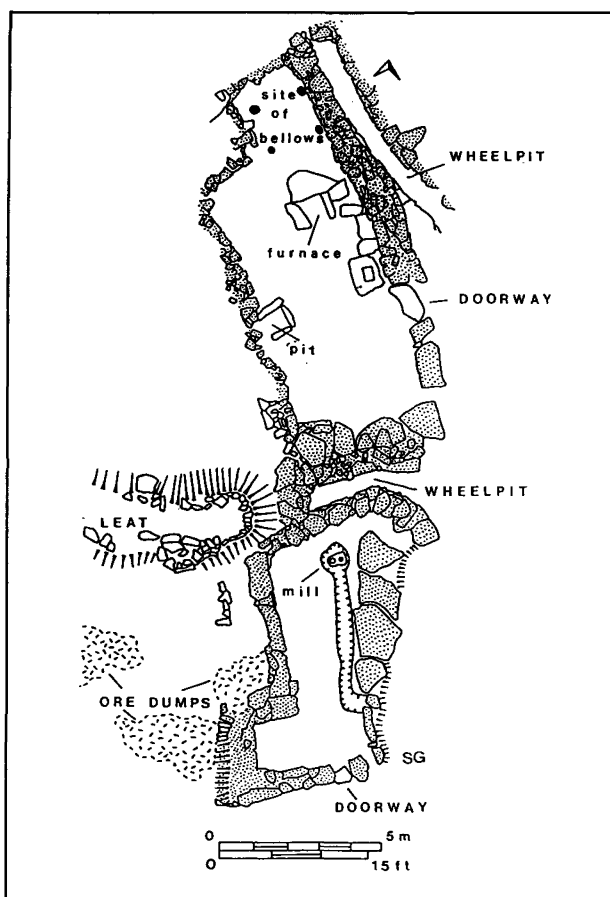


Figure 23: Final Phase at Upper Merrivale

clearly overlie an earlier stamping mill which will be investigated more fully during 1993. Water plays an important role in tin processing and much effort has been directed at examining the character of the leats bringing water to the site. This work has indicated the diverse character of the water channels, with some being stone, clay or timber lined and others being cut directly into the subsoil. Analysis of the hydrological information gleaned should provide further information on the technology employed by the tanners.

On the hillslope above the mills, a large quantity of slag associated with prehistoric pottery, a glass bead and flints have been found. These artefacts may provide significant information concerning earlier tinworking on Dartmoor.

The programme of survey and excavation in the Merrivale area has a long way to go, but the first two seasons of work have confirmed the wealth of surviving information available for study.

Bibliography

Gerrard, S. 1992, 'The Beckamoore Coombe Survey', The Newsletter of the Dartmoor Tinworking Research Group, No. 3, 6-8.

Plympton, 'Trevanion', Station Rd (SX 5405 5632)

Julie Gardiner reports that a desk-based study and evaluation were undertaken in advance of proposed redevelopment in November 1992.

The site covers an area of c. 0.3 ha, lying on a ridge which forms the focus of the modern town. There is no evidence for prehistoric activity in the immediate vicinity of the site,

but Roman coins have been found at Plympton Priory, c. 300 m to the south-west.

The principal interest of the site lies in the suggestion that a Saxon *burh* may have existed in the area. A Saxon minister probably stood on the site of the later Priory and it has been postulated that the *burh* may have been located along what is now Station Road.

The priory was founded in 1121 and grew to be the second largest monastery in Devon; excavations have produced evidence of the medieval church but not of any predecessor. Plympton Castle, to the south-east of the proposed site, was built c. 1100. Plympton expanded in the medieval period, the focus of the settlement lying along the Ridgeway, a main west-east route first mentioned in 1155.

DORSET

Bourton, Tan Lane (ST 7805 3100)

Julie Gardiner reports that an evaluation was carried out in advance of proposed residential development. The site encompasses c. 1.5 ha of pasture either side of Tan Lane on the north-eastern edge of the village. Bourton was first mentioned in AD 1212 and was included within the parish of Gillingham until the 19th century. As an agricultural hamlet, it generated moderate incomes from the woollen and textile trades of the Wiltshire and Somerset borders until the 19th Century.

The County Archaeological Officer recorded the presence of slight, regular earthwork platforms and terraces on either side of Tan Lane. They survive as low, rectangular terraces aligned with Tan Lane. There are three, possibly four, terraces to the north and one terrace in the north-west corner of the field south of the lane.

The evaluation consisted of the excavation and recording of three machine trenches in the proposed development area. Apart from rubble-filled land drains of recent date, only two features were recorded: a relic hedgeline and a shallow negative lynchet. Both features correspond with the lower and upper edges of earthwork terraces. No artefacts were recovered. On the evidence of the evaluation trenches, it is likely that the earthworks are remnants of a system of small field enclosures. No dating evidence for their construction or use was found.

ESSEX

P. Gilman reports that at **Cressing, Cressing Temple** (TL 799187), excavations continued, directed by T. Robey for Essex County Council. Five new trenches were excavated in the walled garden. T11 and T12 confirmed the 18th-century layout of the garden, with parallel east-west planting trenches across the southern half, whilst the entire northern half of the enclosure was dug over to the natural clay, possibly for planting a crop or an orchard. The Bronze Age gully found in T2 in 1989 continued westwards to T12, where it was enlarged in the Iron Age. T13 was dug into a large medieval feature, a pit 4.2m across and 1.7 m(?) deep, and backfilled with clay and silt from a pond or moat-scouring. Further excavation in T1 revealed a 16th or 17th century brick drain, the north-east corner of the chapel foundations and part of a medieval inhumation to the north of the chapel. Another, decapitated, burial was found in T8, with the head placed between the feet. This inhumation was cut by a 15th century feature and may be either medieval or Romano-British.

An excavation at the north-west corner of the Barley Barn was intended to seek evidence of the original 13th-century outer wall of the building before its reduction in size. Two large post-holes were located aligned with the main cross-frames, with traces of a beam slot between the two. No trace of the northern end of the barn was found. These results tend to confirm that the original structure was larger when first built, but suggest an unusually complex method of construction. The detailed interpretation is being examined by members of the E.C.C. Historic Buildings and Conservation Section.

Earlier in the year, limited excavation in the Wheat Barn found that modern levelling had obliterated all recognisable traces of early floors. The bases of three shallow post-holes beneath the present sill beams have been interpreted as the result of repair work, perhaps carried out when the present studs and brick nogging were inserted.

Other work during the year included limited excavation for a concrete hard-standing and a lime storage pit in the north-western corner of the Dovehouse Field, which revealed a cluster of small Romano-British and prehistoric features. In addition, watching briefs were carried out on a number of post-holes and tree planting holes near the car park and main road, which revealed a single Romano-British feature and a post-medieval wall footing.

Carl Crossan reports on behalf of Colchester Archaeological Trust on excavations at Fingringhoe Road, **Langenhoe** (TM 009189)

Trial trenches in advance of a proposed housing development located and confirmed the medieval origin of a broad trackway recorded on Chapman and Andre's map of 1777. Although no adjacent structures were found, pottery and domestic refuse suggested the presence of roadside occupation from the 13th century onward. Further excavation is anticipated.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Old Grange, Dymock (SO 688 319)

Richard Newman reports that, in 1992, Wessex Archaeology carried out a largely desk based study of the property known as the Old Grange about 1 mile to the north-west of the centre of the village of Dymock. The present house known as the Old Grange appears to consist of a 15th century building substantially remodelled in the 17th-19th centuries. It is set within late 19th century landscaped grounds which have recently been turned into a golf course.

The site is purported to be the location of a deserted medieval settlement representing the original site of the village of Dymock. It is recorded as such in the Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR No 9545). This identification appears to be erroneous. It stems from a theory advanced by Canon Gethyn-Jones who, in the 1930s, was informed of a local tradition claiming the original site of Dymock at the Old Grange, and that bricks and dressed building stone were dug up from the banks between the Old Grange and a farm called the Bush. In this precise location dressed stone and bricks can be seen today protruding from a bank which represents remains of Monks mill. This was a water powered grist mill, in existence in the 18th century, but as its name suggests was probably of medieval monastic origin.

Gethyn-Jones also argued that there was little accumulation of archaeological deposits above the recorded Roman layers within the present village of Dymock, with few medieval artefacts having been found in comparison to the abundant Roman material. This argument does not assist in sustaining the notion that the Old Grange is the original location of medieval Dymock. The grange was granted to Flaxley abbey in 1154 after which time no village settlement is likely to be present. Gethyn-Jones accepted that by 1226 the present village of Dymock had a fair and a market and had attained borough status by the mid 13th Century. The church located in the centre of the present village has *in situ* fabric of probable early 12th century origin. It is quite evident, therefore, that at least the post-Conquest settlement of Dymock was located more or less in its present situation.

The lack of evidence for pre-Conquest activity within the present settlement area need not surprise since the evidence for pre-Conquest ceramics in the area is generally poor, as it is in the neighbouring districts of Herefordshire. It is in any case not an argument for an Anglo-Saxon settlement at the Old Grange, which equally has not produced pre-Conquest material. It is quite possible that the pre-Conquest settlement pattern of the area consisted of dispersed farms and hamlets such as Leadington, Netherton and Ryton.

Finally, the likelihood of a medieval village being located at the site of the Old Grange seems low in view of the known history of the site. The charter granting the land to Flaxley Abbey from Roger, Earl of Hereford refers to the grant consisting of lands belonging to Walfric and all the Earl's demesne lands. These would have been untenanted and are likely to have supported a settlement beyond the manor farm. If there was a settlement at the Old Grange before the granting of the land of Flaxley abbey it was probably the Earl of Hereford's manor house at Dymock. The idea that the early medieval site of the village of Dymock was located at the Old Grange is based on nothing more than hearsay.

HAMPSHIRE

Swathling, Southampton, Montefiore New Halls of Residence (SU 439 157)

Julie Gardiner reports that an excavation was undertaken in advance of the construction of new halls of residence by the University of Southampton which involves the development of c. 1 ha of existing playing fields, tennis courts, and a car park. A watching brief will be conducted during the laying of services later in 1993.

The excavation recorded a large number of archaeological features and deposits and identified four main phases of activity, including two prehistoric phases and one Romano-British.

Phase 4 comprised Late Saxon and medieval features (c. AD 900-1400 which were concentrated in the eastern half of the site and consisted of a group of pits and, to their south, a series of intercutting ditches, pits, and post-holes. Unfortunately, disturbance resulting from the construction of the modern car park in this area had removed any possibility of a direct stratigraphic relationship between the two concentrations.

Wheat and oats were identified in soil samples taken from some of these features and possibly also rye. Quantities of pottery, animal bone, ceramic building material, stone, and

iron objects were recovered together with the handle from a decorated bone spoon and a pair of copper alloy tweezers.

The pottery comprises mainly local and regional wares, but sherds from a single imported vessel from France were identified. Additional imported objects include several fragments of Mayen lava quern, but the majority of the building or paving stone derives from the Isle of Wight.

The pottery assemblage indicated three distinct subphases. In the 10th-11th century a post-built, timber-framed building was constructed, with associated external refuse pits, and a major ditch dug which follows the line of the present route of Wessex Lane. Pits lying to the north generally appear to have formed a north-south line, adjacent to the eastern limit of the excavation area.

The 11th-13th centuries saw a continuation in the settlement pattern, with the earlier post structure replaced by a building supported on sill-beams, and the excavation of additional external pits. The surrounding land appears to have been subdivided, with field ditches evident.

A marked break in the evidence for settlement is apparent at the southern end of the excavation area before the end of the 14th century, with the apparent abandonment of the domestic site, to be replaced by a series of enclosures, possibly indicating that the area was 'greenfield'. At least six pits within the southern boundary of a double ditched enclosure may represent a shift in focus of the domestic site.

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER

Hilary White reports on behalf of Hereford and Worcester County Archaeological Service on the following projects:

Hanley Castle, Medieval Potters Survey: This survey continued in 1992, funded by Hereford and Worcester County Council and supported by a grant from the Leverhulme Trust. Fieldwork has identified several medieval sites on the east side of Hanley Swan. One of these, at Fortey Green, was directly associated with ceramic production. The base of a kiln was located during geophysical survey and confirmed by evaluation excavation. This Structure was associated with saggars used for the firing of glazed wares and the associated pottery was of the 16th century. Other features such as clay pits, which may be linked with the pottery industry were also recorded.

Strensham, deserted village, (HWC7708): SO910406. Salvage recording was undertaken on behalf of Severn Trent Water plc, on the Strensham to Worcester Aqueduct, in areas of the deserted settlement around the church which were to be unavoidably damaged. Within the easement area, a large proportion of the deposits excavated represented ditches on a largely east to west and north to south alignments. Slight variations in these, allied to the dating evidence suggested that these represented 3 phases of occupation. The earliest may be pre Roman, the second 1st-2nd century AD and the third appears to be late Saxon to medieval in date (11th-14th century AD). The maintenance of similar alignments throughout suggests there may be a high degree of continuity in boundary features. No significant structures were identified, although post excavation analysis may reveal slighter ones. The artefacts recovered indicate that settlement was immediately adjacent to the excavated area.

Wellington, Wellington Quarry, (HWC75522): SO508480. Salvage recording was undertaken on behalf of Redland Aggregates, during the fourth phase of topsoil stripping for the quarry. 3 medieval ovens and a number of associated features were identified, containing assemblages of well preserved plant remains. One of the ovens was filled with quantities of pottery of the 11th-16th centuries.

Astwood, Dodderhill (SO 941 650)

Richard Newman reports that, during a watching brief on the Birmingham Airport Link Pipeline in 1992, Wessex Archaeology discovered evidence of a medieval settlement and associated field system at Astwood. Initial observations noted the occurrence of abraded sherds of medieval pottery in the topsoil, further pottery being produced along with a perforated stone hone from an exposed small pit and a plough furrow. An area 60m by 10m was subsequently cleared under archaeological supervision, by a machine. A small number of features were revealed which contained 12th-14th century pottery. The assemblage consists entirely of sherds of cooking pots in a sandy fabric, the quantity of which and the occurrence of joining sherds indicates the presence of nearby settlement.

LANCASHIRE

Rufford New Hall and Park: Archaeological Evaluation of a Shrunken Medieval Village

Nigel R. J. Neil, Jamie Quartermaine and Patrick Tostevin report that, between July and October 1991, the Lancashire University Archaeological Unit undertook an archaeological evaluation of Rufford Park (centred on SD 455 161) on behalf of Fenshaw Developments and the Seddon Group. This was prompted by the imposition of planning conditions, by West Lancashire District Council, on a proposal for the creation of a golf course, with hotel and country club facilities in the eighteenth century Hall. A project design for the work was formulated by the County Sites and Monuments Record Officer.

DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

Rufford township is first mentioned in documents in about 1150-60, but the earliest reliable Hesketh connection is in c. 1260. It is possible that a moated site nearby marks the site of one of the Hesketh residences prior to the construction of the Old Hall c. 1530 (National Trust 1991).

A manuscript map of Rufford dated 1763 (Procter 1908) and William Yates's map of Lancashire (1786) both show a much larger village than that now in existence. Houses and a road to the west of the present village are shown on these maps but had disappeared, within the bounds of the park, by the time the tithe map was prepared in 1839 (LRO DRB 1/170).

The original of the map published by Procter is no longer extant, but a manuscript map by T. Higginson, dated 1736 but with later additions (LRO DDHe 122/2), contains the same information and for a greater area. Fig 25 is an extract from this map, which forms the basis for comparisons with the surviving earthworks. The tithe map is the earliest source for the park and hall in their final form.

A plan of the proposed New Hall (LRO DDHe Uncat) was commissioned by Thomas Hesketh (b.1698) in 1735, the year he died, and it is clear that most of the design was never realised. On the present evidence, it would appear

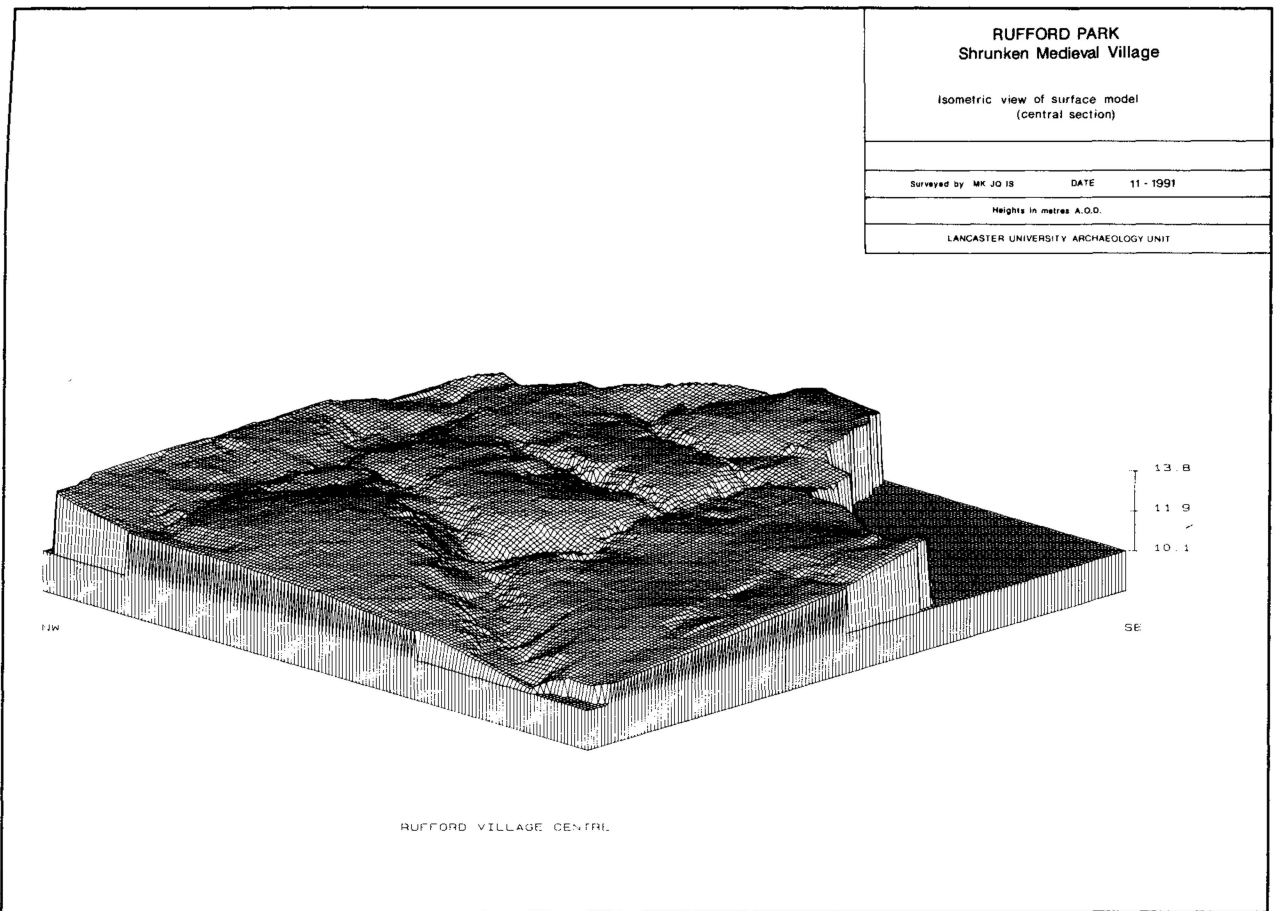


Figure 24: Isometric view of Rufford Park

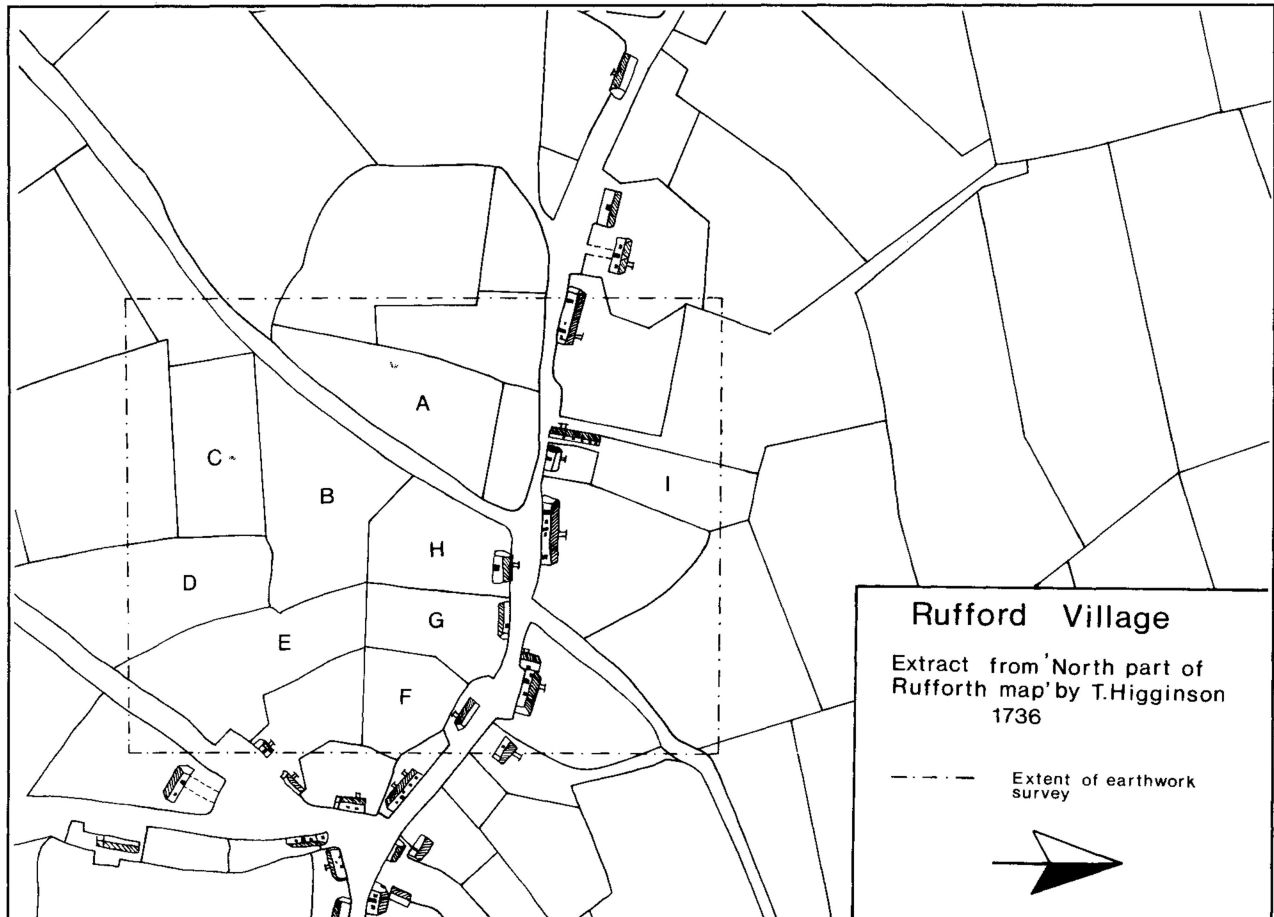


Figure 25: Rufford Village in 1736

that the New Hall, in its original form, was not completed until c1760 (National Trust 1991, 61). Sir Thomas Dalrymple Hesketh (1777-1842) embarked upon the extension of the Hall in 1798.

The New Hall and Park were bought c. 1912 by Lancashire County Council for conversion into a pulmonary hospital. It continued to fulfil this function until about 1987.

TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY

Earthwork features were located by systematic fieldwalking and total station instrument survey of the grassland areas within the 62 hectare park. Archaeological plans were superimposed with topographic detail from the developer's survey to produce archive plans (Fig 25 is an extract). For the contours, over 3000 spot heights were surveyed at c5-7m intervals over an area of c. 85,000m². The data was used to generate a computer model of the ground surface and from this contour plots and an isometric view (Fig 24) of the surface model were produced.

The survey revealed a great many mainly linear earthworks, concentrated in the southern part of the park where the original village centre of Rufford was located. There is a close correlation between these earthworks and Higginson's map of 1736. It is therefore possible to offer a reliable interpretation of the function and overall relationship of the earthworks. The village buildings have not survived as surface evidence, but it is possible to estimate their locations with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

The field system displays two very characteristic types of

plot. Those immediately adjacent to the village are small (on average c0.12ha) and very irregular in shape, while those to the north (centre right on Fig 26) are relatively large (average area c1.2ha) and have regular, rectilinear shapes. The latter are clearly later than the irregular plots and, since land enclosure was taking place in the vicinity c1725-26 (LRO AE 3/2), they were possibly quite new when Higginson's map was produced. Earlier workers have considered the history and significance of property boundaries in Croston and Leyland parishes (Atkin 1985).

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

Geophysical Surveys of Bradford carried out resistivity prospecting of three areas, totalling 1.64ha, and a smaller block within one of these was also studied using magnetometry. Clear indications were apparent of the location of concentrations of rubble, in some cases corresponding with the positions of buildings determined from the documentary sources, as were some discrete features.

TRIAL EXCAVATIONS

Ten machine-cut trial trenches – the majority in the nucleus of the village – were located using the results of the topographic and geophysical surveys, and the Higginson and Porter maps.

A great deal of post-medieval activity was identified in the nucleus of the village and evidence of drainage was profuse. No medieval finds were recorded, but it should be noted that the trenches sampled only a very small percentage of

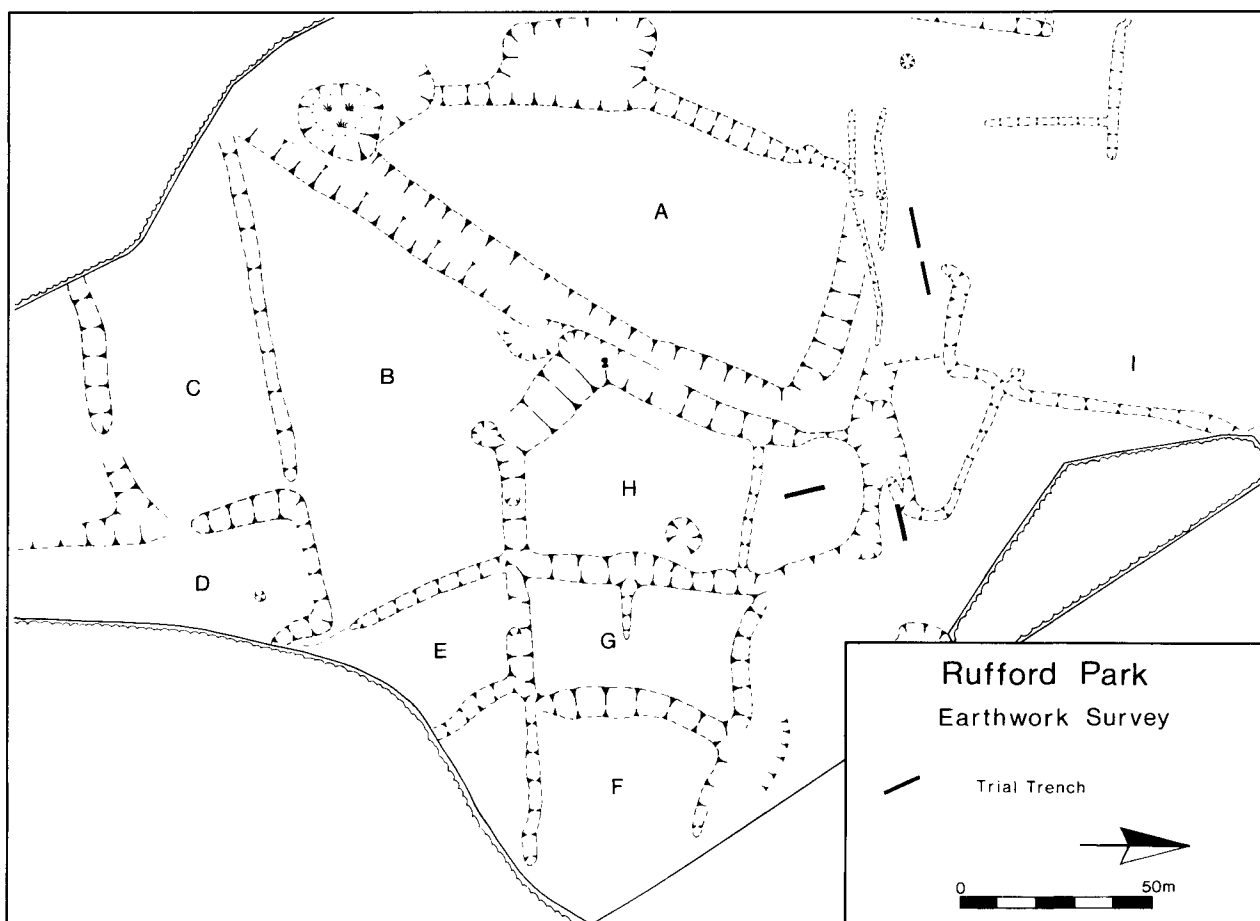


Figure 26: Rufford Park: Earthwork Survey

the available area.

The prominent east-west road was sectioned, but no evidence of metalling was present. A possible stone wall and two probable robber trenches were examined. The overall lack of rubble suggested very effective stone and brick robbing, which accords with documented instructions in correspondence from Sir Thomas Hesketh in the 1820s demanding thorough destruction and reuse of the materials in new buildings elsewhere (eg LRO DDHe 107/19, 21 May 1828).

The north side of the park proved to be archaeologically less informative.

DISCUSSION

Only seven Shrunk or Shifted Medieval Villages (SMVs) are so far identified in the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record, though there are more Deserted Medieval Villages (DMVs). The Rufford site ranks highly among these because of the good condition of the earthworks, and the archaeological value of the site – in the light of the evaluation – is considered to be relatively high.

The developers and West Lancashire District Council adopted the Unit's recommendations for further archaeological input (the detailed contour survey and a programme of monitoring) and for the avoidance of permanent damage to the historic landscape, in line with recent advice from English Heritage (1991). The need for protection of the ecological value of the landscape has been similarly recognised.



Plate II: Rufford Park: the earthworks of the shrunk medieval village taken 15th May, 1980 by A. C. H. Olivier for RCHME, Ref: SF 1813/27: Lancs S+MR PRn 3423

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writers were assisted during the survey and excavation by Chris Wild and, during the contour survey, by Mick Krupa and Ian Scott. Thanks are also due to Tony France, manager of the park for Fenshaw Developments, and to Steven Dawson of the Seddon Group, Members of West Lancashire Archaeological Society kindly imparted their historical knowledge of the site.

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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Mike Shaw reports that archaeological evaluation continued on the line of the **Warmington Bypass**. The previous work was reported in MSRG Annual Report 6 (1991), 40-41, Fig. 20.

Further concentrations of Early/Middle Saxon pottery were located by fieldwalking at TL 07169092 and TL 07389126. A total of four concentrations, each sufficient to suggest a site, has been discovered within an area of 40ha. This stands in contrast to the dearth of late Saxon material uncovered. A single concentration of medieval pottery was located at TL 07479132. The concentration lies immediately west of the present village of Warmington along the Oundle Road and may suggest former settlement. Further trial trenching has confirmed the existence of Saxon and medieval settlement remains at Eaglethorpe (TL 074915). The present Eaglethorpe, lies immediately north-west of Warmington village. It was formerly called Mill End, medieval Eaglethorpe being located elsewhere in the parish.

OXFORDSHIRE

Goring-on-Thames, St Thomas's Church (SU 5976 8071)

Julie Gardiner reports that a watching brief was conducted during the excavation of foundation trenches to a small extension in the churchyard of the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury in Goring. Part of a wall foundation from the medieval priory which surrounded the church on three sides up to the time of the reformation was uncovered. In addition, four human burials were partially disturbed. All the burials appear to be Christian and all were approximately 2 m below the current graveyard surface. No firm dating evidence was recorded but the burials are almost certainly medieval. The excavation phase was followed by the demolition of part of the south wall of the church tower to make a doorway. This operation exposed a section of the original medieval tower wall which had been sealed behind a brick buttress since the early 19th century.

The Shrubbery, Eynsham, West Oxfordshire, Oxfordshire (SP43459021)

Graham Keevill reports that an archaeological evaluation was undertaken in June 1992 at The Shrubbery, High Street, Eynsham. The site lies within the precinct of Eynsham Abbey. A watching brief at the same site in 1975 had revealed evidence for early Saxon activity (Chambers R. A. 1976, Eynsham, Oxon, 1975, *Oxoniensia*, 41, 355-6).

A subsoil of prehistoric date was cut by several early-mid Saxon gullies. These are analogous to 7th-8th century features found on the abbey excavation dating 1990-2 (see *South Midlands Archaeology* 22, 46-7). Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was also recovered, hinting at activity in the area during these periods. Two gullies in Trench 3 could be of Roman or early Saxon date. A thick medieval ploughsoil covered all earlier features and layers. This would suggest that the site was used for agriculture within the precinct during the medieval period. The ploughsoil was cut by a late or post-medieval ditch and a Victorian pit.

SOMERSET

Stoke Sub Hamdon North Street (ST 4725 1770-4739 1770)

Julie Gardiner reports that an excavation undertaken on the west side of North Street revealed a considerable density of archaeological deposits and features. The features principally comprised ditches and gullies, most of which appear to date to the 12th-13th centuries.

The major feature located was a substantial north-south ditch, probably a boundary ditch related to the development of North Street. There was also evidence for a second phase of medieval activity dating to the 14th-15th centuries, again represented for the most part by ditches, several of which were recut on the same alignment as the earlier feature. Several of the ditches (of both phases) terminated within the trench, probably marking an access from North Street to the rear of the plot. Some of the gullies and a post-hole alignment, most of which lay west of, and some of which were at right-angles to, the street frontage, may represent property or garden divisions. None of the medieval features identified appeared to be structural in function.

The finds recovered included medieval pottery, mostly of local origin, from Ilchester in the earlier phase and from

Donyatt in the later, together with smaller amounts of post-medieval and modern material. Other finds comprised small amounts of ceramic building material, fired clay and animal bone. Carbonised cereal remains were recovered from ditches of the later phase. Overall, the finds appear to represent general domestic refuse.

The stratigraphic and ceramic evidence both suggest a possible period of disuse in the 16th-17th centuries, although the site is known to have been used as an orchard in later periods, and it is possible that this or a similar use may have begun at an earlier date.

SUFFOLK

John Newman reports on behalf of Suffolk County Council on the following projects:

Little Bealings, Firecrest Nursery, (TM2346, BEL024)

A series of trial trenches were mechanically excavated across the Firecrest Nursery site in order to evaluate the archaeological potential of the area following a planning application to extract mineral aggregate from it. The work was funded by RMC Technical Services Ltd. Each trial trench was subsequently cleared by hand and selected archaeological features were then chosen for further investigation. In addition a metal detector survey was carried out across the site.

Two main periods of activity were identified on the site. The earlier phase was represented by a series of small pits and possible postholes of Early Bronze Age date. From these features a total of 11 sherds of Beaker pottery were recovered. The second phase of activity on the site was in the Early Anglo-Saxon period and it proved possible to positively identify various features which must have been associated with a settlement of, as yet, unknown size. In particular a Sunken Featured Building, or Grubenhaus, of two-post type was identified and partially excavated. A moderate quantity of Early Anglo-Saxon pottery sherds were recovered from these features. The metal detector survey was able to confirm the Early Anglo-Saxon presence on the site as part of a small-long brooch and a copper alloy belt fitting were recovered. These finds indicate a sixth century date for this phase of activity.

The results of this evaluation are of particular interest due to the location of the Firecrest Nursery Site. The small valley which the site overlooks contained various other sites of prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon date, most of which were inadequately recorded during quarrying operations over the last 40 years. It is therefore of some importance to get evidence of intact archaeological deposits of prehistoric and Early Anglo-Saxon date. Also the evidence for Early Anglo-Saxon activity is a valuable addition to Post Roman settlement studies for this area centred around the Fynn valley to the north east of Ipswich. The Fynn valley as a whole shows extensive evidence for late fifth and sixth century activity.

Grundisburgh, The Old School, (TM2251, GRU037)

The area immediately behind the Old School, Grundisburgh, was examined with a series of mechanically excavated trial trenches following a planning application to develop the area for residential use. The evaluation was funded by the Land Agent and Valuers Department of Suffolk County Council.

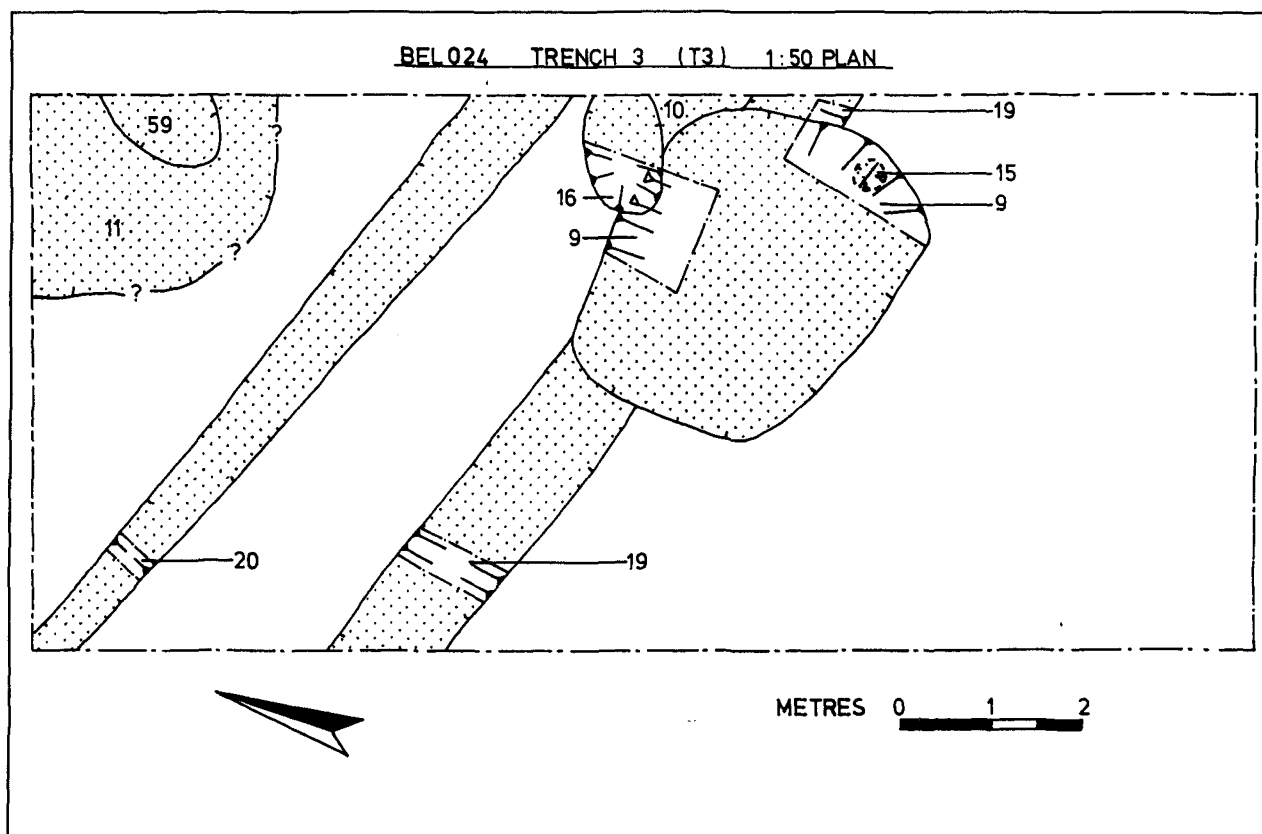


Figure 27: Excavation at Firecrest Nursery, Little Bealings

The Old School site lies in the centre of Grundisburgh village, north of the Green and immediately to the west of the Parish Church of St. Mary's. The site is therefore in the area where evidence for Saxon and Medieval occupation might be expected. Previous archaeological fieldwork had located evidence of Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and Medieval activity to the north of the Parish Church, (GRU 026), in an area some 50 metres away from the Old School site.

In all 53 metres of trial trenches were mechanically excavated. Each trench was 1 metre wide. The trial trenches revealed seven postholes and fragments of two possible building slots. While very few of these features could be directly dated at least one of the postholes and one of the possible building slots contained sherds of Ipswich ware. Overall the finds recovered from this evaluation include 5 sherds of Ipswich ware, 2 sherds of Thetford type ware and a few sherds of Medieval coarseware. The date range for activity on the site is therefore between the Middle Saxon period and the thirteenth or fourteenth century.

The results of this evaluation confirm an impression formed several years ago that the village of Grundisburgh lies over a Middle to Late Saxon settlement of some size. To date Ipswich ware, (produced c. 650 to 850 AD), has been found during fieldwork on the northern, eastern and western edges of the village, (GRU 025, 026, 029 & 030). Coupled with the evidence from the evaluation noted above this indicates that a Middle Saxon settlement of up to 17 hectares in size may lie in an area centred on the Parish Church under the northern part of the modern village. The status of the Middle Saxon settlement is, as yet, unclear. No significant items of Anglo-Saxon metalwork have yet been found in Grundisburgh parish and the church is not mentioned in Domesday Book at all. Present evidence,

however, does point to Middle Saxon Grundisburgh being the major rural settlement in this part of Suffolk during the seventh to ninth century period.

Felixstowe, Grange Farm (TM28 35, FEX081)

Prior to residential development, a 3 hectare site at Grange Farm was evaluated using a series of mechanically excavated trial trenches. The work was funded by the Suffolk Heritage Housing Association Ltd. The evaluation isolated an area on the site with evidence for Iron Age and possible Early Anglo-Saxon settlement in the form of pits and ditches. A series of small, shallow features containing numerous burnt flints were also investigated. The area with this settlement evidence lies some 340 metres to the east of the Byle Fleet at the head of a small, tributary valley.

During subsequent construction work on the site archaeological features identified within house construction trenches were excavated and recorded. Again this work was funded by the Suffolk Heritage Housing Association Ltd. No attempt was made to examine any large, open areas containing settlement evidence as the proposed residential development was going to cause limited damage to the archaeological deposits. Any conclusions from the work carried out to date must therefore be seen as provisional.

The second phase of archaeological fieldwork on the site located further pits and ditches of probable Iron Age date. Dating these features will, however, remain problematic as relatively few finds were recovered. In addition an area of cobbled yard was recorded. The ditches that were examined may, in some cases, form part of a droveway system in association with field or land-plot ditches. In the limited area open to archaeological investigation no evidence for any structures associated with other features was noted.

The amount of pottery recovered from some of the pits during evaluation phase of this project does, however, indicate that the area investigated contains an Iron Age settlement site of unknown size and character with a possible phase of re-use in the Early Anglo-Saxon period.

Palgrave, (TM1178, PAL015): a watching brief on a small residential development in Palgrave village located an extensive scatter of Medieval and Early Post Medieval pottery sherds. The site fronts onto Crossing Road and the densest pottery scatters were recovered from the area immediately adjacent to the lane. A possible infilled pond was noted near the centre of the site and it is probable that the finds recovered are from two, adjacent land holdings. The date range for the pottery recovered is from the thirteenth/fourteenth century to the fifteenth/sixteenth century. A light scatter of heavily burnt flints was also recovered from across the site.

Bruisyard, (TM3366, BUD001): during monitoring of cable and pipe trenches being excavated around Bruisyard Hall various stretches of flint and mortar wall as well as lengths of brick lined drain were recorded. It is likely that these walls and drains relate to the Medieval Nunnery which occupied the site up to 1539. None of the structural remains recorded to date forms any coherent building plan. However, it might be hoped that, coupled with further work around the site in the future, it may be possible to understand the layout of this monastic house.

TYNE & WEAR (Co. Durham)

Barbara Harbottle reports that test excavations were carried out on three settlement sites by the Archaeological Practice (Director, Colm O'Brien), University of Newcastle.

The Prior's Manor, Wardley (NZ 305 620), Gateshead M. B.

Part of a rectilinear embanked enclosure with contemporary ridge-and-furrow beyond now constitute the only visible remains of the manorial complex of the prior of Durham at Wardley. The central moated enclosure and its buildings have been lost in subsequent industrial development of the site, though a part of the ditch on the north-east side was visible until it was illicitly filled during the early 1970s.

The objectives of the excavation were to locate the north-east ditch, test for the north corner, test whether there was a causeway mid way along, and evaluate the ditch fills with a view to making recommendations for the long term display and management of the site.

The ditch was successfully located, and the position of its northern corner established. It also appeared that there was no break in the alignment (contrary to the suggestion from a 1974 mapping of the site). Fills could be broadly divided into two parts; a lower zone of silting which is thought to be contemporary with the occupation of the moated manor, and an upper zone of deliberately dumped industrial debris of recent origin.

The surviving earthworks have been planned, and recommendations made for removal of the industrial debris from the moat as part of a programme of management being prepared by Gateshead Borough Council.

Old Ravensworth village (NZ 322 780) Gateshead M. B.

A group of platforms surviving in pasture immediately north of Old Ravensworth Farm was evaluated to test the hypothesis that this was the site of a failed medieval settlement. In two test trenches stone-founded structures of at least three phases of building were identified along with associated occupation deposits. Ceramic finds suggest a mid-17th century date for the beginning of these structural phases. Redeposited clay from pre-construction stages contained medieval pottery, suggesting earlier use of the site, though in the limited areas of excavation no medieval structures were identified.

Hedley village (NZ 216 565) Gateshead M. B.

Nine test trenches were opened to evaluate the site believed to be that of the village of Hedley which is first referred to in the 13th century. In the early 19th century the village was recorded as a 2-row plan, and by 1860 it had shrunk to a single farmstead. The site is now completely deserted. Prominent earthworks survive at the site of the 19th century farm, but no structural features were identified in the test trenches, nor any evidence of the date of origin of the earthworks. The results were inconclusive.

Watching briefs and test excavations were carried out by Tyne and Wear Museums (under the direction of Paul Bidwell and Steven Speak) on four sites in the City of Sunderland and South Tyneside.

Bishopwearmouth (NZ 393 568) City of Sunderland

This settlement, with its dependent vills, was given by King Athelstan to the see of Durham in c. 930, and remained a small, compact, centre of a parish until engulfed by urban development of the 19th century. Two evaluations were carried out at Low Row and Crowtree Road in the hope of locating the pre-Conquest village. Cellars and possible 19th century terracing, however, had removed all early archaeological deposits.

Newbottle (NZ 338 516) City of Sunderland

A vacant plot on the north side of the main street provided an opportunity to search for dating evidence for the origin of the layout of this green village, first referred to in the early 12th century. In the event there was no sign of medieval buildings, and most of the finds were kiln waste of the early 19th century.

Middle Herrington (NZ 357 532) City of Sunderland

A watching brief was kept during building on an area believed to be part of a village first mentioned in the 14th century. No stratification or artifacts were found to confirm that this spot had previously been occupied.

Monkton (NZ 322 637) South Tyneside M. B.

Monkton was one of the "appendages" of Jarrow given to Aldwin by Bishop Walcher in the late 11th century. The investigation of a vacant plot at the east end of the village did not produce artifacts as early as this, but did reveal two parallel ditches, perhaps boundaries, which had been filled in by the 14th century. On top of the ditches was a stone building, of at least two rooms, probably constructed in the 14th century and demolished at the end of the medieval period.

WEST SUSSEX

South Harting, Tipper Lane (SU 7856 1924)

Julie Gardiner reports that an archaeological evaluation was carried out in May 1992 in advance of the construction of a new primary school. A number of archaeological discoveries, mainly of Roman date, have been made around South Harting. A Roman building has been recorded to the north of the village and pottery and coins have also been found, one coin from the area immediately east of the allotments. Finds of Neolithic, Iron Age and late medieval date have also been made, all on the western side of the village.

During the evaluation, three 13th-14th century features were recorded in the north-western corner of the site, while medieval and post-medieval pottery was found scattered across the whole area, with a slight concentration occurring in the western half. No features were found in the eastern part of the site, although a soil dump, no earlier than medieval in date, was recorded in the north-eastern corner. The date of the material is consistent with the emergence of South Harting as a small town with a market and fair in the period AD 1200-1350.

Rogate, Durford Abbey Farm (SU 7779 2336)

A watching brief was carried out during the excavation of several shallow trenches in and around the Old Stables at Durford Abbey Farm. The farm is located on the site of Premonstratensian Abbey of Durford and the watching brief was required as part of the Scheduled Monument Consent associated with the renovation of the Old Stables.

The Abbey was founded prior to 1161 and was dissolved in 1536. The layout of the Abbey buildings is not clear, although it is certain that they were incorporated into the farmhouse and out-buildings which replaced the abbey. The precinct ditch and several of the Abbey's fish stews and a fish pond survive as earthworks to the north and west of the farmyard, while the main body of the Abbey was probably situated beneath the yard itself.

No archaeological features were observed, but dumped soil and demolition rubble dating to the late 18th century were recorded. Three fragments of worked limestone which probably originated from one of the Abbey buildings were found with the rubble. A study of documentary evidence combined with observations on site suggest that the Old Stables were probably rebuilt in 1784. It was already known that the farmhouse had been rebuilt in that year but the history of the out-buildings was not known.

WILTSHIRE

Longbridge Deverill (ST871 404)

Caron Newman reports that, in February 1993, Wessex Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation along the route of the proposed A350 widening at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire. The village of Longbridge Deverill is a shrunken medieval settlement, with associated earthworks on its north side. The proposed road widening begins on the south side of the village, rising up from the river Wylfe floodplain onto chalk downland. The route was evaluated principally using surface artefact collection and geophysical survey.

From the extreme northern end of the route, next to the surviving settlement, significant quantities of medieval pottery were collected, and fragments of sandstone building stone were noted across the field. The geophysical survey revealed the presence of probable field boundaries in this area, however, the proximity of the present road and existing buildings prevented a more detailed survey being carried out.

WHARRAM RESEARCH PROJECT REPORT ON THE 1991/1992 SEASONS

Following the completion of the excavation programme at Wharram Percy village in 1990, the Wharram Research Project has expanded the existing Parish Survey into a wider fieldwork project on this part of the High Wolds under the direction of Colin Hayfield. A new project headquarters has been established on the Birdsall Estate at Vessey Pastures (SE 825627).

A number of projects have been initiated from prehistoric to post-medieval. Included amongst them is a detailed earthwork survey of the outstanding medieval village earthworks at Towthorpe (SE 898629). This survey is under the supervision of Chris Salisbury and is scheduled for completion in 1994.

Richard Coulton has begun a survey of local churches recording their plans and elevations, starting with St. Mary's Wharram Le Street (SE 864659) and St Nicholas's North Grimston (SE 842678). He has also been looking in detail at their stonework and comparing ashlar size and tooling with stonework from, less well dated, vernacular buildings in the locality.

Colin Hayfield

WHARRAM: THE POST-EXCAVATION PROGRAMME

By the end of the Wharram Percy excavation project, in the 1990, no less than 100 separate sites had been dug in the village area. Many of these small trenches were designed to elucidate specific questions such as the sequence of settlement boundaries; others were major open-area investigations of multi-period occupation features. Though some post-excavation work had been possible before 1991, resulting most notably in publications on the church and medieval peasant tofts, the past two years have seen a significant increase in analysis and report preparation, thanks to continued sponsorship by English Heritage.

The accompanying plan of the village sites (fig 28) attempts to give some indication of progress to date in terms of 'site report' preparation: the analysis of contextual information, the production of matrices and the description and illustration of context by phase. Once this information is available, and once decisions have been made on publication priorities, the finds and environmental specialists can begin their assessments and analyses. The most recently published volume in the Wharram report series, dealing with sites of the Middle Saxon period, is reviewed elsewhere in this *Report*. The next one will focus on the Late Saxon and Norman occupation of the South Manor.

Stuart Wrathmell

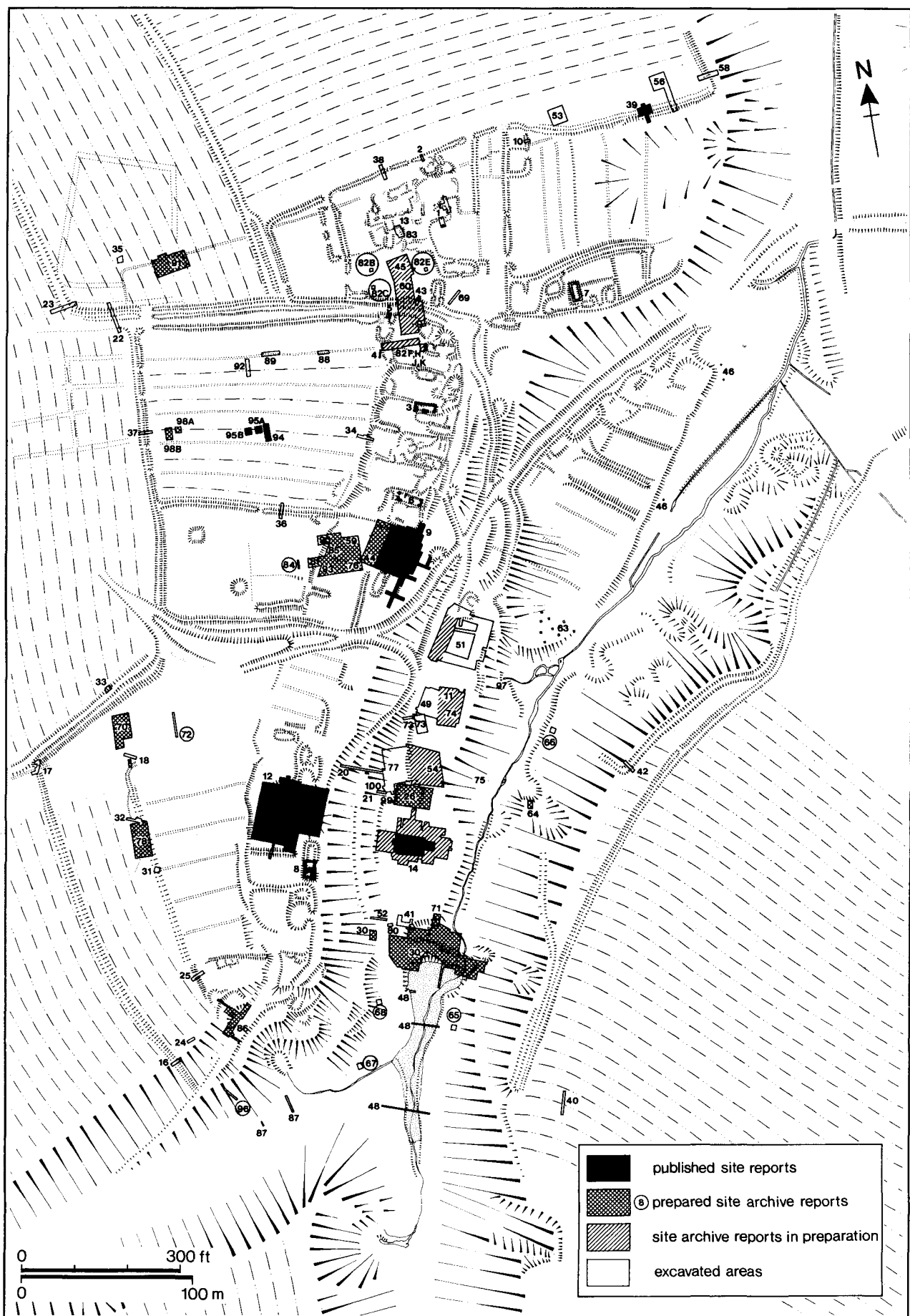


Figure 28: Wharram Percy: Publication Progress

REPORTS FROM ABROAD

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND Research on Medieval Settlement in 1992

The Group for the Study of Irish Historic Settlement had its 1992 meeting in Clifden, Co. Galway at which Dr Annagret Simms was elected President. The Group is now also publishing a *Newsletter* to keep members better informed about settlement matters in Ireland generally.

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Terry Barry

SCOTLAND

REPORTS ON FIELDWORK BY THE ARCHAEOLOGY DIVISION OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF SCOTLAND IN 1991-2

NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The National Archaeological Survey team has continued its work in Annandale and Eskdale, Dumfries and Galloway, and will complete the survey in 1993. The volume for *South-east Perth* is due to be published by HMSO in late 1993 or early 1994.

AFFORESTABLE LAND SURVEY

In 1991-2 the Afforestation Land Survey team carried out survey in the following areas: Strath of Kildonan, Highland (90sqkm); Altyre, Grampian (100sqkm); Dalmacallan Forest, Dumfries and Galloway (65sqkm); Southdean, Borders (25sqkm); Braes of Doune, Central (75sqkm); Central Scotland Woodland, Lothian and Central (150sqkm); Upper Strathnairn, Highland (100sqkm). New projects in Mar (Grampian), Strathbraan (Tayside), and Creetown (Dumfries and Galloway) are scheduled for 1993-4.

In 1992 the Afforestation Land Survey team initiated a programme of publishing syntheses of the results of its surveys. The first two in the series, *Watnish, Skye, Highland* and *The Strath of Kildonan, Highland*, which both feature extensive medieval and later relict landscapes, will be published by the Commission in 1993.

P. J. Dixon

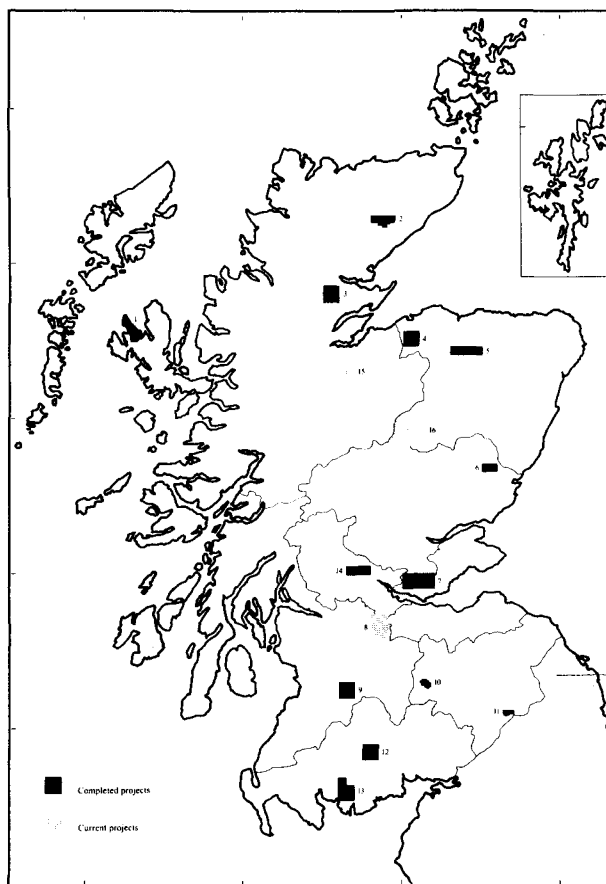


Figure 29: Area of Afforestation Land Survey: Scotland

EXCAVATIONS IN THE CICOLANO, CENTRAL ITALY, 1992

A second season of survey and excavation was carried out in the Appeninic mountain zone of the Cicalano in Central Italy by a team from the School of Archaeological Studies of the University of Leicester in August-September 1992 (for first season see MSRG Report 6, 1991, p.47). The primary aim of the work, organised in conjunction with the Soprintendenza Archaeologica del Lazio and the Communita Montana Salto-Cicolano, is to sample archaeologically a cross-section of medieval castles and their associated village settlements, to clarify their origins, development and material culture. Though of only marginal political and economic importance nowadays, in the Middle Ages the Cicolano formed an important point of transit across Italy, and in the 13th century the region marked a frontier between the Papal State and the Kingdom of Naples.

Excavations continued at the sites of Macchiatimone and Rascino. The castle of Macchiatimone (696m) occupies an extended spur directly controlling access along the Salto valley and is documented from the 11th century into the 17th. The castle comprises a narrow inner circuit dominated by a tall keep-tower, outside of which the outer circuit wall encloses a number of part rock-cut and terraced houses. Two houses were excavated: House VI was a single roomed building, utilising the bedrock face, vertically cut too a height of c. 3 m on both the north and east sides, and with bedrock as the floor surface. House VIII was a two-bedroomed structure east of the inner castle, part terraced into bedrock: although bedrock was again utilised as the floor surface, irregularities in its cut were countered by the laying of paving slabs. Finds associated with the use of both houses were few, indicative of the occupants' tidy cleaning of the bedrock floors; the bulk of the material recovered occurs in post-abandonment levels and relate mainly to the 15th-16th centuries.

Rascino lies on a high plateau (1200m) now only seasonally farmed. In the Middle Ages two distinct villages grew up near the Rascino lake, one on a hill associated with a small castle and featuring 50 house units, and another in the plain

below the castle, with 15 houses. Houses within each were examined in 1991 and 1992 to test the chronology and relationship of the two villages; a trench was also made within the castle circuit to clarify its origins. In the upper village, House XLIII was excavated, revealing again a skilful utilisation of the bedrock to create walls and flooring. As at Macchiatimone the surface was kept clean and there was no soil build-up over bedrock. Excavation was also begun within a separate five-roomed structure (farmhouse?), at the southern foot of the castle hill, c. 200 m distant from House C; Room 3 here contained a series of successive floor levels and wall phases. While finds from Houses C and XLIII suggested contemporaneity of habitation (roughly from the 12th to 14th centuries), finds from this presumed farm appear to be slightly later in date (14th to 15th), suggesting that its construction postdates the break-up of the pattern of nucleated settlement on the Rascino plateau.

Material derived from the excavation of an area between the circuit wall of the castle at Rascino and its central keep-tower, meanwhile, allows us to set the construction of the fortification back into the late 11th century at least, and thus to a period much earlier than the first written documentation (of the mid-13th century) relating to the castle. The trench extended to a depth of c. 2m close to the south-west angle of the keep-tower, demonstrating the surprising depth of rubble collapse from both tower and circuit wall; above the foundations of the tower this collapse had preserved from robbing a number of courses of good quoin construction. Two periods of tower collapse were identified previous to the definitive destruction of the structure (presumed to date, on the basis of the documentary sources, to c. 1380): these were marked by a mass of burnt roof tiles and facing stones, and the second of these collapses sealed a coin of c. 1100.

While the work at Macchiatimone has been completed, a final season of excavation and survey at Rascino is planned for August 1993, combined with trenching at an additional castle, Poggio Poponesco (1066 m), recently restored and located above the present village of Fiamignano.

Paul Beavitt & Neil Christie
(School of Archaeological Studies,
University of Leicester)

**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WORKS ON
BRITISH MEDIEVAL RURAL SETTLEMENT
PUBLISHED IN 1992**

Compiled by Christopher Dyer.

As in previous bibliographies this list includes items published in 1992 (even when journals are dated by another year), together with works omitted inadvertently from earlier bibliographies in this series. The compiler will be glad to receive information about items omitted, to be included in next year's list.

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BOOK REVIEWS

The Origins of Somerset, Michael Costen, Manchester University Press 1992, pp. xvi + 202, hardback £35, paperback £12.95. ISBN 0-7190-3675-5.

The series of which this volume forms a part is a bold venture and calls for great skill from its several authors. The shire, as the general editor declares in his preface, was the most fundamental unit of government, justice and social organisation and to understand it is to understand the essence of English history. Its origins are likely to be found in the perceived territories of the Iron Age, although in the case of Somerset the tribal hierarchies of the Dobunni (several time misspelt and not in the index), the Durotriges and the Dumnonii fit uncomfortably within the later county boundary and the much vaunted theme of continuity is thus rather weakened.

The Roman contributions – towns, villa estates, and roads – offer a much more plausible link with the Saxon period. Ilchester's transition from cantonal capital to county town is part of the continuity which Mr Costen wants to emphasise; but at the same time the transition might be argued to represent a deliberate break from the hill-fort site of Cadbury, a change from tribe to region.

The villa estates, on the other hand, frequently support the continuity thesis, but geology and natural features have a fundamental influence which is too often ignored. Roman roads may have defined boundaries, and thus some estates, as much because they were avoided as because they were used. There is, in parts of Somerset, a strong suggestion of a reversion to more ancient road patterns in the Saxon period. Continuity, in other words, may not be the important factor suggested by the fact that nearly half the volume is concerned with the pre-Saxon period.

The author claims as his specific themes the leaders and the led, the people who occupied and shaped the landscape. That these themes have left so little trace in the materials an historian relies upon means that the problem has, on the whole, to be tracked by stealth, indirectly. Mr Costen's expertise in place-names is thus a vital part of his interpretation of settlement and landscape development. But somewhere the question must be confronted: what is the shire? And it must surely be answered both in terms of a defined area and of a unit of government.

It is thus a great disappointment to find so little about the county boundary, particularly in relation to estates which might have helped to form it. What, for example, of the influence of the episcopal estates of Salisbury, and before that of Sherborne, which march with the southern boundary of Somerset? Mr Costen is also too dismissive of Professor Finberg's thesis about the Saxon conquest, and takes us little further by saying that the county name comes from Somerton – what price continuity, here; can the place be important because it is 'near' Ilchester and Cadbury?

Mr Costen rightly puts emphasis on the role of the church, and specifically of the minster church. The importance of the minister at Wells is, surely, not that it was 'the most conservative' (North Petherton and Keynsham might be equally good candidates for the title), but that it was from 909 the seat of the 'bishop of the Somerset people'. The contribution to the shire of minister parishes, some of which look back to multiple villa estates and forward to rural deanaries and even, in some cases, to hundreds, seems to have been missed in the attempt to record every Saxon church site (and that, too, is not complete) and everything else the author knows about them.

Despite Mr Costen's good intentions little has been made of the leaders, the ealdormen, sheriffs and landowners; or of the distribution of royal estates. The series might well not have been the vehicle for the kind of intense study which has rescued the short-lived shire of Winchcombe from almost terminal obscurity, but the origins of Somerset are by no means yet clearly defined. Here is a general history, from the first farmers to the reign of Stephen, which has more about landscape than about government. And is government not what the shire is all about?

**Robert Dunning,
Victoria History of Somerset, Taunton.**

Early Daventry, A. E. Brown (University of Leicester, Department of Adult Education, 1991). iv + 89pp., 26 figures and 6 tables. ISBN 0-901507-44-X. Paperback, no price indicated.

This volume results from documentary research, limited fieldwalking and earthwork surveys carried out by several extra-mural classes in the Daventry area of Northamptonshire. However, it is not simply a report of work done with plans but rather a synthesis and detailed analysis of the material by their tutor, Tony Brown, which skilfully disguises its many-handed gathering.

Today's Daventry appears a characterless planned new town due to its development area status and major expansion in the 1970s. However, it has an historic core which, together with its former field systems, Brown argues is an example of early landscape planning.

The first three sections of the text are introductory: they deal briefly with topographical setting, boundaries, communications, the later Saxon administrative units and the archaeological history of the parish before the Norman Conquest. Unfortunately, evidence for the latter, despite some fieldwalking, is rather limited so the huge hillfort on Borough Hill rather dominates this discussion.

The meat of the book is contained in two sections in which the comparative wealth of documentary material is subjected to detailed analysis to show how the medieval town, its close neighbour Drayton, and their respective common fields developed. Well established methods concentrating on written evidence are used to reconstruct Daventry's plan at various stages during the later medieval period and to make suggestions as to how the earlier medieval town developed. Domesday Daventry is suggested to have consisted of an oval magnate enclosure, containing church and manor house, surrounded by demesne land with the exception of villein tenements along a street to the west. During the early to mid 12th century seigneurial influence (which remained strong throughout the medieval period) and the settlement's significant position in the communications network encouraged its development as an important local market centre. This brought the planned addition of a market square to the west and the establishment of burgage tenure. More planned additions to the built-up area culminated in the late 12th century with the development of the Newland Area further west but along a road axis perpendicular to the remainder of the town. Most of the planned elements would appear to have been laid out over former arable. Little further development occurred during the later medieval period and by the 16th century the town was in decline, though its market remained successful.

Within the one parish Daventry and Drayton each had their own, but related, common fields, all now largely built over. Fortunately a written survey of 1571 supported by the evidence of ridge-and-furrow apparent on aerial photographs has enabled the mapping of the entire 16th century common field topography. Using this reconstruction and earlier documents Brown then discusses, at length, the origins, evolution and layout of the medieval fields. He suggests that originally they were planned during the 10th century in accordance with a hidage assessment developed after the surrender of the Danish army of Northampton in 917 and the subsequent formation of the county of Northamptonshire and its hundreds. The earliest settlement at Daventry may even have been planned with it. Certainly the common field layout established by the mid 12th century was in existence at the time of Domesday according to Brown's analysis of the tenurial structure. During the later 12th century the fields were reorganised in association with the creation of fresh arable holdings from former pasture and the planned settlement expansion of both Daventry and Drayton over existing arable. This resulted in replanning, alterations to the boundary between the two field systems and a highly systematic arrangement of holdings in the furlongs, apparent in documents as regular tenurial cycles. This evidence for *solskifte* has also been identified in several other places in Northamptonshire. Later alterations to the fields, furlongs and routeways are also discussed and show they were not static but subject to change, sometimes drastic. Sadly, however, there is no

discussion of the operation or management of the fields, particularly the cropping and rotational arrangements. No light is therefore thrown on whether the rotations or "seasons" utilised bore any relation to the physical arrangement and numbers of fields.

This is an attractive volume with many useful maps and plans. Unfortunately figures 2, 3, 6 and 16 suffer from a partial loss of detail, due probably to over-reduction. However, this, and the lack of a uniform style for the figures, is not a serious problem, nor are the few typographical errors noted. Although not innovative, a range of detailed evidence is clearly presented and discussed. It is a useful addition to the corpus of reliable local studies now appearing nationally and should be a valuable source for comparative purposes.

Stephen R. Coleman

Wharram: A Study of Settlement on the Yorkshire Wolds, VII, Two Anglo-Saxon Buildings and Associated Finds, Gustav Milne and Julian D. Richards (York University Archaeology Publications 9, 1992, vi + 114 pp., 44 figs., 17 tables. + 16 plates). Available from Oxbow Books, Park End Place, Oxon, OX1 1HN.

This, the latest in the ongoing publication of research at Wharram, is a record of excavations (or 'interventions') 39 (in 1975 and 1976, supervised by Gustav Milne) and 94 and 95 (1987-1990, supervised by Julian Richards). The former was designed to examine the perimeter boundary of the medieval village but revealed beneath the ditch a hitherto unexpected mid-Saxon *Grubenhäuser* or 'SFB'. The latter was designed as a back-up to the recent magnetometer survey of the west side of the village and contiguous ploughland, and specifically to provide phasing information for Iron Age and Romano-British features, but the design was extended after the first season to accommodate the implications of Anglo-Saxon material from the first trench. The reports on the results of two very different research designs separated by a decade and a half have been published together in part because they were both ready, in part because the Anglo-Saxon finds and features – particularly 'SFBs' – which were an important feature of both lend themselves to this treatment.

The excavations are described and phased in well-illustrated passages written by the two authors (pp. 5-25). The finds are then described and analysed in detail, particular as regards the Anglo-Saxon material, by a series of experts (pp. 26-79). The report concludes with a chapter which sets out to characterise and date the assemblages (pp. 80-85). To it are then appended two further sections: a note on two apparently similar but badly damaged 'SFBs' from site 60, by Philip Rahtz, and a final introduction to Anglo-Saxon settlement at Wharram Percy by Julian Richards (pp. 89-94). This last is compressed to the point that it at times reads like a catalogue of Anglo-Saxon archaeology on the Wolds but it does offer a brief oversight of Middle Saxon Wharram which attempts to categorize and interpret the site as a whole and place it in context.

The highly calcareous and well-drained soil conditions at Wharram dictate that both skeletal material and iron work enjoy an exceptional degree of survival: hence the vast numbers of bone fragments available for species identification and analysis of butchery, etc., the discovery

of an infant deposition or burial, a fine antler comb, and numerous finds of metal work. An important feature of the later excavations was the discovery of evidence of metalworking, particularly of moulds which seem to have been in use during the same period as the 'SFBs' – in the later part of the 8th century. This report is therefore able to make significant contributions to Anglo-Saxon archaeology not only in the study of 'SFBs' but also in the areas of metalworking, bone/antler artifacts, the distribution of Northumbrian coinage and pottery of several types and the spread of putative secular minsters in the 8th century.

The entire report is presented in an easily read format: it is comparatively full in its treatment of both context and finds without excessive pursuit of detailed parallels, the *minutiae* of which are very properly dealt with through a comprehensive system of referencing. This reviewer, at least, spotted neither weaknesses nor mistakes which he felt impelled to bring to members' attention. With excellent line-drawings and well-produced photographs, this is, in short, an excellent new sibling in that growing family of volumes which continue to offer the results of the Wharram research project to as wide a public as possible. We should indeed, as Stuart Wrathmell suggests in his introduction (p. 1), look forward to a steady stream of such volumes over the next decade or so, and welcome the progressive adjustments which each volume makes to the evolving picture of Wharram's ever more complex past. Hopefully they will all be to this high standard.

Nick Higham

OBITUARY:

H. C. DARBY and the early years of the Deserted Medieval Village Research Group

Clifford Darby, Honorary Member of this Group, died on 14 April 1992, aged 83. Appreciations of his life and work have appeared elsewhere but hardly a mention has been made of his important role in the early years of the DMVRG; it is appropriate to put it on record here.

On 1 March 1949 Darby wrote to Maurice Beresford asking for an offprint of his paper on ridge and furrow 'which he had read with great interest'. This was the same year in which he moved from the John Rankin Chair of Geography at Liverpool to the chair of Geography at University College London and three years after W. G. Hoskins had put the question of village desertion firmly on the map with his paper on the deserted villages of Leicestershire.¹ Although Darby's research was then concentrated on Domesday (*Eastern England*, the first volume of his *Domesday Geography* was published in 1952) he incorporated some discussion of field systems, late-medieval enclosure and village desertion into the lecture course on the changing English landscape which he gave to first-year students at U.C.L. and later Cambridge. He thereby introduced a generation of young geographers to these topics; several of them were later to make their own contributions to medieval studies as the work on village desertion and associated questions gathered pace in the Fifties and Sixties.

When Maurice Beresford lectured on lost villages at the Royal Geographical Society on 2 April 1950,² Darby, the opening discussant, welcomed the paper noting that he

himself had first got interested in deserted villages through his work on Domesday. He cited the example of Clopton in West Cambridgeshire, known to him from Domesday and other sources although it is not clear from his remarks whether he had by then visited this impressive earthwork site. He noted Canon Foster's 'pioneering effort' in identifying the 'lost' Domesday places of Lincolnshire in 1924, and went on to remark that 'Hoskin's work, and now Mr Beresford's has greatly extended the range and interest of the whole subject. For the historian it throws light on difficult and vexed questions, and for the archaeologist it opens up an exciting vista. For geographers of course it completes one chapter in the story of the development of the English landscape and, for that if nothing more, I would like to thank Mr Beresford very much indeed for what I feel has been a most fascinating account of the subject.'

Until then Beresford knew Darby only by name and through correspondence. He has recorded in an earlier *Report*, (No.1 (1986), 18-23), how history at Cambridge 1938-41 had nothing to do with settlement studies. A friend at Cambridge had introduced him to Darby's *Historical Geography* ... published in 1936: 'There I found much to help me relate economic history to the reality of the English Landscape as I had begun to know it from the railway train and the Ordnance maps.' Not surprisingly in pre-War Cambridge the undergraduate at Jesus never met the young Fellow at King's; their paths did not cross again until a decade later.

When Darby referred in April 1950 to deserted villages opening up an 'exciting vista' for archaeologists he could not have known that two months later the first 'weekend spades' would confirm that the bumps in the fields at Wharram Percy were those of late medieval houses. In January 1952 John Hurst made his first contact with Beresford by letter ... and the rest is now history. By the end of that year the Deserted Medieval Village Research Group had been formed with Gerald Dunning as Chairman and Darby as one of a number of Consultant Members who included among others, M. M. Postan, W. G. Hoskins, E. M. Jope and A. Steensberg.

John Hurst and Jack Golson spoke about Deserted Villages to the Royal Archaeological Institute on 4 March 1953. One of those in the audience was Hugh Prince, a young lecturer in Darby's department at U.C.L.; he believes that it was probably on this occasion that Darby offered to recommend that U.C.L. geography students join the diggers at Wharram Percy, encouraged by departmental support for their fares and basic (very basic!) subsistence. On 21.2.1954 Beresford wrote to Darby ... 'I am following up our earlier conversation about the possibilities of recruiting diggers for Wharram Percy from University College this summer). Darby delegated the practical arrangements to Hugh Prince who, by March 23, had firm expressions of interest from eight undergraduates. In an undated letter to Prince, Beresford explained ... 'There is no ceiling to accommodation (metaphorically, I mean) other than the sardine capacity of humans. There are, I hasten to add, a few different sized bedrooms which make permutation (sic) Possible without promiscuity!' Not put off by this moral tone, or perhaps encouraged by it, a mixed group of eight (or was it nine?) U.C.L. students together with Hugh

Prince and another lecturer, Karl Sinnhuber, helped at Wharram in June-July 1954; among them were some who were to return in subsequent years, including C.A. (Clem) Reed and R. L. (Les) Heathcote. R. T. (Dick) Porter went for the next forty! According to Jim Johnson, another member of staff who went to Wharram, in 1955, Darby wanted to introduce a fieldwork element into the historical geography course at U.C.L.. Porter remembers Darby telling the class that it was the finest fieldwork that they could do. Thereby began the long-standing involvement of U.C.L. students, mainly geographers but also others, in the excavations at Wharram. In 1956 U.C.L. supplied a quarter of the labour force and it continued to send many volunteers in the late Fifties and early Sixties.

Darby helped Wharram and the research work of the DMVRG in other ways. Apart from attending Group meetings and becoming Vice-Chairman he facilitated the duplication of the occasional Annual Report and the final cartography of the draft of the first interpretation plan of House 10. In 1959-60 he found funds for the appointment of Mrs Betty Grant to a Research Assistantship at U.C.L. during which time she worked on the documentary evidence for deserted villages in twelve Midland counties.

Following his move to Cambridge in 1966 Darby was less directly involved with the work of the Group. He did however keep in touch and regularly asked about the on-going work. On his retirement in 1976 he stepped down as Vice-Chairman. In January 1988 he was knighted for 'services to the study of historical geography' and it was with the greatest pleasure that we saw him and Lady Darby at Wharram in 1990 on the occasion of the celebration of the 40th season of excavation. By then something to which he had given his support and encouragement in its early years had taken its place in the history of British archaeology.

Robin E. Glasscock

Acknowledgement

I am especially indebted for information to John Hurst, Maurice Beresford and Hugh Prince; also to Karl Sinnhuber, Jim Johnson, Les Heathcote and Dick Porter.

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1. "The deserted villages of Leicestershire", *Trans. Leics. Archaeol. Soc.*, XXII (1946) 241-64. Revised in *Essays in Leicestershire History*, 1950.
2. "The lost villages of England", *G. J.* CXVII (1951), 129-49.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES 1992

A list of Founder Members with their addresses was published in Report no.2 (1987); subsequent changes in the membership and changes in addresses have been published annually. Listed below are changes recorded in 1992. Members are asked to send any corrections, new addresses, etc. to the Hon. Treasurer, Dr R. E. Glasscock (Department of Geography, Downing Place, Cambridge CB2 3EN) who maintains the membership records.

New members 1992

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Deceased 1992

M. C. Androvenda (South Woodford, Ex.)
Prof. H. C. Darby (Hon. Member)
Prof. W. G. Hoskins (Hon. Member)
A. H. Stokes (Great Shelford, Cambs.)

Resignations

G. F. Le Pard (Ringwood)
Dr S. Neave (Beverley)
T. H. Rowland (Morpeth)
Mrs V. A. Steventon (Dursley)

Lapsed (and therefore reluctantly struck off)

P. Herbert (London N1)
P. P. Jeffery (Swindon)
Mrs M. Lawrence (Ludlow)
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J. Perrott (Iffley)
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S. Sneyd (Huddersfield)
Mrs P. M. Taylor (Shrewsbury)
Mrs J. Vernon (Gainsborough)
P. T. Williams (Holywell, Clywd)

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Information wanted

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D. Freke (was in Peel, I.O.M.)
N. P. Harden (was in London N17)
J. L. Minkin (was in London SE22)

Research grant 1992

A grant was awarded to:
Chester Archaeological Society towards the cost of Dr N.
J. Higham's monograph on Tatton. £250.00

**M.S.R.G. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT,
24.12.91 — 27.11.92**

INCOME

Subscriptions

by cheque/cash	824.00	
by bankers order	<u>2469.00</u>	3293.00

Donations 22.00

Sales 49.87

Share of Conference Profit 75.00

Book Circular 40.00

Balance in Current Account 24.12.91 405.03

£3884.90

EXPENDITURE

Printing of Report No. 6 2180.00

Postage 367.89

Hire of room for AGM (2 years) 27.00

Secretarial Expenses (Fortress House) 59.40

Refunds 104.00

C.B.A. Affiliation Fee 54.00

Stationery/Address Labels 52.47

**Circulars & Postage for
Increase in Subscription** 118.35

Editorial & Secretarial Expenses 42.70

Conference Expense (Middlesborough) 10.00

To National Savings Investment Act . 400.00

Balance in Current Account 27.11.92 469.09

£3884.90

R. E. GLASSCOCK (Hon. Treasurer) 27.11.92

Audited and found correct when read in conjunction with the National Savings Account.

C.M.P. JOHNSON (Hon. Auditor) 27.5.93

National Savings Investment Account (as at 30.11.92)

Income

In hand 29.4.92 11469.33

Transfer from Current Act. 400.00

£11869.33

Expenditure

Research Grant 250.00

In hand 30.11.92 11619.33

£11869.33

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The Group is again grateful to Dr. C.M.P. Johnson, formerly Senior Bursar, St. John's College, Cambridge, for auditing the annual statement.

