# **EXCAVATIONS AND SURVEYS IN NORFOLK 1996**

Edited by David Gurney and Kenneth Penn

This annual report comprises summaries of archaeological excavations, fieldwork and surveys carried out during 1996. As it is often several years before post-excavation work is completed and a full report is published, these summaries provide a useful guide to current archaeological research in the County. The report again includes brief reports (by Brian Cushion) on thirty-seven surveys of earthwork sites for the Norfolk Earthwork Survey (NES). Sites are listed alphabetically by parish, and their locations are shown on Fig.1. The following abbreviations are used: NAU – Norfolk Archaeological Unit; NAHRG – Norfolk Archaeological and Historical Research Group; NLA – Norfolk Landscape Archaeology; RCHME – Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England; Site – Norfolk Sites and Monuments Record Site Number.

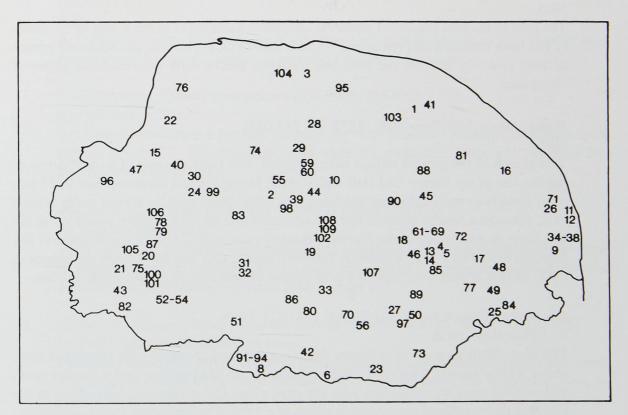


Fig. 1 Locations of excavations and surveys in Norfolk in 1996.

 Alby with Thwaite, St. Ethelbert's Church, Alby (Site 6820; TG 2025 3361) by Edwin Rose, NLA
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Removal of the floor revealed a wall-footing towards the S side of the nave, with an apparent doorway in line with a blocked opening and rebuilt masonry in the N wall. The evidence indicates that the original ?Norman church was widened to the S before the C14, then extended W when the present doorways were constructed.

2. *Beeston with Bittering*, The Launditch, Salters Lane (Site 7235; TF 923 171) by Kenneth Penn, NAU.

Observation of a cable trench for Eastern Electricity crossing the line of the linear earthwork revealed the upper fills of the ditch.

# 3. Binham, Priory (Site 2081; TF 982 399)

NES

Features additional to the parish church and claustral range include further building outlines W of the claustral range and enclosures extending E from it. Valley-floor earthworks recorded to the N included masonry fragments probably associated with a water-mill, as well as channels and fish-ponds.

4. *Bixley* (Site 9660; TG 260 049)

# NES

The plan of the best-preserved medieval settlement earthworks in the E half of the county has been extended and remapped. Former roadways, enclosures and scattered groups of tofts probably indicate the final late medieval and/or early post-medieval phase of occupation.

5. *Bixley*, Arminghall (Sites 6098, 9877; TG 254 045)

NES

Two sites E of the present village were recorded. Site 6098 consists of a moat delineating the site of the former Old Hall which stood facing a small common. Site 9877 features a roadway and enclosures adjoining Site 6098 which may have been partly related to it, although a nearby separate toft was occupied into the C18. Further roadways to the E include an earlier line of the Norwich-Bungay road. A fragment of a probable toft lies adjacent to it, with a nearby roadway formerly linking it to Site 9660. Most enclosures in the E section appear to be part of a field pattern of probable early post-medieval date.

6. *Blo Norton*, Church Farm (Site 20144; TM 0111 7980)

by Edwin Rose, NLA

The main block consists of a former first floor hall and chamber with crownpost roof, above a large ground floor room with elaborately moulded ceiling, and a smaller room and original corridor connecting with the crosswing. This section has been dated to the C15, but the mouldings are similar to others of c.1520. The crosswing seems similarly to have had a first floor hall, but with a room divided off at each end; the roof has been replaced. The ground floor consists of one large room, and two service rooms set in line, opening off a corridor to one side, rather than side-by-side in the usual Norfolk pattern. This plan has only been noted in one other house in the area. The evidence suggests a building of considerable importance, possibly Seamere Hall Manor which is recorded as changing ownership in 1521.

# 7. Breckland Archaeological Survey

by Kate Sussams, (Archaeology Service, Suffolk County Council)

The final stages of the two-year English Heritage funded project concentrated on the production of a report containing the results of the survey, a characterisation of the archaeology and the historic landscape, and recommendations for management of sites within

the Breckland Environmentally Sensitive Area. The project located 164 new sites, including 90 earthworks, 18 cropmarks, 20 military sites, 30 sites known from documentary sources and 6 artefact scatters.

Brettenham, White Barn Bungalow (Site 17269; TL 879 828).
 A gradiometer survey by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford for R. Langlois Esq. recorded areas of magnetic disturbance and some archaeological-type anomalies close to the area of Romano-British and Early Saxon settlement excavated in 1994 (Site 30864).

 Burgh Castle, Saxon Shore Fort (Site 10471; TG 474 045) NES The surviving evidence for the ditch of the motte and bailey castle was recorded.

10. Bylaugh (Site 21076; TG 026 179) NES

Report 203.

A ditched enclosure with building platform and adjacent causeway, as well as other nearby enclosure fragments, suggests an isolated medieval farmstead.

 Caister-on-Sea, County First School (Site 8675; TG 5220 1232) by Phil Emery, NAU Evaluation trenching for Norfolk Property Services produced evidence of Roman occupation, mostly C3 AD. Also recovered were six prehistoric flints and two Iron Age sherds. NAU Report 181.

 Caister-on-Sea, Castle Farm (Site 11655; TG 5025 1270), by Kenneth Penn, NAU Field survey for Lancaster Earthmoving Ltd recovered prehistoric struck flints, a scatter of post-medieval material and Roman glass and pottery. Subsequent trenching revealed no archaeological features or finds. NAU Report 171.

13. Caistor St. Edmund, Venta Icenorum Roman town (Sites 9786, 9836; TG 230 035) by Peter Cott, Geophysical Consultant Fluxgate gradiometer survey of part of Insula X successfully located the streets and forum. The resistivity study of the triple ditches S of the walled town was completed, with the central ditch always detectable as a low resistance anomaly despite very dry conditions.

14. *Caistor St. Edmund/Stoke Holy Cross* (Sites 9759, 9791, 31803; TG 22 03) by Roger Bellinger, NAHRG Fieldwalking east of the town recovered Roman brick, tile and pottery, glass and three coins, along with one Middle Saxon sherd. To the west, across the river, further Roman finds and two Middle Saxon sherds were recorded. North of this, at Markshall, only sparse pottery finds were made.

15. Castle Rising, Low Road (Site 23760; TF 6610 2480 – 6657 2495)
 by Andrew Crowson, NAU
 A watching brief for Eastern Electricity on a cable trench partly within the 'planned' medieval town encountered no features, although medieval finds were recovered. NAU

 Catfield (Site 32151; TG 381 212) by Roger Bellinger, NAHRG Fieldwalking between the church and the hall recovered Roman, Middle Saxon, Late Saxon, medieval and post-medieval sherds.

17. *Claxton* (Site 10304; TG 335 037) NES

> An oval moated enclosure surrounds fragments of a fortified house adjacent to the present manor house. Further earthworks to the S are enigmatic, but include other enclosure boundaries.

# 18. *Colney*, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital 2000 (Site 31871;TG 185 070) by Trevor Ashwin, NAU

Evaluation trenching of the 25 ha site for Laing Eastern recorded little evidence of human activity. Pottery, worked flints and occasional pits and ditches of Late Neolithic/Bronze Age and Iron Age date were found. It is likely that other prehistoric remains have been scattered and destroyed by ploughing. NAU Report 182.

19. *Cranworth* (Site 25910; TF 988 058)

## NES

A hollow way and small subrectangular enclosures, probably medieval, straddle the former parish boundary with Letton.

# 20. *Crimplesham* (Site 29793; TF 646 023) NES

A roadway and ditched enclosures represent part of the site of Coldham's Manor, with a building platform probably that of a barn.

21. *Denver* (Site 2465; TF 616 014) NES

A small moated site S of the present hall had an outer enclosure; some subdivision of land to the S and W was also recorded.

- 22. Dersingham, Gelham Hall (Site 1576; TF 6805 3017)
   by Andrew Crowson, NAU
   A watching brief for ARC Ltd recorded the E and W arms of the infilled moat and other possible linear features NAU Report 186.
- Diss, rear of 2 Mount Street (Site 31788; TM 116 800).
   A watching brief by Howard Brooks Archaeological Services observed a considerable depth of C17/18 or later made ground. A single fragment of human skull was probably imported.
- 24. *East Walton* (Site 30996; TF 748 153) NES

At least two medieval tofts with building platforms and adjacent enclosures indicate an area of common-edge settlement.

25. Ellingham, Dairy Farm (Site 11843; TM 379 916) by Sarah Bates, NAU

> Excavation of a Roman pottery kiln, near to the kiln excavated in 1976, was funded by English Heritage. Further mortaria by four identifiable and named potters (Regalis, Lunaucis) were recovered, as well as vessels by a fifth who was previously unknown. The cumulative evidence points to an earlier, undiscovered third kiln.

26. Filby (Site 31804; TG 469 128) by Heather Wallis, NAU

Field survey for Charles Wharton and Partners recovered four flint flakes, a thin scatter of burnt flints and post-medieval finds.

#### Forncett, Chestnut Farm (Site 32075; TM 1452 9365) 27.

by Edwin Rose, NLA

This timber-framed hall-house of c.1500 has two remarkable features. The normal pattern for the insertion of a stack into a hall-house was to place it within the parlour cell with a fireplace broken through into the hall for cooking, with stacks to convert other rooms into kitchens being much later additions. In this case, however, the service rooms have a C17 gable stack, contemporary with the main stack. The second unusual feature is a partition wall on the line of the former screens, not rising above the inserted first floor, preserving the line of the cross passage. C17 wall-paintings on the main stack depict Adam and Eve amongst exotic animals.

28. Fulmodeston, Barney (Site 12158; TF 998 320) NES

> A moat with rather degraded leats and adjacent channels features a smaller attached enclosure.

29. Gateley (Site 12160; TF 959 241)

#### NES

Two ditched enclosures N of the Hall with a common boundary on the W side represent a small area of medieval settlement. An area of probable post-medieval ridge and furrow abuts the enclosures, and a small square ditched-and-banked platform suggests a landscape feature within the park.

- 30. Gayton (Site 3748; TF 719 195)
  - NES

Ditched enclosures, ponds, slight platforms and a probable roadway abut a substantial common-edge boundary ditch to the S, with truncated and very slight ridge and furrow to the N. Formerly considered as shrunken village earthworks, it is now felt that a manorial site with some adjoining enclosures, some of them possibly tofts, is a more convincing interpretation.

#### Great Cressingham (Site 31839; TF 844 016) 31. NES

Medieval tofts, some with platforms and bounded by a hollow way to the NW, were sited on a low terrace of the River Wissey SW of the village.

# 32. *Great Cressingham* (Sites 4687, 4688, 31848; TF 852 020)

## NES

Earthworks on the SE side of the valley of the River Wissey N of the village were surveyed. Site 4687 comprises the double-moated site of a manor belonging to the Prior and Bishop of Norwich until the dissolution, with a fish-pond within a small enclosure to the N. Site 4688 to the SW includes enclosures, two building-outlines, further ponds and a roadway. Further SW are two further ponds, lower level enclosures and rear boundaries of tofts formerly facing the present village street; these are all situated on an adjacent property, itself possibly a manorial site. Site 31848 to the E includes a former line of the village street as a hollow way, with abutting enclosures; another hollow way leads from this towards the northernmost of the two moats at Site 4687.

33. *Great Ellingham* (Site 31588)

by Andrew Rogerson and David Wicks, NLA

The site of a Late Bronze Age hoard indicated by ploughsoil metal-detector finds was investigated. No feature was found, but further pieces of metalwork were recovered. The hoard consists of eight socketed axes, fragments of two swords and three pieces of waste bronze.

34. *Great Yarmouth*, Greyfriars (Site 4297; TG 526 068)

by Neil Moss and Kenneth Penn, NAU

A survey and analysis of the standing remains of the friary was carried out by the NAU in conjunction with English Heritage as part of a programme of conservation and display. This revealed that the W end of the church had been extended, and that the cloister was one bay shorter (N-S) than previously thought. Later changes, some domestic, were also recorded.

35. *Great Yarmouth*, Fuller's Hill (TG 5220 0795)

by Kenneth Penn, NAU

Desk study assessment of an area on the E side of North Quay between Rows 13 and 18 for John M. Harris Partnership indicated the likely survival of early medieval occupation deposits below later levels, and the possibility that the remains of waterfront activity survived. There was evidence for medieval fish-houses and perhaps saltmaking locally. NAU Report 193.

36. *Great Yarmouth*, Town Wall (Site 4294; TG 5255 0671) by Andrew Crowson, NAU

Observations during construction work by Mayer Parry Recycling Ltd on the quay wall in the S part of the medieval town recorded the lowest part of the town wall, and allowed details of its construction to be recorded. The base of the wall had been built upon a wooden frame, subsequently infilled with mortared rubble and flint.

37. *Great Yarmouth*, 51 North Quay (Site 4306; TG 5209 0778)

by Kevin Forrest, NAU

Observations for the Orbit Housing Association within the early post-medieval merchant's house enabled details of earlier features and building sequences to be investigated. The building is of early C17 date, but saw expansion and alteration in the late C17-

552

C19. These observations follow building analysis by Robert Smith for NAU. NAU Report 205.

38. *Great Yarmouth*, South Denes Power Station (Site 4305; TG 53 05)

by Kenneth Penn, NAU

Desk study assessment of the site on the shingle spit 1.5 km S of the medieval walled town was carried out for Merz and McLellan. Observations in the 1950s demonstrated massive vertical accretion since the early medieval period, resulting in the burial of early surfaces. The area was unoccupied in the medieval period, but the deep exposures revealed medieval pottery on a later C13 buried shingle surface and, below this, material containing C12-13 pottery. NAU Report 168.

- 39. Gressenhall (Site 7292; TF 949 147)
  - NES

Ditched enclosures, one incomplete and containing the former farmhouse, abut a ditch which formed the boundary with Sparrow Green.

40. *Grimston*, Chapel Road, Pott Row (Site 3586; TG 7030 2181) by Sarah Percival and Niall Donald, NAU A watching brief (SP) for E.Thompson Esq observed no features, but sherds of Grimston Ware of C13-14 date were found. Further observations to the N (ND) recorded a discrete and extensive layer of medieval pottery, doubtless waste material from a nearby kiln.

41. *Hanworth*, The Grove, Gunton Park (Site 32152; TG 2266 3431)

by Phil Emery and Trevor Ashwin, NAU

Evaluation trenching for The Grove Gunton Park Association in the C18 garden revealed the existence of a low earthwork feature, consisting of a curving bank with a ditch on both inner and outer sides. A line of post-holes lay within it to the W. The feature is conceivably a prehistoric feature – perhaps a long mortuary enclosure – rather than a post-medieval garden feature, although this remains uncertain given the very limited scale of excavation and survey to date.

# 42. *Harling* (Site 6029; TL 991 868) NES

Survey work encompasses the site of the Old Hall, recording the remains of a late medieval/early post-medieval building. A moated site to the E and an adjoining moated enclosure with fishponds suggest an earlier presence. Some evidence was recorded for the probable outline of the kitchen garden, as well as for other garden boundary features associated with the demolished mansion. Further earthworks W of the building remains include an enigmatic platform with early post-medieval roof tile nearby.

43. *Hilgay* (Site 24136; TF 617 978)

# NES

One of the largest surviving areas of medieval ridge and furrow in the county, totalling 19 ha, was recorded on the W-facing slope of the island. Most of the area features prominent E-W aligned strips; at the S end the slope inclines N-S, and the strips following this alignment are the most prominent.

- Hoe, Beetley Quarry (Site 32147; TF 9945 1830)
   by Sarah Percival, NAU
   Evaluation trenching for Barker Bros Aggregates Ltd revealed a cluster of small features, mostly of post-medieval and later date, although to the W an isolated feature produced a large sherd of Early Bronze Age pottery. Sieving of overburden recovered occasional pieces of worked flint and slag.
- 45. Horsham St. Faith and Newton St. Faith, St Faith's Priory (Site 8005; TG 216 151) by Peter Cott, Geophysical Consultant. The results of a resistivity survey to locate buildings E of the priory cloister were indeterminate.
- Keswick, Intwood Hall (Site 31789; TG 190 042),
  by Heather Wallis, NAU
  Evaluation trenching for the Hon. J. Darling recorded flints, two prehistoric pits and a post-medieval ditch. NAU Report 169.
- 47. *King's Lynn*, St George's Guildhall (Site 5483; TF 6001 2007)
  by Piers Wallace and Dennis Thompson, NAU
  A photographic survey for the National Trust recorded details of the exterior before repointing work took place.

48. *Langley with Hardley*, Abbey (Site 10344; TG 363 028) NES

> A complex of earthworks within the precinct surrounding the partially-excavated claustral range. An entrance roadway approaches the gatehouse of the inner court from the N, with enclosures and building outlines on either side. Further smaller enclosures lie immediately NE of the claustral range, with two ditches linking to a ditched causeway heading across marshes towards the River Yare. There are two substantial building outlines SE of the precinct, with ponds and enclosure boundaries. To the S and W the precinct boundary is a well-defined ditch, much of it abutting the former Langley Green.

- 49. Loddon, Little Money Road (Site 31941; TM 3680 9710),
   by Sarah Bates, NAU
   Evaluation trenching for H.G. Lomax Developers Ltd revealed evidence of prehistoric activity within an area of earlier prehistoric finds. NAU Report 201.
- 50. Long Stratton, Wild Rose Farm (Site 25916; TM 1920 9050)
   by Sarah Percival, NAU
   Evaluation trenching for P.J. Davey Esq beside the Venta Icenorum Camulodunum
   Roman road revealed no evidence for Roman activity apart from five sherds of pottery.
   NAU Report 196.
- 51. Lynford (Site 31242; TL 814 944) and Stanford (Site 5090; TL 823 948)
   by Brian Cushion (for NAU)
   Earthwork survey for The Landscape Partnership recorded two areas of C19 floated watermeadows. NAU Report 174.

52. *Methwold* (Site 24980; TL 728 947) NES

Part of a complex of enclosures linking to those adjacent to a former manor of the Duchy of Lancaster were recorded, and suggested possible incomplete tofts and associated enclosures.

53. *Methwold*, Broad Fen Farm, Methwold Hythe (Sites 2528, 23233-6; TL 6980 9595) by Andy Crowson, NAU

Evaluation trenching for Darby Nursery Stock of a suspected round barrow revealed a possible prehistoric buried soil and a ditch containing prehistoric flints.

54. *Methwold*, Queen's Ground (Site 5235)

by Andrew Crowson (NAU) and Derek Woollestone

Following the recovery of Middle Bronze Age metalwork (including a spear and rapier) by metal-detector after ploughing, limited excavations were made into an underlying deposit of woody peat. Finds included Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery and a bronze pin from the woody peat, and a Late Neolithic sherd from the lower reedy peat. Fragments of animal and human bone were also found.

55. *Mileham*, Church Farmhouse (Site 32081; TF 932 198)
by Sarah Percival, NAU
An evaluation trench for E.J. and D.R. Gricks revealed an undated pit, animal bone and two sherds of Late Saxon Thetford-type ware. NAU Report 197.

# 56. New Buckenham, Dicken Cottage, Marsh Lane (Site 9200; TM 0875 9040) by Niall Donald, NAU Evaluation trenching for K. Gee Esq revealed a large ditch, interpreted as part of the S defences, originally up to 9m wide. An archaeologically-sterile area N of the ditch may

indicate the position of an associated bank. The site was levelled in the C15-16.

57. Norfolk Monuments Management Project

# by Helen Paterson

1996 saw an initial embargo on Section 17 grant-aid by English Heritage and, later, funding at a much-reduced level compared with previous years. The limited resources were targeted at new sites, although many existing agreements are now due for renewal. Since the project started (1991), 22 Section 17 Agreements have been signed, along with 84 non-legal management statements where owners state their commitment to positive management without grant aid. Where practicable, CSS and ESA grants are being used to offset the lack of money available from the project.

# 58. Norfolk Workhouses Project RCHME

Between 1993 and 1996, ten Norfolk workhouses (Aylsham Union, Brinton and Melton Constable, Erpingham Union, Forehoe Union, Henstead Union, King's Lynn Union, Loddon and Clavering Incorporation, Mitford and Launditch Incorporation, Norwich Incorporation and Wayland Poor Law Infirmary) were recorded by means of written reports and/or photographic surveys. Historical material relating to a number of demolished workhouses was also collected.

59. *North Elmham* (Site 1014; TF 989 216) NES

Substantial moats enclosing the remains of the medieval Bishop's Manor House, itself centred on the remains of the late C11 Episcopal Chapel, were surveyed. Some internal features were noted, as well as fragments of an outer enclosure to the E.

60. North Elmham, V.C. School (Site 2907; TF 987 211)

by Kenneth Penn, NAU

Watching brief observations for Norfolk Property Services exposed natural peat deposits overlain by sands and gravels; the latter contained animal bone and medieval pottery. No archaeological features or finds were recorded in the peat itself. NAU Report 170.

61. *Norwich*, Bus Station, Surrey Street (Sites 384, 26208, 26238, 26400; TG 2295 0800) by Kenneth Penn, NAU

An impact assessment was conducted for T.P. Bennett Partnership. The site lies immediately inside the medieval walled circuit, to the rear of street frontages and behind St. Stephen's Street, in an area which was not built up until the modern period. Parts of the site occupy short stretches of All Saints' Green and Surrey Street, the development of which may date to the late C13. NAU Report 204.

- 62. Norwich, Wensum Lodge, King Street (Site 26454; TG 2365 0803)
   by Niall Donald, NAU
   Observations during the excavation of cable trenches revealed medieval masonry, possibly part of Jurnet's House (Music House), and brick walls.
- 63. Norwich, Wensum Street/Tombland (Site 26445; TG 23261 08937 to 23333 08766) by Niall Donald, NAU
  Observations during the excavation of cable trenches recorded human burials adjacent to the church of SS Simon and Jude, within the area of its former churchyard. NAU Report 206.
- 64. *Norwich*, Palace Street/Pigg Lane (Site 26442; TG 23355 09035) by Sarah Percival, NAU Evaluation for Bidwell Chartered Surveyors entailed the excavation of a single trench S of the River Wensum, in an area thought to lie across a riparian way along the edge of the former river terrace. At the S end of the trench, cutting into the river terrace, evidence of Middle and Late Saxon occupation was recorded. At its N end, the remains of medieval buildings and yards and other medieval deposits were encountered (including two medieval or later walls). The Middle Saxon sherds found were residual pieces, but indicate nearby activity. The Late Saxon features were mostly levelling deposits, probably representing floor/yard surfaces. NAU Report 173

65. *Norwich*, Cathedral Cloister, south and west ranges (Site 226; TG 2346 0884) by Andy Shelley, NAU

Evaluation and survey for the Dean and Chapter involving handcores and test-pits revealed evidence of deposits associated with the demolition of the refectory and subsequent post-medieval foundation levels. Plans of the Library stairs were drawn. NAU Report 200

66. *Norwich*, Coslany Street (Site 26435; TG 228 089) by Heather Wallis, NAU

> Excavation of a riverside site was undertaken for Harvey and Leech Ltd ahead of development; this revealed evidence of activity on the site from the C10-12 onward. Three trenches were excavated, two of them sited to investigate a former arm of the River Wensum which once defined a minor 'island' here.

> Three main phases of timber revetment were recorded on the line of the waterfront; the earliest of these may date to C10-12, while the latest may be C12-14. Pits possibly of C12 date contained metalworking debris, primarily from smelting. A deposit of dark material up to 1m deep was probably formed by the dumping of waste materials in the low areas next to the river.

67. *Norwich*, St Saviour's Church, Magdalen Street (Site 597; TG 2318 0925) by Andy Shelley, NAU

Observations for Norwich Community Church recorded several brick vaults below the floor of the former chancel and its attached vestry. NAU Report 191.

68. *Norwich*, 5 Bridewell Alley (TG 2310 0867) by Phil Emery, NAU

> A watching brief for the Butcher Group within the building revealed that the upper levels were made ground of modern date. An infilled brick-built well lay beneath the southern party wall.

69. Norwich, 5 Gurney Court, Magdalen Street (Site 26139; TG 2318 0919)
by Phil Emery, NAU
A watching brief for Dennis Black Associates recorded wall-foundations, mostly C19 in date, although one may belong to the C17-18 building.

Old Buckenham, Abbey Farm (Site 9202; TM 070 925)
 by Trevor Ashwin, NAU
 Observations during excavation of a cable trench for Eastern Electricity recorded a wall close to the present farmhouse, perhaps part of the medieval priory. NAU Report 178.

71. *Ormesby St. Margaret with Scratby*, bypass (Site 31773; TG 488 148) by Heather Wallis, NAU

The discovery of human bones during construction works led to rescue excavations for Engineering Services, Norfolk County Council. Part of a cemetery of closely-spaced inhumations was recorded, including its probable S boundary. Sixty graves were excavated; all were unaccompanied and were aligned W-E. Some small and abraded sherds were recovered, of early prehistoric, Iron Age and medieval date.

The articulated remains represent a minimum of 45 adults (18 male and 27 female) and 17 children, with other remains representing a further 4 adults and 6 children. Observed pathologies include leprosy and possibly tuberculosis.

It is conjectured that this is a Christian burial ground of Anglo-Saxon date, possibly belonging to a time before burial next to a church had become a universal practice. The results of radiocarbon dating are awaited.

72. Postwick, Heath Farm (Site 31108; TG 286 094) Following trench evaluation by NAU in 1995, a gradiometer survey was undertaken by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford. Four kiln-like anomalies were recorded, one of which represented the excavated kiln.

# 73. Pulham St. Mary, Willowbeck House (Site 32153; TM 2071 8502)

by Edwin Rose, NLA

This is a second variant on the Norfolk pattern of placing an inserted stack in a hall-house at the parlour end. In this C15 building the stack, originally of timber and clay, was placed actually within the hall at the 'low' end, and the partition wall to the service rooms removed to create a new room from stack to gable wall. The stack was rebuilt in brick in the late C18.

74. *Raynham* (Site 28647; TF 872 258) NES

A wooded moated enclosure, with a slight internal platform and medieval pottery, is the likely site of Havile's Manor.

75. *Ryston* (Site 2453; TF 620 017) NES

An area adjacent to the church on the NW edge of Ryston Park was surveyed. N and E of the church are three adjoining areas of N-S aligned ridge and furrow on three sides of a subrectangular enclosure, probably a toft. A well-defined hollow way bounds the site to the E, whilst S of the church, some rather degraded ridge and furrow was noted along with landscape ponds and a causeway denoting part of a former drive to the hall.

76. Sedgeford, Sedgeford Historical and Archaeological Research Project

by Neil Faulkner

This long-term, multi-period, research project aims to investigate human settlement and land-use in the parish. An interim report on work in 1996 appears elsewhere in this volume.

77. Seething (Sites 10442, 10443; TM 321 979)

NES

These adjoining sites were recorded to the E of Seething church. Site 10442 comprises four cruciform-pattern ditched enclosures abutting the common-edge ditch near the church. Within one enclosure is a circular ring-ditch, which is assumed to have represented a former pound given the field name of Pound Close. Site 10443 contains the site of the former Old Hall and features a building platform with medieval brick evident on one edge, as well as a series of incomplete enclosure boundaries which probably represent garden subdivisions. One pond lies within this area, whilst subdued and partially-infilled depressions to the S may indicate ornamental or fish ponds.

# 78. *Shouldham* (Site 4283; TF 678 089) NES

A series of subrectangular enclosures, some terraced into the W-facing slope W of the church, have a substantial and rather incongruous E-W ditched causeway as one of their

dividing features. These may be closes associated with one substantial property, rather than tofts. Slight ridge and furrow was noted to the S, whilst a roadway leads W from the church towards a series of tofts facing onto Eastgate Street.

79. *Shouldham*, Priory (Site 4255; TF 679 094) NES

A complex of subrectangular ditched enclosures in the S part of the precinct. The S boundary of the entrance roadway was recorded, extending from the W precinct boundary bank. Within the enclosures, one possible building platform was noted along with various ponds and depressions, some of which probably derive from quarrying.

80. *Shropham*, Church Farm (Site 31845; TL 976 922) by Trevor Ashwin, NAU

Field survey of the 9ha site of a proposed agricultural reservoir for Watton Produce recovered a small flint assemblage. This material could be of any prehistoric period, although one scraper probably dated to the 3rd millennium BC.

81. *Sloley* (Site 29501; TG 294 244) NES

> This small site has boundary banks which form part of a medieval common-edge settlement extending into the adjacent arable land.

82. Southery, Step Cottage (Site 17316; TL 6222 9469)
by Andrew Crowson, NAU
Observation for Mr M. Flint revealed one modern and two undated ditches. NAU Report 189.

83. Sporle with Palgrave, Sporle Wood (Site 31955; TF 861 117) NES

Earthworks of osier beds, a hollow way and various ponds and channels were recorded. C18 field names suggest that the wood extended to the S.

84. *Stockton*, Church Farm (Site 12670; TM 387 941) by Andy Shelley, NAU

A flight of steps between first- and second-floor levels of this timber-framed building was recorded before removal. The steps were built against the S wall of the farmhouse, and may have been an original feature.

85. *Stoke Holy Cross*, Dunston Hall Hotel, golf course (Sites 31820-1, 31856, 31858; TG 225 021)

by Sarah Bates and Andy Shelley, NAU

Evaluation trenching and excavation (SB) for the Dunston Hall Partnership revealed prehistoric activity and trackway ditches to the S, and traces of a Roman road to the N heading towards *Venta Icenorum*. This road was of C2 date, and was associated with ditches and structural features. Sites 31856 and 31858 revealed evidence of Iron Age occupation, ditches and structures. NAU Report 183.

Further monitoring (AS) of topsoil stripping and excavation produced evidence of archaeological activity from the Bronze Age to the Romano-British period. Bronze Age activity, represented by various pits and ditches, was generally restricted to the S part of the development area (adjacent to a ring-ditch of probable prehistoric date), whilst Romano-British activity was concentrated to the N, less than 1 km from *Venta Icenorum*. Iron Age activity was located between these two areas, and included evidence for a posthole structure. A series of small pits containing animal bone lay to the W. The 1768 turnpike route was also investigated.

86. Stow Bedon, Breckles (Site 11929; TL 959 945)

NES

Situated between Breckles Church and Hall, a hollow way and various enclosures, including tofts, are considered to be part of the medieval settlement of Great Breckles.

87. Stradsett (Site 17492; TF 662 054)

NES

Earthworks recorded here included arguably the best-preserved ridge and furrow in the county, covering 10.5 ha to the W of Stradsett Park, where other much less well-defined strips were noted. Various alignments were recorded, with some headlands corresponding with field boundaries shown on estate maps from the mid-C17 onwards.

88. *Stratton Strawless* (Site 31783; TG 219 209)

Re-excavation by Jim Beckerleg and Anthony Poortvliet of an area previously examined in the 1960s revealed a large pit with burnt edges, charcoal-rich fills and Roman pottery, probably the flue and/or stoking pit of a Roman kiln.

# 89. *Tasburgh* (Site 2258; TM 200 960) NES

A survey of the enigmatic enclosure, formerly identified as an Iron Age Fort, was undertaken partly to facilitate the preparation of new display panels.

90. *Taverham*, St. Edmund's Church (Site 7908; TG 160 138)
by Peter Cott, Geophysical Consultant
A resistivity survey carried out in order to locate a chapel on the N side of the church revealed anomalies which seem to be coincident with an existing burial plot.

91. Thetford, Saxon Place (Site 5847; TL 866 826) by Rob Masefield, RPS Clouston Monitoring work for the Peddars Way Housing Association through J.S. Hay Ltd continued, recording large numbers of domestic pits and post-holes, cobbled trackways or roads and clay floors of possible buildings. Finds included pottery crucibles and molten lead and bronze deposits, manufacturing blanks for Late Saxon hooked tags, a few Roman coins and sherds, pottery (mainly of C9 and C10 date) and a silver coin of Harold I (AD 1036-1038).

92. *Thetford*, Howlett Way (Site 32116; TL 875 785) by Kevin Forrest, NAU.

A watching brief for Anglian Water Services recorded one struck flint flake and three features of probable post-medieval date. NAU Report 202.

93. *Thetford*, Two Mile Bottom (Site 5738; TL 852 868)

by Sarah Bates, NAU

Excavations for Fibrowatt Ltd, following evaluation in 1995, recovered further evidence of an important Mesolithic presence. Quantities of struck flint were found, possibly *in situ* within a contemporary soil. As well as Iron Age pits and field boundaries, there was evidence for Iron Age/early Roman occupation (ditches and fifteen pits). The last phase on the site was represented by three or four Roman pottery kilns, associated with an enclosure, pits and structures. One of the kilns produced painted wares, the first evidence of manufacture of these in Norfolk.

94. *Thetford*, The Old Gasworks, Bury Road (Site 5868; TL 8695 8250) by Kenneth Penn and Heather Wallis, NAU

Site evaluation was carried out for W.S. Atkins Environmental. A preliminary desk study (KP) demonstrated the existence of a medieval church, probably that of St. Edmund, and Late Saxon occupation nearby. A watching brief (HW) revealed Saxo-Norman occupation and burials associated with the church. NAU Report 176.

- 95. *Thornage*, Thornage Hall (Site 13013; TG 0462 3624)
  by Niall Donald, NAU
  Evaluation trenching for Camphill Communities Trust revealed a pit containing burnt flint, interpreted as slight evidence of prehistoric domestic activity. NAU Report 199.
- 96. *Tilney All Saints*, Church Farm (Site 19105; TF 5672 1820)
  by Niall Donald, NAU
  A watching brief for Mrs J. Munro recorded possible watercourse or pond deposits, a medieval pit and other evidence of medieval activity. NAU Report 190.
- 97. Wacton, Hall Farm, The Common (Site 10063; TM 1805 9025)
  by Kenneth Penn, NAU
  A watching brief for S. Parsons Esq within area of the medieval moated enclosure revealed two undated linear features. NAU Report 195.
- 98. *Wendling*, Abbey (Site 7281; TF 939 128) NES

Much of the S half of the claustral range survives as degraded but recognisable building outlines. Further outlines were recorded to the E and S, as well as earlier watercourse channels connected with a moated enclosure to the SE. This latter feature is a possible manorial site pre-dating the abbey foundation.

# 99. Westacre (TF 780 153)

by Alan Davison

A fieldwalking and documentary survey has begun. Four fieldbooks dating from 1432 to 1598 suggest that the village was in a loose grid pattern with four open fields. A separate C16 survey of Custhorpe shows that the hamlet had virtually disappeared. Fieldwalking

seems to confirm the shape of the village and suggests that a N fringe of occupation, originally Late Saxon, has been lost. Scattered pottery sherds around the village point to a Middle Saxon site as yet undetected. Iron Age pottery is scattered widely over higher ground 1km N of the village. Two Romano-British concentrations have been found, one in Custhorpe and the other possibly associated with earlier finds.

100. West Dereham, Abbey (Site 4396; TF 662 003)

NES

An earthwork survey of the S half of the precinct complemented an air photograph plot which showed crop-marks within the N part of the site. The earthworks comprise fishponds and associated channels and enclosures, within the double-ditched enclosure which surrounds the whole site and which formed the park boundary of the late C17 mansion that stood on the site of the major buildings.

101. West Dereham, Abbey (Site 4396; TF 661 006)

by Kenneth Penn, NAU

A watching brief for Purcell Miller Tritton (Architects) on behalf of G. Shropshire Esq recorded further details of the abbey buildings and the Renaissance mansion. Ongoing excavation and recording work at the post-medieval stable-block has revealed details of its probable medieval function (as part of a guest block) and layout. NAU Report 179.

102. Whinburgh (Site 31712; TG 008 093)

NES

This small site features part of a medieval common-edge ditch, with adjacent ditched enclosures.

103. Wickmere/Itteringham, Wolterton Park (TG 163 315)
 by Alan Davison.
 Fieldwalking located a concentration of calcined flints near the course of the stream supplying the lake.

104. Wighton, Kirkgate Lane (Site 31720; TF 9410 3995)
by Kenneth Penn, NAU
Field survey near the church was followed by a watching brief. This revealed post-medieval features, with no evidence of activity before the late medieval period apart from sherds of medieval pottery. The work was undertaken for Messrs A. Cargill and T. Coke. NAU Report 184.

105. Wimbotsham (Site 11874; TF 6155 0530)
by Andy Shelley, NAU
Excavation was carried out on a shallow earthwork, thought to be a medieval moated site, for Anglian Water Services. This demonstrated that the moat was dug in the C12 to enclose a building platform, upon which a large building had been erected in the C13-14, when the moat was evidently extended. The building collapsed in the C15-16 and the moat then fell out of use. NAU Report 192.

106. *Wormegay*, Priory (Site 3456; TF 652 126) NES

The two major features are a substantial trapezoidal moated enclosure – within which the inner court buildings are thought to have lain, and in which a farmstead existed until the 1960s – and a fishpond complex to the W. Medieval brickwork was noted where the buildings had existed, and some degraded internal depressions perhaps indicate ponds or garden features. The fishpond complex has a bounding bank-and-ditch as its S boundary, whilst one very degraded enclosure boundary extends N into an obviously ploughed and reseeded area.

# 107. Wymondham, The Bridewell (Site 13361; TG 1128 0151)

by Edwin Rose, NLA

Excavations continued during 1996 directed by Peter Codling for the Wymondham Heritage Society. A curving flint passage or tunnel may have connected the undercroft found in 1996 to a building now hidden beneath the N wing. A C13 date has been suggested for the undercroft, but no documentary evidence of any such building on this site has yet been traced.

108. *Yaxham* (Site 22444; TG 015 095) NES

> A series of ditched enclosures, depressions and channels may represent a pre-C19 landscape after woodland clearance and resultant enclosure. The more irregular features are thought to be of natural origin, along with attempts at drainage and some quarrying.

109. Yaxham (Site 31711; TG 012 096)

# NES

A narrow strip of grassland displayed evidence of a former common-edge and associated linear features which are truncated enclosure boundaries.

Archaeological work was also undertaken at the following locations (not shown on Fig.1) with largely negative results:

Aldeby, Priory Farm, St Mary's Road (Site 10751; TM 4514 9336)(NAU).
Bradenham, Little Hale, High Green (Site 8714; TF 9228 0625 to 9317 0650)(NAU).
Brancaster, First Staithe Field, Brancaster Staithe (Site 1003; TF 7681 4398)(NAU).
Burgh Castle, Cherry Tree Holiday Park (Site 23720; TG 490 045)(NAU).
Burgh St. Peter, Staithe Farm (Site 10748; TM 4913 9346)(NAU).
Fakenham, Cricket Ground, Norwich (Site 32154; TF 923 295)(NAU).
Garvestone, Church Farm (Site 31640; TG 0214 0595)(NAU).
Great Yarmouth, Baker Street to Southtown Rising Main (Site 31752; TG 527 051 to 529 043)(NAU).
Heacham, Heacham First School (Site 1401; TF 6791 3720)(NAU)
Reedham, Berney Arms (Site 10489; TG 465 050)(NAU).
Shouldham to Watlington, water main (Sites 4289 et al.; TF 6410 0775 to 6730 0950)(NAU).
Skeyton, Whitwell Hall Farm (Site 31778; TG 243 255)(RPS Clouston).
Stratton St. Michael, The Thatched Cottage (Site 14698; TM 2030 9370)(NAU).
Thetford, Caxton Way (Site 31756; TL 854 823)(NAU).

Thetford, firing range (Site 32328; TL 834 824)(RPS Clouston).

*Thornham*, Lyng Farm (Site 1308; TF 726 424)(NAU). *Witton*, Witton Park Reservoir (Site 6964; TG 3180 3130)(NAU).

# Addenda to Excavations and Surveys in Norfolk 1995.

*Stanford*, Buckenham Tofts (Site 5086; TL 833 949). A survey of the flint mine shafts was undertaken by the Cambridge office of the R.C.H.M.E..

Weeting with Broomhill, Grime's Graves (Site 5640; TL 816 898)

by David Field and Martyn Barber, R.C.H.M.E..

An analytical earthwork survey was carried out as part of a national project investigating Neolithic flint-mining sites. A total of 433 possible shafts was recorded, nearly seventy more than had been identified previously. Many of the additions were very shallow depressions, which may in some cases have been working-platforms rather than shafts. The survey revealed a number of patterns in the distribution of the shafts, such as the occurrence of pairs and linear groups. Taken together, these suggest that the complex developed somewhat erratically, with episodes of later infilling. A digital ground model of the main earthwork complex was created using total station and global positioning satellite equipment. The report also includes a hachured plan (1:1000) of the Guardianship Area, large-scale plans of C20 gun-emplacements to the N, a photographic study of Greenwell's shaft, and the results of fieldwalking to the W and S which located significant concentrations which may correspond to further mining areas.