

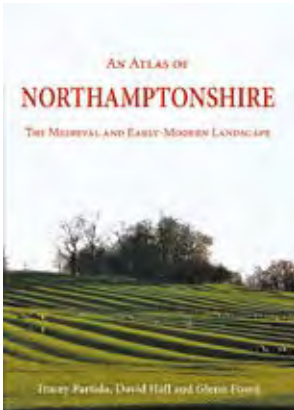
Recent Publications

by

ANDY CHAPMAN

with a contribution from Julie Cassidy

Books



An Atlas of Northamptonshire: The Medieval and Early-Modern landscape

David Hall, Tracey Partida and Glenn Foard
Oxbow Books, 2013
ISBN 9781842175118
Price £36.00

This volume compliments *Rockingham Forest: An Atlas of the medieval and early-modern landscape*, by Foard, Hall and Partida, published by the Northamptonshire Record Society in 2009. The two volumes present in map form the results of fieldwork and documentary research undertaken since the mid-1960s to map the landscape of the whole of Northamptonshire prior to enclosure by Parliamentary Act. This is an essential reference for anyone researching the medieval landscape of the county and the development of rural settlement.

Champion: The Making and Unmaking of the English Midland Landscape

Tom Williamson, Robert Liddiard and Tracey Partida
Liverpool University, 2013
ISBN 9780859898683
Price £70.00

This is another volume covering the same subject matter and data, as the *Atlas* reviewed above, but offering an alternative interpretation of the origins of villages and open fields.

Both volumes are available online through Oxbow Books.



Pevsner Architectural Guides: Buildings of England. Northamptonshire

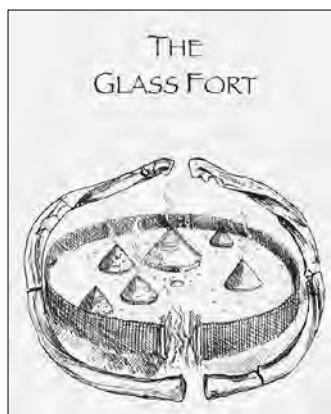
Bruce Bailey
Yale University Press, 2013
ISBN 9780300185072
800 pages, 120 colour illustrations
Price £35.00

This is the first fully revised edition since the 1970s. This is the essential reference for anyone interested in buildings both old and new. In addition, it also contains a new overview of the prehistoric, Roman and Saxon archaeology of the county by Andy Chapman.

The Anglo-Saxon Church of Brixworth, Northamptonshire: Survey, Excavation and Analysis, 1972–2010

David Parsons and Diana Sutherland
Oxbow Books, 2013
336 pages
ISBN 9781842175316
Price £90.00; eBook (PDF) £45.00

The archaeological, geological and laboratory findings are amplified by contextual studies placing the church against its archaeological, architectural, liturgical and historical background, with detailed comparisons with standing and excavated buildings of similar age in north Europe and Italy.



Northamptonshire Folk Tales

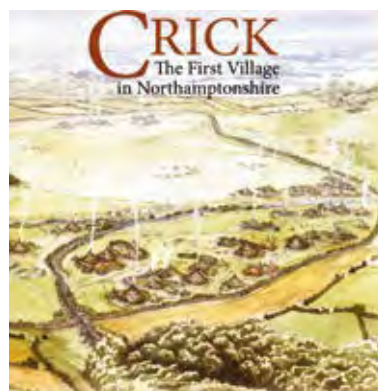
Kevan Manwaring
The History Press, 2013
ISBN 9780752467887
192 pages
Price £9.99

Also available as a Kindle Edition

Kevan Manwaring is a professional writer, teacher and storyteller who was born and raised in Northampton. I came upon this little book as a cut price offer, but I have to include it here as the second of the 38 stories, *The Glass Fort*, has been inspired by a burial from one my excavations. In 1996 on a water pipeline between Great Houghton and Brackmills we excavated an Iron Age burial of a woman, placed face down in a pit with a lead torc around her neck (Northamptonshire Archaeology. 29, 2001). This is still, as far as I am aware, the only occasion when a torc has been found around a person's neck, and when Andrew Selkirk in his introduction to my article in *Current Archaeology* used the phrase Witch Burial he triggered a minor media feeding frenzy. There was a front page article in the *Chronicle and Echo*, a back page article in the *Guardian*, and I spent four days with an independent production company, *Electric Sky*, making a 30-minute episode, *Witch Resurrection*, for a six-part TV series, *Tales from the Grave*, screened on ITV and the National Geographic channel.

But back to the book: for dramatic effect, the Iron Age woman, Meg, a wise woman, has her hands tied behind her back, when in fact the crossed wrists, perhaps tied, lay in front beneath her chest as she lay face down, and the author has made her home within Hunsbury hillfort. But to find out the rest of this and the other stories you will have to read the book.

The stories are of variable length, some as short as two pages, and range in time from the Iron Age to John Clare in the 19th century, and take in national characters, Boudicca, Hereward the Wake, Robin Hood and Thomas Beckett, and are set in local places and events including the Roman town of *Banneventa*, Delapre Abbey, the Fire of Northampton and Boughton Green, all illustrated by the author, as above.



Crick: The First Village in Northamptonshire

Andrew Mudd and Rob Masefield
Cotswold Archaeology and RPS 2014

A free copy of this slim booklet is due to be distributed with this issue of the journal. It briefly summarises the findings from over twenty years of fieldwork and excavation, beginning in 1994 and carried out by several archaeological contractors (Northamptonshire Archaeology/MOLA Northampton, Foundations Archaeology, Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit, Cotswold Archaeology and RPS themselves) in advance of the various stages of development of the Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal (DIRFT), adjacent to Junction 18 of the M1. While the evidence runs from early Bronze to early Saxon, the star attraction is the excavation of extensive areas of Iron Age settlement, the putative First Village of the title, and certainly the largest number of roundhouse ring ditches excavated in one locality in the county. RPS, as the consultants to the developers throughout these years, are to be praised for convincing the current owners, Prologis, to cover the cost of bringing to completion the reports of the 1990s excavations, carried out under the previous owners, so that all stages of fieldwork can finally be reported together. The booklet also provides the flavour of the full reports, which will be appearing in late 2015/early 2016 as two volumes published through Archaeopress, see below.

The Iron Age and Romano-British Settlement at Crick Covert Farm: Excavations 1997–1998 (DIRFT Volume I) by Gwilym Hughes and Ann Woodward. 2015. ISBN 9781784912086. £48.00. (eBook ISBN 9781784912093, £19.00 incl. UK VAT)

Origins, Development and Abandonment of an Iron Age Village Further Archaeological Investigations for the Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal, Crick & Kilsby, Northamptonshire 1993–2013 (DIRFT Volume II) by Robert Masefield (ed), Andy Chapman, Peter Ellis, John Hart, Roy King & Andrew Mudd. 2015. ISBN 9781784912185. £48.00. (eBook ISBN 9781784912192. £19.00 incl. UK VAT)



Town and Crown: the Governance of Later Thirteenth-Century Northampton

John Williams

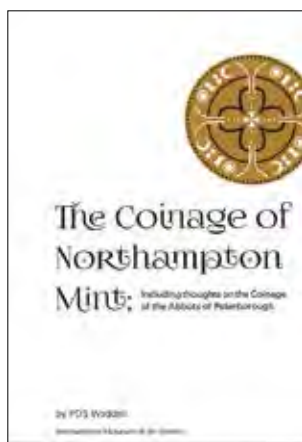
Northamptonshire Record Society

ISBN 9780901275721

Price £20.00

To purchase contact the Northamptonshire Record Society at Northamptonshire Records Office, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN4 8BQ

There was a good turnout of members for the NAS AGM in November 2014, which was followed by an excellent lecture by John Williams, the head of the Northampton Development Corporation Archaeological Unit in the 1970s and 80s. In retirement, John returned to unfinished business with the documentary evidence for the town and has now produced a study published by Northamptonshire Record Society.



The Coinage of Northampton Mint

PDS Waddell

Northampton Museums and Art Gallery 2015

Price £6.99

Also of interest is this slim, 40-page paperback published by and available from Northampton Museums and Art Gallery. This well-illustrated booklet provides a comprehensive summary of the types of coins minted at Northampton between the 10th and 13th centuries.

The following works on finds, which may be of interest to members, have been listed by Julie Cassidy, Finds Liaison Officer.

Northamptonshire & The Soke of Peterborough; Tokens & Checks

by P D S Waddell

Galata, 2012

ISBN 9781908715012

Price £35.00

This volume deals not only with tokens issued in Northamptonshire and the Soke of Peterborough due to a shortage of government issued small change, but also with other tokens and checks with a nominal monetary value including store checks and machine tokens dating up to the mid- twentieth century. With over 180 examples illustrated and each chapter beginning with an introduction giving a brief introduction to the specific type of numismatics with which it deals, this book is not only a very good reference book for anyone with an interest in tokens, it offers a brief record of social history and trade of Northants and Peterborough right up to the mid- 1900s.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme and Roman Britain

by Tom Brindle

British Museum; Research Publication 196, 2014

ISBN 9780861591961

Price £40.00

Since its establishment in 1997, the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) has proven to be a valuable resource for researchers. Approximately over 40% of the almost one million records on this database are of Roman date. In this book, Tom Brindle publishes his PhD research using Roman data from the PAS database to find out how finds from a ploughzone context can be used to indicate the presence and nature of Roman sites in the landscape. Brindle brings together all the Roman PAS data and uses it to indicate the presence of 240 previously unknown Roman sites. Northamptonshire is one of the regional case study counties, focusing on finds recorded in the vicinity of two nucleated sites in Titchmarsh and Norton/Whilton Lodge (the Roman town of *Bannaventa*, a Scheduled Monument). In these case studies, the metal-detected and fieldwalked data enhances and augments already recorded archaeological information.

Digital publications

The digitising of out of print monograph volumes is making many important reports available again, usually as free downloads, with the two notable series being the English Heritage monographs and Council for British Archaeology (CBA) monographs, with many volumes now available on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).

There are four volumes in the English Heritage (now Historic England) series dealing directly with Northamptonshire

Raunds Furnells: Anglo-Saxon Church and Churchyard

Andy Boddington
English Heritage Archaeological Report, 1996

The Raunds Area Project: A Neolithic and Bronze Age Landscape in Northamptonshire, Volume 1

Jan Harding and Frances Healy
English Heritage, 2008

The Raunds Area Project: A Neolithic and Bronze Age Landscape in Northamptonshire, Volume 2

Jan Harding and Frances Healy
English Heritage, 2011

Mapping Ancient Landscapes in Northamptonshire

Alison Deegan and Glenn Foard
English Heritage, 2008

These four volumes can all be downloaded from:
http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/eh_monographs_2014/

The more recent volumes, which were created digitally, are very good quality, unfortunately, the older volumes, including Raunds, Furnells, have been scanned at a low resolution leaving the text slightly fuzzy and a strain on the eyes to view for any length of time. It is a pity that having gone to the trouble of digitising that English Heritage didn't do so at a decent screen resolution.

This problem is not shared with the CBA volumes, which are all clear and readable. There are no Northamptonshire focussed volumes in the CBA series, but beyond the volumes listed above there is much of interest in both series, so have a browse through the lists and get downloading. The cumulative cost of these volumes as new would have been beyond most people, and some of the older volumes haven't been available for many years. For instance, I am very pleased that I didn't pay £100 for the long awaited Hambleton Hill monograph when it is now a free download only seven years after its publication.

Archaeology Data Service, Grey Literature Library

The Grey Literature Library of Unpublished Fieldwork Reports, also held on the ADS, is another useful source of free downloads. As of October 2015 it contained 390 reports for Northamptonshire, spanning the years 1984 to 2014, with Northamptonshire Archaeology (now MOLA Northampton) the largest single contributor, with

194 reports, and the others coming from the many other archaeological contractors who work in the county.

However, it is unfortunate that this resource is still not as useful as it might be for researching archaeological fieldwork in Northamptonshire, as there is a backlog of 286 reports issued by Northamptonshire Archaeology up to early 2014 and a further 40 from 2014 from MOLA Northampton, which cannot move from OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS) to ADS and become publicly available, until they have been validated in OASIS by either the Archaeological Planning Advisor for Northamptonshire or by English Heritage, who sponsor and manage the scheme. There are also likely to be as many reports again from other archaeological contractors also awaiting validation, so perhaps a total of some 600 or more reports are stranded in limbo between OASIS and ADS

At the moment it is a requirement of the Archaeological Planning Advisor within Northamptonshire County Council that archaeological contractors submit digital reports for uploading to ADS, but there is no requirement for the Planning Advisor to actually validate these reports so they can become available to the public.

If all of the reports from Northamptonshire Archaeology and the unknown number from other contractors had been validated, the total number of fieldwork reports for Northamptonshire open for public viewing would now be somewhere around 1000 reports, rather than the 390 currently available.

Northamptonshire Record Society

The Record Society is making selected volumes available on-line, in the form of pdf files at:

<http://www.northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk/nrsPubseBooks.html>

Titles available in this format are:

Northamptonshire Militia Lists 1777

Northamptonshire Miscellany

The Open Fields of Northamptonshire

The Printed Maps of Northamptonshire AD 1576–1900

The Record Society is also making selected issues of Northamptonshire Past and Present available on-line to its readers in the form of pdf files, at:

<http://www.northamptonshirerecordsociety.org.uk/nrsNppeJournals.html>

Titles available in this format are: Vol 1: No 1; No 2; No 3; No 4; No 5; No 6