

### The Bowling Green

In addition to his Pagan Saxon finds, Holcombe Ingleby recorded that his workmen had turned up pieces of British and Roman pottery during the construction of a bowling green near Sedgeford Hall in 1913. An effort was made to find the source of this pottery, and to evaluate the potential of the bowling green area (now under trees).

A five-metre trench was placed across the north-east bank and test-pits positioned off the green to the north-east, south-west and north-west. The results suggest that the green was constructed by cutting into the natural slope to create an appropriately-sized flat surface. The material removed appears to have been deposited fairly evenly to the north-east, building up the bank. Few finds were recovered by hand from this material, but numerous small sherds of Iron Age and later pottery were recovered from sieved spoil. Construction of the bowling green had probably removed the deposits containing the Iron Age and Roman pottery reported by Ingleby, but the quantities of pottery recovered do suggest an Iron Age site in the vicinity.

### Facial reconstruction from Sedgeford skulls

Experimental reconstructions were made of the faces of Sedgeford skeletons. The aim was to provide visitors with a 'human' link to the 8th-century population and their way of life by giving the skeletons visual identities. Such reconstructions are usually done by modelling features in clay over a cast of the skull, a process that is expensive and time-consuming. It was decided that reconstructions would be attempted graphically: careful drawings were made of some of the better-preserved skulls before eyes, muscles, skin and hair were added according to anatomical principles. Reconstructions are often produced with a blank stare; ours were deliberately made with a variety of different expressions, with the intention of making them more accessible and 'real'. The faces were given a 'lean' look, appropriate to persons who led a healthy, active outdoor life — the Saxon people of Sedgeford were tall and well-built. The method used for producing these reconstructions has been refined and work will continue with more of the skulls. It is hoped that this project will be expanded in the forthcoming season to include three-dimensional modelling and colour pictures. Examples of this work may be found on the project website.

### Palaeodietary analysis of the Boneyard population

Since the end of the 2000 season a new scientific investigation into the diet of the Saxon populations has been begun by Lorna Corr, a PhD student at Bristol University. A sample from each skeleton is subjected to four different stable isotopic analyses, specifically the bone's cholesterol, amino acid, collagen and apatite content. Each of these tests is intended to identify different dietary information, in order to build up as full a record as possible of the individual's diet. Analysis of the ratio of heavy to light carbon ( $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ ) may reveal the proportions of terrestrial, marine and leguminous foods in the diet, as well as the balance between plant and animal protein input.

The isotopic values of humans should correspond closely with the values of the animals in their diet and also the grass or fodder fed to the animals. A comprehensive study of the faunal remains from the Boneyard site will therefore also form a part of the study. The work on the assemblage from Sedgeford will represent the first time the four different methods of analyses will be performed on a single population, offering supplementary information about factors such as seasonal variation in diet, and will represent a significant development in this field of research.

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## MEDIEVAL SEAL MATRICES FROM NORFOLK, 2000

by Helen Geake, Andrew Rogerson and Steven Ashley

This paper is the third in an annual catalogue of medieval seal matrices from Norfolk (Geake *et al.* 1999 and 2000). As usual, impressions of all the matrices contained in this catalogue are available for study at Norwich Castle Museum.



Fig. 1 Impressions taken from seal matrices. 2: Holt. 5: Somerton. 6: Fring. 7: Wickmere. 12: Postwick. 13: West Rudham. 22: Oxborough. 31: Snettisham. 56: Lyng. Scale 1:1

The catalogue is divided into sections headed thus: official secular, official religious; personal seals with arms; personal seals with names; personal seals with mottoes; with initials only; without inscription; illegible. As far as possible entries are in alphabetical order.

The organisation of the catalogue entries is as follows. Material, overall shape of matrix. Shape of die, and size. Central motif. Surrounding inscription (and translation). Parish name and SMR number. Any reference or supporting information.

The inscriptions of the impressions have been rendered as faithfully as possible, with illegible letters thus: ..... Inferred letters have been put in square brackets. Some spaces have been added to make the reading clearer. There is no full stop added after the inscription to avoid confusion with any dot contained within the inscription itself.

#### Official secular seals

For the second year running, no seal matrices in this category were reported.

#### Official religious seals

1. Lead, flat with projecting unpierced lug at top. Pointed oval, 57 x 31 mm (66 mm long with projection). Fleur-de-lis. + SIGILLVM: PETRI: CAPELLANI: (Seal of Peter, chaplain). Bawburgh 29396.
2. Copper alloy, flat with pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 30 x 19 mm. Tonsured monk facing right holding the Host over a chalice. +S': ROBERTI · PAVPERIS: (Seal of Robert the Pauper — perhaps a mendicant? — or a rebus for Robert Poore or similar). Holt 35919. Fig. 1.
3. Material unknown (impression, not matrix itself, reported). Pointed oval, 30 x 19 mm. Virgin and child under architectural canopy, kneeling tonsured monk beneath. S' WILL'I DE WInBOTShA CL' ( Seal of William of Wimbotsham, clerk). Wimbotsham is two miles north of Downham Market. Norfolk unlocated.
4. Copper alloy, flat with rib and pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 35 x 20 mm. Bearded seated figure of saint with nimbus, book in right hand and left hand raised, beneath gothic canopy; below this, bust of a tonsured supplicant facing right. Legend cancelled by means of deeply scored longitudinal lines, with three letters visible halfway along; ...D NAT .... Shipdham 35321.

**Personal seals with arms**

5. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced terminal. Circular, 23 mm. Shield bearing *Lion rampant queue forchee with sexfoil in sinister chief [between ends of tail]*, set within elaborate cruciform arrangement of four two-centred windows with Y-tracery. Surrounding black-letter legend between window-heads. *Pbri · mi di et me a te* ([meaning of *pbri* uncertain] ...give me, and I to you). Somerton 35750. Fig. 1.
6. Copper alloy, conical handle with circular moulding below rounded pierced terminal. Cross on reverse for orientation of matrix. Circular, 20 mm. Shield bearing *Three lions rampant*; crest: *Profile bust to dexter with raised hand ?holding trumpet and crescent to sinister* S' IOh'E DECA FEENIS (Seal of Joan Dacres Fynes). Fring 23001. Joan, widow of Richard Fynes Lord Dacres, knight, held the manor of Hautbois Magna in 1487, which was still in her possession in 1491 (Blomefield 1807, 302). Fig. 1.
7. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with incomplete collared pierced circular terminal. Circular, 19 mm. *A fess between in chief three lions faces and in base a cross crosslet (or bottony)* (diapering on the fess). Wickmere 28044. Fig. 1.

**Personal seals with names**

8. Lead, flat with large unpierced projection at top. Pointed oval, 29 x 21 mm (with projection, the matrix is 37 mm long). Fleur-de-lis. + S' ·AGNETIS · FIL'I WALT' (Seal of Agnes daughter of Walter). Quidenham 31316.
9. Lead, flat. Pointed oval, 24 x 15 mm. Downward-pointing leaf with crossed stem. + S' ·ALICIE · IX. (Seal of Alice; the IX is probably a space-filling device). Wickmere 25876.
10. Lead, flat with rib ending in pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 33 x 19mm. 12-pointed star. + S' ANABILIE D' WYRMEGEYE (Seal of Annabel of Wormegay). Narborough 3932. Wormegay is about six miles from Narborough.
11. Lead, flat with a circular lug at the top indented on both faces. Pointed oval, 34 x 25 mm. Fleur-de-lis with dot below. + SIGIL': ANDREE FIL' SVMER (Seal of Andrew son of Sumer). West Walton 18645. According to Reaney and Wilson, Sumer is unrecorded as a personal name; Summerson occurs, however, in 1667 (1991, 434).
12. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with triple-collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 18 mm. Triple-towered castle. \* + S': E· de \* reNNE (Seal of E. de Renne; perhaps Regny, Loire; see Reaney and Wilson 1991, 370). Postwick 31087. Fig. 1.
13. Copper alloy, flat with pierced lug on reverse. Circular, 24 mm. Cooper's broad axe, with cross on long rectangular blade, with hoop to right, above axe and barrel. \* S' GODEFRIDI. LE. CUPER (Seal of Godfrey the Cooper). West Rudham 30441. Fig. 1.
14. Lead, flat with rib and squashed ?unpierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 36 x 20 mm. Flower made up of cross with two chevrons on each arm. S' GVR'DAN' F' G...BER'GER' (Seal of Gurdan son of ?Gilbert Ger...). Gurdan may possibly be a mis-spelling of *Guidonis* meaning 'of Guy'. Quidenham 30092.
15. Lead, flat and thin, rolled up when found. Lozengiform, 49 x 35 mm. One corner, which may have had a lug, is missing. Eight-pointed star. SIGIIL' hELDREDE FIIL' EPE (Seal of Eldred son of Epe). Fring 23001.
16. Lead, flat with unpierced lug on reverse, with a relief quatrefoil within a sexfoil springing from its base. Circular, 35 mm. Fleur-de-lis. + S' hENRICI FIL' EDMVND'. (Seal of Henry son of Edmund). Narborough 3932.
17. Lead, flat with no lug. Circular, 38 mm. Crude cross with pellet in each angle. + SIGILL · IOhANIS · DE..... (Seal of John of ..., or De...). Shipdham 35800.
18. Lead, flat with no lug. Circular, 23 mm. Six-pointed star. S' IohAnnI DE PANELIC [?] (Seal of John of ...). Wickmere 28044.
19. Lead, flat with bent pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 39 x 29 mm. Elaborate fleur-de-lis. S' IohES DE FORnNESET (Seal of John of Forncett). Tacolnестon 34621. The modern civil parish of Forncett (formerly the ecclesiastical parishes of St Mary and St Peter) borders Tacolnестon.
20. Lead, flat with unpierced lug on reverse, with a relief fleur-de-lis springing from its base. Eight-pointed star. V S' IO [H'] ... FIL'I WILI (Seal of John son of William). Fincham 30053. The central and reverse motifs are well-made but the legend is poorly engraved, perhaps by a different hand.
21. Lead, flat with pierced hole through I of FIL. Circular, 31 mm. Fleur-de-lis. \* S' IohIS: FIL' · ALANI (Seal of John son of Alan). Snettisham 25796.
22. Lead, flat with unpierced lug on reverse. Circular, 28 mm. Flesh-hook and cleaver, handles downwards. \* S' IohIS: FIL' ROB'TI (Seal of John son of Robert). Oxborough 2634. Fig. 1.

23. Lead, double-sided. Circular, 23 mm. Fleur-de-lis. + S' MAGN...E..... OVD (Seal of ?Magnus .....). Letheringsett with Glandford 35447. On the other face is no. 35.
24. Lead, flat with pierced lug at top. Pointed oval, 31 x 23 mm. Gauntlet, palm uppermost, with a crescent above. + S' MARGARETE FIL' IOSON (Seal of Margaret daughter of Johnson). Belton 11787.
25. Lead, flat with rib on reverse ending in squashed lug; foliate ornament to either side of rib. Pointed oval, 38 x 22 mm. Median line with arc to either side, the line ending in a cross at one end and a fleur-de-lis at the other. ...S' MATHIL.....NIE ..... (Seal of Matilda.....). Wreningham 35712.
26. Copper alloy, flat. Details of reverse not known. Pointed oval, 29 x 17 mm. Bird in profile, standing on the right-hand side of the legend and looking right (towards the top of the seal); with a branch in the beak and three pellets in front. \* S' Ph'I FIL' AGNET' DE AVLA (Seal of Philip son Agnes of Hall). Quidenham 24051.
27. Lead, flat with possible pierced lug at top. Pointed oval, originally *c.* 50 x *c.* 30 mm. Bent and broken, with about half missing. Three or four ?flower motifs in line, each of two leaves with a stalk between and a pellet to either side. + S'RE..... Halvergate 35199.
28. Lead, flat with long unpierced lug projecting outwards from the top. Circular, 35 mm. Cross-crosslet superimposed on four-petalled flower or quatrefoil. + SIGILL' REGINAL' FIL' SIMONIS (Seal of Reginald son of Simon). East Rudham 35249.
29. Lead, flat with pierced lug on reverse. Circular, 28 mm. 8-pointed star. + S' ROBERT CVYND (Seal of Robert ?Gwynd or ?Wynd). Wrampingham 33055.
30. Lead, flat with remains of lug at top. Pointed oval, 31 x 21 mm. Cross with chevron on the two side arms. \*S' WALTERI TALIVR (Seal of Walter Taylor). Alby with Thwaite 35445.
31. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with triple collar and broken pierced ?trefoil loop. Originally circular, but edge now rubbed down losing much of legend; now measures 15 x 13 mm. Merchant's mark within internally crenellated lozenge with four beaded arcs around. ...S' WILLI DE · COR...ES... (Seal of William of .....). Snettisham 34531. Fig. 1.
32. Copper alloy, flat with a flaring raised rib on reverse ending in a transverse moulding then a pierced lug. Circular, 24 mm. Five-petalled rose. + S' ♦ W ♦ I ♦ L ♦ L ♦ E ♦ L ♦ M ♦ I (Seal of William). The stops are parallelograms. Wormegay 23632.
33. Copper alloy, flat with broken pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 21 x 13 mm. Bird with open beak. + SIGILL... ..LLE (Seal of ...lle). Brisley 35097.
34. Lead, flat with unpierced flat lug at top. Pointed oval, originally *c.* 38 x 24 mm but now about half missing. Unfinished, with no central motif. + S' ..... with the other end of the legend unengraved. Emneth 22470.
35. Lead, double-sided. Circular, 23 mm. Profile head facing right. + S' .....WALT' (Seal of ....., son/daughter of Walter). Letheringsett with Glandford 35447. On the other face is no. 23.
36. Lead, flat but now incomplete; just over a quarter survives with the extant legend beginning halfway round. Originally circular, *c.* 40 mm. Fleur-de-lis. ...IE · DE · BIV... (Seal of [female name] of Biv...). Newton Flotman 34677.

#### Personal seals with mottoes

37. Copper alloy, flat with pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 23 x 16 mm. Tonsured bust of monk facing right with hands joined in prayer. \* DEVM TIME ET AMA (Fear and love God). Tacolneston 35662.
38. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with rounded pierced terminal. Circular, 14 mm. Lamb and flag (Agnus Dei), lamb in profile facing right. ECCE AGNV[S D]EI (Behold the Lamb of God). Halvergate 35199.
39. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pointed pierced terminal. Circular, 17 mm. Squirrel with human head (or just possibly a crouching human figure beneath a palm leaf). \* IE SV NVTE (I am a nut [?]) Beeston Regis 33307.
40. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pierced terminal. Circular, 18 mm. Two clasped gauntleted hands, with a bird above. The legend starts at the bottom of the seal. \* LEL AMI AVET (You have a loyal friend). Quidenham 30730.
41. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pierced lozengiform terminal. Circular, 19.5 mm. Two confronting busts (perhaps male and female) with bird on tree-trunk or table between. \* LOVE ME AN DETTE (Love me till death!). Saham Toney 35769. *cf.* Tonnochy 1952, no. 740.

42. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with broken pierced terminal. Circular, 14 mm. Hare in profile facing right. \*PREVE SV (I am private). Surlingham 35978.
43. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with missing terminal. Circular, 12 mm. Bird with tree or flag. \*PRIVE SV. (I am private). Mileham 35302.
44. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pointed pieced terminal. Oval, 17 x c. 15 mm. Four-petalled flower with line between each foil to form a cross. \*PRIVE SV (I am private). Old Hunstanton 17966.
45. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with flattened pierced terminal. Circular, 15 mm. IHC with angular abbreviation mark above. + PRIVE SV (I am private). Sporle 34520.
46. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collar below a pierced lozengiform terminal. Circular, 19 mm. Lamb and flag (Agnus Dei), lamb in profile facing right. + PRIVE SV AGMI (I am private; of the lamb [should be AGNI]). Emneth 22468.
47. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with lozengiform pierced terminal. Circular, 18 mm. Winged dragon in profile facing right. \*PRIVE SVE AME (I am a private friend). Quidenham 31329. cf. Tonnochy 1952, no. 699.
48. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pierced lozengiform terminal. Circular, 16 mm. IhC under an angular abbreviation mark (for Jesus). TEG VID LEG FID (Touch, See, Read, Believe). Sall 30974.
49. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pierced terminal. Circular, 21 mm. Lion asleep facing left below two crossed palm leaves. \*WAKE ME NO MAN Wiveton 33803.

#### Seals with initials only

50. Copper-alloy signet ring. Oval bezel, 16 x 10 mm. Crowned IIB (large central I) within octagonal border. Costessey 28422.
51. Copper-alloy signet ring. Oval bezel, 12 x 10 mm. Crowned R between two branches. The motif is set off-centre on the bezel and it looks almost as if it has been stamped erratically rather than engraved. Narford 3974.
52. Copper-alloy signet ring. Sub-rectangular bezel, 13 x 10 mm. Annulet between two horizontal bars, all within a crescent, with the letter R above between two small ?branches, all within a cable border. Colney 35773.
53. Copper-alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pierced terminal. Circular bezel, 13 mm. Crowned R between two branches. Quidenham 30378.
54. Copper-alloy signet ring. Octagonal bezel, 11 x 9 mm. Crowned heart with W in the centre and zig-zag line to either side, all within a cabled border. Bowthorpe 9310.

#### Seals without inscription

55. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with double-collared pierced trefoil terminal. Two back-to-back heads, the left-hand wearing a hood and the right-hand with curly hair; above the heads is a tiny trefoil with a second in front of the right-hand head. The heads are within a trefoil with a V shape within each foil and a circle outside each angle. Cranworth 35242.
56. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with lozengiform pierced terminal. Circular, 13 mm. *Three feathers (or palm leaves?) a ?talbot collared statant to the sinister overall.* Possibly an armorial badge. Lyng 35295. Fig. 1.
57. Copper alloy signet ring. Oval bezel, 12.5 x 8.5 mm. Quadruped, perhaps a sheep, in profile facing left within single-line border. Norwich 26527. Excavated by Norfolk Archaeological Unit.
58. Copper alloy, flattish conical handle, row of three broken perforations in terminal. Circular, 14 mm. *Stag courant to sinister.* Postwick 13603.

#### Illegible seals

59. Lead, flat with pierced lug at top. Circular, 38 mm. Elaborate fleur-de-lis. Inscription cancelled by wide V-section gouging around border, slight illegible traces of original lettering survive. Bradenham 32260.
60. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with broken pierced terminal. Circular, 16 mm. IhC with elaborate angular abbreviation mark above. The edges are too worn to allow the legend to be read. Costessey 9310.
61. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 18 mm. Hare riding a ?hound and blowing a ?horn. Legend illegible. Hickling 8384.

62. Copper alloy, incomplete hexagonally faceted handle. Circular, 15 mm. Lamb and flag (Agnus Dei), lamb in profile facing left. Legend illegible. Wickmere 25876.

1. We are indebted to Paul and Elizabeth Rutledge for this translation.

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### COIN FINDS FROM NORFOLK, 2000

by Adrian Popescu

In recent years the use of metal-detectors has brought to light increasing numbers of coins, mainly as isolated finds. Few of these are eventually published, and many spend long periods awaiting identification. Generous support from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport now provides a valuable opportunity to publish a selection of significant finds. This catalogue is intended as a supplement to the information provided by the Coin Register published in *The British Numismatic Journal*. It includes all reported Iron Age coins, less common Roman coins (plated, gold, unusual denominations and mints) and continental coins of the Middle Ages and later. Entries for all of the Anglo-Saxon, Norman and Plantagenet coins from Norfolk may be found in the Coin Register.

The catalogue is organized geographically and chronologically. Recorded details such as weight and die-axis (with Roman letters) are provided together with the findspot (parish and SMR number). Cores of all plated coins are of copper unless stated. Select coins are illustrated in Plate 1.

#### Iron Age Coins

##### *Early Potin Inscribed 'MA', 'Thurrock' Type*

1. Potin 2.31 g, *BMCIA* 660. Cawston 19522

##### *Uninscribed East Anglian Gold, 'Irstead' Type*

2. AV Quarter Stater 0.95 g, *cf. BMCIA* 3437. Banham 35917. Plate 1

##### *Uninscribed East Anglian Silver, 'Boar/Horse' Type*

3. AR Unit 0.90 g, *BMCIA* 3445. Fincham 33343. Plate 1
4. AR Unit 1.10 g, *BMCIA* 3455. Oxborough 34131. Plate 1
5. AR Unit 0.92 g, *BMCIA* 3455. Shouldham 28645. Plate 1