

Documentary and non-invasive work

As usual, although the focus of work remains the Anglo-Saxon site at Boneyard, SHARP and others have continued to research medieval and later occupation of the parish. The Smithdon Hundred Local History Forum conducted a program of fieldwalking in the Eaton area, west of the village. This marks the beginning of ongoing research, and is being combined with research in the archives for this lost hamlet. Publication is expected in the annual Smithdon *Miscellany* during summer 2002.

SHARP conducted further geophysical survey in the churchyard of the parish church, providing better-than-ever outlines of the demolished Chancel and North Transept. It was also possible to suggest that the lack of solid chalk underlying the eastern end of the church had been responsible for the collapse of the eastern end of the Chancel. Documentary research on wills relating to St Mary's provided fascinating information about the pre-Reformation interior. A number of images and altars are mentioned, as well as four Gilds operating in the church between 1417 and the Reformation. The documentary work on West Hall Manor, reported on previously, has also been concluded this year.

The results of the 2001 season have been more fully published in SHARP's annual Interim Report. Copies of this report are available online at <http://www.sharp.org.uk>, as are details of how to become more involved with the Project's work.

MEDIEVAL SEAL MATRICES FROM NORFOLK, 2001

by Andrew Rogerson and Steven Ashley

This paper is the fourth part in a consecutive annual catalogue of medieval seal matrices to be published in this journal. As usual, impressions of all the matrices contained in this catalogue are available for study at Norwich Castle Museum.

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

1. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced bent trefoil terminal. Circular, 25 mm. Within a cusped border (double trefoil springing from lower cusp) and under a crown, black-letter legend on two lines: *hundre.de / Fourhwe* (Hundred of Forehoe). Surrounding legend, · S: regis: in: comit: norff: (Seal of the King in the County of Norfolk). Found at Albrighton, Shropshire.' (For a discussion of earlier finds of Norfolk Hundred seals see Ashley and Rogerson 1998).

Official religious seals

No seal matrices in this category were reported this year.

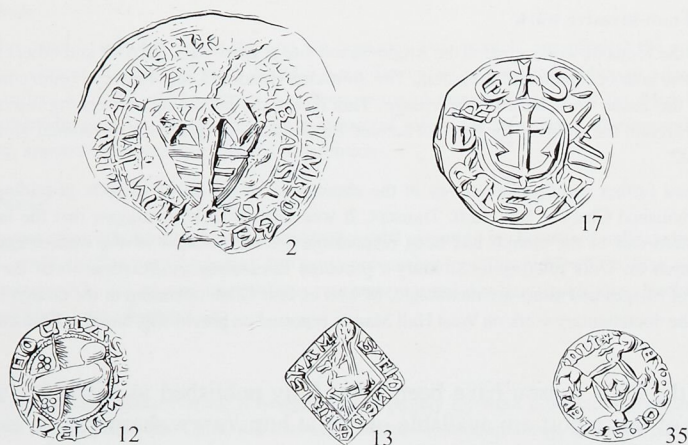


Fig. 1. Impressions taken from seal matrices. 2: Gresham. 12: Wicklewood. 13: Hevingham. 17: Ormesby St Margaret. 35: Quidenham. Scale 1:1



Plate 1. Obverse and reverse of re-used Papal Bull. 2: Gresham. Scale 1:1

Personal seals with arms

2. Lead, flat, Papal Bull, re-used by engraving one side, the heads of St Peter and St Paul visible on the other, post-1145.² Circular 38mm. Surface damaged along line of original attachment cord for Bulla. *Barry of six on a chief three lozenges* on a shield flanked by two pairs of dots or ?leaves. Inscription on two concentric lines:
 + [.....]GILLVM ROBER[.....]ILI WALTERI
 ...]BASIGI AM MIA[...]
 (Seal of Robert son of Walter; inner line of inscription meaning unknown). Gresham 33821. NCM 1999.122.2. Fig. 1. Plate 1.

Personal seals with names

3. Lead, flat with pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, bent, 32 x 20 mm. Fleur-de-lis. + S' ALICE : WEGE (Seal of Alice Wege) Aldeford 33640.
4. Lead *seal* matrix, flat with rib and unpierced lug at top on reverse. Circular, diam. 28mm. Eight-petalled flower. +S' BAIE FIL' SILVEST (Seal of Bartholomew son of Silvester). Bate was a pet-form of Bartholomew (Reaney and Wilson 1991, 31). Bintree 36686.
5. Lead, flat with unpierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 32 x 19 mm. Ear of wheat. +[S] EDVSA·PECOC (Seal of Edusa Peacock). Letheringsett with Glandford 35957.

6. Copper alloy, flat with median rib ending in pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, fragment, approximately half only, 16 x 14 mm. A running hare (front part of). +S' : EGI ... RIC II (the two vertical strokes at the end of the inscription are very lightly incised and probably space fillers rather than letters) (Seal of Giles...). Shouldham 35909.
7. Lead, flat, two broken joining fragments, half missing. Circular, 28 mm. (Originally) 8-petalled flower, each petal veined like a leaf. JE-FIL'hV[(...Son or daughter of ?Hugh). North Tuddenham 35992.
8. Lead, flat, rectangular notch missing from one side. Circular, 34 mm. cross and saltire combined. + SIGI.....hVGON'S FILI RICA (̄ above N) (Seal of Hugh son of Richard). Tacolneston 35023.
9. Lead, flat with short un-pierced lug at top. Circular, 31mm. four-petalled flower with stamens. + S' GALFRID FIL' PETRI- (Seal of Geoffrey son of Peter). Skepton 36588.
10. Lead, flat. Pointed oval, broken at one end, originally 35 x 21 mm. Cross with long arms formed from two elongated pointed ovals with median ridge and similarly ridged short arms ending in circular bosses. JS' IOhANNI FIL WALTER[(both of the letters N are retrograde) (John son of Walter). Barton Bendish 20399.
11. Lead, flat. Pointed oval, central portion only, the upper and lower parts removed by carefully executed diagonal cuts. Width 29 mm. The length can be roughly estimated at 45 mm. Oval with longitudinal line, stem at top with a long-stemmed cross springing from both sides, probably representing a sprouting cereal grain. JLSCE[.....]EL.R[.... (The L' is likely to be the last letter of SIGILL', an abbreviation of SIGILLVM, meaning the seal. If so, the SCE must be the first letters of the name of the seal's owner). There is no common medieval name so beginning, but Scientia, Scissibota and Scholastica (all female) are possibilities. This matrix has been deliberately cancelled. Stanfield 30600.
12. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 18.5 mm (part of edge damaged). Erect phallus with testicles; the upper end of the phallus, which points left, lies between two triangular motifs each fringed with short oblique lines along one side, representing a vulva. Two four-berried sprigs surmount the head of the phallus. IAS · TIDBAVLCOC (James Theobald [with Coc as a diminutive, 'the Little']) Late 13th/early 14th century. For an explanation of our interpretation of this name, see Reaney and Wilson 1991, 24 (Balcock), 102 (Cock) and 443 (Theobald). Wicklewood 35930. Fig. 1.
13. Copper alloy, flat with pierced lug on reverse. Lozengiform, 20 x 18 mm. A hart lodged beneath a tree with a bushy top. S'ThOME DE BALShAM (the top of the tree fills the space of the initial mark in the legend) (Seal of Thomas of Balsham). There is a Balsham in Cambridgeshire. The device of a hart (stag) lodged is famously that of Richard II (post-1390) and a number of variant badges possibly inspired by this are known. The seal of William, Lord Ferrers (1395) has the same device, as does that of Richard II's half-brother Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent (1398) (Spencer 1998, 285-7). The use of this device here may perhaps indicate allegiance to the King or one or other of the above-named lords. Hevingham 7656. Fig. 1.
14. Lead, flat with projecting un-pierced lug at top, flat at front, bulbous at rear. Circular, broken, just over half survives, 32 mm (originally), length with projection 42 mm. Four fleurs-de-lis with shared arms form central cross. + SIGILL - :WAL..... (Seal of Walter.....). Denton 36565.
15. Lead, flat with slight median rib with three transverse bars with globular terminals, also at one end, the other end has un-pierced lug, on reverse. Pointed oval, 32 x 20mm. Fleur-de-lis flanked by two rods with globular terminals springing from its flat base + S' WARTAR' · FIL' ROG' (Seal of Walter son of Roger). Martham 24378.
16. Lead, flat, broken lug and cast cross with three expanded arms in relief on reverse. Pointed oval, 27 x 23 mm. Small cross (only 6 x 5 mm). +SWILLI COCI (Seal of William Cook or the Cook). Letheringsett with Glandford 28045.
17. Lead, flat with unpierced lug at top. Circular, 25 mm. Anchor. +S'.WILI-STREKE. Seal of William Streke. This surname derives from the Old English *strec* meaning strong or violent. The earliest spelling listed by Reaney and Wilson (1991, 431) is as here (1176, in Surrey). It now usually spelled Streake or Streek, but it is not common (only one in the 2000 edition Norwich and North Norfolk Telephone Directory). Ormesby St Margaret 36074. Fig. 1.

Personal seals with mottoes

18. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 21 mm. Hawk attacking a duck. * ALAS IEA SV PRIS (Alas I am caught). Grimston 11790.
19. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced terminal. Circular, 13 mm. Hare riding a hound. * ALLONE I RIDE (three leaves at end of inscription). Caistor St Edmund 36545.
20. Copper alloy, broken hexagonally faceted conical handle, terminal missing. Circular, 17 mm. Male bust facing left. * CREDE CAPITI (Trust in [this] head). Sall 30134.

21. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 18 mm. Cockerel walking to left. CRO VLT EDAIY (Crow at the end of the day). Blakeney 33819.
22. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted handle with pierced terminal. Circular, 15 mm. Central motif an 'E' facing downwards from start of inscription. * ·IE SV SEL (I am a seal). Fincham 35909.
23. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted handle mostly missing. Circular, 19.5 mm. Heart transfixd by three arrows. (IESVS MERCI (?Thank you Jesus). Beachamwell 4539.
24. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced terminal. Circular, 20 mm. Head of a stag with a cross between its antlers. * ·IESVS MERCI (?Thank you Jesus). Sculthorpe 36620.
25. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with triple moulded-collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 19 mm. Standing robed and crowned female figure with palm leaf to left and with raised left hand. * IESV SYEL DAR (I am a seal of love). Quidenham 33171.
26. Copper alloy, flat with pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 29 x 18 mm. Lamb and flag (Agnus Dei), lamb in profile facing right. + MATER DEI MISERE (Mother of God have mercy). Long Stratton 16111.
27. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with pierced terminal. Circular, 18 mm. Lamb and flag (Agnus Dei), lamb in profile looking backwards over shoulder to right. * PRIVE SV[?E] (I am private). Tacolneston 36673.
28. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with broken pierced terminal. Circular, 14 mm. Bearded and hooded bust facing left, with unidentified object behind, or springing from, head. * PRIVE SVV (I am private). Tacolneston 33935.
29. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 18 mm. Hare riding a hound and blowing a horn. * SOhO V ROBIN (A hunting cry) before a pair of palm leaves. Shipdham 33368.
30. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared broken pierced terminal. Circular, 17 mm. Hare riding a hound and blowing a horn. [* S]OhO ROBIN[I] (A hunting cry). Mautby 34669.
31. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 19 mm. Lion rampant. * SUM LEO FORTIS (I am a strong lion). Edgefield 35970.
32. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with collared pierced trefoil terminal. Circular, 19 mm. Lion rampant. * SUM LEO FORTIS (I am a strong lion). Long Stratton 16111.
33. Copper alloy, flat with median rib ending in single-stepped pierced lug on reverse. Bearded bust facing right within interlaced twin lines forming Star of David. IESV GARDE VNDE AMOR CERTIN (I am the guardian of certain love). Ashwellthorpe 30205.
34. Copper alloy, flat with rib ending in pierced lug on reverse. Circular, 21 mm. Head of a stag with a cross between its antlers. TIMETE DEVM (Fear God). Reepham 34049.
35. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted conical handle with round pierced terminal. Circular, 12 mm. Four hares radiating with shared ears spread and conjoined to form central lozenge, within which is a curled dormant beast with tail (?cat). * VEY· CI· LEVI ALI (gaps occur where the bodies of the hares interrupt the text) (Look at those hares go'). Quidenham 34974. Fig.1.

With initials

36. Copper alloy, signet ring. Circular bezel, 14 mm. Letter A with branch behind. Great Ryburgh 7154.

Without inscription

37. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted handle with pointed pierced terminal. Circular, 14 mm. Clapsed ?armoured hands (gauntlets) below three-leaved plant. Stratton Strawless 35837.
38. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted handle with broken pierced terminal. Oval, 16 x 14 mm. Cross, with two long arms fleury and two short potent, within a rectangle between three inward facing leaves at either short side and a pair of leaves between two pellets at each long side. Excavated by Norfolk Archaeological Unit. Norwich 26437.

Illegible

39. Lead, flat with unpierced lug at top. Circular, 30 mm. Very crude fleur-de-lis. Ancient and recent damage to obverse. +.....I ·ORO...A...L (meaning uncertain). Letheringsett with Glandford 33566.
40. Lead, flat with median ridge and ?stylised leaf decoration on reverse. Pointed oval, fragment only, 20 x 20 mm. Incomplete floriate motif. + S O · EV Ormesby St Michael 34686.

41. Lead, flat. Pointed oval, fragment only, 14 x 8 mm. Illegible inscription. Ormesby St Michael 32036.
42. Lead, hexagonally faceted broken handle, terminal missing. Hexagonal, 17 x 17 x 17mm. Hooded bust. Illegible inscription. West Rudham 28131.
43. Copper alloy, flat with median rib and broken pierced lug on reverse. Pointed oval, 25 x 16 mm. Very worn, the device is perhaps a ?bird within a well-spaced illegible inscription. Mautby 34669.
44. Copper alloy, hexagonally faceted handle with broken pierced ?trefoil terminal. Irregular oval, 17 x 18mm. Worn and damaged ?merchants mark of a vertical line ending in cross with oblique line through it, oblique line on one side halfway along stem and ?three short transverse lines at other end within an incised hexagonal border. Illegible inscription. Swafeld 36604.

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1. We are grateful to Angie Bolton, Finds Liaison Officer for the West Midlands, for reporting this find to us.
2. At which date the style of depiction of the saint's beards changes, cf. C. Serafini 1964, *Le Monete e le Bolle Plumbee Pontificie del Medagliere Vaticano* (Rome) TAV. H, 6.
3. We are indebted to Paul and Elizabeth Rutledge for this translation.

COIN FINDS FROM NORFOLK, 2001

by Adrian Popescu

The coins in this catalogue are a selection from a total of over three thousand identified and recorded during 2001 for the Norfolk Sites and Monuments Record with the financial support of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. The catalogue includes all reported Iron Age, Roman Republican and Scottish coins, as well as continental coins of the Middle Ages and later. The inclusion criteria for Roman Imperial coins are somewhat different, as they constitute the main body of coins found and reported. The listed Roman Imperial coins include all the gold, plated and cast coins, but also all early *denarii*, less common denominations (3rd-century *dupondii* and *asses*), Roman provincial coins, new types, and all 4th-century *siliquae*. Description has been kept as concise as possible. Two small groups of coins are included: nos 8-9 (Iron Age AR units), and nos 125, 126 and 130 (Venetian *soldini*), both probably 'purse hoards'.

The entries are arranged in chronological groups, and within each group by denomination, mint and catalogue number, followed by parish name and Norfolk SMR number (where available). Recorded technical details, such as weight and die-axis (with Roman letters), are provided.

The assistance of all metal-detector users, as well as colleagues, is most gratefully acknowledged.