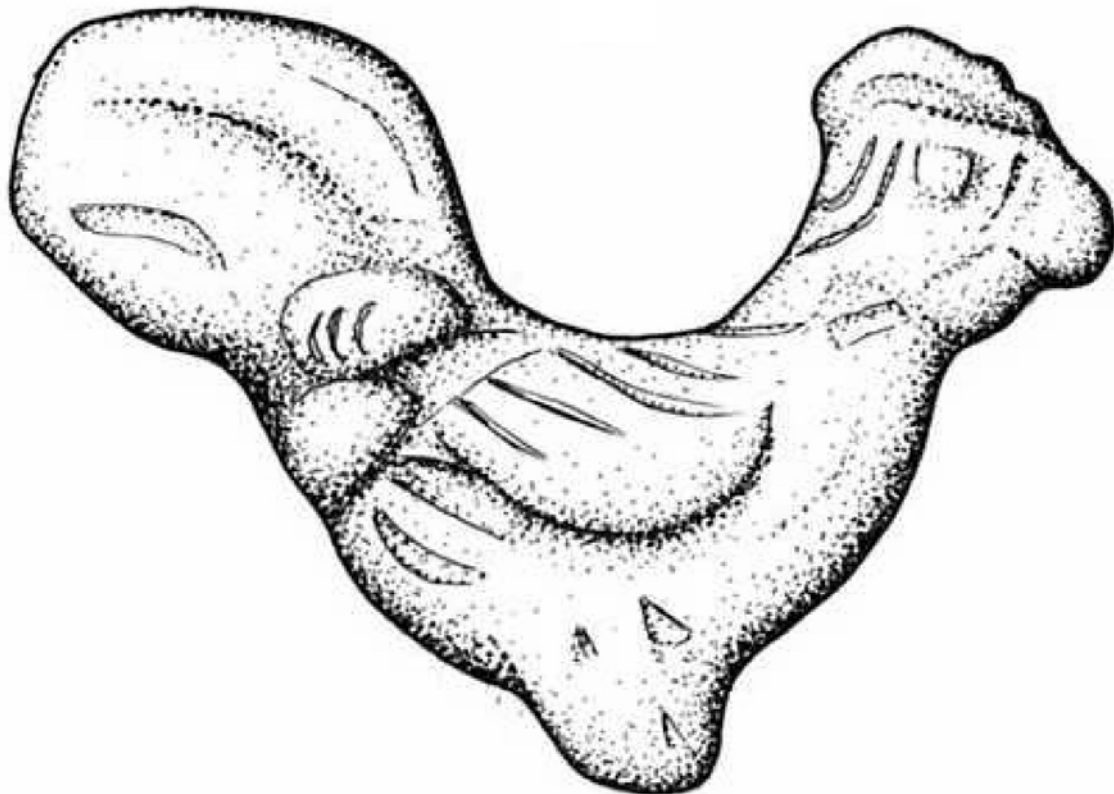


ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

PIPPS FORD, CODDENHAM CDD 063 Within Suffolk SAM No. 89 (CDD 003)

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND
RECORDING, 2005
(Planning app. no. 999/05)



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List of Contributors

All Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service unless otherwise stated.

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Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Gary Hart and was monitored by Judith Plouviez of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Division and John Ette (Team Leader Suffolk and Bedfordshire) of English Heritage.

The project was directed by Rhodri Gardner and managed by John Newman, who also provided advice during the production of the report. The work was carried out by Rhodri Gardner and Robert Atfield, both of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Field Team.

Finds processing was carried out by Richenda Goffin and Anna West who both contributed to the specialist finds and environmental assessment reports.

Illustration of the cockerel was by Donna Wreathall.

Thanks are due to Gary Hart for his help and cooperation throughout.

Summary

Coddenham, Land at Pipp's Ford (TM 1101 5325; CDD 063). A programme of archaeological monitoring and metal detecting was carried out on land at Pipp's Ford, Coddenham within the area of Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM No. 89) during topsoil stripping for the construction of a slab-floored poultry shed. The depth of the stripping operations was such that no significant exposure of natural subsoil occurred and no incised archaeological features were observed. The metal detection produced a total of 37 small finds, 70% of which were of Roman date spanning the late 1st century to the mid 4th century. The most closely datable finds were 18 coins, 10 of which were of mid 2nd to early 3rd century in date. A notable find was a small copper alloy cockerel, probably a votive statuette.

(Rhodri Gardner, SCCAS, for Gary Hart, report no: 2005/146)

SMR information

Planning application no. 999/05

Date of fieldwork: 19/09/05 – 21/09/05

Grid Reference: TM 1101 5325

Funding body: Mr Gary Hart

1. Introduction

Archaeological monitoring was carried out during soil stripping on land at Pipp's Ford, Coddendam (centred approximately on NGR TM 1101 5325). The work was a condition of consent on planning application 999/05 for the construction of a poultry shed and associated access road. The work was carried out according to a Method Statement (Gardner, 2005) produced in response to a Brief and Specification prepared by Judith Plouviez of the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS hereafter) Conservation Team.

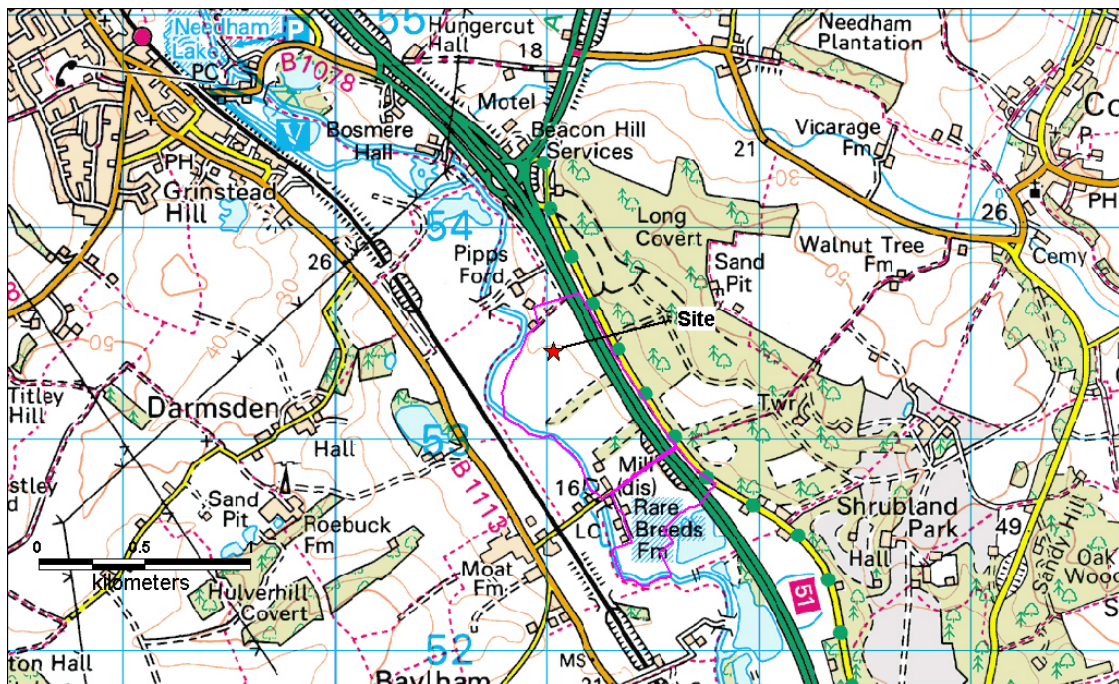


Figure 1. Site location, showing extent of SAM

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The site lies at approximately 20m AOD on land that slopes gently down to the south toward the River Gipping at *c.* 15m AOD. The site location is particularly sensitive as it lies within the area of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Suffolk SAM No. 89) that comprises two superimposed Roman forts (CDD 016) and the small town known as *Combretoivium* (CDD 003). The site lies at the north-western end of the scheduled area (see Figure 1) *c.* 50m to the north of one of the two Roman roads known to cross the SAM. The protected nature of the site means that no formal archaeological work had been carried out in the vicinity of the site before and no confirmed archaeological finds are known from the field concerned, although three unspecified Roman coins are recorded in the County SMR as being 'probably' from this field (CDD 014). In addition to its clear Roman potential the site also lies in a location along the Gipping Valley where prehistoric remains are also common, such as the group of ring ditches at BAY 003. Remains of both Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon date have also been recorded within the scheduled area.

2. Methodology

The construction design of the poultry shed only required a concrete slab foundation, so topsoil stripping was undertaken to provide a level area on which this concrete could be laid. The Scheduled Monument Consent restricted ground disturbance to a maximum depth of 350mm. In practice the contractors only sought to produce

a level area and the depth of 350mm was rarely approached given the slight variations in the ground level of the stripped area. Consequently the full depth of topsoil was only removed in two very small areas (in total less than c. 5m²) and little exposure of the natural subsoil occurred. Stripping of the area of the access road was less than this at c. 200mm and no natural subsoil was revealed along its length.

The stripping was carried out under close archaeological supervision using a tracked 360° excavator (hymac) fitted with a flat bladed ditching bucket. Spoil was not removed from site and was simply stockpiled along the edge of the stripped area. No hand cleaning was required, as topsoil remained *in situ* over almost all of the area.

Prior to stripping the area to be reduced was metal-detected in transects c. 3m wide. The location of recovered finds is shown in Figure 3. Following stripping the area was visually scanned for finds and then metal-detected in similar transects. The location of all finds was again plotted as shown in Figure 3. The excavated spoil was also examined for finds, both visually and using a metal-detector.

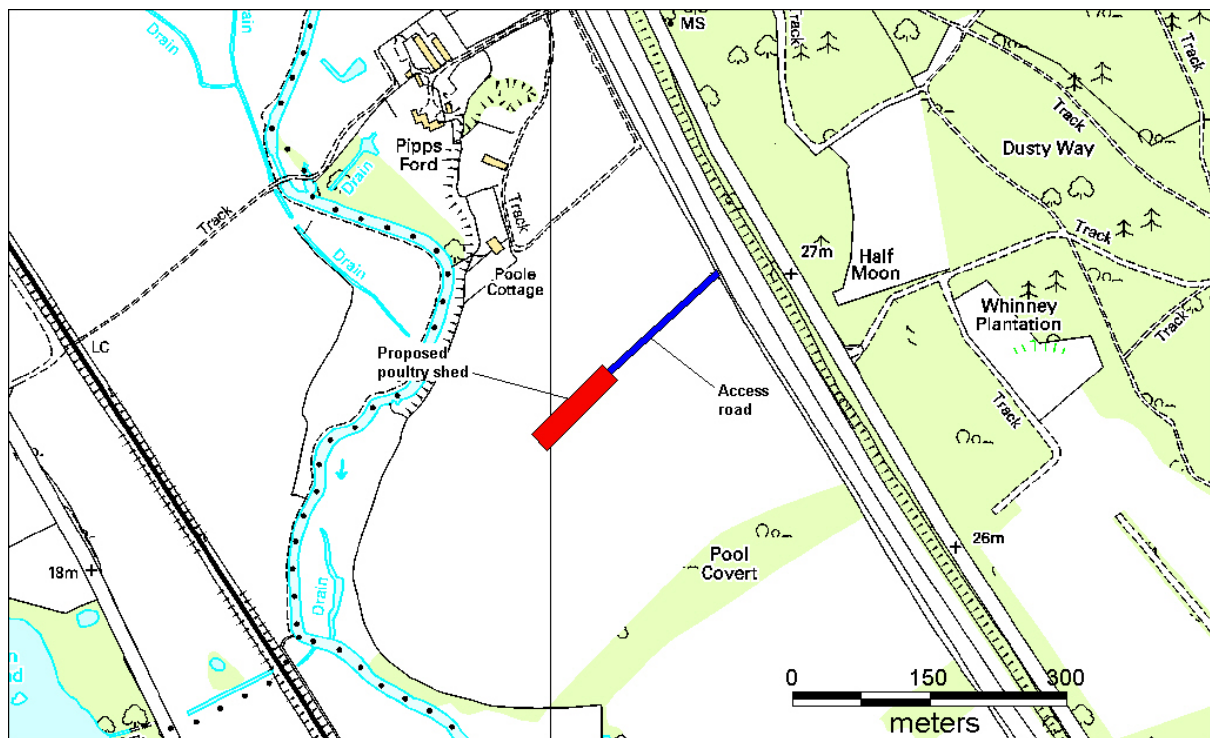


Figure 2. Site detail showing area of soil stripping

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The SMR reference number CDD 063 was assigned to the site and all finds were allocated 'observed phenomena' (OP) numbers within a continuous numbering system.

All finds were processed and quantified by in-house staff with the data then input onto a Microsoft Access97 database. Subsequently the different finds were examined by the relevant specialists and their findings are presented on pages 5-6 of this report.

3. Results

Due to the shallow depth of the stripping only one deposit was recorded. This was topsoil 0002, a very soft friable mid greyish brown sandy loam with moderate small to medium sub-angular flint pebble inclusions and very rare fragments of brick and tile. This was observed to a maximum depth of c. 0.32m over the whole of the stripped area and access road. All the finds described below were recovered from this deposit.

The underlying subsoil was only revealed in two very small patches, with topsoil remaining over *c.* 90% of the stripped area. No incised features could be discerned in the small areas of exposed subsoil.

As no excavation or planning was required the recording was limited to the plotting of metal-detected finds. These are shown in Figure 3 below.

Of the 37 small finds recovered 7 (19%) were recovered by metal-detecting prior to soil stripping, 22 (60%) were recovered by metal-detecting following the topsoil strip and the remaining 8 (21%) were recovered during metal-detection of the spoil heaps.

The majority (26 or 70% of the total) of these were of Roman date, with just two from each of the Medieval and Post-medieval periods. The remaining 7 (19%) could not be accurately dated.

The size of the stripped building footprint area was so small that analysis of the spatial distribution of the finds would not be meaningful and has not been attempted.

Similarly no analysis of distribution by period has been attempted, given that all objects were residually derived from the same topsoil deposit.

No small finds were recovered at all from the area stripped for the access road. Given that the area of the road strip was almost half the size of the main building footprint (from which 37 objects were recovered) this is somewhat surprising. The absence of finds in this area is further discussed below.

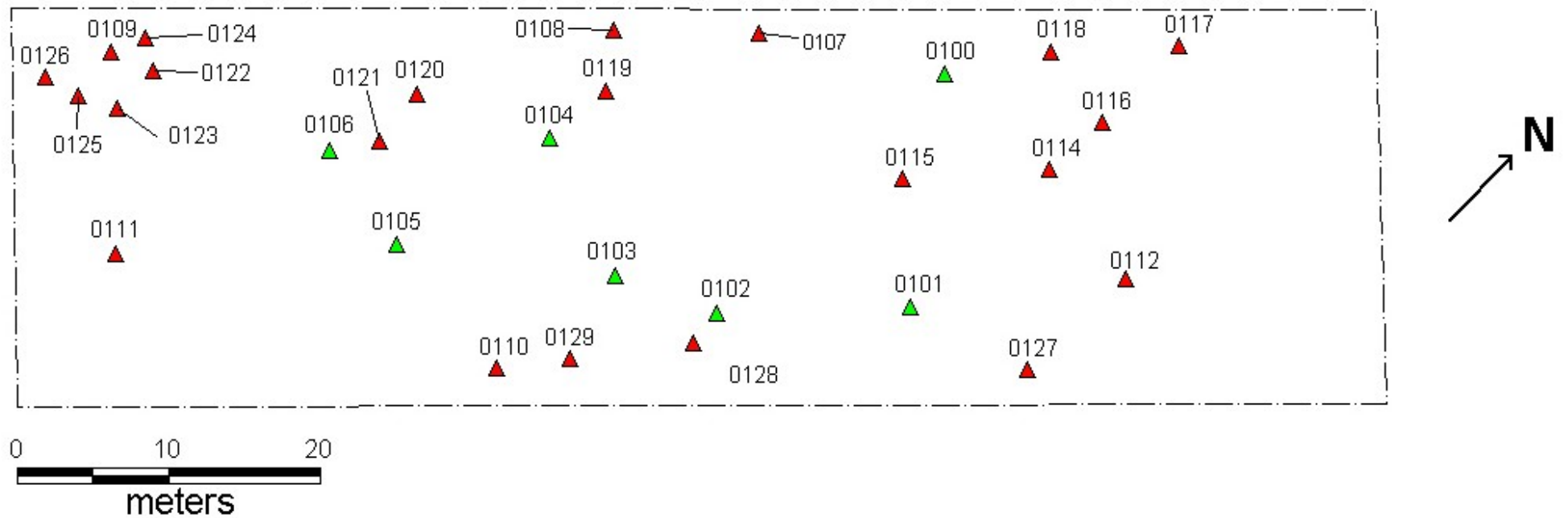


Figure 3. Location of metal-detected finds. Green triangles denote surface detection; red triangles denote detection of stripped surface

5. The Finds

by Anna West, Richenda Goffin and Cathy Tester, with additional comments by Jude Plouviez and Colin Pendleton

Introduction

Table 1 shows the quantities of finds recovered from the topsoil 0001 during the evaluation.

Find type	No.	Wt/g
Pottery	7	106
CBM	5	120
Worked flint	1	16
Copper alloy*	24	
Lead*	6	
Silver*	7	

Table 1. Finds quantities. (*small finds)

Pottery

Six abraded sherds of Roman pottery were collected from the topsoil and five local or regional fabrics were identified. The only fineware sherd is from a Pakenham colour-coated ware (PKC) indented beaker, which belongs to the 3rd or 4th century. The earliest coarseware is a black-surfaced ware (BSW) jar base dating to the early Roman period. A sandy grey ware (GX) jar rim is probably mid 2nd century or later, but non-diagnostic grey micaceous bodysherds (GMG) and a single storage jar bodysherd (STOR) can only be identified as 'Roman'.

Ceramic building material

Five fragments of Roman CBM collected from the topsoil include a flanged tegula and an imbrex tile. The other pieces are non-diagnostic Roman tile fragments and all are abraded.

Small finds and metalwork

A total of 37 small finds was recovered, including a number of Roman silver and copper alloy coins. A full catalogue can be seen in Appendix 1. The coins have been catalogued by Jude Plouviez, who has provided the following additional comments on the coin group.

Roman

There are 18 Roman coins in all, of which 5 are silver denarii, making up 28% of the overall group. The date range for the coins is Trajanic to Constantinian (AD98-341), but the majority are Antonine to early 3rd century (10 coins making up 56% of the total number). Although this is too small a group for detailed comparison with the normal pattern of British coin loss there is a notable scarcity of later 3rd and 4th century issues which normally make up the bulk of assemblages. It is possible that most of the group represents a fairly short phase of activity in the late 2nd or first half of the 3rd century.

The remainder of the Roman small finds include a copper alloy cockerel (SF 0113), a small votive statuette that may have originally formed part of a freestanding group, with other figures such as Mercury and a sheep or goat (Fig 4). It is also possible that it was made as an individual statuette. Parallels for the figurine can be seen from King Harry Lane, Verulamium (Henig 60-61), and Great Bedwyn (Green 266-267). A second copper alloy cast hollow fragment (SF 0131) may also be part of a statuette or a vessel.

Other small finds of Roman date are three lead steelyard weights, the possible head of a copper alloy pin and two copper alloy upholstery nails.

Medieval and Post-medieval

Two medieval silver coins were present (SFs 1000 and 1014). A 17th century copper alloy trade token and a lead musket ball date to the post-medieval period.

Miscellaneous

Flint

by Colin Pendleton

A single struck flint flake with light retouch or use-wear on the long sides was collected. The distal end looks broken and it could represent fresh damage or crude retouch. The flake has a well-prepared striking platform which suggests that it is Neolithic.

Finds Discussion

The finds recovered from the soil strip include a number of Roman coins of second to third century date, together with other small finds, the most significant of which is the votive cockerel statuette. Although unstratified, these finds are notable evidence of the proximity of the Roman town.

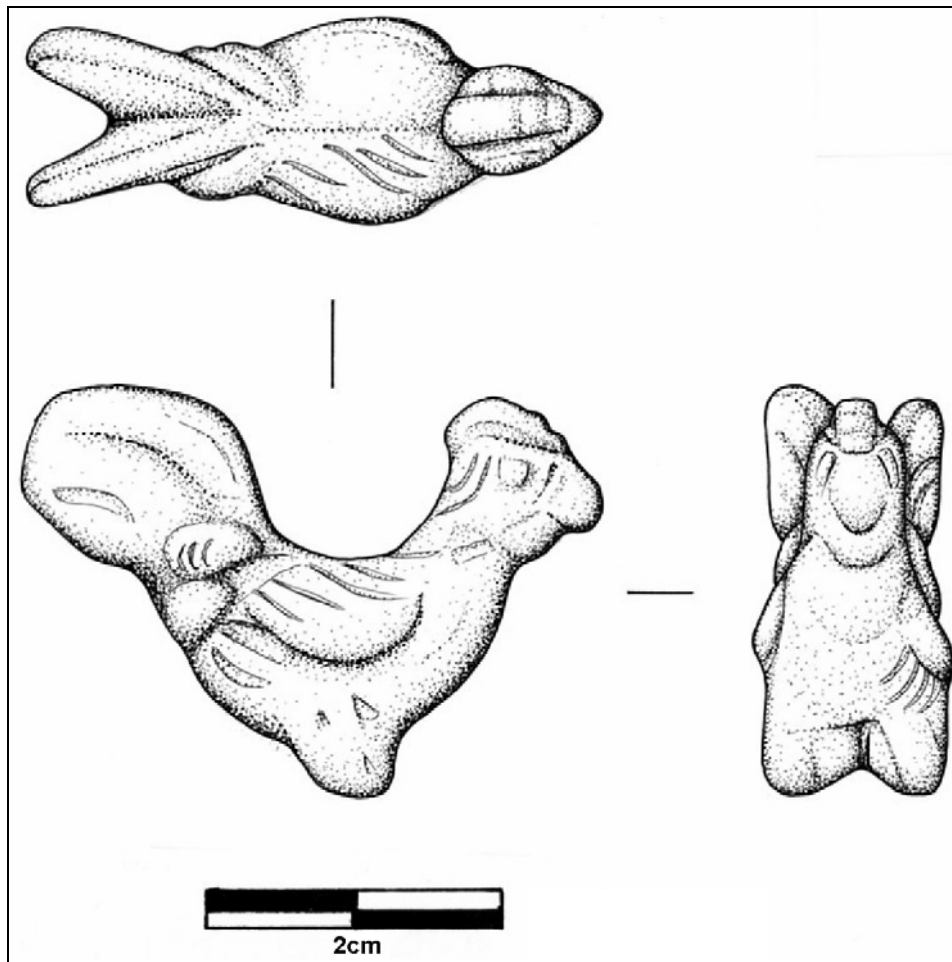


Figure 4. 0113 Votive cockerel statuette

6. Discussion and Conclusions

The lack of metal-detected finds within the area of the road strip is noteworthy. It may be due to the shallower depth of the topsoil strip (to *c.* 0.2m) in this area, but given the overall depth of the topsoil (*c.* 0.35m max) across the site this is not a completely satisfactory explanation, as the depth of metal detector penetration should still have meant that the full depth of the topsoil was detected. Although the shallower stripping could have had some effect it is also likely that the distribution of finds is lower toward the north-eastern part of the site further from the core of the SAM and the known roads *c.* 50m to the south of the building footprint area.

In all, the scale of the works carried out was such that no significant damage was caused to any features associated with the SAM. A small amount of finds that might otherwise have been lost were recovered but they can add little to our knowledge of the nearby Roman site other than to provide some information on the date range of its occupation.

References

Green, M., 1976, *The Religions of Civilian Roman Britain*, British Archaeological Reports 24
Henig, M., 1984, *Religion in Roman Britain*, Batsford

\\Env\\Arc\\Report Texts\\2005_146 CDD 063 Pipp's Ford Coddenham
RV Gardner, March 2006

Appendix 1 Small Finds Details

Small find no	Period	Material	Object Name	Finds category	No of frags	Weight	Dim (Length)	Dim (Width)	Dim (Depth)	Diameter	Comments	Photography	Draw	Conservation
0100	MED	SILVER	Coin	CTJ	1	1	0			18	Voided long cross penny folded in half so the reverse cannot be seen. Class IIIc 1248-50 Henry III. Obverse facing crowned bust, annulet eyes with pellet centres and neck. Hair curls 2-2 with pellet centres. The legend starts at 12 o'clock...]NRICV[. REX:. The N and R are ligated, the Rex has a colon after it and the foot of the R is wedge shaped.	No	No	No
0101	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	8	0	0	0	25	Dupondius. Emperor Antoninus Pius. Date 153-155. Obverse legend ANTONINVS AVG PIVSPP. Reverse type standing. Some corrosion.	No	No	No
0102	UNK	COPPER?	UN	UN	1	16	0	0	0	40	Circular disc with central rectangular perforation. On one face incomplete integral rectangular loop with central oval shaped hole. Function unknown.	No	No	No
0103	ROM	SILVER	Coin	CTJ	1	3	0	0	0	19	Denarius. Emperor Septimus Severus. Date 193-211. Obverse legend SEVERVS PIUSAVG. Reverse Roma seated left with legend RESTITVTOR VRBIS. Condition fairly good.	No	No	No
0104	PMED	COPPER	Token	CTJ	1	1	0	0	0	15	17th century traders token. Date 1664. Obverse centre R//KE around the edge ...]MAR[... Reverse a rose in the centre with I [...] 1664.	No	No	No
0105	ROM	SILVER	Coin	CTJ	1	2	0	0	0	17	Denarius, dating from the 1st / early 2nd Century. The coin is very worn and corroded but the obverse shows a portrait and the reverse a ?figure standing, condition allows no further identification.	No	No	No
0106	ROM	COPPER	Pin ?	DA	1	2	9	8	4	0	Possible Roman pin, only head surviving. Head is biconical with collar above break (?)	No	No	No
0107	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	18	0	0	0	30	Sestertius. Emperor M. Aurelius. Date 161-180. The obverse legend is very worn but ...]TONINVS AVGAR{... is readable. The reverse is standing with shield on ? to the right.	No	No	No
0108	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	19	0	0	0	35	Sestertius. Date 98-117. Very worn. Obverse showing ? Trajan.	No	No	No
0109	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	9	0	0	0	24	Roman coin denomination as or dupondius. Date 161-180. Obverse showing ? Faustina II/ Luciila/ Crispina,. Very worn and corroded.	No	No	No
0110	UNK	COPPER?	Disc	UN	1	3	0	0	0	20	Disc of copper alloy (?) silvery colour - possible lead content. No features, date unknown.	No	No	No
0111	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	23	0	0	0	31	Sestertius. Date 161-192. Very corroded but obverse ? M Aurelius/ Commodus.	No	No	No
0112	ROM	SILVER	Coin	CTJ	1	2	0	0	0	18	Denarius. Date 222-235. Very worn and damaged. Emperor Severus Alexander, legend IMPSEV [...] NDAVG. Reverse shows ?Advancing right holding spear, legend VIRT VSA[VG	No	No	No
0113	ROM	COPPER	Statuette	RE	1	30	39	26	13	0	Cockerel from votive statuette. 3D standing figurine, possibly free standing as part of a group including Mercury and Sheep/Goat or it could have been used individually.	Yes?	Yes	No
0115	ROM	LEAD	Weight	WM	1	121	40	30	0		Steelyard weight, biconical in shape, remains of iron loops protruding from either end.	No	No	No
0114	MED	SILVER	Coin	CTJ	1	1	0	0	0	18	Sterling penny. Edward I, probably Class 2, 1280. Obverse shows facing crowned bust , crown band is thin with bifoliate side hews and spearhead ornaments. Drapery 2 wedges. Reverse CIVI / T[A]S / LON / DON, long cross with 3 pellets in each quadrant.	No	No	No
0116	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	25	0	0	0	33	Sesterius. Date 138-161. Worn with some corrosion. Emperor Antonius Pius, ANTONINVS AVG PIVS [PP. Reverse ? Standing left ...]SII ? PAX in ex.	No	No	No
0117	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	7	0	0	0	23	Coin denomination as or dupondius, very corroded, 2nd / early 3rd century.	No	No	No
0118	ROM	COPPER	Nail	MF	1	1	21	8	0	0	Upholstery nail, globular head and square cross sectioned shaft, incomplete shaft tip missing, 21.7 mm total length. (Crummy 1983 Fig 115,116)	No	No	No
0119	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	1	0	0	0	14	Ae 3. Date 337-341. Edge damaged. Obverse shows Theodora] AEAUG. Reverse piet]AS ROM]ana.	No	No	No
0120	ROM	SILVER	Coin	CTJ	1	1	0	0	0	17	Denarius. Date 1st Century. Extremely worn. Obverse showing head looking left, reverse shows corn measure.	No	No	No
0121	ROM	LEAD	Weight	WM	1	162	53	35	0	0	Steelyard weight, biconical in shape, remains of iron loops at both apexes.	No	No	No
0122	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	26	0	0	0	34	Sesterius. Date 98-117. Abraded. Obverse shows Trajan, ...] AIANOAVGGERDAC[... , Reverse ? standing left.	No	No	No
0123	ROM	SILVER	Coin	CTJ	1	2	0	0	0	18	Denarius. Date 146-161. Moderately worn. Obverse Faustina II, FAVSTINAEAVG PIIAVG FIL, reverse ? standing left, VENVS.	No	No	No

0124	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	1	0	0	0	14	Roman Ac3. Date 337-341. Worn. Obverse Helena]LENAEAVG, reverse pax pu] BLICA.	No	No	No
0125	ROM	COPPER	Nail	MF	1	2	16	8	0		Upholstery nail. Globular head and square cross sectioned shaft, incomplete. (Crummy 1983, Fig 115,116)	No	No	No
0126	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	28	0	0	0	29	Sesterius. Date 161-175. Corroded. Obverse Faustina II, FAVSTINA A [ugusta. Reverse ? Standing left, shield right.	No	No	No
0127	ROM ?	COPPER?	Fragment.	UN	1	1	14	6	3	0	Copper alloy fragment of unknown function. Rectangular in shape, circular perforation incomplete at one edge. Back face rough to touch, slight ' lip' along one transverse edge, fount face smoothish.	No	No	No
0128	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	4	0	0	0	25	As or duponius. Date 138-161. Condition very worn. Obverse Antoninus Pius ...]AELHADLAN[... Reverse ? seated left.	No	No	No
0129	ROM	COPPER	Coin	CTJ	1	2	0	0	0	19	Radiate. Date 270-273. Worn. Obverse Tetricus I ...]RICVSPFAV[g. Reverse ? standing.	No	No	No
0130	PMED	LEAD	Musket Ball	MW	1	9	0	0	0	13	Musket ball, one flat edge .	No	No	No
0131	UNK	COPPER?	Fragmentl	UN	1	16	35	18	10	0	Cast hollow copper alloy fragment, unknown function- possible vessel or statue fragment.	No	No	No
0132	UNK	COPPER?	Fragment		1	1	22	16	1	0	Sheet copper alloy fragment. Flat roughly rectangular, incomplete with one square perforation, probably post med, possible part of a mount (?)	No	No	No
0133	UNK	COPPER?	Waste?	IW	1	16	30	28	5	0	Metal working debris, irregular molten fragment. BA > PMed.	No	No	No
0134	UNK	LEAD	Weight?		1	17	0	0	0	19	Probable weight. Cylindrical with central hole. Date unknown.	No	No	No
0135	UNK	LEAD	Waste	IW ?	2	134	55	45	5	0	2 undateable lead fragments, one flat rectangular @ 102.8gm the other rectangular rolled strip @ 29.46gm.	No	No	No
0115	ROM	LEAD	Weight	WM	0	0	0	0	0	0	Lead steelyard weight, biconical in shape, remains of iron loops projecting from either end.	No	No	No