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A SUMMARY OF THE TALKS/EVENTS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS*by Myra Kestner***1997**

- 22nd May Annual General Meeting.
- 12th June James Comyn "Gold and Silver down the ages"
The dating of gold and silver, from a knowledge of the carat strengths and hallmarks used in different periods, was explained.
- 28th June Visit to the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum at Flixton near Bungay. As well as an outdoor display of old aircraft, there were five buildings used as a museum for the artefacts which were associated with the planes or used by the airmen.
- 10th July The ever popular Round Tower Church outing, led by Bill Goode, took us well into Norfolk this year, visiting the churches at West Somerton and Horsey.
- 11th Sept. John Dean "The Ritual Protection of Buildings"
John Dean explained the use of herbs, marks and artefacts, mainly in the 16th to 18th centuries, to protect buildings from evil.
- 25th Sept. Visit to the War Memorial Museum
At a special opening for the Society, Jack Rose gave us one of his inimitable slide shows, with a focus on Lowestoft during the Second World War.
- 9th Oct. Katrina Siliprandi "The Home Front in the 1st and 2nd World Wars"
A comparison of life at home and at work, during the two World Wars, showed both similarities and contrasts.
- 23rd Oct. Jon Reed "On being a Museum Curator"
Jon told us about the many tasks that have to be undertaken to conserve the holdings and arrange selected items in interesting displays.
- 13th Nov. Dr Keith Knowles "The Legacy of Rome"
Dr Knowles demonstrated the continuing presence of Roman culture, buildings and vocabulary in the world of today.
- 27th Nov. Ted Middleton "Norfolk and Suffolk Navigations"
The project to turn Norwich into a port, through links to a harbour at Lowestoft, was finished in 1833. It was not a success, but the harbour remained as a basis for Peto's developments.

- 4th Dec. Joint Social Evening at the Yacht Club
Our Christmas Social Evening was again held in the historic surroundings of the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Yacht Club. A fine buffet was provided, and an antiques valuation session was led by James Comyn, Russell Sprake and Ray Taylor.
- 1998**
- 22nd Jan Terry Weatherley "The Search for Francis Dade - early emigrant from Suffolk to Virginia"
Terry tracked down the American Dades on the Internet, and uncovered many more questions about Francis and his activities.
- 12th Feb. Brian Ayers "The Archaeology of Saxon and Medieval Waterfronts"
Trade routes of this period were usually between river ports in settlements such as Norwich, where the waterfront behind Dragon Hall is currently being excavated.
- 26th Feb. John Cooper "The Albion Wherry"
The "Albion Wherry", was built in autumn 1898 at Oulton Broad. When rail and road transport destroyed their trade the wherries were left to rot. The "Albion" was rescued from this condition and restored.
- 12th March Nick Arber "In the Clink"
Norwich Castle, its use as a prison, and the history of some of the unfortunate people imprisoned there, were revealed through documents and other evidence held at the Castle.
- 26th March Ron Ashman "The Pye Factory Site"
The industrial archaeology, and some memories of the old Pye factory site.
- 9th April Douglas Baker "John Castle: handloom silk weaver, pauper and Co-op Pioneer"
John Castle, born 1819, left school at 9 to be a "draw boy" in a silk factory, and wrote highly literate memories of his early life at work and in the workhouse.
- 23rd April Paul Durbidge "Local Archaeological Finds"
This year, there have been interesting finds at Bloodmoor, Pakefield and Covehithe.
- 14th May Prof. John Allen "Lowestoft, Lucas and Liverpool Street"
The development of the East Anglian railway system and its buildings.

CARLTON COLVILLE NATIONAL SCHOOL - UPDATE

Mary Goffin

In the Annual Report of 1985/6 I wrote an article on the History of Carlton Colville National School, since then I have had access to some more documents relating to this building and can now fill in a few more historical details.

The School was built on land that had once formed part of the garden of Linden House then owned by the Rev. Edward Jermyn, Rector of Carlton Colville. On 24th January 1844 a Conveyance and Trust Deed was made between Rev. Edw. Jermyn and the Rt, Rev Edward, Lord Bishop of the Diocese of Norwich The Ven. Henry Denny Berners Archdeacon of Suffolk and Rev. Edward Jermyn Rector of Carlton Colville respective successors to sell land at Carlton Colville to build a school. Because the original document was missing George Henry Robinson (a solicitor of Chancery Lane, London), made a declaration dated 25th March 1906 that he had examined a Copy of the Conveyance and Trust Deed which showed that Rev, Edw. Jermyn conveyed land 61½ ft by 37 ft in depth for £20 to hold upon Trust for a School "for the education of children of the labouring manufacturing and other classes of children in the Parish of Carlton Colville. The school should always be conducted upon the principles of the Incorporated National Society for the promoting the Education of the Poor in the principles of the Established Church". The first Schoolmaster appointed was Frank Snelling followed by George Howlett in 1847 and George Wigg in 1855 and later that year Honor Howlett, widow of George, (no date for his death) was schoolmistress. We have no record of the name of the Master between 1855-

1865 although James Howell was an assistant teacher of 3rd. class and George Soloman was in his 3rd. year as a Pupil Teacher in February 1863.

Under a scheme, framed in November 1950 by the Ministry of Education re Endowment Schools, it repealed previous Acts and allowed redundant school premises to be sold. The old school premises had been used as a Church Hall since the closure of the Carlton Colville National School in 1932 but the premises were in a poor state of repair and needed £300 to repair and modernise, a sum which the Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance, as the governing body, was unwilling to expend. A local landowner and member of the Carlton Colville Parochial Church Council offered to buy the premises for £300 and allow Carlton Colville P.C.C. to rent them from him for a peppercorn rent provided the repairs were carried out before the premises were conveyed to him. The use of the pump in the garden of No.1 Old School Cottages by the W.I., Mothers Union and Scouts etc. can continue if the new owner (Rackham) pays part of the maintenance. In a Conveyance of 17th July 1954 the Diocesan Board of Finance conveyed to Laurence John Rackham of the Rookery, Carlton Colville land and buildings known as Carlton Colville National School for £300. L.J.Rackham died on 8th December 1959 and Probate for his Will dated 31st Oct. 1956 was granted 13th June 1960 and his Executors then sold the premises to the Parochial Church Council of St. Peters Carlton Colville, with the consent of the Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance on March 1st 1961 for £400 for use as the Carlton Colville Church Hall.

In January 1985 Planning Permission was granted for alterations to the Church Hall (i.e. the old school premises) to convert it into a Dwelling, subject to safeguards to ensure the external appearance of the building and the safety and free flow of traffic. In the original conveyance of January 1844, later in 1906 confirmed by the declaration the property was described as a plot of land "61½ ft in the front by 37 ft in depth bounded on the North and East by the road from Carlton Colville to Beccles and on the South and West by lands of Rev. Edward Jermyn. In the Planning Application of 1985 the road boundaries are given as fronting Church Lane to the North and Rectory Road to the East. A Declaration was made by Cyril W. Larkin, a Carlton Colville resident for 54 years and formerly a member of the Carlton Colville P.C.C. to the effect that "access has always been allowed on the West side adjoining the property known as No.1 School Cottages Carlton Colville without let or hindrance from the owners or occupiers of No.1 School Cottages" and a letter of 30th Sept. 1985 from the then owner of No.1. School Cottages confirmed this.

On the 18th November 1985 The Diocesan Board of Finance sold the property formerly Carlton Colville National School and then known as Carlton Colville Church Hall to R.C.Doughty, a local builder, for £10,500 and he converted it into a residence for his own use and he sold it on in 1993 to the present owners. The money raised by this sale helped towards the cost of the erection of a new Parish Room attached to the Church.

THE MARDLE, CARLTON COLVILLE - A REPORT ON THE EFFORTS MADE TO PRESERVE THE SITE

Mary Goffin

In the Annual Report of 1996/7 on The Bell, Carlton Colville mention was made of land behind the pub which is known as "The Mardle" and at one time the pub itself was called "The Mardle House". I ended my article by mentioning that planning applications had been submitted to Waveney District Council to develop this ancient site and that the Suffolk Archaeological Unit would make an Archaeological Evaluation before full permission to develop the site was given. This is a report of some of the endeavours of local people to prevent any development of this ancient circular moat of pre-Saxon date.

The first intimation we had that there might be plans for development of the site was when surveyors arrived to record the trees and shrubs growing there. A Tree Preservation Order to prevent the removal, uprooting or destroying of 25 individual trees and one group of approximately 18 thorn trees on this land was made on 1st February 1996 and confirmed in July 1996. This was followed in January 1997 with notification that a Planning Application had been made for land adjacent to 84 The

Street, Carlton Colville for the erection of 20 houses. The land referred to was The Mardle, an historic site with an ancient circular moat with a central island, a defensive haven for cattle when Danish raids were prevalent in the Saxon period. Later it was used as a watering hole for drovers and their cattle. Part of the area was used for the growing of hemp, the moat being used to soften or rett it. When the hemp industry declined the area was used for growing osiers for basket making, hence the later name of "The Osiers" sometimes used for the site. To Mardle is a Suffolk name for gossip or chat and the noun Mardle signifies a pond or stretch of water. In the 1960's the area of the Mardle was filled in but I have been unable to find if Planning Permission was granted for this (nor if even required at that time), nor whether drainage pipes were laid - this is a very wet site. On another part of the site was the village pond, known as The Horse Pond, sited beside The Street. This was also filled in during the 1960's and this area of The Street now suffers from flooding in wet weather. We found a photograph of 'The Mardle' in the book "A Corner of Suffolk" by C.G.Chambers published in 1926 and the Lowestoft Record Office found a photo of the Mardle taken in the 1920's showing a horse on top of the central mound. An elderly local resident supplied us with a photo of the Horse Pond, taken in 1924, so when members of the Planning Committee visited the site we were able to show some evidence of the previous use. Of course, the fact that there was no visible sign of previous historical use, even the original Mound had been flattened, was not very helpful to our plea of not developing such an ancient site. Other aspects of opposition to the development, too many dwellings for the restricted area, no garages planned, houses to be built in a predominately bungalow estate, loss to wildlife of an undeveloped area, loss of protected trees, potential for extra flooding were all voiced by local people, and eventually at a planning meeting in April 1997 the application was turned down by the Planning Committee. Our delight at this decision was short lived as another planning application was submitted for the site but with a reduction in the number of houses to be erected. Again the same objections were raised by local residents and at a further meeting in May and was again refused, the reason for refusal was given as "the site is considered to be of potential archaeological interest and amenity value to the surrounding area". Just a fortnight later we received information from the Planning Dept. that two applications for the site had been received, one an amended one for housing and the other for the site to be used for the erection of a Church. The design for this building would be "like a typical Suffolk Barn, similar to the Barn at Bell Farm opposite" and of similar height, in an area of mainly bungalows, a single storey building with no windows. The proposal for a new Church is often welcomed but in this case The Colville Gospel Trust categorically stated that the building will be used for their own Church activities only and that the premises will not be let out for local use nor will any provision be made for Youth meetings, Scouts etc. The erection of a building of this size not to cater in any way for social activities of local people or children means that it will not add to the community life of Carlton Colville which hardly adds to the amenity value to the surrounding area, so the reasons for refusing the last planning application would not be altered. Both applicants were prepared to fund an assessment by Suffolk Archaeological Unit of the potential archaeological interest of the site, and so design their developments to avoid any sensitive areas.

By this time most local residents had decided that their protests over the development at the Mardle had been over-ruled and that development on the site was going to be allowed and although many further letters of objection had been sent at the Planning Meeting of August 1997 permission was given for the development of the Mardle for both applications, to build 15 houses on the site and also for a Church. The final development of the site would depend on the vendor's choice and within a fortnight boards were placed on the site showing that houses would be erected there.

The conditions attached to the planning permission meant that the Suffolk Archaeological Unit must visit and make an Evaluation and also that the Water Co. must assess the risks of further flooding and make the necessary recommendations to reduce this. A Field Projects Team, supervised by Catherine Abbot came in November for 2 days and several members of our Society turned out prepared to help, as did some local residents. On the first day a trench was dug at right angles to the road 45 metres in length and between 1.3 metres and 1.7 metres deep and revealed that the site had been used for a dump for builders rubble. The next 6 smaller trenches were opened to find the extent of the rubble. In the Summary of the Report by the Field Projects Team it states "The field evaluation revealed no evidence for the mound or the surrounding ditch of the Mardle; instead, it revealed that the majority of the site had been used as a dump for builders rubble, with a maximum depth of over 1.9 metres.

The evidence recorded during the field work indicated that the natural occurring sands and gravels of the area, plus the remnants of the Mardle, and any other archaeological material in the area, must have been removed prior to this dumping, which probably took place at some time in the mid-60's. Due to this, it is probable that the original date and function of the Mardle will never be known. Although the area is traditionally regarded as being damp and marshy the Project Team found no evidence of any waterlogged deposits within the development area identified. So it was a very disappointing result that nothing of archaeological interest was revealed, particularly to me, as my garden is only 40 metres from one of the smaller trenches and I have dug up 13th C pottery there. In December a pump was erected on the site to find the depth of the water table, I do not know what they found but a few days later we had torrential rain which left the site looking like a lake!

In this article I have concentrated on the archaeological opposition to the development of the Mardle and have only briefly touched on the other issues and the protest work this engendered making sure all our Councillors were aware of all the facets of the opposition of local residents to the development. We also made known our objections to the wider public with the help of the E.D.P. and the Lowestoft Journal who sent a reporter and photographer to the site and over the months we had several helpful reports to publicise our opposition. We can now only hope the crescent of houses to be built on this land will be called The Mardle, and so perpetuate this ancient field name.

THE SOMERLEYTON SURVEY 1998

Paul Durbidge

The morning was sunny with a clear blue sky, directly above use wheeling in the thermals was a large brown buzzard, to our right was woodland made up mostly of silver birch beyond which we could see the water that formed part of Fritton Decoy. Part of the field surface had been freshly limed but the area we stood upon was near perfect for searching and along the centre of the 13 acre field was a shallow ridge, which gently sloped towards the wood. It was March 1st at Ashby on the Somerleyton Estate, conditions were good and it turned out to be a very productive search and well worth the effort.

This year was the fourth in the series of fieldwalking on the estate and areas such as Somerleyton, Herringfleet and Ashby were covered with only two fields incomplete. There were three objects left for identification from last year and these turned out to be 17th century trade tokens and a bronze figure. The latter turned out to be the upper part of a small solid cast statue of Roman date, which had small stubs on the back for wings and is thought to be of Cupid.

This season just over seven fields were covered and as found on previous occasions there can be noticeable differences and quantities on respective fields. An example of this was a 9 acre field at Ashby which produced a halfpenny, two secondary flakes and a small bronze buckle after nearly six hours searching while another field of similar size produced a wide scatter of Neolithic flint work, pottery and metal remains in a comparatively short time.

Overall material found this year has been quite varied in date and probably the amount recovered is down to good search conditions which does make a lot of difference to a small groups covering large fields.

Two particular fields yielded quite a lot of Neolithic flint industry which included part of a sickle, the start of a second, a hammerstone and the cutting end off a ground and polished axe head. A second search of the same location resulted in several scrapers, a fabricator and a polished flake from another axe head.

For the first time two heavily gritted sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered as well as Romano British and a couple of everted rims of late Saxon pottery.

As in previous years much lead was encountered and with a wide distribution and this varies from small dribbles, to thin sheet lead, to lead that has hardened in a crucible, there were also musket balls and a lead bale seal while two perforated tubes of lead are thought to be plumb bobs.

Bronze remains were interesting, with at least three pieces coming from probable medieval cauldrons and a solid cast foot having similar connections. Small flat pieces of bronze or bronze alloy had small

markings and soot on their surfaces but apart from suggesting a medieval date little else can be added. Shrapnel has again been found with aluminium over a wide area especially in the Ashby locations. Part of a grey coloured piece of lava millstone with its grooved working surface would again have medieval origins and like a base sherd of the 16th century blue and white Westerwald this was also imported from the Low Counties. The discovery of a Roman bone brooch at Somerleyton with no associated material would suggest it was an accidental loss, overall the object is in good condition with part of the pin still in position and this was found on a field that also produced two rim profiles of late Saxon date.

The last search of this season was on an adjacent field and here the surface was made up of reasonably heavy stony soils with occasional patches of light ground. Four widths of this field produced comparatively little but it soon became apparent that a small area near the centre was productive and this yielded both Romano British and Medieval sherds as well as possible Late Saxon sherds. In all after 4½ hours nearly half the field surface had been covered resulting in well over thirty sherds of pottery being picked up as well as Neolithic scrapers and secondary flakes. Metal remains included part of a bronze rim and a circular gilded stud with clasps on the reverse, more lead including a musket ball and four additional items have been sent for further information

The finds broadly classified

Neolithic	broken polished axe head, hammerstone and broken sickle, two fabricators
Iron Age	Two body sherds
Romano British	grey ware including body sherds base and rim
Late Saxon	Two rim sherds with probable base and body sherds
Medieval	Body sherds including base and rim
Salt glazed	body sherds and Westerwald
French jetton	
Bronze Alloy	rim from cauldron and solid cast foot from cauldron
Lead bail seal	
Croatal bell	
Small lead circular counter	
Lead spindle whirl	
Lead plumb bobs	
Lead pewter buttons	
Post medieval pottery and two buckles	
Four objects for further information	

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to Lord Somerleyton for allowing the continuation of the survey and thanks are also due to Mr. Chris Lockhart for his continued help.

I would also like to thank David Cuming and also Tricia Cuming for transcribing this interim report.

Finally my thanks to the fieldwalkers for giving their time and support during the seasons work, and these are :

Adrian Charlton, Myra Kestner, Ted Middleton, Philip Offord, Jon Reed, Clive Rougier and my thoughts go to the late Ivor Rougier who was an active member of the group and will be greatly missed.

Paul Durbidge March 1998

ANOTHER PIECE OF PAKEFIELD'S HISTORY*Paul Durbidge***PAKEFIELD CLIFFS - THE SETTING**

Over the past year, more hitherto unknown material has been recovered from Pakefield cliffs and also additional surprises in the form of fragmentary pre-Roman pottery and a well-distributed flint industry that probably dates from around the beginning of the Bronze Age. Erosion over the last year has been slight with little destruction caused by the sea. In fact, the scree of fallen cliff material is in some places over twenty feet thick and is acting as a temporary buttress, defending the base of the cliff, at least for the time being - before the advent of the winter storms.

High up in the soft sand, near the army tunnels, sand martins had dug out over two-hundred small holes in which they had made their nests and unlike last year it appears that the majority of the young broods got away safely.

During last October a stretch of cliff 300 yards south of Crazy Mary's Hole, was subjected to high storm force seas, which resulted in the destruction of much of the beach and lowering it by as much as four feet in places. This led to the subsequent destruction of the now exposed black sedimentary beds, which in turn revealed many small fragments of wood as well as the occasional semi-fossilised boughs of trees, while directly beneath, the remains of animal bones, teeth and antler were recovered in a comparatively short time over a hundred yard stretch of beach.

The more recent continuous heavy rains have contributed to more cliff falls along this part, with streams of liquid grey clay sliding down the slopes to the beach, while larger sections of the chalky grey boulder clay, often weighing several tons, have fractured from the upper cliff face and have slowly slid down the slopes on a bed of water and clay to the beach below.

To the north, the cliffs have absorbed much water after a long dry period and at several locations there have been large amounts of sand dropping, being undercut by surface water filtering through the cracks in the upper clays.

The large infilled situation known as P5, which was revealed two years ago, has been reduced by cliff falls and beside it, another intrusion has been revealed after heavy chunks of boulder clay split away from the cliff, revealing a twelve-foot infill, containing large flints, animal bone and fragments of carbon.

Continuing further north, to the edge of the army range, the recent heavy rains have sent a deluge of water and soil over the cliff face, by way of a small, narrow gully that was once a small field dyke.

The spread of this water-borne material, down the face of the cliff, where it has spread out on reaching the beach is considerable and compares with a similar situation at Benacre, Suffolk, some three years ago, where much valuable soil was washed away in this manner.

Towards the shooting range, there are several small trees and shrubs lying on the scree, with an equal number hanging over the cliff edge, but as far as actual cliff falls are concerned, little has changed over the last year, apart from some slippage of the sandy grass-covered slopes at the northern end of the shooting butts.

EROSION MEASUREMENTS AT PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK.

Measurements taken on January 1st each year

	Ref. *	Loss	Location	
1997	80	35	South side of Pontin's Gap	1
1998	66	14	Crazy Mary's Hole	
1997	181	9	North side of Pontin's Gap	2
1998	179	3	Crazy Mary's Hole	
1997	53	23	Pontin's Camp	3
1998	49	4		
1997	21	10	Army Look-out Tower	4
1998	18	3	Pontin's end	

Ref. * = feet from fixed point

THE EXTENT OF THE FLINT INDUSTRY AT PAKEFIELD

Flint flakes have been found in the area of the Medieval pits over the last two years and the cutting end of a core axe-head was picked up at beach level some four years ago after cliff falls, while further south, a varied number of flints have been found over recent years.

The presence of these flakes is not particularly unusual as they can be picked up on many field surfaces, either in isolated situations or sometimes in groupings but the continual searching of the cliff line by Adrian Charlton has somewhat changed the original thoughts as to the extent of the distribution. It has now become apparent that the Pakefield finds extend from the shooting butts in the north, to some 500 yards south of Crazy Mary's Hole, where there is a clear grouping of material, including numbers of pot-boilers, flakes and flake tools.

Colours of the material used, varies from black to a greenish-brown to dark crimson, light blue and variations of grey, and in the majority of cases, the remains have suffered little plough damage.

On two flakes, picked up close to R5, there are indications they were in contact with excessive heat at some stage, while on another small blue flake, there are signs of grinding and polishing to one surface, suggesting it came from an axe head and fire-cracking on the flake indicated that it had been detached from the axe, by reason of being burnt by fire.

A small transverse arrowhead and later a well-battered hammerstone, about the size of a small apple, were found with secondary flakes, while several small burnt flints were also picked up amongst Romano-British material at R5. It is quite possible that these burnt remains were connected with a small hearth, found last year, or even with numerous fragments of cremated animal bones that continue to be unearthed at this point. One of the most interesting of the flint finds this year has been a piercer or borer which had been prepared on the distal end of an already stained and patinated blade, which may have been of Mesolithic or early Neolithic origin.

The point of the implement has been formed by ventral retouch on both sides of the distal end. The retouch has penetrated the lightly patinated surface and exposed fresh brown flint. The point has also been worn from use and there are traces of iron concretion which had accumulated after the secondary retouch.

This particular implement is also very similar in colour to two other Mesolithic flints made roughly half a-mile further south by Charlton several years ago and no doubt more discoveries will come to light in the near future.

Of the blades so far found, three were patinated, with another in segmented form, with one side slightly notched. Another, virtually the same size as the retouched example (3½") has been left unworked.

Several of the scrapers are small button-types and well worked on all the edges with two larger patinated cortical types being made from very hard greenish-brown flint.

Many of the flakes have been trimmed and could be referred to as non-descriptors, though to the flint-worker there was an intended purpose. Others have no working and many have been rejected by reason of their shape or thickness.

Another example of patination was a small circular flake with axe-trimmed edges to give a cutting edge, this implement originally being mounted in an antler sleeve and then into a handle to provide a cutting tool, suitable for clearing light vegetation.

PRE-ROMAN POTTERY

Amongst the quantities of pottery from Pakefield are a dozen or so sherds of a very coarse material which appears as a dark sandy-buff externally and a dark greyish-buff internally. These sherds are most thick, varying from $\frac{3}{8}$ " up to $\frac{5}{8}$ ", with one fragment of base showing a thickness of just under $\frac{3}{4}$ ". The fabric is very soft and appears to have been strengthened by adding a red and black crushed material, possibly pottery. Mica is visible on several sherds, the largest being approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ ", with indications that it is handmade. The thickness of this sherd is nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ " and the pitted nature of the material is probably the result of burnt matter after firing. As far as a date is concerned, we do not know, but it is thought to be pre-Roman.

Found in close proximity to the pottery was another single sherd of handmade pottery which was decorated, and this was submitted for further information to the Archaeological Unit at Bury St Edmunds. The subsequent report by E. Martins was as follows:-

“Hand made body sherd with fingernail impressed strip. Fabric is a patchy light medium grey - mid grey brown exterior surface. Predominantly grog temper with some sand inclusions. Possibly Bronze Age rusticated.”

The location where the pottery was found has suffered considerable disturbance by army bunkers and all the remains were found by Adrian Charlton after a number of close searches of the scree, which at one stage was carefully raked in an attempt to recover more of this unusual material.

THE CONTENTS OF P5

Romano-British Coarseware.

Amongst the medieval and late-medieval pottery were five sherds of Romano-British date including a rim profile from a poppy head beaker.

The remaining body sherds include rusticated and two sherds of very fine greyware and a body sherd in light grey coarseware.

Rim Forms

The fourteen forms examined for the most part compare with those found during the previous year, with perhaps one exception, which was an everted rim from a globular cooking pot in a light hard-grey fabric, with traces of lime scale to the inner surfaces.

There were also two more rims from the unworn fine grey globular pot encountered last year and a number of the hard greyware body sherds recovered this season are clearly from this vessel and it is likely that both vessels can be attributed to an early medieval date. The remaining forms include two micarous pancheon type dishes, one being mottled with a green internal glaze, the other with a much more thickened rim, but unglazed and with a much larger diameter

THE CONTINUATION OF P5

Over the last twelve months there has been some fall-out of the infill retained by P5 by reason of the heavy rain and also the collapse of part of the soft sand directly beneath the feature. There are also signs that the content in the south profile is beginning to terminate against the brown boulder clay and mixed soils, while the north side shows evidence that the infill extends further, although shallower in depth.

It has also been noticeable that in the upper levels of the fill we are now seeing post-medieval evidence such as patinated lead, an iron spur and even a 2nd World War reference tag, while a few inches lower, finds of coarseware and glazed pottery of 15th century character have been recovered.

After a recent cliff fall a band of intense burning was uncovered on the north side. It measured the best part of an inch thick and was hollowed out in shape and measured twenty-three inches across. At the time of writing the burning did not extend more than nine inches back into the cliff, so whether it

was just an isolated find or had links with some smoothed, burnt clay found in the infill is not known as yet.

We are still not sure of the actual origin of P5 and for convenience we are referring to it as pit 5, but by reason of its twenty-one foot width, this is open to opinion. While over the last two years we have recovered quite an amount of datable material, it is more than possible that it may have started out as a natural hollow in the ground and was later used as a spot for dumping rubbish. There is evidence, however, that clay was dug out of the feature as a vertical cut can be clearly seen in the north profile and this extends down to the sand directly below. It may be that the clay was used for brick or tile making and also for the clay lining, either for a kiln or oven which would explain the pieces of smoothed burnt clay with small flint stones, which was encountered to one side of the feature, although its limits are as yet unknown.

BODY SHERDS

Of the 137 Body sherds, eleven were of a hard orange to brown-buff fabric, while 110 were of a hard gritty brown-buff to dark grey in colour, containing mica and some 16 of these sherds were heavily soot encrusted, often on both surfaces.

Five were of a very hard light grey texture with knife trimming, showing on two sherds, with another twelve of an extremely hard material, almost to stoneware firing.

Again the colour was a light grey and while the general texture was smooth, the surfaces were somewhat irregular and totally different from the main group.

DECORATED SHERDS

Four of the body sherds had been decorated, the largest being in a dark grey fabric with a line of five finger impressions running just below a probable rim at approximately $\frac{5}{8}$ " centres. It is likely that the sherd comes from a large pancheon-type vessel and compares with remains found in P4 during 1995. Two other sherds had been decorated with applied strip running horizontal to the pots and in one case the strip had been left plain, while the other example had two small nicks cut into the strip. The remaining sherd was again in a gritty dark grey material and on the external face were four faint vertical lines which would have come upwards from the base of the pot. While the fabric is unlike previous Romano-British decorated forms at Pakefield, the pattern and style clearly belong to this period.

BASE FORMS

The remains of nineteen base forms were found, with one showing a splattering of light green glaze on the underside. The fabric was a hard orange material with a stacking ring impression on the underside, possibly from a small jug. A large sherd from a cooking pot has a soot-stained base with a radius of seven and a half inches and walls of $\frac{3}{8}$ " thickness. The outward angle of the base suggests a globular type.

The external surface of the vessel has a very smooth finish regardless of various hollows and both of the surfaces show signs of wiping. The colour is a lightish-grey with sparse inclusions of mica.

The remaining types vary from gritty hard sandy-buff to light grey with the thickness of some sherds not much more than $\frac{1}{8}$ ", indicating quite small pots and in the majority of cases, the external surfaces are well soot-stained. Two sherds, possibly from a jug have hard sandy-buff external surfaces and show small dots of light green glaze, while the inner surfaces are in light grey.

GLAZED SHERDS

No fewer than 16 of the glazed body sherds are from pancheon style dishes with internal glaze colours varying from a mottled green to an orange glaze with dark green mottling. There were four more sherds of the hard sandy-buff fabric with a cheesy glaze and decorated with vigorous narrow brush strokes of iron oxide. The vessel is thought to be a large jug.

A number of other sherds had splashes of light green glaze to variations of brown and in one case, splashes of brown glaze and a dribble of iron oxide had run down the face of the vessel, across horizontal rilling on a sherd of hard brownish fabric with an orange interior.

A single abraded chunky sherd of light creamy fabric found at the foot of the scree is quite unlike any of the previous glazed forms by reason of its fabric and style of decoration.

It appears as a wall sherd with a thickened flange, not unlike a lifting lug, which is coated in a rich dark green glaze, with the half-round profile being decorated with a series of small nicks in the clay, beneath which appears a small solid foot-like profile of clay protruding outwards.

GRIMSTON TYPE ? IMPORT ?

Seven sherds in a hard dark brown fabric and partially glazed in a rich dark brown glaze were found in the upper fill with part of a small base, possibly from a cup or mug in a thick treacly brown-black glaze.

STONEWARES

This group consists of a body sherd of lustrous glaze, the rim of a small mug in a light salt glaze, a sherd of grey stoneware with two parallel line of vertical nicks and a body sherd of mottled brown stoneware from a mug with part of a handle stub attached.

HANDLES

Four part handles were found. Three were variations of strap handles, while one was a rod handle and on a body sherd was the remains of a lower handle scar.

Rod type : oval in section and twisted on application. Diameter approximately $\frac{7}{8}$ ". Hard reddish-brown fabric with splash of dark brown glaze on body sherd.

Middle part of wide strap handle in hard light grey fabric. $1\frac{3}{4}$ " across and roughly $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick. Stabbed decoration with knife blade down the centre at $1\frac{1}{4}$ " centres.

Lower part of strap handle in hard orange fabric with grey core $1\frac{5}{8}$ " wide and approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick with deep impressed thumb mark. Splashes of light green glaze on back of handle.

Lower part of narrow strap handle in hard greyish-buff. $1\frac{3}{4}$ " across and roughly $\frac{5}{8}$ " thick. Splash of rich brown glaze on outside of handle and splash of light green glaze on back.

Lower handle scar from a jug made of hard grey fabric with remains of strong thumb smear in the centre.

SHELL REMAINS

Seven oyster shells with sizes varying from $1\frac{1}{8}$ " up to $2\frac{3}{4}$ ". There were two whelk shells, both small and measuring roughly $1\frac{7}{8}$ ".

ANIMAL BONE

Pig

SUIDAE Four jawbone and six ribs with three tusks from wild boar.

Domestic

Cattle Twenty bones, including rib with most of leg bones broken in half. 3 molar.

BOVID

Domestic

Sheep Two jaw bones, three leg and four molar.

OVIS

Two small pieces of rib were burned at the ends and there was one white cremated bone from a small animal.

Small

Mammal Four small animal bones, probably from a wild rabbit.

There were some 16 pieces of bone in fragmentary condition that were not identified.

BRONZE

Seven pieces of bronze alloy were found and three of these were recovered in the scree after a sizeable amount discharged from the fracture after undercutting of the sand during the early part of 1997. Included in this fallout material was the remains of a large late-medieval buckle which, when complete would have been in the region of $2\frac{1}{2}$ " across, and other pieces included a small amount of bronze spillage and a larger piece of deteriorated plain bronze sheet. Bronze remains actually recovered in the fill of P5 were a piece of bronze rim, thought to be from a cauldron, a small raised

circular flowered boss with the remains of studs for mounting on leather and an angled handle from a medieval cauldron. The handle had been solid cast and was rectangular in section with two chambers running each side. The overall size measured approximately 2 x 2½" and both this and the bronze rim were well stained with soot.

LEAD

Of five pieces of lead from P5, one is unpatinated and probably medieval, while the remainder are coated in a white patina and may well be of medieval or late-medieval date.

The unpatinated lead is in thin sheet form, rectangular in shape and measures approximately 8" x 6" and spaced around the edges are six irregular holes of roughly ¼" diameters. In a seventh hole there is an iron square-shanked nail still in situ, suggesting the lead may have simply been used to nail over something similar to a patch.

Amongst the patinated lead there is also sheet form and this consists of three small pieces, the largest being in the order of 4" x 2½", with one piece having two very ragged nail holes through. The fifth piece is a patinated rolled strip of lead 1¼" wide with little clear indication as to its intended purpose, although it could have been used as a weight or even a spindle wheel.

IRON

As one would expect iron remains were encountered and while it is possible that some of the nails are of late-medieval origin, it is likely that most of the remains are post-medieval in date.

There were fifteen recognisable nails of which ten had domed heads, with the remaining few suggesting flattened heads of varying diameters. Lengths varied from 1⅛" up to 2¾". All the nails were straight in length and square-shanked in section, with none clenched over. Thicknesses varied from ⅜" up to ¼".

ROWEL - SPUR

The greater part of an iron spur showed it to be an example of a Rowel type iron spur with eight points and while there are several variations of these, beginning in the 14th century, this particular example is attributed to the 17th century.

POST-MEDIEVAL IRON

The post-medieval nails are square-shanked and roughly half an inch in section. The lengths are in the order of three inches and the heads are large and dome-shaped. Thick plate washes are present on two.

An 'L' shaped pin used in conjunction with close boarded barn doors was found, with various other nondescript pieces of iron which were very corroded with their original shapes completely distorted.

WORLD WAR TWO

A thin strip of alloy found in the topsoil above the feature was an identification tag for some object dating from the last war. It was marked with the letters 'RMC WD' and a vertical arrow in the left-hand corner, while in the right-hand corner was the serial number D510793.

PIN TILES

Of the nineteen pieces of pin tile found, all had rough cast undersides with only the upper surfaces smoothed. Four showed drag marks and the average thickness was approximately half an inch.

Small dots of light brown glaze were present on the upper face of two, while the near-black colour of two more, indicated over-firing. Mortar was present on one half tile and this covered nearly all the upper surface.

FLOOR TILES

The split remains of two fragmentary floor tiles were recovered with both having angled edges with spots of yellow glaze and a spot of light brown glaze on the underside of both.

BRICK REMAINS

The remains of six bricks were examined and five were found to be fairly constant, both in size and colour and were as follows:-

Width between 3¾" and 3⅞", with a thickness from 1¾" up to 1⅞", the colour being a yellow buff, with one having both surfaces partially stained in a reddish pigment. All had a rough-cast

underside which contained numerous cavities, while the upper surfaces showed dirty marks in slumped surfaces.

The broken remains of a sixth brick was found in the middle of the feature and this was of a hard reddish-brown clay, measuring 3¾" wide by 2¼" thick, and like the previous bricks, it was rough cast with a pronounced slumped upper surface.

CLAY LINING

The presence of five irregular-shaped pieces of fired clay, approximately 2" across may indicate a small kiln or oven in the vicinity as by reason of their composition, they cannot be the remains of fractured bricks. These small nodules were made up of irregular mixed clay with occasional flint intrusions and small fragments of chalk, and on three, a flattened surface was present, while on another, there were impressions of either reed or very thin saplings in the clay.

One of these surfaces had been in contact with heat, although not excessive, but never-the-less, the near-black colour penetrated well into the clay which seems to indicate the pieces formed part of some clay lining and it will be interesting to see if any more turn up in the adjacent area to support the theory.

LAVA MILLSTONE

Just as last year, lava millstone has been found with other content in the feature, and again the remains are small, the examples being split from other pieces. One would assume that the material has been imported under trade, probably from the Jura range, a huge crescent-shaped area extending from Chambery to Zurich and bordering the Alps.

While no really large pieces of the mineral have been recovered to indicate they had come from a mill, the remains of one piece some 3" thick, with the remains of wide ridges scoured into the grinding surface, does suggest the possibility. Another example shows a much more tightly-packed lava which is also noticeably heavier and a darker grey in colour than previous finds. That the outer edge is rounded indicates that it was part of a small hand mill of around 6" diameter with a sloping grinding surface left undressed. A small piece of pinkish buff millstone grit found in P5 was identical to larger pieces recovered with associated 3rd - 4th century pottery from the Romano-British feature at R4 during 1996.

FLINT REMAINS

Three light grey fire-crackled fragments have been recovered in the upper fill as well as a white pot boiler, complete with its systems of cobweb cracking. A small narrow blade-like flake in black flint with a clear bulb of percussion was found with a shallow honey-coloured secondary flake some three feet down in the infill.

THE POST-MEDIEVAL POT

During the early part of February 1997, the broken remains of a post-medieval pot was found high up in the cliff face, thirty-five feet north of P5. It was recovered just over 13" down from present ground level and was made of an orange fabric containing some mica, with the external surfaces glazed in a pitted rich golden-brown glaze. The diameter of the rim was approximately 6" and the top was channelled out to receive a lid. The overall shape indicated that the vessel was globular in form. There was no evidence of any base, but from the camber of the body, the height would appear to have been in the region of 7". Four shallow grooves cut into the body of the pot formed basic decoration, and a small lifting lug had been applied to the vessel about halfway down. The upper surface of the lug had been decorated with five shallow slashes and both these and the underside of the lug had been coated with a thick application of rich brown glaze.

THE SMALL MEDIEVAL PIT SOUTH OF CRAZY MARY'S HOLE, PAKEFIELD.

Paul Durbidge

Late March 1997 saw a scatter of coarseware medieval pottery lying high up on the sandy scree slopes to the south of Crazy Mary's Hole, and some 48 feet north of a small pit discovered in 1995 which

also contained medieval pottery (Lowestoft Archaeological and Local History Society: Annual Report Vol. 28 1995/6 : 'A fourth medieval pit at Pakefield, Suffolk.').

From what remained visible in the cliff face, it is likely that part of a small infill had fallen away at some time previously, but just how much is not known, though a close search of the scree below the infill suggested it did not contain very much material. What we were left with was a very small deposit of mixed soil extending below the plough line by eleven inches, with a very irregular width of about two feet. Recovered in the soil were a number of coarseware bodysherds as well as rim and base forms. The overall textures of the pottery compared favourably with the material found in the 1995 pit. Some sherds showed signs of wiping to the inner surfaces, while three other, including two quite large sherds were heavily soot-encrusted, but like the 1995 feature, no glazed sherds were found.

GROUPING OF TYPES

There seven rim profiles, seven base forms and twenty-two plain body sherds.

RIM FORMS

All the profiles were typically medieval in shape with diameters in region of 5½" up to 8½", the only exception being a thick pancheon-type with the inner rim decorated with a wavy line pattern.

BASE FORMS

Diameters of these vary from 5" - 8" - 10½" respectively and all indicate a slightly sagging base wall and base thickness appears to be fairly constant and in the region of ¼".

BODY SHERDS

Three were heavily soot stained and on two large sherds, a near complete wall profile of a cooking pot shows a fairly steep-sided vessel with slight hollowing near the base and rounding in at the shoulder.

Wiping is visible on the inside of some sherds and small inclusions of flint are noticeable in the clay, while the soot-blackened outer surface appears well indented in places and generally crude in execution.

The remainder of the body sherds are made up of hard gritty, sandy fabric containing mica, with colours varying from light grey to brown-buff.

FLINT REMAINS

Two white flint pot boilers were found with the pottery and it was noticeable in the field directly above that there are numbers of them in a clear concentration close to the feature. With the presence of a number of struck flakes and occasional trimmed flakes amongst this grouping would suggest this is an extension to the Neo-Bronze Age finds already found in the vicinity.

BEACH FINDS AT PAKEFIELD

Paul Durbidge

Discoidal lead weight: suspension hole near edge: water worn: Line or net weight? Medieval?

Silver groat: Henry VI: Annulet issue: 1422-27: Calais mint.

Cruciform lead alloy object decorated both sides: one face has a well executed fleur-de-lis, the other has a sub-rectangular central field with moulded decoration and decorated side lappets, giving the cruciform shape: Purpose unknown: possibly late medieval.

Nurenborg Jetton: Hans Kraynwinckel II 1586-1635:

OBR Hans Kraynwinckel IN D

REV HEIT ROTT MOREEN DOTT

Nurenborg Jetton: Hans Kraynwinckel II 1586-1635:

OBR Hans Kraynwinckel IN NYR

REV (GOTT) ALLEIN DIE EER ESEI

THE CONTINUING ROMANO-BRITISH PRESENCE

Paul Durbidge

Towards the latter end of November 1996, there was a significant development at Pakefield which connected the previous discoveries of Romano-British material that had been emerging from the cliff line over the last few years. Up until this time severe erosion had exposed and subsequently destroyed a probable corn-drying situation while we were able to probe a small pit and a hearth before both areas ended up over the edge. At the same time, Adrian Charlton had carried out continuous surveillance at the location and had recovered tile, pottery and even coinage, often in near impossible conditions, both on the scree as well as the cliff line.

The unstable nature of these cliffs, especially in winter was indicated when a forty-four feet stretch of cliff adjacent to the hearth suddenly dropped to the scree, showing an exposed face where surface water had deeply penetrated into the upper layers. An extract from my diary for November 29th 1996 recalls:- "Line of cliff on south side of carbon area has dropped to the beach, revealing an infill containing both top-soil and more carbon. The length of the feature is approximately thirty-three feet across. The depth of the intrusion is roughly four feet and it contains tile, bone, pottery and a quantity of shells. The shape appears as a wide ditch with indications of a smaller horizontal layer on the north profile."

So finally we had a positive situation in situ, containing datable evidence and quite a lot of this was also found in the large lumps of mixed clays and soil that had fallen, as well as the material that lay both in and on the soil-covered scree.

In conversation with Bob Carr from the Suffolk Unit, we discussed the feature over the phone and he agreed to visit the site later that week to see for himself what had been revealed and the probability of a ditch section was the main line of thought.

This subsequently posed the question as to which way it was sited, in relationship to the cliff line. It was probably angled, but by how much? And was it to the right or left as it progressed inwards. It is unlikely that we will be able to get the answers to these questions unless there is more erosion or there is more investigation carried out above the exposed profile, either in the form of a geo-physic survey, or a series of test squares. In the meantime, all we can do is examine what has come from the ditch and see what sort of picture can be drawn up, with a view to a limited excavation some time in the near future. Although building material had previously been recovered on the site, this time there was more of it and it was lying in situ with pottery, bone and small pieces of cut antler and shell-fish. With the roofing tile, we also found quantities of small, broken down pieces of tile, tessera, and over a hundred of these came out of the infill as well as from the debris on the scree. They were probably employed as a reasonably good floor material and with them were found pieces of flue tile with combed external surfaces, which again would suggest a building of some status - in fact one that was equipped with under-floor heating. The finds of these pieces of building material thrown into the ditch would indicate that the building or buildings may have undergone alteration or upgrading at some time, but as yet that is all we can say. We don't know where they are, but one would think reasonably close to the present finds - with the ditch being part of the complex.

MATERIAL FROM THE DITCH AND ADJACENT VICINITY

A varied number of broken tile and brick fragments were recovered and the majority appear to have been deliberately broken down to the present size, rather than just the result of accidental breakage.

There were five brick types with sizes roughly 3¾" x 4" and 3½" x 3½", with thicknesses in the region of 1½" x 2".

Thirty-two other pieces have been broken down to sizes varying from 4¾" x 4¾" to 2½" x 2½", with thicknesses varying from 1" to 1¼".

There were quite a number of small pieces of tile visible in the north side of the feature and these were also found in mixed earth with pottery and bone in nodules of earth that had fallen to the beach.

Although they appear to be roughly broken down to size they are reasonably constant and appear to form a distinct grouping of probable tessera and it is likely that other larger sections were employed

for the same purpose. Forty-two pieces had a surface size in the region of 1¼" x 1½", while another thirty-one were averaging 2" x 2", with a constant thickness of 1¼".

TEGULAE

There were three tegulae with sizes approximately 3" x 6" - 7" x 9", as well as a piece of upstand, roughly 7 inches long. Three of the tiles also had half-circles or signatures in the face of the clay.

Tile fabrics are mostly in soft orange material, exceptions being hard, dark reds with cut marks on the surfaces - to a hard, almost milky-orange, with a deep-impressed signature in the clay.

IMBRES

Only one piece of roof tile or imbrex has been recovered and this had two finger line marks on the outer surface, while the underside remains rough cast.

BOX TILES

Under-floor heating in a Romano-British building would require some form of flue tiles to remove the smoke and fumes from the heating of the floor surfaces and so far the remains of seven have come from Pakefield.

Strong combed patterns on six pieces indicates they had been keyed to allow plastering to adhere to these surfaces and at least two sizes of tiles were used. One is just over four inches wide, the other nearer six inches, though the overall lengths of the respective tiles is not known. The fabrics are in soft reds with occasional small flint inclusions which is similar to the main bulk of the roof tile material.

MOSAIC

Two pieces of deliberately squared mineral found at Pakefield are thought to have been employed as mosaic material. One is somewhat offset, with sides measuring ¾" and forming a slightly tapered cube. This has been made from a mineral similar in colour and texture to sedimentary rock. The second piece is larger but again irregular and is made from a cube with sides measuring one inch square. Both objects were recovered close to the present Romano-British finds.

MORTARIA

Two body sherds of a light buff-coloured mortaria appear water-worn and contain mostly small irregular quarter grits, with occasional iron stone fragments in one sherd.

POTTERY LIDS

Pottery lids include two in micarous near-black fabrics, one with a slightly hollowed edge, while the other has a rounded upper edge, with the surface consisting of a ½" band around the top, before rising upwards towards the centre.

The third type is in a pale micarous fabric with a bead rim and all three indicate diameters between 6" and 8" respectively.

DECORATED SHERDS

Two sherds of rusticated greyware.

Cross hatching beneath a shallow groove, high on the shoulder of a fine greyware jar.

Slightly angled vertical lines beneath a thin groove high on the shoulder of a fine greyware jar.

Half-inch band of very thin wavy lines beneath two shallow grooves on a greyware sherd.

Three small indents at ½" centres, beneath a shallow band on a coarseware sherd.

Rouletting on a dark grey coarseware sherd beneath a shallow groove.

Regular nicked decoration at ½" centres beneath a coarseware rim.

Regular tiers of strong vertical lines cut into a greyware jar in dark coarseware.

RIM FORMS

A hundred and eighty-seven rim forms were recovered and broadly classified, these are as follows:-

Six were from very fine smoothed greyware jars with everted rims which include small profile forms. Diameters vary from 4½" - 8" and one jar has a shallow groove high on the shoulder.

Of the 46 straight-sided bowl rims, the majority are in mid-grey fabric, with the remainder in near black. Two are in sandy buff.

Up to 32 of these forms are bead type with slight variations. Seven have thinned rims with a single groove and five are thinned with a double groove below the rim. Two have flattened overhanging rims, rounded in profile.

Twenty-four hooked rims are in a coarse gritty dark grey material and seven are heavily soot-stained. Only two are in fine light greyware and one is a soft orange fabric. Diameters between 4¼" - 8".

There were many pieces of broken rim up to ½" in length and these were made up as follows -- 16 everted rim forms in grey- grey buff coarseware.

One thickened rim is a very hard dark grey material containing grits and is from a large storage jar - and like some thick body sherds, this too, has been misfired in the kiln.

Eight sherds in light greyware were with everted rims and from necked jars.

One coarseware beaker rim with buff external surfaces and a soft orange core.

Rim from a shallow buff-coloured platter with an upturned rim.

Small section of rim in a hard grey fabric from a bead and flange bowl.

Fifteen larger forms with everted rims in dark grey coarseware and light grey buff fabrics with diameters in the region of 6" to 8". Three smaller rims indicate jars of roughly 5" - 5½".

Rim from an abraded greyware jar with high shoulder, everted rim from a greyware necked jar with abraded surfaces, revealing oxidised margins and slight diagonal pattern on the shoulder.

Everted rim from a wide mouthed jar with cordoned shoulder and decorated with a diagonal pattern. There is a ½" diameter perforation through the line of the cordon to suspend the jar.

RING-NECKED FLAGONS

The upper part of a 1st - early 2nd century ring-necked flagon was found in pieces amongst lumps of boulder clay on the scree close to the present ditch feature, where part of a second one was drawn out of the infill.

The first one, made in a light sandy-buff fabric had a characteristic large reeded type handle, while the rim appeared to have been knocked off at some earlier period and in spite of an intensive search, only part of the base was recovered.

The second example, complete with its screw neck, was in pale orange fabric with a smaller handle joining the neck halfway down, before being attached to the shoulder of the flagon, and once again, only a single piece of the base was recovered.

COLOUR-COATED WARES

The twenty-nine sherds, including two base forms are :

Colchester colour-coated beaker: mid 2nd - early 3rd;

Nene Valley: 3rd century beaker;

Fragments of buff beaker;

Nene Valley or Gaulish end 2nd or early 3rd century - and

Cornice rims : Colchester: mid 2nd - early 3rd century.

AMPHORA SHERD

Spanish olive oil amphora : Dressel 20: 2nd century.

SAMIAN

The majority of sherds have been found in the vicinity of R4 and as before, those found in or close to boulder clays have suffered deterioration to their surfaces, while others found in the mixed soils remain in good condition.

Sherds are mostly small with sharp edges and one has a hole drilled through it for repairing a probable fractured vessel.

I am grateful to Cathy Tester of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological service who has worked though the sherds and produced the chart below showing the type and distribution of the wares.

GISLEHAM - PAKEFIELD CLIFF					
Samian identification					
fabric	form	no.	sherd	date	comment
South Gaulish:					
SG	37	1	dec body	85-110	zonal dec. ovoio, wavy line
SG	18/31?	1	floor	Flav-Traj	Small
Central Gaulish:					
CG LMV	36	1	rim	Traj	with barbotine leaves
CG	37	3	dec body	Had-Ant	double medallion
CG	37	4	rim &	Had-Ant	ovolo, figs
CG	37	1	body	Had-Ant	Dec-ovolo, bead row
CG	27	1	rim-	Had E	with hole drilled for mending
CG	27	1	rim	Had E	
CG	33	1	rim	Ant	
CG	33	1	rim	Ant	
CG	33	1	rim	Ant	
CG	cup	1	wall/floor	Had-Ant	
CG	36	1	rim	Had-Ant	
CG	35	1	rim	Had-Ant	
CG	18/31 or	1	wall/floor	Had-Ant	
CG	18/31 or	1	floor/foot	Had-Ant	
CG	dish/bowl	1	footring	Had-Ant	
CG	dish/bowl	1	floor/foot	Had-Ant	
CG	31	1	rim &	Ant	
CG	18/31 or	1	rim	Had-Ant	
CG	38	1	flange	Ant	
CG	18/31 or	1	rim	Had-Ant	
CG	18/31 or	1	rim	Had-Ant	
CG	18/31 or	1	rim	Had-Ant	
CG		1	body	Had-Ant	flaked
CG		1	flake	Had-Ant	
East Gaulish:					
EG LM	18/31 or	1	floor	Had-Ant	burnt. La Madeleine
EG	33	1	rim	LC2-MC3	
EG Trier?		1	body	LC2-MC3	burnt
EG?		1	rim	LC2-MC3	flaked
EG					
Non-Samian:					
WC	beaker?	1	base	C2/C3	black slip

STORAGE JARS

Sherds from two storage jars have been recovered with the hardened body sherds from one indicating that something had gone wrong during the firing process. The slight camber of the sherds indicate a large diameter and the irregular surfaces also suggest a hand-built vessel, in spite of the comparatively thin-walled sherds, which average $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

The misfiring has resulted in a hardness close to stoneware textures, with the clay being in constant medium brown in colour on both surfaces, with an almost shiny appearance. Small irregular grits are visible in the clay and also in the broken sections, which also reveal a sandwich layer. Decoration consists of close vertical combing.

The second vessel includes part of a very thick coarseware base with a diameter in the region of 12", with the walls extending outwards at a fairly low angle.

These average $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick and there are extension voids and gaps in the clay on the outside, indicating burned organic material, while the small irregular indents on the inner surfaces may be the result of the loss of small round grits.

METALS**Iron**

The remains of eight nails show them to have flattened heads with diameters of approximately $\frac{5}{8}$ ", on square-sectioned shanks, with the lengths of two being 1½" and 2" respectively. The remainder appear heavily corroded and are broken in their lengths. A single piece of corroded iron, 3" long by $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide appears tapered in its length. The purpose is unknown.

Lead

Three pieces confirmed - and all appear to be spillage.

Bronze

Remains of bronze alloy consists of occasional small smears in the soil with any attributed finds being exceptionally small and in a state of advanced decay.

COINAGE

CLAUDIUS II			268-270
URBS ROMA	LE?		330-337
URBS ROMA	WT		330-337
CONSTANS	GEI		337-341
HOUSE OF CONSTANTINE	2V		342-348
CP (CONSTANTINOPOLIS)	VP	Trier Mint	343-348
CONS II IVNNOBC	GEI	Lyons Mint	330-337

ANALYSIS OF THE BONE REMAINS FROM THE FEATURE**A. BOVID**

Cattle 17 bones which include molar and fragments of rib, chop marks are visible in the surface of two leg bones.

B. OVIS

Sheep 6 bones, including molars.

C. SUIDAE

Pig 11 bones, including fragments of rib and molars. On one bone there are clear signs of gnawing.

There are also 25 fragments of bone and also small splinters of bone which could be attributed to any of the above groups.

OYSTER SHELL

14 oyster shells and several fragments were found amongst the pottery and tile, and all averaged 2½" in size. There was no evidence of mussel and whelks as in the previous year.

CREMATED BONES

Fragments of 16 bones have been found this season, with the remains varying in size from 1¼" up to 2¼". As before, all the remains are white in colour and several pieces were sent for analysis to the Archaeological service at Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. The results are as follows:

Some uncertain, but some pieces certainly animal bone. None definitely human but this does not rule out the possibility that there is scattered cremation in this deposit, as it is unusual to get animal bone this heavily burned in domestic contexts too.

I would like to express my thanks to Sue Anderson for her work on the above, which is greatly appreciated.

GAMING COUNTERS

A bone gaming counter was found with 2nd-3rd century pottery, which measures 7/8" in diameter and is decorated on the face side by four circular rings and a centre dot cut into the surface. The counter has a shiny patina and the flat underside is marked with six irregular shallow dots which probably indicate the game value of the counter.

SHALE COUNTER

A small, roughly cut irregular disc of black shale, nearly an inch in diameter and just over ¼" thick may also have been employed as a counter as were some of the dressed small pottery base types on occasions.

WORKED RED DEER ANTLER

From bone remains so far encountered it would appear that meat consumed was from domestic animals such as pig, local beef and sheep which was also raised for lamb and mutton, with additions such as chicken and duck. This was likely supplemented by fish and shell-fish from nearby estuaries and also from some of the forest animals such as wild pig and red deer which were also probably hunted for sport.

Tusks from wild boar and bones from red deer were found last year and there was also a ready use for antler remains, which could be used for various purposes such as pins, needles, counters etc.

Over the last year, seven pieces of antler have been found. Three pieces are from points and have been cut off at right angles, while another is an irregular fragment with indications of animal chewing to its surfaces.

The lower part of a large antler, measuring approximately 1¾" diameter is the most interesting of the group, as two pieces have been split off it, and have been sawn off at right angles and also sawn down the middle. Saw marks are clearly visible on all the cuts and the abrasions of the saw teeth indicate the saw was used slightly out of vertical during the operation which is thought to have been to produce antler pins.

SMOOTH CLAY LINING

During the investigation of the Medieval feature at P5, a number of small pieces of smoothed fine clay were encountered, suggesting the probability of some form of kiln or oven in the vicinity. Recently, close to the Romano-British ditch profile, fifteen more pieces of very similar material have been recovered.

These latest remains are much larger in size and decidedly thicker. In addition, part of a wide clay kiln bar was also found, with fist sized pieces of irregular burned clay, which clearly had been in contact with heat at some time.

The undersides of the clay linings have an irregular brick-like appearance, which contains small fragments of flints and chalk. Colours vary from shades of orange to variations of dark reds, while the finished surfaces are a constant light brown buff.

It would seem that some of the clay was applied in layers, as one piece has come apart, indicating a building up of the material during the initial construction.

CONSOLIDATED TRACKWAY

Moving north from the ditch feature is a section of consolidated small cobbles which were revealed after cliff falls during February 1997. At the time of writing we cannot be sure of its antiquity, although it is in the position of the drying kiln and appeared after the destruction of the former.

The surface is roughly 14" below present ground level and is on average, 11" thick, extending just under 11 feet across. The bulk of the composition is made up of small irregular flints, with occasional sandstone pebbles, and two grey body sherds were found near the underside of the material, these being of Romano-British character.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

In compiling this year's report, I would once again extend my grateful thanks to all those who contributed to the project and my apologies to anyone I have failed to acknowledge.

To Judith Plouviez for her help with the pottery and coinage, to Sue Anderson for her work on the cremated bones, to Cathy Tester for identifying the Samian pottery and its distribution, and also my thanks to Edward Martins for his work on the Covehithe buried urn and the Bronze Age fragments from Pakefield.

Thanks are also due to Mr W Milligan and Dr John Davis of the Castle Museum, Norwich for their continued assistance, with both the Pakefield material and additional items recovered during the Somerleyton survey.

Again my thanks to Bob Carr for his continued help and encouragement and also to Tricia Cuming & Dick Collins for producing this report from the hand-written text.

Finally, once again, my thanks to Adrian Charlton who has again spent a considerable amount of time and effort recovering and observing material at the location which otherwise would have been lost.

Paul Durbidge March 1998

A BRONZE AGE URN FROM COVEHITHE SUFFOLK

Paul Durbidge

During late May 1997 the greater part of an upturned late Bronze Age cremation urn was found by a young family out walking along the beach when they saw the vessel sticking out of the upper part of the cliff face. At some earlier stage part of the vessel had already broken away and a search of the upper levels of the cliff as well as at beach level produced a number of small crumbly body sherds and also small pieces of fragmentary white bone. The remains of the pot protruded just out of the cliff and had been subject to wind blown erosion and this had scoured out some of the infill revealing very small flints and the concentration of bones.

The first eight inches of soil from present ground level was well mixed and terminated at the beginning of the pot where the line of the plough could clearly be seen in the cliff face and it also showed that the bottom of the plough line had also just caught the vessel subsequently destroying the base. A further layer of approximately three inches was made up of small round pebbles before the beginning of the light sandy soils with comparatively few stones. The remaining lower part of the cliff being made up of clay formations down to beach level and beyond. The urn measured approximately twelve inches tall and to one side there were several sherds of pottery which at first resembled the remains of a second pot, though in fact they were part of the same vessel. Soil contained in the vessel was made up mostly of sandy brown material very similar to the composition of the cliff while the bottom four inches darkened in colour to near black and in this were numerous fragments of white cremated bone.

Before any attempts were made to remove the vessel, measurements were taken and it was photographed and it was at this point that numerous fine cracks were observed all over the urn which was going to cause problems in the removal if we were to try and retain the enclosed contents.

The irregular nature of the cliff face did allow us to position a large box just below the urn and close up to it in case it fell outwards and from the top of the cliff. David Higgins began to remove the soil supporting the back of the urn while the writer held the box in position. All the soil was removed by

hand not risking any trowel damage to an already fragile object and the very nature of the soil made the operation reasonably straight forward and after a while we were able to trace the back of the pot down to its limits. The final removal of the soils resulted in the vessel being finally tipped into the box which was packed with crumpled newspapers, complete with its content of soil and bones, it was lifted up onto the cliff top before being carried the ½ mile or so to the waiting cars.

A few days later the vessel was collected and taken to the Suffolk Archaeological Unit at Bury St. Edmunds for further study and also conservation before returning to Lowestoft.

Results of tests on the bone remains from the pot were carried out by the service specialist on human bones and these showed that from teeth and the size of fingers and bone formation it would seem that the remains were of an 11 - 12 year old child although the gender is unknown.

Later a further search was carried out on the scree and at beach level this time using rakes which again produced a few more body sherds and occasional cremated bone.

A close search was also made of the ground surface around the find spot which produced a number of small secondary flakes some with retouching along with a cortical scraper with reworking on nearly all edges and a small pebble of Sarson stone. Additionally finds consist of a couple of burnt flints and a five inch piece of micaceous schist which could have been used for a whetstone.

Over earlier years there have been several flakes picked up along this stretch, with button scrapers and odd finds of earlier pottery also being picked up on the scree of the cliff some 150 feet north of the present discovery. By reason of the varying material used by the potters there are obvious problems as to both date and period and it is likely that several sherds have been lost to weather conditions such as rain or frost after falling out of the cliff face. Three sherds have actually been dug out of the cliff line and all were in the same level with two in association with white pot boilers, secondary flint flakes picked up on the scree may well have links with the pottery and subsequently could be attributed to any of the respective periods.

Five pot sherds recovered during October 1997 were sent to the Unit at Bury St. Edmunds for additional information and the results from Mr. E Martins were as follows :

1 - Body sherd handmade reddish brown, external brown, internal + core common inclusions of burnt flint up to 5mm. ?NEOLITHIC OR IRON AGE.

2 - Body sherds handmade reddish brown, external brown, internal + core common inclusions of burnt flint up to 3mm. IRON AGE ?

1 - Body sherd handmade external surface missing but probably reddish brown, grey brown internal + most of core. Common inclusions of grog up to 5mm. Probably Bronze Age.

1 - Body sherd probably hand made dark brown inclusions of quartz + flint sand of approximately 1mm occasional quartz particles up to 6mm also small voids indicative of burnt organic matter. IRON AGE, EARLY SAXON OR POSSIBLY EARLY MEDIEVAL.

Since drawing up the report more pottery has been found at Covehithe and South of the burial find, it is as follows :

Thickened coarseware grey buff base with wheel impression on underside, 3rd - 4th century Romano British.

Eighteen sherds of medieval coarseware including rim and base. Several sherds soot stained. Soft dark brown to dark grey fabric containing mica. Upper part of wide coarseware handle very crude and irregular in texture suggesting both handle and neck of flagon were quite wet during application of former. Compares with examples found near Benacre Broad during 1972. Early medieval. Part rim and spout from a semi glazed spouted pitcher with splash of light green glaze where the spout has been applied. Traces of soot on both surfaces, soft orange fabric externally and grey buff internally. Medieval.

COVEHITHE : (COINAGE) SCEAT FRISTAN TYPE SERIES D c 710 - 715

KESSINGLAND DENES

Body sherd from an undecorated Samian bowl probably Central Gaulish in origin. Roman.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Lowestoft Archaeological and Local History Society is greatly indebted to Captain Sir John Gooch B.T. for kindly allowing Broad House Museum to retain the Covehithe urn where it will be displayed during 1998 after undergoing specialist conservation.

The Society would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. David Higgins and their children who discovered the urn and also assisted in its recovery for which the Society is most grateful.

Paul Durbidge January 1998.

THE LOWESTOFT SCENE 1997 TO 1998

Jon Reed

There has been the usual crop of 'doom and gloom' merchants active in the town. A year ago unemployment was up and prospects were 'bleak'. Early this year it was reported that there was more recruitment, but that 'we're not out of the wood yet'. Even when industry is in an upbeat mood, we have these Cassandras among us who insist that all is not well. And industry is doing well. Take these examples:-

Odebrecht-SLP have got contracts worth £48M. George Prior Engineering have a contract for Gulf Offshore which is creating 150 jobs. They have built a luxury Thames cruiser (The 'Silver Sturgeon') for £4M and have acquired the Hull dockyard of the Yorkshire Dry Dock Co. AKD Engineering have offshore contracts worth nearly £1M. Ark Offshore, working at the Brooke Yard, have delivered 6 huge storage vessels to Spain. Seaward Safety have a £1.7M contract for safety signs on offshore rigs. KYE Ltd. have a contract for underwater structures for Phillips Petroleum and Jewson are investing £300,000 in the their Lowestoft site. Boulton and Paul, bought recently by Rugby Joinery, have been having a rough time. Last June the staff accepted a pay freeze and have been on a 4 day week - but they are now back on full time and the company say they have no plans to 'develop' the Lowestoft site.

There have been setbacks. Kvaerner Oil have deserted Lowestoft for Great Yarmouth to facilitate their work for Amoco. The Grantchester Group had an application for a retail/leisure site near Tesco turned down, as did Aldi Stores for a food store in Commercial Road. Speaking of Tesco, they applied for a pharmacy licence in November and were turned down in December. There has been a campaign against them and in favour of local pharmacists, backed by Bob Blizzard MP. And, of course, there is the running sore of the fishing quotas. Sadly it appears that this government, like the last, is quite content to let Lowestoft's fishing fleet slide into extinction.

There are other enterprises to help the business community and the local residents. There is a new business centre on the South Lowestoft Industrial Estate. It cost £650,000 which was provided by Suffolk County Council, Waveney District Council, European 5b money and somebody called English Partnerships. The Kirkley Regeneration Scheme seems to be doing things. They have appointed a manager, Caroline Murphy, and provided a minibus to help working mothers. In November local residents and traders were urged to share in a possible £24M scheme. Lowestoft 2000 has suffered a crisis and has now got new officers and a new focus. It is now a forum for business and for research into local issues.

There are a few really contentious issues. A company called Bronzoak wanted to put a cattle incinerator for beasts slaughtered under the BSE campaign at Ellough. They appealed against a planning refusal and this raised a storm of objections. Then there is the battle between Potters Leisure and Anglian Water who wanted the same piece of land between Hopton and Corton. Potters want to put a world-class indoor bowling centre there and Anglian Water want to put a sewage farm. You can imagine who is getting the local support. We have had a SINBY campaign (Sewage in Nobody's Back Yard). While people deride NIMBY's, there is no doubt that it is extremely infuriating to have something dumped on one's doorstep. I know how it feels, because of the new Beccles Road estate.

Waveney District Council protest (perhaps too much) that they are not importing problem tenants from big northern cities, but my experience is that we now have a local population with some very un-

Suffolk accents and a tendency to treat the area like a wastebin and a target for vandalism and theft. Speaking of wastebins, they seem to be a vanishing breed these days. One can hardly blame people, and particularly youngsters, for throwing their rubbish anywhere when there isn't a bin within several hundred yards

On the housing front, Carlton Colville mardle was dug by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit and virtually nothing was found. The whole site had been subject to large scale dumping of rubble at some time. This leaves the way clear for building to commence. Another dig nearby is being conducted by a Cambridge Archaeology team between Carlton Colville and South Lowestoft Industrial Estate. This is preceding new housing. So far a fair amount of Saxon material and traces have been found. Completed housing projects include the conversion of stables to studio flats in Clapham Road, the conversion of the old Anglian Water offices in the High Street to residential units and a £95,000 facelift for Peddars Court (originally built for people needing training in basic domestic skills, but now part of the housing pool). The Beccles Road estate continues to grow and the Orwell Housing Association have completed their 600th home in Lowestoft, having been working here since the 1970's, by building a block of flats on Pier Terrace.

There have been many changes in shops over the year with, sadly, several empty ones appearing. McDonalds now have a Drive-Through place at Pakefield on the A12.

The big news on the roads is the pedestrianisation of the Triangle, despite strong protests from the local traders. The southern end of the High Street is indeed a difficult place to get to by car these days. The work was begun in September and finished in time for Christmas. Planning approval has been given for the next two phases of the northern spine road, from the junction of Peto Way to the Parkhill development area, to give further relief to Oulton Broad. A spur will also connect with the Tesco roundabout on the A12. Of course, there have been the usual crop of failures to perform. Suffolk County Council say they cannot afford to put in the Barnby bypass or the relief roads for Beccles and Bungay. They are also cutting back on their maintenance programme due to lack of funds. Where, one is tempted to ask, is the Council Tax (up by well over inflation this year) going? The County Council patted themselves on the back last December for their 'caring attitude', referring to the Citizen's Charter. It all cost a lot of our money! The work on Gorleston Road and Bridge Road to lay a new sewer, delayed last summer, started in October and finished after Easter.

This last year the LRN 150 organisation (Lowestoft, Reedham, Norwich 150th anniversary of the railway opening) have been very active, in association with the Transport Museum. There have been many events in the area and some ancient public transport vehicles have been seen in the town. Special trains have been laid on as well.

The Seafront Air Show last July was a great success with the crowds, although poorly supported by local businesses. It was followed in August by the 2nd Scores Race. Lowestoft again achieved the blue flag for clean beaches and Waveney are pursuing the idea of keeping dogs off the beach south of the Claremont Pier. A new Marina has been started at the Yacht Harbour. The whole scheme is likely to cost £2.5M and will be finished late this year. Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club are planning a £2M sports complex on 20 acres beside the A1117. £100,000 is to be spent on restoring the Wellington Esplanade Gardens to their former glory.

A Closed Circuit Television system has been installed in the town centre. The Home Office have given £130,000 towards the total cost of £300,000. In spite of much protest a footpath on the north side of Lake Lothing has been diverted to allow for more development.

The final job losses on the closure of Anglian Harbours National Health Trust has been 61. Lowestoft Hospital has lost 10 out of its 56 beds but is to have a new physiotherapy department, funded by James Paget Hospital, where the old operating theatre was. The operating theatre lamp has been saved for the time being, but needs a permanent home. Lowestoft Museum cannot cope with anything so massive, but efforts are being made to find a medical museum to take it.

The ISCA museum of ethnic boats was opened to the public last summer. It is located on Caldecott Road, Oulton Broad. Several boats arrived last spring and a dhow got stuck in the lock. More and more boats have been coming during the year. A new museum has opened in Wrentham, run by the newly-formed Wrentham Historical Society. First reports are of an excellent display and that it is well worth a visit. Work is proceeding on the Wilde School by the Civic Society. They were

vandalised last May, losing much of the original Victorian glass in the windows. They were presented with the Deeds at a ceremony in October. A Bronze Age cremation urn was found by a Lowestoft couple at Covehithe last November. It is currently being restored and will go on show in Lowestoft Museum in May or June. The Transport Museum have held several special weekends, including a Trolleybus weekend in September.

It has been announced that the Benjamin Britten School is to become a specialist technology school, whatever that may be. The other educational thrust seems to be aimed at Kirkley. The old Godfrey DIY shop on London Road South is being transformed into a skills centre for training the jobless and a group called Caring For Education has won an £185,000 grant. It is being used to fund a professional co-ordinator to raise the educational profile of Kirkley over the next 7 years.

Last June Rev. Will Stewart left St. Marks, Oulton Broad after promotion to be the Bishop of Exeter. He was sorely missed by his congregation. In January he was diagnosed with a brain tumour and very sadly died in March. Trixie Brighthouse, chair of Inner Wheel died in 1996. In October a seat was put outside Lowestoft Museum in her memory. Bill and Ada Goode celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on December 27th. Tragically their only son died suddenly shortly afterwards. They have our deep sympathy. Finally, Dr. Mohan of the Victoria Road Surgery was awarded the MBE last year for his work on chest ailments. He has been a G.P. in the town for 19 years.

You may have noticed that I have not mentioned the weather. Well, it has been so topsy-turvy that one cannot make a sensible assessment. It has been hot when we didn't expect it and has been cold when we should have had it hot. El Nino gets the blame for most of the world's bad weather, so we might as well join in - even if it is in the Pacific!