



Annual Bulletin

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Group member Chris Hunt investigating a concrete bunker at Chappel as part of the survey of World War II sites in Colchester Borough

Colchester Archaeological Group

President: Mr David T-D Clarke

Committee 2006/07

Mr John Mallinson	Chairman 1 The Mount Colchester CO3 4JR Tel: 01206 545969 jmallin704@aol.com
Mr Don Goodman	Vice-Chairman 39 Sutton Park Avenue Colchester CO3 4SX Tel: 01206 545457
Mrs Mary Coe	Honorary Treasurer 55 Dedham Meade Dedham Heath Colchester CO7 6EU Tel: 01206 322881
Mrs Gill Shrimpton	Honorary Secretary 1 The Mount Colchester CO3 4JR Tel: 01206 545969
Mrs Anna Moore	Bulletin Editor The Coach House 2a Salisbury Avenue Colchester CO3 3DN Tel: 01206 766638 anna.CAGBulletin@moore2a.freemove.co.uk

Other members:

Mrs Pat Brown, Mr Bernard Colbron, Mr Mark Davies, Mr James Fawn, Mrs Denise Hardy, Mr Christopher Hunt, Mr Francis Nicholls, Mr Richard Shackle, Mr Andrew White.

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Chairman's Introduction

John Mallinson

Archaeologists familiar with the technique of carbon dating will know that, to get a true date for an artefact, it is necessary to recalibrate the raw data. So they will have no difficulty in recognising that the 47th Annual Bulletin, duly recalibrated, actually represents the 50th Anniversary of the Group. This edition celebrates and records some of the history and achievements of the group, as well as bringing us up to date on current work.

During the last 50 years the group has grown from a small band of enthusiasts, keen to dig muddy holes, to nearly 200 members, most of whom participate keenly in the wide variety of activities which the group offers, and all of whom contribute to a wider understanding of archaeology in Colchester and elsewhere. This is no mean achievement in an age where there are so many other activities competing for our time and attention, and when archaeology is particularly well served by television and other more passive forms of involvement.

As well as looking back over our past achievements, it is also right at this time that we should look forward, and ask what the group should be trying to achieve over the next 50 years. Archaeology, and, more generally, the historic environment in which we live, have never been more under threat than they are today. They will be saved, not by professional archaeologist carrying out ever more frenzied and hasty rescue archaeology in advance of further development, or by amateurs picking away piecemeal to record tiny fractions of our heritage, but by a wider engagement of the public in understanding the history of the places where they live, and the extraordinary and irreplaceable heritage that is beneath their feet. It is the job of the group to help foster and develop that wider understanding.

After six editions, this is the last bulletin to be edited by Anna Moore, and our thanks are due to her for her efforts in advancing its quality and content to what we see today. Her successor will have the hard but rewarding challenge, not only to maintain the standards which Anna has set, but, as the principle means by which the group communicates its activities, to find ways of increasing its relevance and interest to a wider audience. We wish them well in their endeavours.

Editor's note

Anna Moore

This is the sixth Bulletin I have produced and it will be my last, as someone else will be taking over as Editor from next year. Looking back over the last six editions, what is striking is the eclectic nature of the interests of our members, as reflected in the articles contributed by them over the years. These range from the ongoing and often arcane discussions of the origins of 'folleys', through the reports on various small finds (or portable antiquities, as they must now be known), to the detailed and extensive reports on the activities of the Group's field-working team. One reliable contributor during my time as Editor has been Richard Shackle, a previous Editor, and I'm sure that everyone by now has considerable knowledge of the medieval timber-framed buildings of the town through reading his expert articles on the subject. I would like to thank Richard and all other contributors who have responded to my requests for items with enthusiasm, or at least without too much bullying. In particular, thanks are due to the many note-takers at the evening lectures. The notes on Winter Lectures are an important part of the publication and it cannot continue without the helpful volunteers.

This year's Bulletin, as mentioned by the Chairman, is our 50th Anniversary celebration edition and contains a number of articles reflecting the occasion. Mark Davies has written a history of the Group's activities, and perhaps almost as importantly, its personalities. Have you ever wondered what the CAG logo represents and how it was chosen? The answer is on page 48. How have previous milestones in the Group's history been marked by members? By a party, of course. This is CAG, after all. You can read about some of them on page 50.

I am looking forward to seeing how the new editor develops the Bulletin and perhaps takes it in new directions. I am particularly looking forward to being able to **read** the articles, rather than proof-read them!

I hope you enjoy this special edition of your Bulletin. As always, there is a digital version available on a CD which has more photographs and is in colour. If you would like to take up this option, please contact me.

Young Archaeologists Club

Report by Rita Bartlett

We have had another enjoyable year with good attendance and interesting sessions. Our membership now stands at about 40, with an attendance of up to 25 members at each session.

Last Autumn we had an Egyptian craft session, and an Iron Age session covering coins and tribal names, both based on exhibits in the Museum. We celebrated Saturnalia at our Christmas party – with the children reclining on cushions and the leaders waiting on them – rocket and feta salad and honey cake were on the menu – a change from the traditional Christmas party fare! We also made Christmas cards with greetings in Latin.

In the Spring we saw ‘A Night at the Museum’ at the Odeon, followed by a tour of the Museum by torchlight. This was led by Peter Berridge, included the prisons, and was very exciting despite the fact that nothing unexpected happened. Nothing came to life and we didn’t even disturb a single bat!

Our Summer programme included a preparation for a visit to the Iron Age site at Great Tey, then a visit to the excavation with an introduction to various aspects of technology and a ‘hands on’ session in a trench. During our follow up session we discussed what we had seen and the progress of the excavation, looked at photos taken at the site, and wrote a report on our visit for the ‘Young Archaeologist’ magazine.

During our last session, in view of the current First Emperor Exhibition at the British Museum which some of the children will be visiting, we discussed grave goods based on finds in the Castle Museum. We had a fun time making our own terracotta army which was most impressive and included archers, footsoldiers, acrobats and a chariot.

Thanks from Blanche, Pat, Caroline and Jean to all our volunteers and the parents who transport our members to our meetings.



A Terracotta Warrior under construction

Glimpses of the Past: A Memoir on the History of the CAG, 1957-2007

Mark Davies

Early Beginnings

Now that the Colchester Archaeological Group has reached its golden jubilee it is perhaps worthwhile looking at the early formative years and reviewing some of the main activities that its members have undertaken over the past fifty years.

The CAG, as it is more popularly known locally, was brought into being by the members of a second year Workers' Educational Association course on Archaeology which was sponsored by the University of Cambridge. The first year had started in September 1955 with Dr. John Morris of University College, London, acting as tutor for this and the following two years. What really seems to have galvanised the students into useful group activity was that, at the end of the second year, during the summer months of 1957, some field work was undertaken under the direction of M. R. (Rex) Hull, Curator of the Colchester and Essex Museum. Kay de Brisay later recalled that "We first grazed our knuckles with unaccustomed trowelling under his keen eye— and sometimes blistering tongue— in Lewis's Gardens now under the multi-storey car park which succeeded the "new" bus park.¹ This is where the Visual Arts Facility is currently being constructed.

Those first small projects introduced the participants to types of activity and subject matter that would soon become familiar topics of local archaeological interest. They included trial trenching in search of a possible Roman fort off Lexden Road, preliminary investigation of the site of a Roman kiln at Sheepen, resistivity surveys of some buried ditches and the examination of what is now a well-known drain opening in the town wall at Vineyard Street.²

In its third year the W.E.A. course developed into a study and discussion group. During the winter of 1957-58 the Group met weekly in the Castle Museum for pottery washing, drawing, sorting and classifying under Mr. Hull's direction. In March 1958 Part 1 of the Group's Quarterly Bulletin was published with members' contributions including several reports on the fieldwork that had already been undertaken. The Bulletin at first appeared in quarto size and continued to be published in four parts until 1971, when Volume 14 was published as a single volume, as it has ever since. Over the years a number of improvements have been made, mainly as a result of technological developments, so that now (since 2005) members have a choice between traditional and digital formats, or they can receive both. In fact all previous volumes (1-45) are now available on a single compact disc (CD).

The Group itself is recorded as having been formed in March 1957 with Rex Hull and Dr. John Morris as joint Presidents, the membership at that time being nine. During 1958 the number of active individual members rose from thirteen in June to thirty-five in September and by the end of that year it had reached forty. There were plenty of projects for them to be involved in and all these activities proved popular. Presumably as a reflection of this and the continuing increase of members, it was decided to call a General Meeting in order to review matters and to establish the Group's structure.

The first formal meeting was held at the Castle Book Shop, Museum Street, Colchester, on Tuesday, 5th of August, 1958, when Mr. Hull took the chair and the following officers were elected:

Chairman:	Mr. M. R. Hull, M.A., F.S.A.
Secretary:	Mrs. K. de Brisay.
Treasurer:	Mr. H. W. Palmer
Excavations Secretary:	Mr. A. B. Doncaster.
Public Relations Officer:	Mr. L. H. Gant
Committee Member:	Mr. F. H. Erith. ³

Officers and Committee

Rex Hull exercised the office of Chairman until March 1961 when at the Annual General Meeting he was made President, in which capacity he continued to give encouragement and valued advice until his death in 1976. He was succeeded by David T-D Clarke, who had followed him as Curator in 1963 and who, although having retired from that post in 1988, still maintains his keen interest in the Group's activities as only our second President.⁴

One of the first new members to join the Group was Felix Erith who served on the first Committee, becoming Vice-Chairman in 1960 and two years later the second Chairman. In 1955 he had started the meticulous recording of burial urns from the Bronze Age cemetery being uncovered by deeper ploughing on his land at

Vince's Farm, Ardleigh. One of the first articles in the Bulletin describes these important discoveries which were published only two years later in the Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society.⁵ For many years the Group's members were able to participate in a series of excavations at Ardleigh, which were recorded regularly in the Bulletin, as was other work on sites in the area which Felix kept a wary and discreet eye on through his tactful relations with the local farming community.

During the past fifty years some thirteen members have acted as Chairman, mostly for the normal term of three years, apart from when unusual circumstances have prevailed. However, two members have served twice and another one on three separate occasions (See Appendix for the names of those who have held the main offices).

Essential to the successful running of the Group's affairs has been the outstanding contribution of a small number of very efficient Secretaries. To say that Kay de Brisay was the driving force behind the CAG for twenty-four years from its inception until her death in 1981 is, to those who knew her, rather like stating the obvious. She was quite determined that the Group should always be successful in what it did and that its members should be able to make a valuable contribution both locally and in the wider world of archaeology. The workload that she undertook was prodigious – not only dealing with day-to-day affairs and general management, but arranging an impressive lecture programme each year, editing the bulletin and organising all the various outings, as well as directing some of the excavations and other recording projects.⁶

When she died, there was an immediate feeling that Kay could not be replaced, and this is true because the needs of the Group had grown to such an extent that so many different activities could not reasonably be undertaken by one person. Into the breach stepped Ida McMaster to act as Secretary for three years with Kath Evans, who had taken over as Editor, continuing for an extra year as Chairman. A small team of Committee members at first maintained the lecture programme at its customary frequency, extent and high standard, then in 1985 Ida McMaster herself successfully took on this challenging task for the following six years.

Next, in 1984, Dennis Tripp embarked on a seven-year Secretarial term, which in addition to his other commitments he managed to balance archaeologically with his enduring commitment to excavating with the Colchester Archaeological Trust.⁷ Perhaps the most important and long-lasting contribution that Dennis made was to steer the Group through the choppy waters of making application for charitable status, which was granted in 1993. This challenging procedure entailed drawing up an official Constitution written in a form that was acceptable to the Charity Commissioners.⁸ Approved at the Annual General Meeting held on 11th October 1993, it deals with the various aspects of membership, management and meetings and states that the object of the Group shall be

“Through lectures, study visits, publications, excavations and fieldwork to educate and promote a knowledge of and an interest in archaeology, both generally and with particular reference to Colchester and District.”

Every member, especially those who serve on the Committee, would find it useful to peruse this document from time to time.

For fifteen years, from 1991 to 2006, the Group enjoyed the substantial contribution of Pat Brown as its second-longest serving Secretary. During that time the membership and its activities went from strength to strength and we are very fortunate that she still continues to serve on the Committee and to do what is necessary to maintain the enviably high standards set for the annual programme of Winter Lectures. For the last year the Secretary's duties have been fulfilled enthusiastically and efficiently by Gill Shrimpton, while the Group adapts to a new phase in its history with some slight adjustments here and there and a few newer faces involved in the organisation of its activities.

There are nine members who have served as Treasurer of the Group over the past fifty years. The first of these – for five years – was Harry Palmer, who was also very active in the field and became well-known and much appreciated for the lecture notes that he provided for the Bulletin. He was the longest surviving of the founder members.⁹ Dorothy Jones served diligently for just over eleven years, while undoubtedly the most tenacious Treasurer by far has been James Fawn who stepped down in 2005 after twenty-six years in the office. What is more, having joined the Group in 1961, James was first elected to the Committee a year later and as the longest serving member of the Group to date has been a Committee member in one capacity or another for some forty-five years. This outstanding record is surely unlikely ever to be surpassed and is worthy of hearty congratulation!

One office that James held for three years from 1966 was that of Public Relations Officer which was important in the early years. This post had previously been held to great effect from the outset by Leonard Gant, an expert on clay pipes, who worked tirelessly to bring the Group's activities to public notice through the press. Many other members, too numerous to mention, have served on the Committee or undertaken special roles from time to time as necessity has demanded.

Winter Meetings

The core activity of the Group, around which its other archaeological activities continually revolve, has always been the annual series of Winter Meetings which quickly evolved from the original 'study and discussion group.' Committee meetings were held until 1962 at the Castle Bookshop in Museum Street, where notice of fieldwork was posted by Tony Doncaster, but the weekly meetings were from the beginning held at the Castle.

During the Group's second year members met regularly every Tuesday evening from 7 - 9 p.m. in the Castle Museum for practical work, study and discussion. Some members gave talks on chosen subjects and were contributing articles to the Bulletin. A year later it was recorded that "The winter of 1959/60 marked a new venture – a series of talks, interspersed with visits, every Monday evening".¹⁰ These weekly talks proved very successful and it was readily agreed to have more of the same.

The first Winter Meetings were held in the Medieval Room at the Castle until March 1960. However, for the next session the familiar venue had to be changed to the Friends Meeting House in Shewell Road because the Castle was no longer available. The enforced move appears to have caused some dissension because, as the Secretary later reported, "This had meant an unlooked-for expense and, as a result, those attending had had to contribute 1/- (5p) per head per meeting, which did not seem quite fair."¹¹ Fair or not, this practice of levying a small charge for each meeting has persisted to the present day as a prudent means of keeping the inflationary demands of subscription increases within reasonable bounds.

From October 1962 the lectures were held at yet another location, St. Runwald's School in Oxford Road¹², where the Annual General Meeting held on 14th October 1963 was the first to take place at this subsequently traditional time of year rather than in March as before. Two years later, for the AGM in October 1965, the Group moved back to the Castle, where meetings have been held ever since – in the present lecture room originally created by Charles Gray for his library. During the first few years most of the lectures were given by members on a subject of their choice supplemented by a few visiting speakers. However, this soon changed to a majority of specially invited lecturers and for there to be anything up to ten meetings in each term both before and after Christmas.

During the past half century the Group has been extremely fortunate to have enjoyed a wide and fascinating range of lectures on archaeological and related subjects. For these the members are eternally grateful to the many speakers who have imparted so much knowledge and enjoyment, particularly those who have had to contend with inclement winter weather or long journeys, or both. The number of lectures given to the Group over the past fifty years has been calculated at eight hundred without including members' shorter contributions.¹³

From time to time there have been special public lectures. In September 1960, for example, Professor Christopher Hawkes addressed a capacity audience in the Minorities on 'Problems of the Bronze Age and Iron Age in the Colchester Region.' Over 60 members and their friends enjoyed this stimulating experience, which was considered the outstanding event of that autumn. By the end of the year the membership had risen to over 80 individual members, while some 20 Societies and official organisations received the Bulletin regularly.

Bulletin

From the beginning it was decided that the Group's activities should be published in a Bulletin, whose purpose was expressed in the first editorial as –

*"Our aim is to produce a Bulletin of interest to local people and, possibly, to similar groups elsewhere. We hope by this means to increase interest in the subject and to encourage sufficient awareness in the district so that no sites of significance may go unexplored. We also hope to help and encourage people who think they have made a discovery worthy of investigation."*¹⁴

Producing this publication each year is probably the most demanding activity that the Group has regularly undertaken, but its legacy is an enduring one which stands on its own merits. Time and again problems of cost, content, format, production and so forth have punctuated the records of Committee and Annual General Meetings. Nonetheless a new edition of the Bulletin was delivered quarterly for the first thirteen years and thereafter

almost annually thanks to the unstintingly hard work of a succession of six Editors.

The first and longest serving editor – for twenty-four years – was Kay de Brisay, who was adamant that the Bulletin should maintain as high standards as could be achieved. She was assisted in the last few years by Kath Evans whose involvement arose from her interest in Red Hills. Kath continued as editor until 1987, having already been responsible with Kay for jointly editing what is known as the Salt Report in 1975.¹⁵ This special publication comprises twenty-five papers which had been given at the Salt Weekend, a conference held on 20th, 21st and 22nd September 1974 at the University of Essex. It was held under the auspices of the Group with Hugh Thompson, MC, MA, FSA, General Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, acting as Chairman. Although the necessary organisation had been undertaken mainly by Kay, she was unable to attend because of an accident but was able to hear what was going on via a special telephone link. It was the first international gathering of its kind on the subject and proved a great success. In 1976 the Salt Report was submitted as an entry for Essex County Council's Amenities Award Scheme and won the first prize.¹⁶

When Richard Shackle took over as Editor in 1987 he gave the Bulletin's contents an additional emphasis with the inclusion of many short descriptions of small finds and the meticulous analysis of numerous timber buildings in the area most of which he had recorded himself.

Ros Thomas took on the task for three years from 1998 until 2001, since when Anna Moore has exercised this important role. Under her editorship the new millennium has seen the Bulletin going from strength to strength with a wide variety of contents and an improved format. In fact the introduction of the CD format in 2005 has meant that some articles can be read in greater detail, with more illustrations, where appropriate in colour, and still at a modest cost. Another recent innovation benefiting members has been the provision since 2002 of a twice yearly newsletter, which has proved very popular. The news and briefings that it contains can also be accessed by members and the general public by courtesy of Jess Jephcott on the Group's own web-page at www.camulos.com/cag/cag.htm

In 1961 the Group was invited to exhibit at the Tendring Hundred Show for the first time.¹⁷ A display on the three Bronze Age barrows excavated at Ardleigh was presented and created great interest among the farming community in particular. This event became a regular commitment thereby enabling the Group to present its activities to the general public and in the process hopefully encouraging new members to join. Such events have always proved rewarding, even if they take a lot of effort to prepare and manage. In more recent times a series of display screens has been maintained, and updated regularly, for use each year on such occasions as National Archaeology Days, the Essex History Fair and other local events like the Colchester Cloth Fair in 2006.

Fieldwork

While the winter lectures have been maintained with remarkable frequency and quality, so have the Group's other more practical activities, as can be seen from the Bulletin. From the beginning members participated in projects organised by Rex Hull, the Museum Curator, and often supervised by his Assistant, Brian Blake. These include the Bronze Age Barrow at Jupes Hill, Dedham (1958), a Roman pottery kiln at Sheepen (1959), and the Roman Temples at Sheepen (1959, 1961).¹⁸

When the Colchester Excavation Committee was reformed in 1963 the Group supported its projects and since it became the Colchester Archaeological Trust many of the Group's members have been regularly involved with its rescue (now contract) excavations in the town and with processing the pottery and finds. The Group's representatives, too, have always contributed to the work of its management committee, while some smaller projects have been done in association with or for the Trust, one of which led to the recovery of the head of Longinus in 1996.

The close association with Colchester Museum has also continued, with help being given to specific projects and surveys, often with exciting results. They include the excavation of the Oliver's Orchard hoards in 1983 when a total of 6,115 Roman coins, deposited in three separate pottery vessels in the early 270s, were retrieved and recorded in a systematic manner.¹⁹

In 1980 the Museum initiated a programme of recording churchyards in the Colchester district, which members undertook, firstly at St. Michael, Berechurch, whose church (made redundant in 1974) was suffering from serious vandalism. Gravestones at the church of St Mary, Easthorpe, were also recorded in 1980, followed by St. Michael and All Angels, Copford, in 1981.²⁰ More recently, beginning in the summer of 1999, an intrepid group of CAG members led by Noreen Proudman, Freda Nicholls and Mary Coe has completed comprehensive

surveys of St. Runwald's, St Martin's, St James the Great, St Mary-at-the-Walls, Holy Trinity, All Saints, St Nicholas's and St. Peter's churches in Colchester's town centre. All the records, plans and photographs have been lodged with Colchester Museum and copies made available elsewhere.²¹

In 1999 and 2000, pairs of members undertook to survey cellars in the town centre for the computerised record of the town's archaeology which was being created at the Museum Resource Centre for Colchester's Urban Archaeological Database. This produced many interesting results and some amusing experiences.²² In July 2005 a graffiti recording project at the Castle, led by Don Goodman and Mary Coe, was finally completed after four years' searching work.²³

The Group's major body of fieldwork, however, consists of projects that its own members have initiated, carried out and published over these past fifty years. Mention has already been made of the encouraging leadership and example of Felix Erith in the early days. His investigation of the multi-period cropmark site at Ardleigh, undertaken with assistance from members of the Group over two decades, was done in exemplary fashion, each season's work being promptly reported in the Bulletin and illustrated with his own very competent drawings. All this culminated in a programme of fieldwork, in which members took part, undertaken by the Central Excavation Unit from June 1979 until October 1980, as summarised in the Bulletin by its Director John Hinchliffe.²⁴

Aerial Photography

After the original discoveries of Bronze Age urns, all the subsequent excavations at Ardleigh related to the interpretation of cropmarks seen at ground level and recorded from the air. Lt. Commander R. E. Farrands was the first person to take aerial photographs of circular cropmarks in the Ardleigh area in 1959,²⁵ and the meticulous aerial surveys that he and Ida McMaster made over North Essex and South Suffolk during the next twenty-five years added considerably to archaeological knowledge.

Between them Dick Farrands and Ida McMaster discovered hundreds of new sites which they meticulously recorded, published and added to each year.²⁶ Their photographic archives have been deposited with Colchester Museum for safekeeping and public reference, as well as copies made available to Essex County Council's SMR and the National Monuments Record.

In 1978 they produced an Album of Cropmarks which was submitted under the Research Category of the County Amenities Award Scheme and gained first prize for themselves and the Group.²⁷ It is a fitting tribute to this outstanding work that in 2007 Ida McMaster should find herself included in the New Year Honours List and have been invested by HM the Queen with the order of MBE for services to Archaeology in Essex.

Red Hills

The first article which Dick Farrands contributed to the Bulletin in June 1959 was on Essex Red Hills in the Hamford Water Area.²⁸ This stirred a growing interest among members of the Group and it was determined that a suitable site should be investigated. Some, like Kay de Brisay, Ben Edwards and his father Harold Edwards contributed talks or short papers on the subject, and the latter sometimes accompanied Kay on her relentless quest to track down as many of these mysterious mounds as could be found.²⁹

The Group's first major excavation of a Red Hill was at Osea Road in 1971 and 1972.³⁰ Then from 1973 followed the four-year campaign at Peldon³¹ which those attending the Salt Weekend in 1974 were able to visit. All this dedicated work received great encouragement when the Salt Report was judged the winning entry for written and illustrated material (Category A) under the Local Amenity Society Award Scheme for 1975.³²

Although the Red Hill at Tollesbury, beginning on Easter Monday 1977,³³ saw the last major excavation campaign some smaller projects have subsequently been done from time to time. However, a high point of research and publication was reached in 1990 after some years of work when, as a tribute to the work of Kay de Brisay, four members of the Group produced *The Red Hills of Essex*, with James Fawn as protagonist.³⁴

The excavations that the Group's members have undertaken during the past fifty years have been many and various and their publication in the Bulletin gives testimony to what has been achieved. It is interesting to note that, in addition to the subjects already mentioned, there are certain other categories of work that regularly recur. These include kilns - Roman, medieval and post-medieval - Roman roads and field survey. This latter category includes important geophysical surveys, first undertaken by Peter Cott at Gosbecks, and continued there and on several other sites by Aline and David Black and Tim Dennis.³⁵

The recently completed survey of over 150 World War II sites, funded by the Local Heritage Initiative with an

additional contribution from Colchester Borough Council, has proved another challenge which members have been able to enjoy under Fred Nash's guidance.³⁶ In our fiftieth year, the current excavations which have been continuing at Teybrook Farm, Great Tey, have produced a well organized approach from an enthusiastic and increasing group of workers. It should not go unmentioned, however, that one of them is James Fawn, who is still digging and contributing to the Bulletin after forty-six years a member.

Colchester's Town Wall

Someone who also came on the scene in the 1960s was Peter Holbert who directed many of the Group's excavations before his untimely death in 1980.³⁷ The first of these recorded the foundations of Bastion 3 and a section of the Town Ditch in Priory Street in 1965.³⁸

Colchester's Town Wall has always been an important subject of the Group's interest – and concern. This goes back to June 1960, when members were taken on an evening tour of the town by Alderman Leonard E. Dansie, J.P., F.S.A.³⁹ On arriving at the last place of interest to be visited they were appalled at the neglected state of the Balcerne Gate, "which appeared as if it had been used as a Municipal rubbish dump. On the suggestion of our secretary, Mrs. de Brisay, a letter was sent to the Museum Committee who gave permission for the Group to clean it up."⁴⁰

Another such tour was led by Ald. Dansie in 1961 and members of the Group undertook a second clean-up of the Balcerne Gate, followed by a third in 1962.⁴¹ As the Secretary then wrote, "The Group has undertaken to tidy this up as in previous years. We like to feel that this important site should be presented in the best possible light to our summer visitors and we are glad to make this small service to the town. Meet at the Gate on Monday, the 14th of May at 6.30 p.m. wearing old clothes! Please bring some suitable tools."⁴²

In the same year (1962) Mr. H.J. Edwards suggested that "it may be a matter of more than passing interest to some archaeologists that the public house built on the Roman Wall and Gate at the top of Balcerne Hill, officially the 'King's Head' and always known locally as the "Hole in the Wall", has now had the latter name adopted by Messrs. Ind Coope."⁴³

However, in the Bulletin of June 1962 a strongly and carefully worded Editorial stated that "In view of the rumoured impending developments we think that now is the time to express our feelings on the matter; to state what we think is wrong with the Monument, and to suggest practical ways of improving its appearance." The full statement⁴⁴ aroused considerable interest and many letters of support were received, including one from Sir Mortimer Wheeler; while a visit was made by a representative of the Ancient Monuments Society. The impending threat of having a carpark placed where the Mercury Theatre now stands, with access from Balcerne Lane, duly receded and more clearance work was tackled by Group members in 1965 and 1968.⁴⁵ In due course improvements were made to the Balcerne Gate and its surroundings, some of them along similar lines to those suggested, but not until 1976 when the ravine-like Balcerne Way was constructed. Repairs to the historic structure became increasingly urgent and were finally achieved in 1991.

More recently in 2004, as part of the consultative process relating to proposals for the development of the newly styled St. Botolph's Quarter, the Group made detailed comments on how the town wall and its setting could and should be properly treated in Priory Street and Vineyard Street. As yet the authorities have still to indicate the necessary details of their proposed improvements to the monument and its setting and it is hoped that opportunities will not be lost to enhance these sections in such a way that will befit the full extent and integrity of Britain's oldest town walls.

Celebrations

One of the Group's strengths has been the ability of its members, coming as they do from all walks of life, to mix socially with ease. This has helped to make for excellent cohesion, co-operation and quiet determination in all the various activities undertaken. An important function, therefore, has been the regular organisation of Christmas and Summer parties, to which many have contributed and none less than Hazel West for a number of years. In this context the Group has never been reluctant to celebrate its anniversaries.

On Thursday, 2nd November 1967, a Tenth Anniversary Dinner was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Colchester, with the Mayor and Mayoress, Alderman E. P. Duffield, J.P., and Mrs. Duffield, Prof. C.F.C. Hawkes, and Mrs. Sonia Hawkes as the guests of honour. Fifty members were present although a lack of space meant that many others had to be disappointed. After the meal, for which a special souvenir menu card was designed by Malcolm Carter, the Mayor proposed "The Colchester Archaeological Group" to which Prof. Hawkes responded. "In a colourful and witty speech he recalled his long association with Colchester, and with the Group

from its early days, and he maintained that nowhere else except in such a Group could be found such a successful cross-section of the community.”⁴⁶

Fifteen years later the Group's twenty-fifth anniversary was celebrated on Monday 12th July 1982 with a Silver Jubilee Party held at Abberton Cottage by kind permission of Tony and Mary Doncaster. Then again in July 1987 another party celebrated the thirtieth anniversary at Threshelfords in Feering – the home of Tony and Jean Bonner – at which the President, David Clarke, proposed the Group's health with “a most diverting poem,” as follows –

We meet tonight, by kindness of the Bonners
To hold a party, and to do the honours
For it is thirty years since first we met
And this, our group, upon its course was set.
Twice fifteen summers may cause some alarm
To those who write for magazines of charm
And threaten drastic economic shocks
For Steffi Graff or, worse, Samantha Fox,
But we, as archaeologists, are sure
Like port or stilton, we are but mature.
Not the balloonist's transatlantic thrills
For us, who modestly ascend Red Hills;
For us, who find tranquility serene
In clearing out a legionary latrine,
Or see depicted in the grass and loam
The Celtic homesteads and the farms of Rome.
As in Imperial triumphs men conveyed
Reminders that earth's laurels quickly fade,
So we remember Kay and Dick, but know
We tread the path that they would have us go.
And so, in this our Anglo-Saxon habit
Come hell, high water, Parsonson, or Tebbitt,
We raise our glasses, and proclaim with me
"A Happy Birthday to the C.A.G."⁴⁷

Now, twenty-five years on, to mark the Group's Golden Jubilee in 2007 a number of special events have been arranged by way of celebration. The first of these was the annual summer party which on this occasion took the form of a 50th Anniversary Dinner at Marks Hall with Mrs. Ida McMaster MBE as the guest of honour. It proved an ideal opportunity to mark her well deserved inclusion in the New Year Honours List for services to Archaeology in Essex and the members and their guests who were present rose as one to drink the toast proposed by the Chairman, John Mallinson.

On Saturday 27th October 2007 TV archaeologist Julian Richards, presenter of 'Meet the Ancestors' and 'Timewatch', was invited to give an illustrated public lecture to the Group. An audience of 100 people gathered at the Castle Methodist Church Hall for his enthralling talk on 'Stonehenge - the Story so Far.' He had already spent a busy morning with the Young Archaeologists Club, who have a special connection with the Group. The final event of the year is the annual Christmas party at St. Botolph's Church Hall planned to include a grand draw with the intention that all proceeds will go towards archaeological projects.

Fifty years on, with nearly two hundred members, the Group continues to be committed to its aims and objectives and to enjoy its archaeological pursuits both in the interests of its members and for public benefit. Long may this continue as new challenges arise. It now only remains to proclaim again,

"A Happy Birthday to the C.A.G!"

APPENDIX

Names of Office Holders with Dates

Chairman

1957 – 61	M. R. Hull, M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A.
1961 – 63	F. H. Erith, F.S.A.
1963 – 66	Major A. D. Mansfield
1966 – 69	L. H. Gant
1969 – 72	H. M. Carter
1972 – 75	A. J. Fawn, B.Sc.– 66
1975 – 78	G. M. R. Davies, M.A., A.M.A
1978 – 82	Mrs. K. A. Evans
1982 – 85	D. T.-D. Clarke, M.A., F.M.A., F.S.A., F.R.N.S.
1985 – 88	A. B. Doncaster
1988 – 91	V. M. Scott
1991 – 94	G. M. R. Davies, M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A.
1994	H. K. Hale (d. Dec. 1994)
1995 – 98	V. M. Scott
1998 – 01	W. J. Mallinson, M.A.
2001 – 04	G. M. R. Davies, M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A.
2004 – 07	W. J. Mallinson, M.A.

Secretary

1957 – 81	Mrs. K. W. de Brisay, F.S.A.
1981 – 84	Mrs. I. McMaster, M.B.E.
1984 – 91	D. P. Tripp, M.C., F.C.A.
1991 – 06	Mrs. A. P. Brown
2006 –	Mrs. G. Shrimpton

Treasurer

1957 – 62	H. W. Palmer
1962 – 63	A. H. Sheed
1963 – 64	Miss S. Mansfield
1964 – 74	Miss D. Jones
1974	A. E. Nicholls MBE
1975	Miss D. Jones
1975 – 79	Mrs A. Hampton
1979 – 05	A. J. Fawn, B.Sc.
2005 – 07	Mrs M. Coe

Editor

1957 – 81	Mrs. K. W. de Brisay, F.S.A.
1981 – 87	Mrs. K. A. Evans
1987 – 98	R. W. S. Shackle
1998 – 01	Mrs. R. Thomas
2001 –	Mrs. A. Moore

Notes

1. CAG Bull. Vol 20 (1977), 1.
2. CAG Bull. Vol 1 Pt 1 (1958), 8.
3. CAG Minutes of a General Meeting held on 5th August 1958. This is the first meeting to have been recorded in the Minute Book, although it is recorded there (presumably in error) as having been held on 7th August 1958. The first Committee meeting was arranged for Tuesday, 26th August 1958 (exactly three weeks later) at the same location, but no minutes survive.
4. CAG minutes of an Annual General Meeting held on 1st October 1985.
5. Erith F.H. and Longworth I.A., A Bronze Age Urnfield on Vincens Farm, Ardleigh. Proc. Prehist. Soc. XXVI NS (1960) 178-92.
6. Bull. Vol. 24 (1981), 41. Obituary.
7. CAG Bull. Vol. 41 (2000-2001), 4. Obituary.
8. Colchester Archaeological Group, Registered Charity No. 1028434.
9. CAG Bull. Vol. 41 (2000-2001), 6. Obituary.
10. CAG Minutes of an Annual General Meeting held on 21st March 1960, Item 3 Secretary's Report.
11. CAG Minutes of an Annual General Meeting held on 13th March 1961, Item 3 Secretary's Report.
12. CAG Bull. Vol. 5 (1965), 1.
13. These have been catalogued and are available on disc.
14. CAG Bull. Vol. 1 Pt. 1 (1958), 1.
15. De Brisay K.W. and Evans K.A., Salt – The Study of an Ancient Industry, CAG (1975).
16. CAG Bull. Vol. 20 (1977), 9.
17. CAG Minutes of an Annual General Meeting held on 19th March 1962, Item 3 Secretary's Report.
18. CAG Bull. Vol. 1 Pt. 1 (1958), 1; Vol. 1 Pt. 4 (1958), 24; Vol. 4 Pt. 2 (1961), 11.
19. CAG Bull. Vol. 26 (1983), 2; Vol. 27 (1984), 16.
20. CAG Bull. Vol. 24 (1981), 5; Vol. 25 (1982), 21.
21. CAG Bull. Vol. 40 (1997-2000), 7; Vol. 41 (2000-01), 3; Vol. 42 (2002), 4; Vol. 43 (2003), 33; Vol. 44 (2004), 23.
22. CAG Bull. Vol. 40 (1997-2000), 4.

CAG 47

23. CAG Bull. Vol. 43 (2003), 23; Vol. 45 (2005), 5; Vol. 41 (2000-01), 15.
24. CAG Bull. Vol. 24 (1981), 2.
25. CAG Bull. Vol. 2 Pt. 3 (1959), 19; Vol. 3 Pt. 1 (1960), 9.
26. CAG Bull. Vol. 29 (1986), 23 (R.H. Farrands Memorial Issue).
27. CAG Bull. Vol. 21 (1978), 9.
28. CAG Bull. Vol. 2 Pt. 2 (1959), 15.
29. CAG Bull. Vol. 3 Pt. 4 (1960), 37; Vol. 5 Pt. 1 (1962), 7; Vol. 5 Pt. 1 (1962), 11.
30. CAG Bull. Vol. 15 (1972), 23; Vol. 16 (1973), 11.
31. CAG Bull. Vol. 17 (1974), 15; Vol. 20 (1977), 9.
32. CAG Bull. Vol. 20 (1977), 9.
33. CAG Bull. Vol. 21 (1978), 4.
34. Fawn A.J., Evans K.A., McMaster I. and Davies G.M.R., The Red Hills of Essex, CAG (1990).
35. CAG Bull. Vol. 43 (2003), 6; Vol. 45 (2005), 6.
36. CAG Bull. Vol. 45 (2005), 46.
37. CAG Bull. Vol. 24 (1981), 17.
38. CAG Bull. Vol. 8 Pt. 4 (1965), 29.
39. CAG Bull. Vol. 3 Pt. 3 (1960), 27.
40. CAG Bull. Vol. 3 Pt. 3 (1960), 30.
41. CAG Bull. Vol. 4 Pt. 3 (1961), 34; Vol 5 Pt. 2 (1962), 13.
42. CAG Bull. Vol. 5 Pt. 1 (1962), 2.
43. CAG Bull. Vol. 5 Pt. 1 (1962), 2.
44. CAG Bull. Vol. 5 Pt. 2 (1962), 13; Vol. 5 Pt. 3 (1962), 29.
45. CAG Bull. Vol. 8 Pt. 2 (1965), 16; Vol. 11 Pt. 2 (1968), 9.
46. CAG Bull. Vol. 10 Pt. 4 (1967), 36.
47. CAG Bull. Vol. 30 (1987), 2.



Pegging out Ardleigh Ring 6, 1962. From left to right: Kay de Brisay, Harry Palmer, HJ Edwards, James Fawn, Felix Erith



Receiving first prize under the ECC Amenities Award Scheme for the 1978 Album of Crop-marks. Dick Farrands is on the left and Ida McMaster on the right.



Bronze Age burial urns being excavated at Teybrook Farm, Great Tey, 2003

For more photographs from the archives, see Annexe 1.

Lodge Hills, Wormingford
Andrew White

Background

Wormingford is a small parish some 7-8 miles NW of Colchester adjoining the River Stour on the Suffolk/Essex border. Much of the parish is within the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Sandy and Lodge Hills lie to the south of the River Stour and, as the names suggest, are elevated above the flood plain. They have commanding views to the West, North and East over the Stour Valley. The soil is sandy, being part of the Kesgrave beds which underlie the boulder clay on the higher land either side of the valley. Below the hills is Wormingford Mere, a former decoy which feeds into the river. The river flows in a west-east direction. North of the river is the county of Suffolk, with Essex to the south. Smallbridge Hall, a Grade II* listed building lies just to the north of the river and is prominent in the landscape.

In September 2006, CAG member Andrew White was contacted by the landowner, Miss Phyllida Tuffnell of Wormingford Hall, who informed him that they had had trouble with rabbits at the top of Lodge Hill. Ferrets had been sent down but one had become stuck. The ferreter had dug out the ferret and in so doing had discovered what appeared to be a foundation.....

Andrew White and Francis Nicholls were invited to uncover the foundation to shed some light on its antiquity or otherwise. The ferret hole was opened up again (LH1) and about 600mm down, a single line of mortared soft red bricks were seen. One of the bricks was lifted and was verified as a 15th century 'place' brick (Appendix 1).

History

Local stories talk of Lodge Hill or Sandy Hill being the site of a Roman villa or medieval hunting lodge (Wormingford Church has substantial quantities of Roman tiles used as quoins for the church tower). Preliminary work by Francis Nicholls in Colchester library highlighted the possibility of the hunting lodge. Winifred Beaumont's books 'The Wormingford Story' and 'Wormingford, an English Village' refer to the visit on two occasions by Elizabeth I to Smallbridge Hall and to her being entertained to a hunting spectacular (Appendices 2 & 3).

Morant 1748 shows a lodge between Church Hall and The Meer (Appendix 4), whereas Chapman and Andre's map of 1777 shows a lodge complex of at least two buildings and an enclosure (Appendix 5).

The map of sites and finds within Winifred Beaumont's book, however, shows the lodge further to the south, beyond the track connecting Sandy Hill with the Wormingford Mill (Appendix 6). The Sites and Monument record 9285 shows crop marks in a similar position south of the track. By the early 19th century, the Lodge was no longer in existence with nothing showing on the tithe map of 1833. The first ordnance survey of 1864 however, does show a field called Lodge Pastures as well as Great and Little Deer pastures (Appendix 7).

Against the background of this earlier information gathering, Pat Brown was asked to undertake further research in the Essex and Suffolk records offices. Work at the West Suffolk Records Office showed that Smallbridge Hall dated from at least the 14th century and was rebuilt between 1555 – 60 by Sir William Waldegrave. The cost of just one visit by the Queen and her retinue to Sir William was £250, an enormous sum of money at that time.

A visit was made to the Queen Elizabeth Hunting Lodge at Epping which has been restored and was a substantial two-storey structure (Appendix 8).

In November 2006 David and Aline Black undertook a magnetometry survey in the vicinity of the find and produced some interesting results which may indicate a building in the north-west quadrant (see following article).

A further dig was carried out on the 24th January by Don Goodman, Francis Nicholls, Andrew Auld and Andrew White. Two holes were opened up and brickwork exposed. Trench LH1 (the previous hole) was enlarged to show a T-shaped formation showing an outer wall foundation 18in thick consisting of an outer and inner skin of stretchers with cross headers between. The outer wall runs almost due east-west. A cross wall comes in at right angles and consists of a single row of stretchers and headers making a thirteen inch wall running in a north-south direction. The second trench LH2 showed a continuation of the 18in brickwork extending to the east. The distance between the two holes was 2.6m, with a common depth of 600mm (Appendix 9).

A resistivity survey was carried out by Aline and David Black on 6th February, which reinforced their interest in the site with a strong feature in the middle of the quadrant and a circular mark in the NW corner (See Fig 1 of the following article). A measured survey of the site was carried out by Andrew White on the 7th February and the magnetometry superimposed at the same scale.

A dig was organised by Francis Nicholls on the 16th February, attended by Andrew White, John Mallinson, Anna Moore, Andrew Auld, Aline and David Black. Trench LH2 was reopened to confirm the direction of the wall and a new trench LH4 was excavated 5m west of trench LH1. A parallel course of bricks were found in trench LH4 at a similar depth to the previous find. A trench LH3 was then excavated one and a half metres east of trench LH2 and a more random pattern of mortared brickwork was found generally aligning with LH1 and LH2.

A trial trench 3m x 50cm was dug on the 15th of March by Andrew Auld, Francis Nicholls and Andrew White in a position that was thought to straddle the western side of the square object seen in the magnetometry survey, in the North West corner. Nothing was found and the natural level of the Kesgrave Beds was exposed at 600mm approx. On the 23rd April 2007 David and Aline Black resurveyed the site and pegged out the Northern base line. This enabled Don Goodman Francis Nicholls, Gill Shrimpton and Andrew White to dig a 2m40cm trench in a location straddling what appeared as a wall on the magnetometry survey and part of the dark central square. The trench was 600mm wide and 40cm deep at the western end and 70cm at the East. An area of brick rubble and mortar was discovered in the middle of the trench as anticipated by the magnetometry. An area of darker soil at the western end was overlain with tiles and was not fully explored. Substantial quantities of Tudor brick and post medieval pottery was recovered along with a piece of clay pipe and bowl and metal objects.

The same evening a visit was made to a metal detectorist Peter Lyons, who has been given the authority by Phyllida Tufnell to explore Wormingford Hall estate and has been detecting for the last four or five years. He has a remarkable collection of coins and other metal work found on the estate dating from the Bronze Age onwards. The coins and artefacts found in close proximity to the excavation are all consistent with its use in Tudor times.

In May, Don Goodman, Gill Shrimpton, Francis Nicholls, Andrew White and David and Aline Black reopened trench 5 and pegged out a new trench 6. Substantial quantities of tile and brick were found along with a number of bones. The previously discovered area of rubble and mortar was dug through but found not to be very substantial and natural was found at approximately 500mm. The darker "pit" feature was dug to a depth of 1m and contained brick and tile as well as many animal bones.

Work is scheduled to continue in the autumn of 2007.

Appendix 1

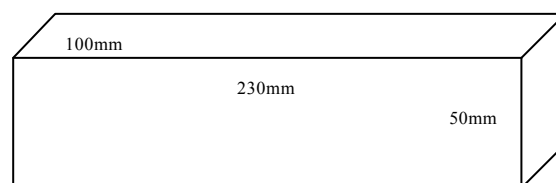
Extract from 'Brick in Essex', Pat Ryan

15th Century and Tudor 'place' bricks

c. 230-250 x 100-120 x 45-65mm

Orange to sienna, occasional blue-grey glazing; pebble and angular flint inclusions; irregular rounded arrises; upper surface occasionally striated, occasional sunken margins, occasional rain-pocks and straw marks; creased faces, occasional squodge marks; rough to very rough base.

(15th to early 17th century)



Dimensions of brick

Appendix 2

Extract from *The Wormingford Story*, Winifred Beaumont

1560-61. Smallbridge Hall is in Suffolk, but faces Wormingford across the Stour - as a stage its auditorium; and, when Sir William Waldegrave 1 rebuilt the house, he transformed the rolling slope of Wormingford into a park, with a lodge house on the hill. Deer grazed in the meadows, and a bridge across the river connected the park to Smallbridge gardens. In 1561 he entertained his Queen, Elizabeth 1 for two days in August.

Coming from Colchester, her progress was indeed a royal one. She travelled with a dozen coaches, 300 baggage carts; foot soldiers ran behind. and the local gentry followed on horseback.

In 1900 the story was told in the village "how once a great company came to visit the squire, with carriages and waggons, with men arunning and men on hossback acarrying great cockades and flags. They all galloped over Lodge Hills to the bridge at the bottom."

The placing of the cavalcade on Lodge Hills is interesting for house, road and bridge had disappeared long before the storyteller was born. It is probably an example of village folk-lore, with the story handed down until the Queen was forgotten and only the turmoil and banners remembered.

1578-9. On her second visit she came from Suffolk and probably only came into Wormingford for a "divertisement" in the park. Tradition says she visited Church Hall and partook of cold meat and drank a flagon of ale, and was so pleased that she wrote her initials on the window with a diamond ring. There is a 16th century roundel in a window of Church Hall depicting the Tudor Rose surmounted by "E.R." and a Crown. Other houses, known to have been visited by her, have similar roundels.

1588. Sir William spent a fortune on entertaining his Queen and another on raising and equipping 500 men to resist the Spanish Armada "all choice men and singularly well furnished".

1577. When Thomas Mannock died, his widow, Dionesia "alienated" Church Hall in favour of a Thomas Waldegrave, keeping the advowson for her use and the use of her sons, "converting it from a rectory to a vicarage, appropriating the great tithes and leaving the vicar the smaller". She probably removed from Church Hall to Church House to live.

Appendix 3

Extract from 'Wormingford, an English Village', Winifred Beaumont and Ann Taylor

1523 saw the closure of all small religious houses and Wix Priory, numbering three nuns and a Prioress, was one of them. Mary Henygham was the last Prioress and received the papal bull, ordering the closure, from Wolsey's agent John Alen. The three nuns were sent to other houses and Mary received a yearly pension of £10.

Wolsey obtained the properties of suppressed Houses in their hundreds and used the money to finance his grandiose schemes, to support his son Thomas in Europe and his own, more than royal, life style. A proud man, he travelled in great pomp, and there is neither record nor tradition he ever visited Wormingford.

On the Cardinal's downfall the Manor went, with the church, through a number of owners to the Mannocks and eventually became part of the Elizabethan Sir William Waldegrave's estate. He transformed the gentle slopes of Wormingford into a deer park and connected it to his grand red brick house by a bridge across the Stour. From that time the name Small Brigg gradually changed to Smallbridge House.

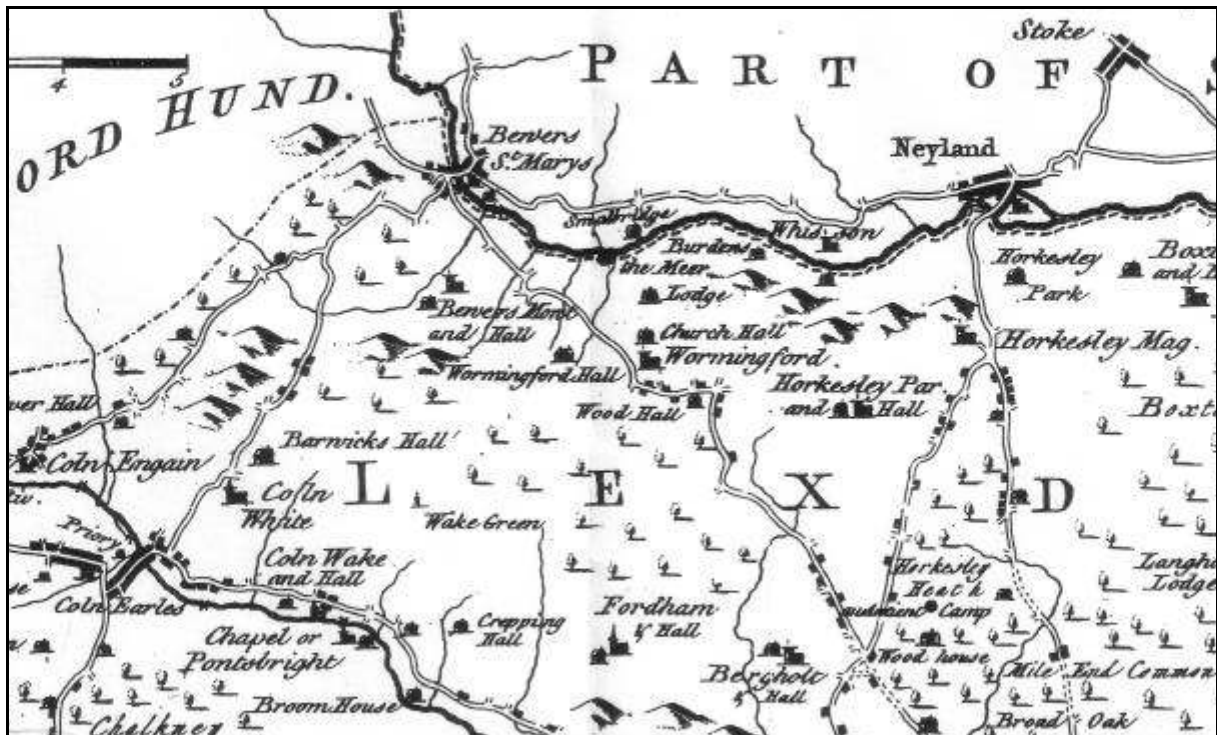
1561 Sir William entertained his Queen, Elizabeth 1 for two days in August. She came from Colchester and her progress was indeed a royal one. She travelled with a dozen coaches and 300 wagons and horsemen rode before and behind her. The local gentry came on horseback, or running on foot holding onto a stirrup. They wore cockades and carried banners and sounded trumpets. In 1900 a story was told in the village "how once there came a great company to visit the squire. Men on hossback, men arunning and blowing bugles and hollering and they all had flags". They galloped over Lodge Hills and "wor a wunnerful sight". An example of village folk-lore where the name of the Queen and her noble host were forgotten and only the turmoil and banners remembered

1578-9 On her second visit the Queen came from Suffolk, avoiding Colchester where the small pox was "very bad". She probably only entered Wormingford to attend a divertisement staged on the deer meadows.

Nichols, a member of the Royal household, travelled with the Queen and kept a journal of her journeys. He described in detail the grand houses visited and the wonderful entertainments they provided but only made a sparse report on her visits to Smallbridge, over a sour footnote: Sir Edward Waldegrave was held in the Tower of London for treason.

Appendix 4

Morant's Map of Essex 1748

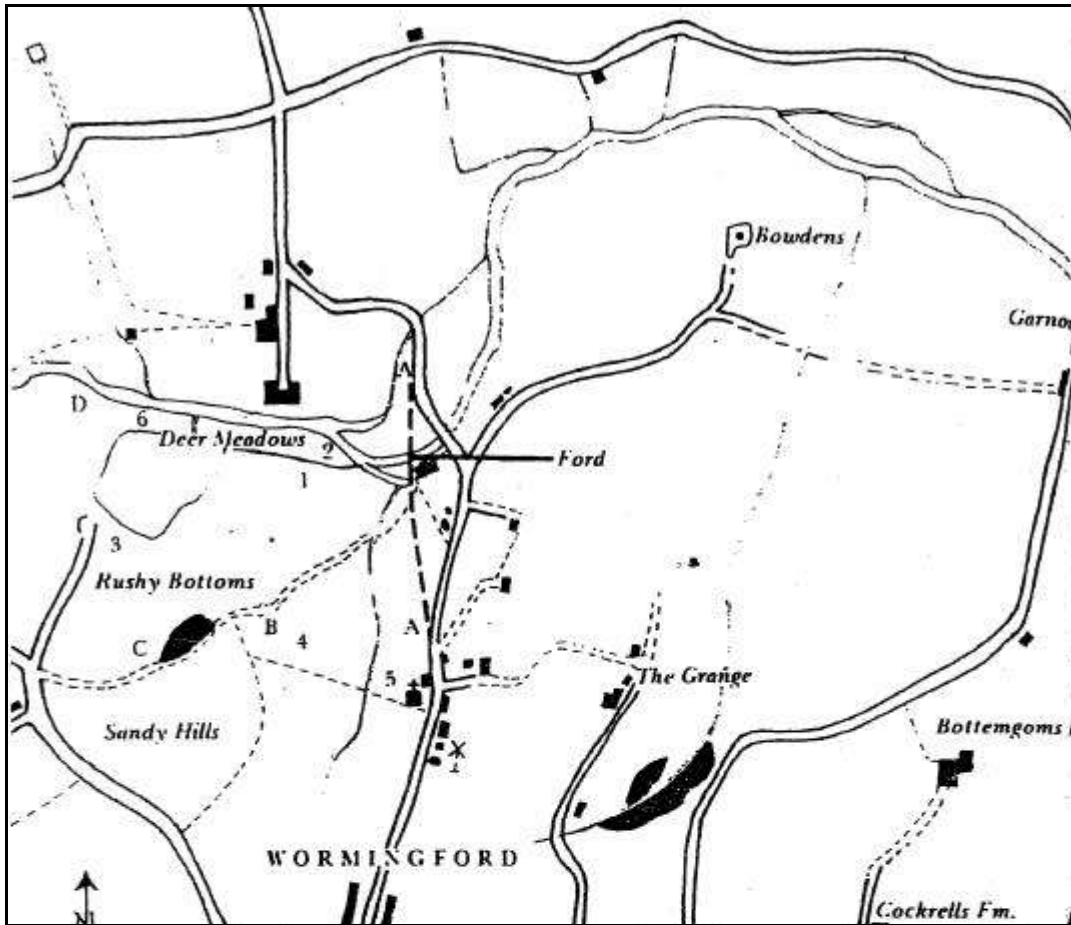


Appendix 5

Chapman & Andre 1777



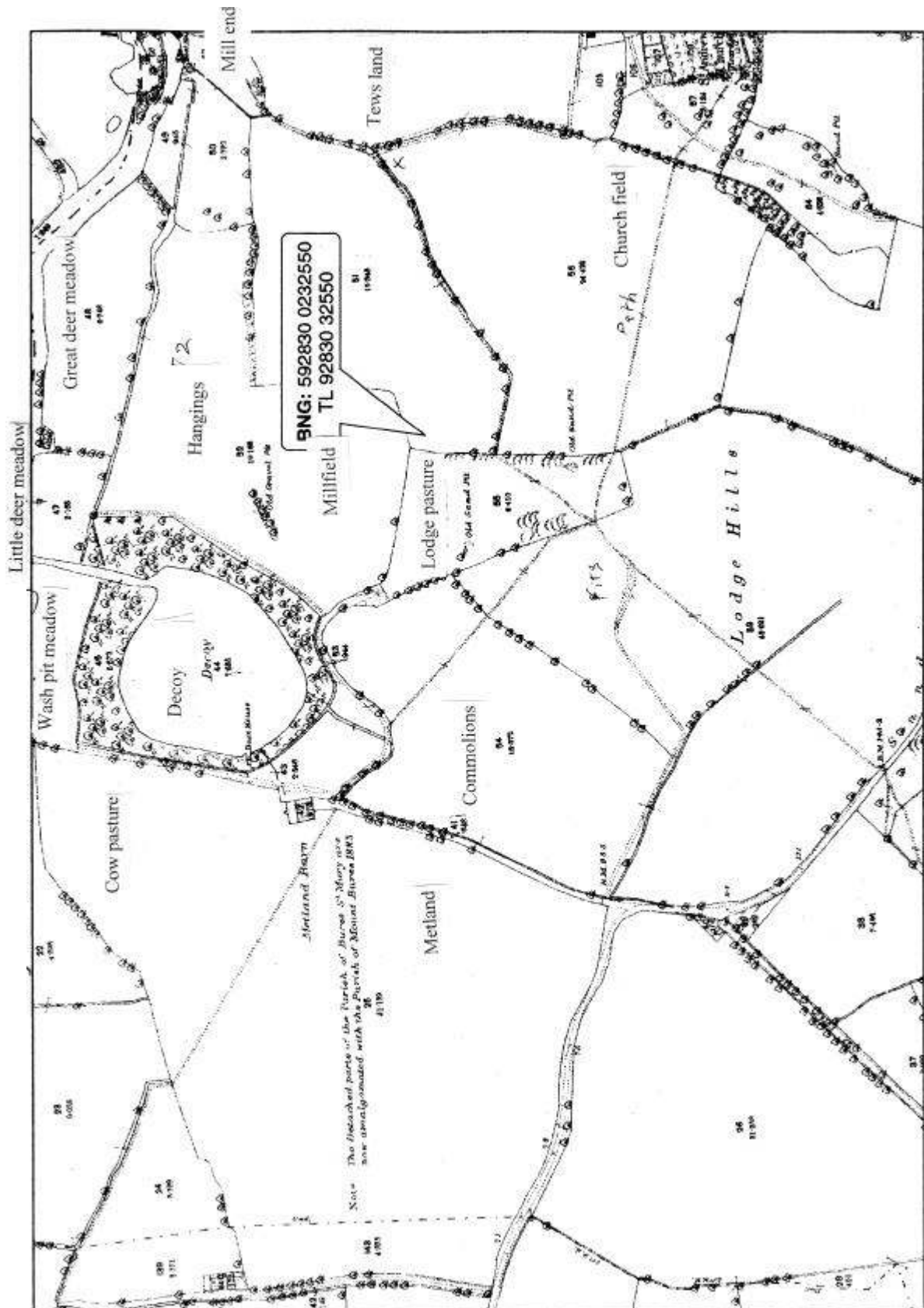
Appendix 6 Map of Wormingford taken from *The Wormingford Story*, Winifred Beaumont



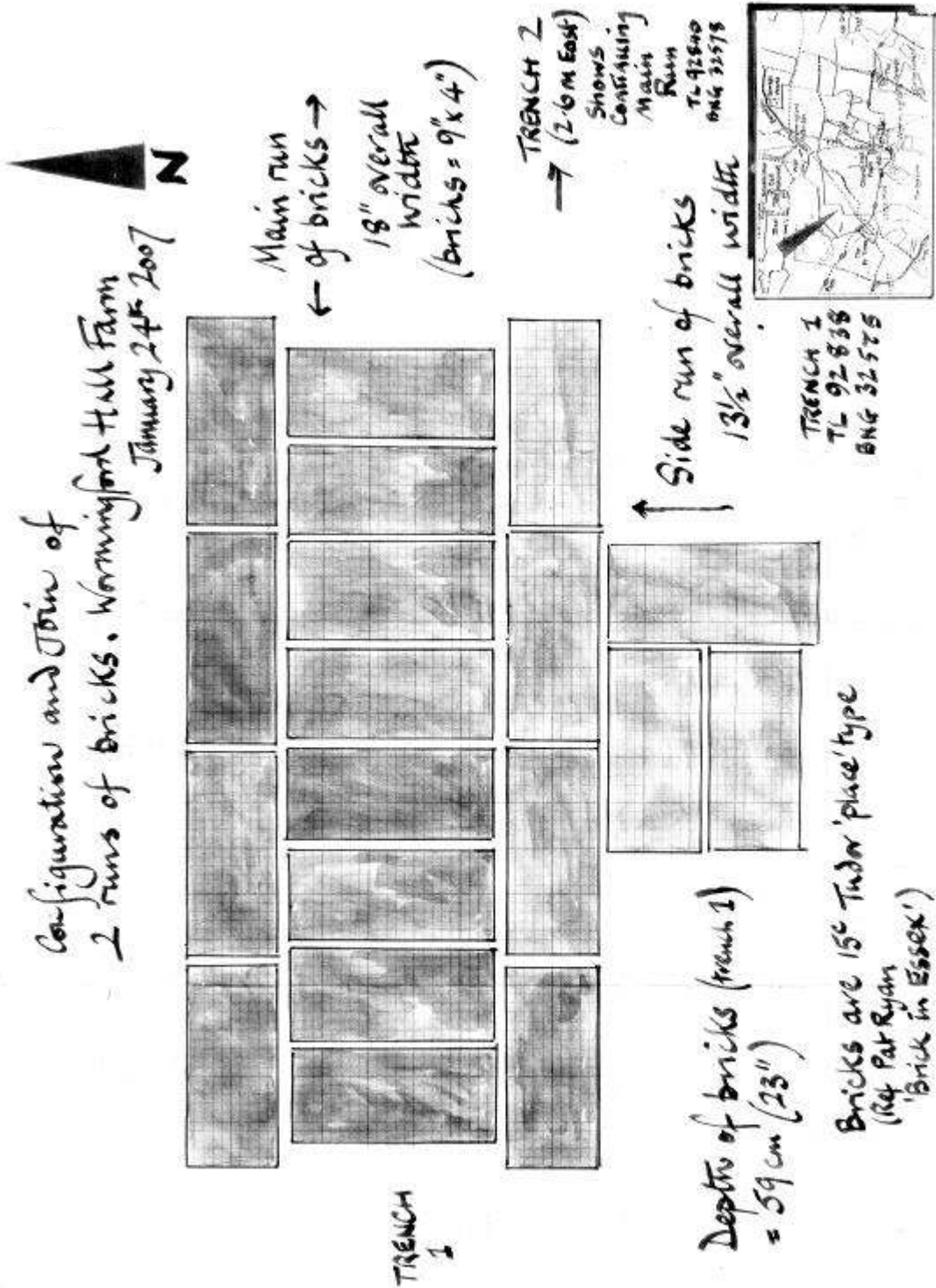
B. The Lodge

Appendix 8 Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge, Epping, Essex





Appendix 9



Report of Geophysical Survey of Lodge Hills, Wormingford, Essex Aline and David Black

Introduction

In 2006, Andrew White asked Aline and David Black to undertake a geophysical survey of the area at Lodge Hills, Wormingford (TL928325) to try to find the extent and location of any underground features. The work, a magnetic survey, followed by a resistance survey, was carried out between November 2006 and April 2007.

The field containing the survey site has been ploughed in living memory but is currently laid down to pasture. The process of taking a resistance measurement involves pushing a pair of metal probes, about four inches long, into the ground; which gives the operator a 'feel' for the soil immediately below the turf. Much of this site proved to be unusually hard to penetrate, due to the presence of hard materials, such as gravel, flint or brick. The underlying geology is a glacial deposit of sand and gravel known as the Kesgrave beds.

The Survey Methods

The first survey was carried out using a FM 18 fluxgate magnetometer owned by Colchester Museum Services. This instrument will detect very small changes in the Earth's magnetic field. These changes can be valuable archaeologically as they may be caused by brick or tile foundations lying underground or by topsoil which over the centuries, fills ditches or robbed-out foundations.

Four adjacent 30m x 30m grids were marked out, the northerly edge being nearly parallel to the approximately E-W fence. In each grid the operator walked from south to north along tracks 1m apart, taking readings every 0.25m. The data was downloaded onto a computer and processed to produce a geophysical image (hereafter a 'plot') using InSite software from Geoquest.

The area was then resurveyed using a TR Systems resistance meter. This measures the electrical resistance between points underground. If there is, say, brick or stone foundations between the points, the resistance is likely to be higher than average. A damp ditch between them will result in lower resistance. Most of the area covered by the magnetic survey was initially surveyed by this technique. This resistance survey was then extended to follow interesting features. The operator walked along tracks 1m apart, taking readings every 0.5m. The data was downloaded onto a computer and processed using TR Systems software.

Results and Discussion

The results obtained from the raw survey data are shown in the two plots on Fig 1. The resistance survey overlaps the area covered by the magnetic survey, located by the corner points A, B & C. Both plots are to the same scale. Fig 3 shows the same plots, suitably annotated to facilitate discussion of significant features (see below).

The resistance plot on Fig 2 has been subject to a high pass filter; a mathematical process intended to remove, as far as possible, the effect that the geology of the site has on the resistance data.

The northern area of the magnetic survey was fairly 'noisy', suggesting a significant amount of magnetically active material, such as brick or tile, scattered just below the surface of the ground. The strongest signal came from a feature **P** in the NW of the survey area. It is roughly rectangular in shape, about 7m x 3m and does not appear to be natural. The two linear features **Q** and **R** running from SW to NE are likely to be ditches that have filled in over time by topsoil, which is more magnetic than the surrounding subsoil. They do not appear to be straight enough to have been the remains of building foundations or field drainage ditches. The signal is also much broader than that produced by modern land drains. The protrusion **S** from the ditch, which may be a separate pit but does appear to be attached to the ditch, is unusual.

The resistance survey picks up weakly the strong magnetic feature **P** in the NW quarter of the survey area. The linear features **Q** and **R** from SW to NE show up strongly; their low resistance is likely to be due to infill over time by topsoil, which remains wetter than the surrounding gravelly subsoil. The two protrusion **S** and **T** at approximately right angles to the ditches, some 5m long, look similar. (**T** does not show up clearly on the magnetic plot.) There is a circular low resistance area **U**, about 2m diameter, in the NW corner, which looks like a pit of some sort, or possibly a well? (This feature does appear, but is less clear, on the magnetic plot.) In the NE corner of the survey area there are indications of a high resistance rectangular structure **V** about 15m long. (Although this feature does not show up so clearly on the magnetic plot it is possible to discern a rectangular structure in the same location.) Rectangular structures are rare in nature and this may be the foundations of a building. To the SE of this structure there is an unusual feature **W**, which looks man made. The higher resistance area **X** in the SW corner is more likely to be geological than archaeological in origin. (This theory

is supported by the experience of the operator attempting to insert the probes in this area and by the somewhat fainter appearance of this feature on the filtered plot on Fig 2.) The faint linear feature **Y**, running SW from ditch **Q**, across area **X**, towards ditch **R**, is probably a ditch. It may be significant that linear feature **Y** appears to run parallel to the SW edge of the rectangular feature **V**. The faint parallel lines **Z** running WSW to ENE at the southern end of the survey area are likely to be plough lines. Indeed the darker and most southerly of these lines follow the farm track which crosses the site. The broad dark area at the NE edge of the plot coincides with a broad shallow depression in the ground that was wetter, and consequently offered less electrical resistance, than the bulk of the site. Note that this anomaly is not apparent on the filtered plot on Fig 2.

When the magnetic and resistance plots are compared probably the most striking difference is feature **P**. **P**'s dark but indistinct appearance on the resistance plot is indicative of some form of broad pit or hollow filled with material, possibly topsoil, that offers less electrical resistance than the surrounding subsoil; except for the adjacent ditch which appears even darker and is probably deeper. **P**'s appearance on the magnetic plot could be due to the presence of considerable amounts of magnetic material, such as brick or tile, spread over approximately 20 square metres. Taken together this suggests that feature **P** may simply be a hollow or pit, possibly a former cellar, that has become a depository for demolition material.

It is notable that the two linear features **Q** and **R**, assumed to be ditches or enclosure boundaries, appear to 'sweep in' and join up with the edges of the rectangular feature **V**. This suggests that they may have been part of some kind of formal enclosure or approach way leading up to the lodge. It may be purely coincidental, but the direction of these two linear features fits quite well with route of the 'drive' or trackway leading from the main Bures to Wormingford road up to the lodge on the Chapman and Andre' 1770 map, as can be seen on the extract below.

Conclusions

The survey revealed evidence of the foundations of a rectangular building, feature **V**, together with what appear to be associated ditches or enclosure boundaries.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Colchester Museum Service for the loan of the FM18, to Miss Phyllida Tuffnell of Wormingford Hall for kindly allowing us access to the site, and to Andrew White for inviting us to carry out the survey.

Lodge Hills, Wormingford

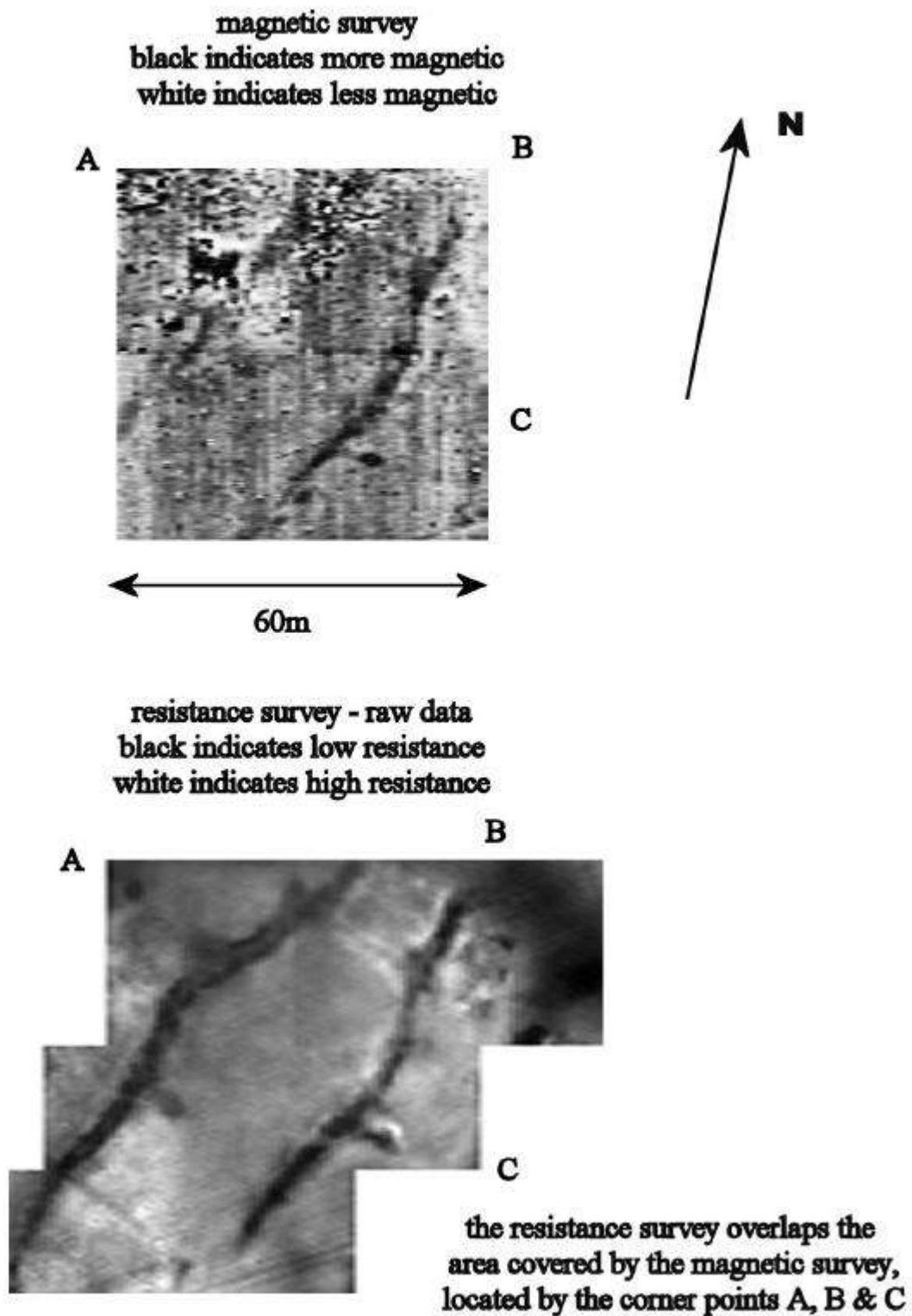


Fig. 1

Colchester Archaeological Group 2007

Lodge Hills, Wormingford

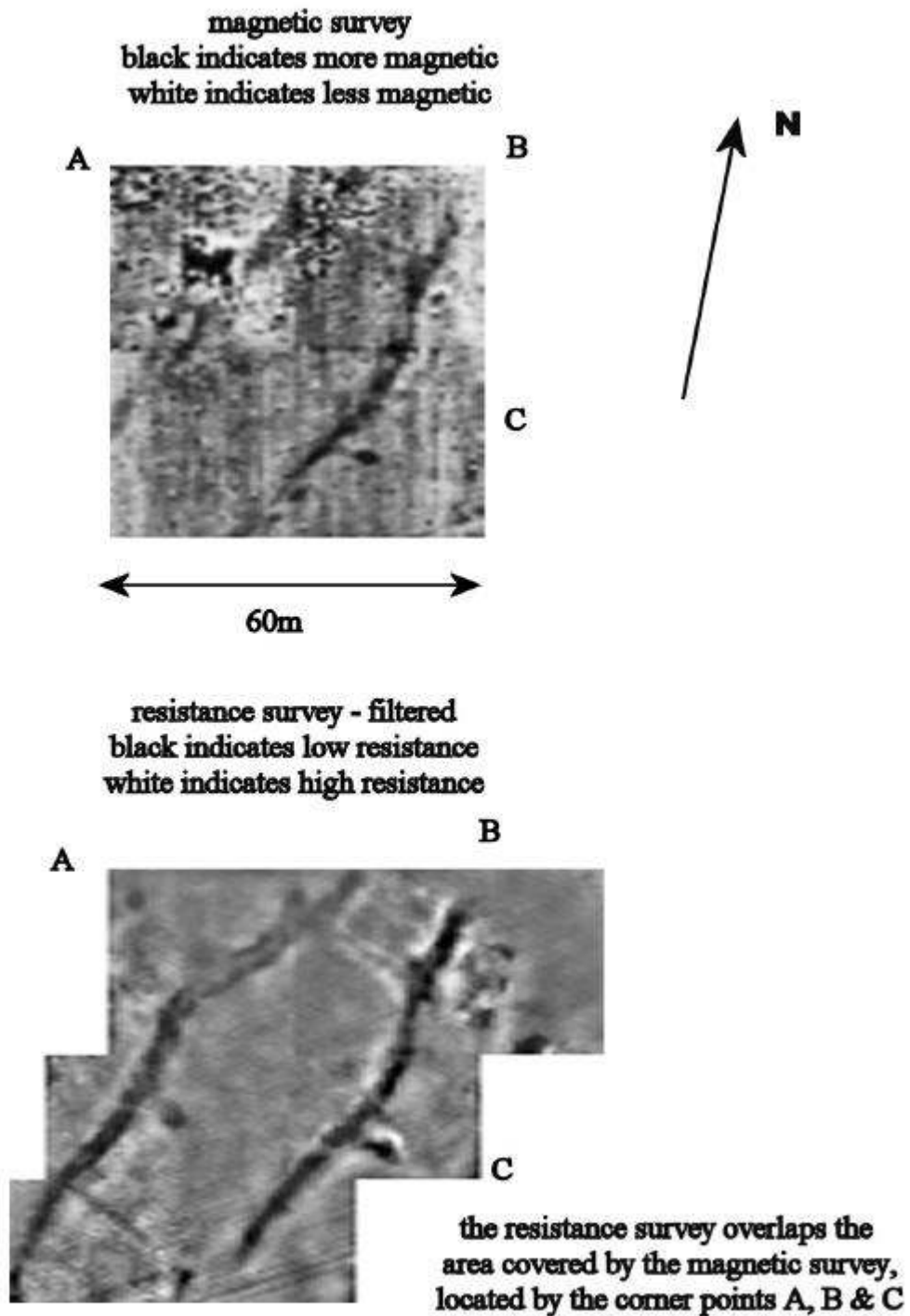


Fig. 2

Colchester Archaeological Group 2007

Lodge Hills, Wormingford

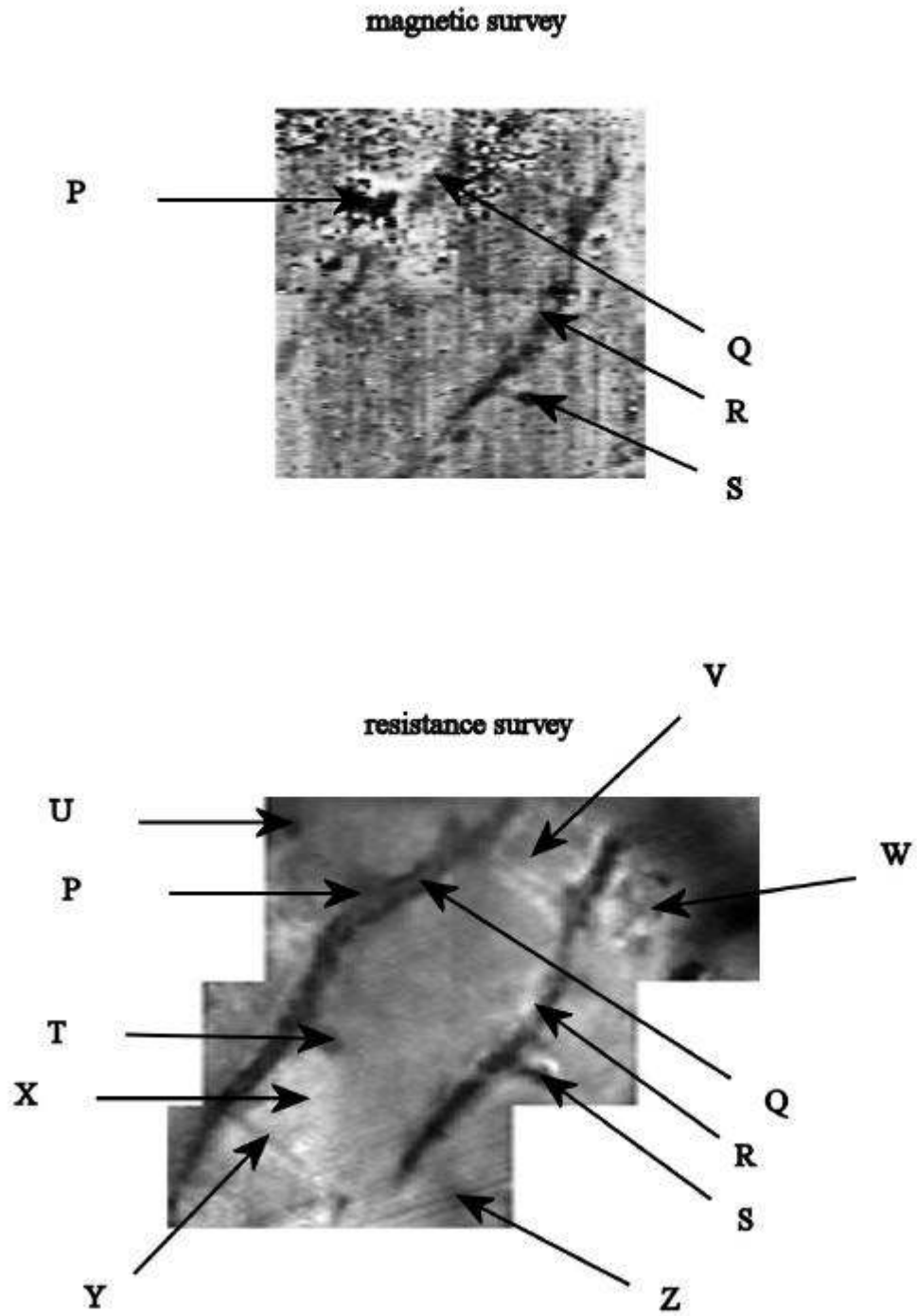


Fig. 3

Colchester Archaeological Group 2007

An Anglo-Saxon Estate Centre at Great Tey?

Pat Brown

In my research I have been surprised by how little study has been devoted to early Great Tey and the surrounding parishes. I shall explore the possibilities for the existence of a large, long-lasting Anglo-Saxon estate dating from early in the period. Janet Cooper, in her article on church dedications in *Essex Archaeology and History* Vol. 31 (2000) writes: "Great Tey, with its fine 11th-century central tower, gives every indication of being an important Anglo-Saxon church; the estate, like the neighbouring Colne, belonged to the *ealdormen* of Essex in the early 11th century". Estate boundaries tend to "solidify" into parish boundaries, due to the church and the need to collect tithe, and 19th century parish boundaries may therefore be a reasonable indicator of earlier estates.

Although the idea of the Anglo-Saxon "multiple estate" is a debatable one (the *caput* or estate centre, surrounded by ancillary settlements which would specialise in the production of – eg – wool or barley, indicated by placenames such as Shipton and Barton), the concept of the Middle Saxon large estate which later fragmented into what we now know as modern villages and parishes is generally accepted. Danish disruption would have accelerated the process of fragmentation, and although Danish influence in Essex seems to have been slight (on placename evidence, if nothing else), they certainly had a presence in north-eastern and western Essex.

Clues to the existence of such estates can be found in the grouping of parish names, such as we find in the Teys, with Great, Little and Marks (the Colnes are another, with White, Wakes, Earls and Colne Engaine). A second clue is the existence of a large church, which may well be a minster (sometimes we know it certainly was, either from records or from placenames such as Southminster). A third clue is the existence, following modern parish boundaries, of a compact area which contains within it grazing, woodland, meadow; arable land and water – all the components needed for self-sufficiency. The parishes I shall consider, taken together, comply with all these requirements – with the addition of Aldham. The idea that Aldham was part of the suggested Saxon estate occurred to me when looking at parish boundaries. With the inclusion of Aldham a discrete area is formed, with Great Tey lying at the centre – leave it out, and the outline of the estate is much less regular. The placename meaning "old *ham*" or settlement could be taken to mean that it was the site of an earlier settlement, now superseded by the important centre at Great Tey. Chappel was carved out of Great Tey post-Conquest.

In terms of resources, the Colne runs to the north, and two tributaries, the Tey Brook and the Roman River, flow through the area. Tey Brook was formerly *Kenebrok* (1219) – "cows' brook" – indicating meadow grazing. The Roman River probably takes its name from the Romayn family (1377), and has nothing to do with the Romans. There are large areas of woodland in the west which probably once formed part of the "ancient" Chalkney Wood, and there are smaller areas of woodland to the east. As well as woodland shown on early maps, "wood" field names indicate that mapped woods were formerly much larger. Arable land lies in the centre and east, interspersed with meadow along the rivers and streams, thus providing all the resources needed for an estate.

Surface geology is mainly boulder clay, with alluvium in the river valleys, sands and gravels (Kesgrave and Head). There are areas of London clay, and a lacustrine deposit near Teybrook Farm.

Roman Origins:

One possibility, outlined by Stephen Bassett in "The Origin of Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms", (1989) is that of a Saxon estate being the successor to a Roman estate or *territorium* (Bassett gives the example of Great Chesterford). Not far from the present village centre (Warrens Farm) lies a known, though little investigated, Roman corridor villa, where coins of Constantine I and II, Magnentius and Decentius were found, indicating a mid to late 4th century terminal date for the villa. Other finds included painted polychrome plaster, window glass, mortar, a Samian stamp, and roller-stamped flue tiles. Pottery could have been as early as the 1st century (SMR 8709). There was a rubble layer above the late floors. It has been suggested that some villas were deliberately destroyed by the native Britons as Roman power waned: could this be an example? Evidence of Roman activity within the posited Anglo-Saxon estate boundaries is widespread. A Roman road or roads cross the area. Anglo-Saxon metalwork and a coin have been found on the villa site, but this coin, a *sceatta* dated to c.695-740, and the finds do not really prove continuity of occupation on the villa site, in the way that Rodwell suggested at nearby Rivenhall.

It has to be remembered that while a large Roman villa estate would be self-sufficient to a great extent it would

have had good communications and access to markets (Colchester in this case), any immediate successor would have had to be almost completely self-sufficient, owing to the collapse of currency and the market economy, and consequent deterioration of the infrastructure.

One site suggesting a possibility of continuity lies 0.7 km west of Great Tey, between Brookhouse Road and the Tey Brook. Excavation reported in 2001-3 uncovered a Roman trackway, ovens, a corn-drier and timber structures from the 1st to 4th centuries, with a few sherds of early Saxon pottery, but no Saxon structures (SMR 45173).

The whole question of continuity between Roman settlement and the early Anglo-Saxons was long debated, with the weight of scholarly opinion against. Nowadays most scholars would favour continuity: since there is no sign of wholesale depopulation and woodland regeneration it makes sense to view the 5th-century inhabitants, whether Romano-British or incomers, as continuing with existing field systems and land usage. But while field boundaries are relatively constant (at least until 18th-19th century Parliamentary enclosure, not significant in this part of Essex), settlements often shift, and the exact location of the early Anglo-Saxon estate centre of Tey is unknown (but see "Settlement" later).

Nevertheless, settlement location is determined to a great extent by environment, with water and good arable nearby, grazing and fuel a little further away, and building materials within reach when needed. There must have been some trial and error involved in the settlement of previously unoccupied lands, and it is interesting that the Iron Age enclosure/settlement currently under investigation near Teybrook Farm (CAG Bulletin 46) appears to have had no successor – the present farmer commenting on the poor quality of the land in that particular field and its observed tendency to waterlogging. The Roman road coming off Stane Street and running towards the villa site would have passed very near indeed to this enclosure, which coin evidence indicates was in use in c.60BC: was it still in use when the road was made? if so, it appears to have been ignored by the Roman road-builders, unless the population were conscripted to help build that road. However, recent finds of Roman pot and animal bone in a shallow pit await definitive dating and interpretation, and should help to date the abandonment of the enclosure.

If we look at the administrative rather than the economic aspect, we need to consider whether Roman taxation continued in any form. Historical sources refer to native rulers who resisted the Germanic incomers with armed force, and for this to happen they would have had to levy tribute or tax, almost certainly in kind, like the later food-rents or *feorm* which we meet in Domesday. If the Great Tey villa had also been a tax-collection centre, as has been posited for the Gestingthorpe villa, was this function transferred to the *caput* or estate centre of Tey? Later this function falls to the manor, its liability expressed in terms of hides, whose inhabitants are significantly referred to as *tributarii* (tribute-payers) in Anglo-Saxon documents (Finberg 1964).

Rackham has traced what he believes was an Iron Age road, seen as a holloway in Chalkney Wood, continuing eastwards through fields as a boundary, then as the northern boundary of Woolfney (or Woolgadney) Wood, and into a stretch of fairly straight road running south-west towards Aldham and Colchester. He identifies this as a section of Wool Street (hence "Woolfney" Wood?), running from Colchester to Cambridge, and improved in the Roman period up to a point 9 miles east of Cambridge (Rackham 1986). Turning north off the main Roman road from Colchester, Stane Street, we follow another Roman road for a distance, then diverge from it along the present road to Great Tey via Teybrook. This road, if continued in a straight line, would have gone through Teycross (modern maps show only a fork in the Earls Colne road). Had this road continued north-west to join Wool Street?

Teybrook Farm:

Teybrook Farm, where the CAG has concentrated its activity in recent years, may well have been an Anglo-Saxon subsidiary settlement, almost certainly not the main one, which, in view of the presence of the church at Great Tey, with its late Saxon tower, was probably under the present village. It is very noticeable that the farm is situated in a slight dip near the Tey Brook, an ideal location for settlement. This is where the Group has excavated a Bronze Age ring ditch and cremation cemetery, where there were also signs of Neolithic activity, as well as a substantial Roman ditch. On the other side of the road is the ongoing excavation of the Iron Age enclosure already mentioned. It would seem to have been a favoured site for human activity in all periods, and it is interesting that a local farmer, Peter Fairs, in a recent article in the Essex County Standard, noted that he farmed "some of the best land in Essex" (though he is speaking of land north of the Tey Brook, and it is probable that Iron Age farmers would have chosen the least good land for their enclosure). Excavation over the past two years of the linear ditch across the Bronze Age ring ditch would indicate that it is Roman, later silted, and then probably backfilled in the middle to late Anglo-Saxon period. (Anglo-Saxon sites are quite often

found associated with Bronze Age barrows). A distinct layer about half-way down the ditch, within the ring-ditch area, was full of coarse, organic-tempered handmade Saxon pot, dated by Sue Tyler to the late 6th century (pers.com.) and found on several other sites in Essex and beyond. Also present were charcoal, animal bone and metal objects, including a knife (others remain to be identified). This layer might be accounted for by the clearance into the ditch of the surrounding area in order to level the ground for cultivation, or possible level grazing (so animals would not fall into the ditch, albeit by that time a shallow one). This hypothesis could indicate low-status Saxon settlement in the vicinity and the burning of a hedge or brushwood. However the presence of cremated human bone and other burnt material might also suggest an Anglo-Saxon cremation cemetery, cleared much later. If so, this would be a significant find, since Anglo-Saxon burials of any kind are rare in most of Essex, the nearest being at Kelvedon (see "Burials"). Indeed were the people active in this area at this time "Anglo-Saxons", or were they descendants of the previous Romano-British, adapting to the disappearance of the Roman pottery industry by making their own?

What in any case had been the purpose of the Roman ditch? If it was an estate boundary, this would not have coincided with the boundaries of a later Saxon estate, though of course successive Saxon inhabitants might have found such a boundary redundant. A possible explanation is that it was a kind of storm ditch, to prevent flooding if and when the Tey Brook overflowed. The Tey Brook has in any case changed its course in recent times, and could well have changed in the early Saxon period, which could have meant that such a drainage ditch was no longer needed. Another possibility is the laying out of an entirely new field system, as is known to have occurred in many areas in the later Anglo-Saxon period (often some form of open-field system, see "Field Systems"). No other sign of Saxon settlement, such as post-holes or sunken-featured buildings, has been detected, but it has to be remembered that the entire area of the ring ditch and its environs had been mechanically cleared before the Group began work on the site.

Settlements:

Boundaries of estates and fields are remarkably permanent, but settlements move (to be on routes of trade, or because of soil exhaustion or diminished water supply). If we assume an original settlement centre at or near the present village of Great Tey, how did the other settlement centres arise? If we think in terms of "satellite" settlements - i.e. those which are dependent on the main settlement - and "daughter" settlements - i.e. those which are probably later and have a degree of independence - then from the Domesday entries it would seem that Little Tey was a "satellite" and Marks Tey a "daughter". The character of the Essex landscape, a mixture of enclosed fields and small open-field systems, gives rise to many small hamlets and isolated farmsteads from an early date, and there seems a strong case for Teybrook Farm being one of these. The isolated situation of Little Tey church has given rise to conjecture that the original village was here, and survey work at Church Farm (SMR 8759) suggests a deserted medieval village, though not necessarily pre-Conquest. Was Great Tey a nucleated settlement at all in the Anglo-Saxon period, though the size of the church suggests that by the 11th century it had become one? Domesday does not help us to ascertain how far nucleation had progressed. It is probable that the holdings of free men show that there was a fair degree of dispersion.

Roads:

The purpose of roads and tracks is to link settlements; likewise, nucleated settlements will develop along existing road systems. Therefore if settlements cease to exist, roads leading to them will eventually become overgrown and disappear. So why and when did the Roman road north of Little Tey disappear? Roads will cross rivers at the easiest and most convenient points, and here we see the importance of the crossings at Chappel and Ford Street (in Aldham), the first road running north to Mount Bures and the second towards Bures St. Mary. If there was indeed a royal centre of some kind at Bures, where according to Asser King Edmund of East Anglia was crowned, then these roads to Bures would have been important ones. To what extent would Wool Street (see "Roman Origins") still have been in use? at least part certainly was.

Churches:

The churches are all old. Great Tey has a substantial square crossing tower which is late Saxon in all except the top section which is Norman, and the massive crossing arches are Saxon. The tower contains much Roman brick and tile, doubtless obtained from the villa site nearby. Before most of the nave was taken down in the 19th century it was a huge church, and Rodwell believes that it originally had transepts; this cruciform plan is typical of 10th and 11th-century minster churches. It is difficult to prove whether it was a minster church since records do not survive to indicate whether the other churches were "daughter" churches (they would have paid various dues to the minster, may not have possessed burial rights etc.) but this is common in eastern England, probably due to disruption caused by the Danes. The medieval dedication was All Saints, now St. Barnabas.

Rodwell (1993) lists four “footprints” of a minster: a large churchyard: a large, scattered, glebe; fragmentation of dependent parishes; and a parish boundary following natural features and Roman or earlier roads. The dependent parishes are certainly fragmented, with numerous detached portions, while in the north the parish boundary follows the Colne for quite a distance, and in the south certain stretches of the Roman road (Stane Street).

Little Tey (St. James the Less, formerly St. Mary) and Marks Tey (St. Andrew) both have churches with Norman features, and may well have been much older foundations. Rodwell (1977) considers that Marks Tey “could easily be pre-Conquest”, noting that the walls are only 0.82m thick, a feature of Anglo-Saxon rather than Norman walls, which were thicker. The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments dates the nave and the north and south doorways to the 11th century, as well as the middle window in the south wall of the nave. There are Roman brick dressings, and the church may possibly be on a Roman site (a Roman brooch and coin were found nearby). Recent excavations by the Colchester Archaeological Trust revealed a stub of septaria foundation under the present chancel arch, which could mark the position of an earlier east end, or an earlier and narrower chancel arch (Orr: Colchester Archaeologist 20 2007). There appears to be a church/hall complex here, an indication of a proprietary church, often subsidiary to an older minster. On the other hand it is possible that either or both Little and Marks Tey churches were built by the groups of freemen mentioned in Domesday. Rodwell thinks Little Tey too may be pre-Conquest, since the undressed puddingstone quoins are more characteristic of pre-Conquest than Norman work (and indeed SMR 32541 quotes dates of 1000-1099, though on what basis is not clear). Chappel (formerly *Pontisbright*), was detached from Great Tey c.1352 when the inhabitants complained that they had no local church – hence no doubt the new name of “Chapell”. Rodwell comments on the unusual puddingstone quoins here too, so they could be a local anachronistic feature. Aldham old church (St. Margaret and St. Catherine) was also a very old foundation (the existing church is a 19th-century building, built to replace the ruinous one) which Rodwell suggests may be on a Roman site. It was in existence in 1221 on a site near Church House Farm. Blair (2005) says that after the Council of *Clofesho* in 747 bishops designated existing territories – possibly estates? – as areas of pastoral care and levied churchscot and/or tithe to pay for it (thus such boundaries fossilise into parishes). There are disputes over tithe much later between Great and Little Tey which could hint at this kind of relationship. The Teys come under Westminster Abbey, while Aldham is under the Bishop of London, which could of course indicate that it was not part of such an estate, though again the Danish disruption might be the reason for this. Adjoining Coggeshall was probably another estate with the large church of St. Peter as a minster at its centre.

Manors:

Looking at manors, there is considerable overlap, with manors holding land in two or three parishes. This includes Aldham, where the manors of Aldham Hall and Bouchiers Hall both held land in Marks Tey and Chappel, while manors in Great Tey and Chappel held land in Aldham.

Domesday Book:

It must be remembered that Domesday Book records landholdings, not settlements, and was compiled when settlement patterns were changing, a process probably lasting several centuries. No distinction is made between Great and Little Tey, the holding just being referred to as “Tey”, with 3½ hides plus 2 hides held by freemen, and 1 1/2 hides as an outlier (though this would almost certainly have been well outside the boundaries of the estate; no detached portion of the parish in the immediate vicinity would have been large enough). Outliers usually represented areas of rough grazing or woodland, and it is notable that this particular one has “woodland for 24 pigs”, though also arable (2 ploughs). There is also “1 house in Colchester”, presumably one of the 12 in the hands of Count Eustace in 1086. Marks Tey is assessed at 1½ hides, plus 1½ hides held by freemen, making about 9 hides for the Teys together. The word means “enclosure”, and could well have referred to an early enclosure around the *caput*. However early spellings (c.950) *Tigan*, *Tygan* are plural, “enclosures” – could this indicate subsidiary enclosed settlements at Little and Marks Tey?

Aldham is assessed at 1 hide. It appears to have been a tiny, almost depopulated, holding. Added to the Teys (and leaving out the 1 1/2 hide outlier) this would result in a 10-hide unit. The hide was originally regarded as a unit of land sufficient to sustain one family (presumably an extended family, including slaves) and consisting of 120 acres. By the time of Domesday it is a notional taxable unit of varying acreage. But the 5-hide and 10-hide unit is believed to be ancient, often associated with the grant of an estate by the king. This would be an argument in favour of the inclusion of Aldham in the original estate. Chappel was probably a separate settlement by 1066; by the 14th century the inhabitants were cohesive and numerous enough to demand their own church, standing in today’s village near the river Colne, and probably where the earlier nucleated settlement stood, possibly the 17 freemen who held 2 hides in 1066.

The Domesday entry for Tey is complex, indicating that it was largely held by free men, and before 1066 had been held by one un-named free man. Such free holdings being somewhat unusual features for Essex, it could well be an indicator of considerable Danish disruption, which in East Anglia and Lincolnshire is held to result in a fundamental change in land ownership into the hands of previously unfree farmers, or even Danish settlers. We know that the Colchester area was in the hands of the Danes for an unknown period of time. Marks Tey was held by Wulfic in 1066, but here too free men held land – 30 in 1086. Aldham, a minor settlement compared with the Teys, was held by a Saxon woman, Leofeva, in 1066. This lady held the large (7-hide) manor of Woodham Walter, as well as a manor in Kelvedon Hatch and land in Bures; she also held land and houses in Colchester. For Aldham there is only mention of 4 slaves in 1066 and 1086, and 1 villein in 1066 only.

It is worth noting that the Teys, Marks Tey and Aldham all have single entries in Domesday (the nearby Colnes have nine). This does suggest some continuity of the estate, although the fragmentation of parishes may be connected with the holdings of free men.

Greens:

There are several greens within the area. Greenside settlement is often given an 11th century date, when population was increasing and small new settlements were established on or beside existing commons, used for grazing. Dowland, Broad, Long and Cramers Greens in the Teys, and Rose and Gallows Green in Aldham probably come into this category. Gallows Green is near the Copford parish boundary and could have been an execution site, though it is not on a hundred boundary, where such sites were often situated.

Field Systems:

Field boundaries, once established, are very long-lasting (they may be removed to make large fields, or large fields sub-divided, but the actual boundary is rarely moved). What can we tell about field systems? there are certainly suggestions of open field in some areas, shown by the reversed-S-shaped curves of some blocks of fields and field-names indicating that a very large field had been subdivided. These occur in Chappel, Marks and Little Tey and Aldham, and possibly in the vicinity of Great Tey village (see Historic Landscape Characterisation Survey). Hunter is of the opinion that in Essex the small open-field systems were associated with hamlets, rather than villages, and it is tempting to think of them as being those of outlying groups of freemen, leaving Great Tey as mainly demesne and woodland (Hunter 2003). It is always hard to date field systems, and if there were open-fields in Anglo-Saxon Tey we cannot tell when they date from, or if indeed they are post-Conquest. It is now generally accepted that the open-field system was introduced in the 9th and 10th centuries in many areas, probably due to population increase and the need to use land to maximise production, but in Danelaw regions this was complicated by the Danish incursions, which may have either speeded up or retarded the process. We do know that Essex was never a county of widespread and general open-fields, with nucleated villages, rather a patchwork of enclosed fields, hamlets and isolated farms, with perhaps one large field divided into strips. Meadows, however, were allocated by strip up to quite recent times, a system mentioned in the Laws of Ine of Wessex c.690.

There is even the possibility of continuity of field boundaries from Iron Age or Roman times. In this part of Essex it has been traced at Maltings Lane, Witham, at Little Waltham and at Great Holts Farm, Boreham. Helen Pitchforth makes a persuasive case for the survival of an Iron Age landscape throughout Witham parish. (Pitchforth 2001).

Woodland and rough pasture:

Hunter estimates that in Essex at Domesday 30% of any manor was likely to be woodland and 20% “waste” i.e. rough grazing. Certainly there were large areas of woodland in the west and also in Marks Tey (wood for 214 pigs in the Teys, 100 in Marks Tey), though no-one knows for sure what such a measurement meant in acres. ; Domesday acreages (assuming 120 acres to the hide, and including meadow) bear little relation to actual acreages as given on Tithe maps. Hart (1993) notes that in Essex woodland is heaviest on the boulder clay, and this certainly corresponds to woodland distribution in the Teys. Until 1884 a long tongue of land belonging to Mount Bures parish stretched down towards the Colne, and the eastern boundary of Chappel (according to a perambulation) was somewhat uncertain. Such anomalies often indicate past intercommoning, possibly wood pasture. This is borne out by the Tithe maps, which show complex boundaries between detached portions of Mount Bures, Wakes Colne and Chappel north of the Colne, with a number of “wood” field-names.

Documentary evidence:

“Tey” is mentioned in the wills of both Aelfgar and Aelflaed, and belonged to the *ealdorman* of Essex. Aelfgar was *ealdorman* and his daughter Aelflaed was the widow of Byrhtnoth, also *ealdorman* of Essex, of Battle of Maldon fame. In both cases land in Tey was left to Stoke – presumably Stoke-by-Nayland – where the fam-

ily wished to establish a religious foundation. What land was this? or did the whole of Tey pass for a time into royal hands, which could account for the non-fragmentation pre-Domesday? By 1086 Tey was held by Count Eustace, brother-in-law of King Edward, and Aldham by Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, King William's half-brother, both significant royal connections.

Burials:

No Anglo-Saxon cemeteries or single burials have yet been found in the Teys or surrounding parishes, a feature often remarked upon in Essex, contrasting with Suffolk and Cambridgeshire where there are many. Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence, but metal-detectorists have been active in Essex for a long time now, and could have been expected to find something indicative of pagan Saxon burial, at least. Domesday reveals a much lower population density in Essex compared with the rest of the Eastern counties, by which time Christian burial (in churchyards and probably without grave goods) would have been the norm for at least 300 years. That this was happening is shown by the excavation in Rivenhall churchyard of two 7th-9th century skeletons. But it is possible that for a long time very few people actually lived on the lands of the Tey estate, and, as mentioned above, there may have been Anglo-Saxon as well as Bronze Age cremations in the vicinity of Teybrook Farm.

Conclusions:

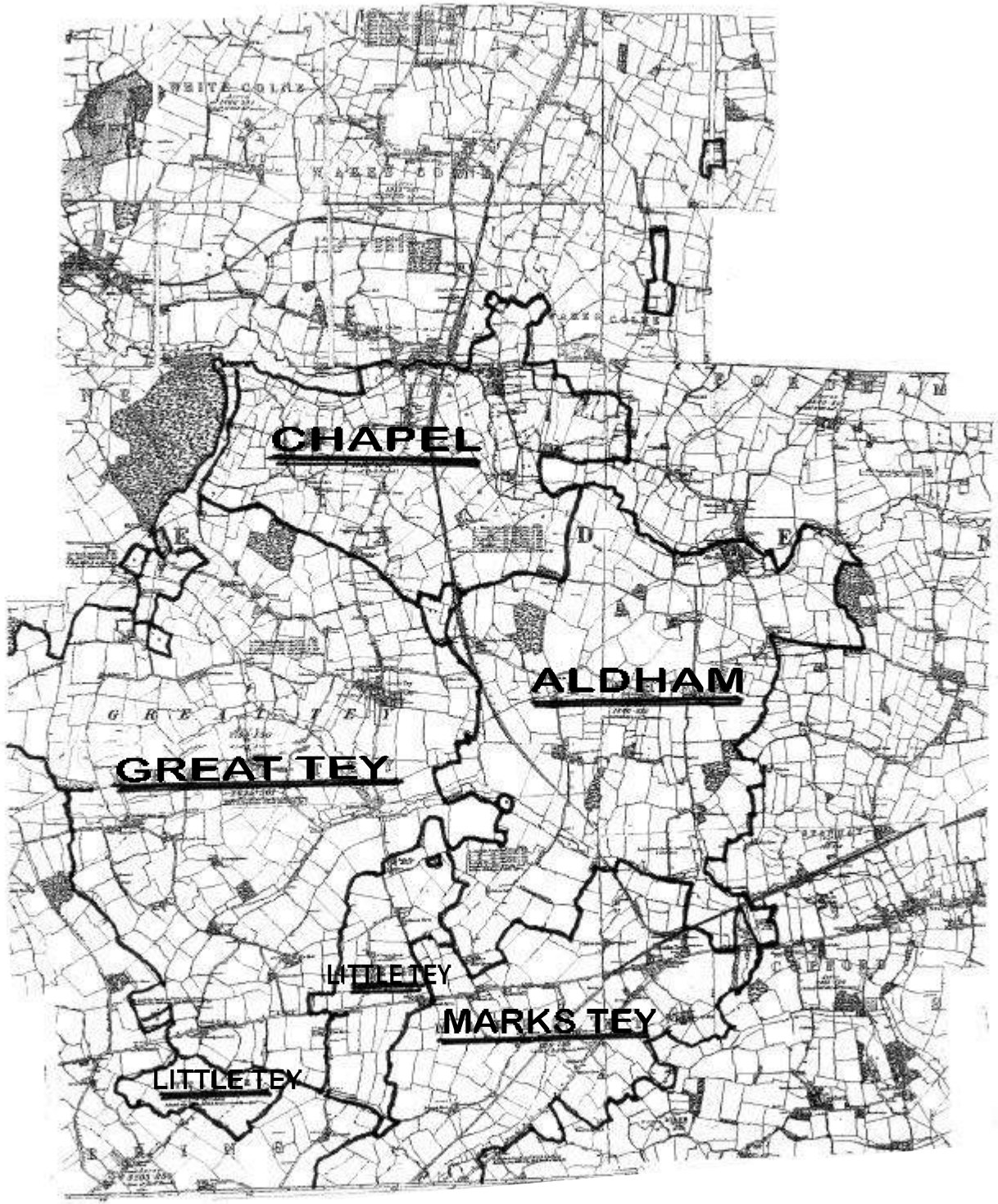
That there was at some time during the Anglo-Saxon period a large estate in the Teys is almost certain, but when, and for how long, is much more conjectural. Without any firm clues as to the boundaries of the villa estate it will be difficult to demonstrate continuity, though further excavation throughout the area could be helpful. More work needs to be done on field names and boundaries, as well as Historic Landscape Characterisation studies, and on the development of the manorial system. Investigation of adjoining parishes may be helpful, and the doubtful status of Aldham elucidated. Comparisons could be made with known Anglo-Saxon estates in other parts of the country such as Raunds, where too there is a Roman villa.

This account should be regarded as work in progress, and I would be most grateful for any comments and new information that readers can provide.

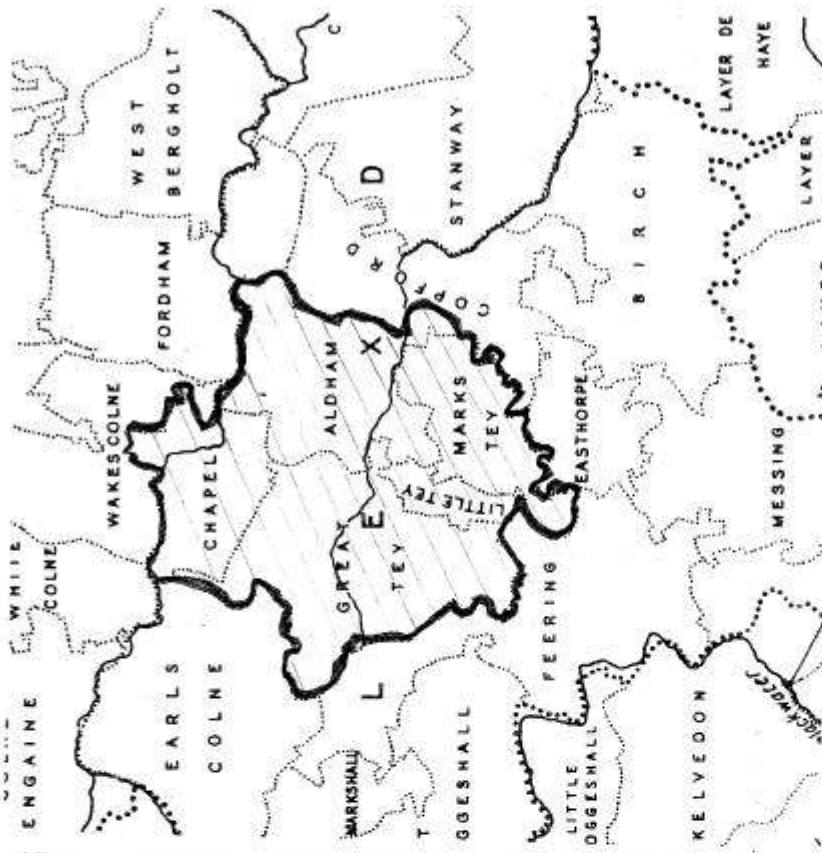
Pat Brown (BrwAP@aol.com.)

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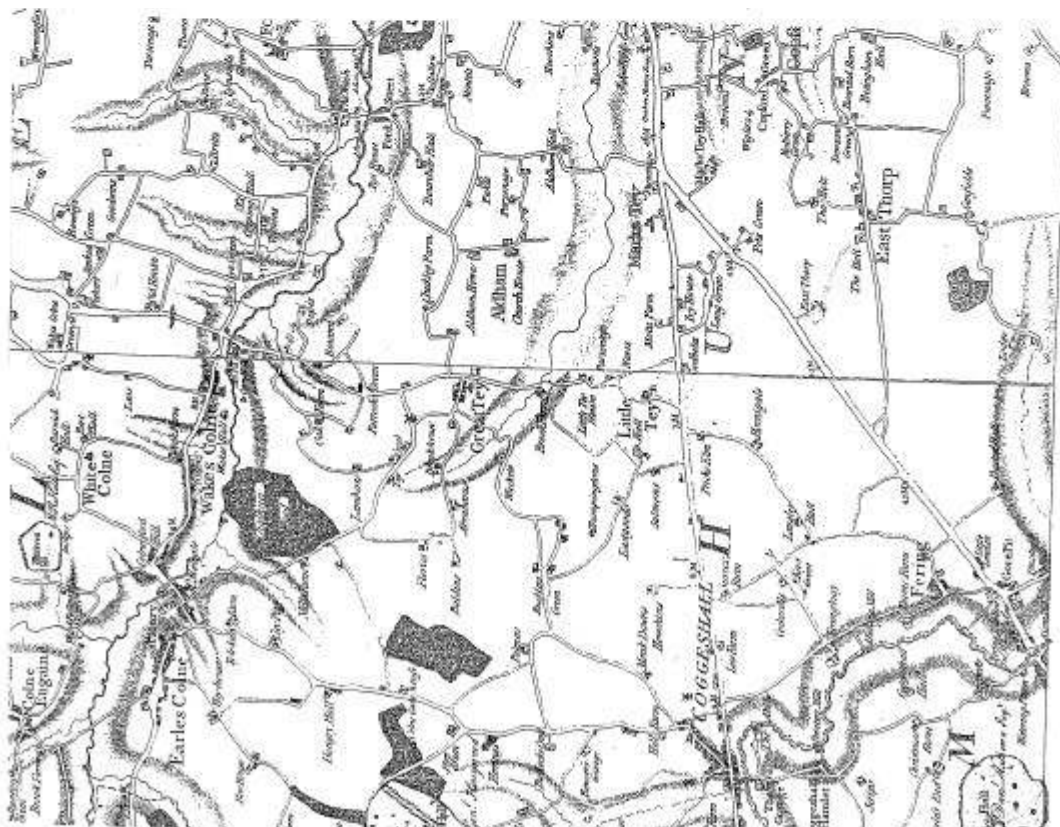
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Great Tey and immediate locality, with parish boundaries
(1st Edition OS 1876)



Modern Parish Boundaries, indicating extent of possible Anglo-Saxon estate.



Great, Little and Marks Tey, Aldham (Chapman and Andre 1777)
Note: Chappel not named on map

A Field Walk at Coronation Grove, Birch

March 2007

John Mallinson

Location

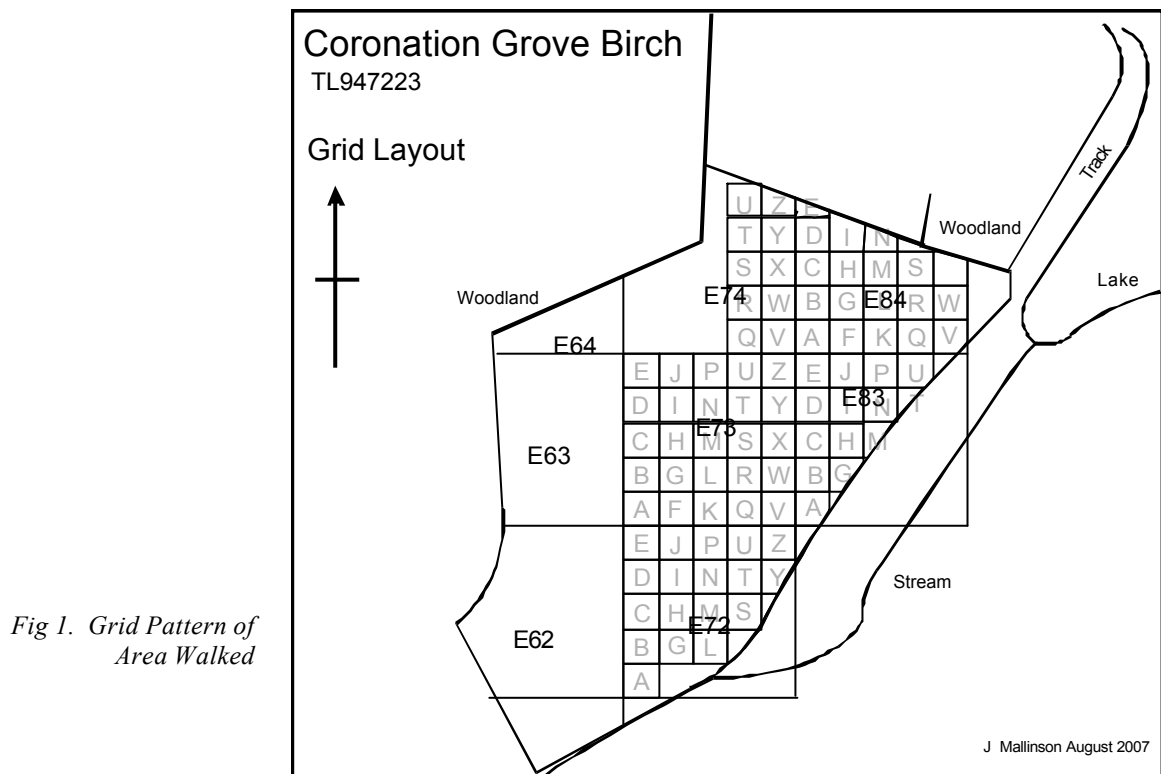
The site of the walk was a field centred upon TL947223, and accessed from a private lane running south from Birch Hall.

Background

Extensive field walking by Patrick Spencer and Nick Dennis during the 1980's had recovered large numbers of Neolithic flints from the above location (1). At the request of Tim Dennis, who had revived interest in the site, and with the permission of Claire Cottrell, the landowner, a formal field walk was organised to recover more flints for detailed examination and to see if the distribution might help to pinpoint any Neolithic settlement or flint working site.

Method

OS Grid reference points were first pinpointed at 100m intervals by GPS. These were interpolated at 20m intervals to give a 20m grid over the whole site. Fig. 1 below shows the area walked and the grid numbering system used. The field was in set aside, but was very sparsely vegetated. The ground had not been cultivated for some time and had become very compacted. Ploughing would have undoubtedly brought more finds to the surface and would have probably made those present easier to see.



The area was walked from south to north and finds collected up to 1m each side of each 20m grid line, giving a 10% sample of the whole area. Walkers were instructed to collect anything man made. As walkers varied considerably in ability, novices were accompanied where possible by more experienced walkers. No attempt was made to identify or compensate for more experienced walkers, but where obvious anomalies were noticed, these are mentioned below. Hazel Martingell was present to train and advise walkers on worked flint recognition.

The finds were sorted into type, and after preliminary validation, flints were examined and type sorted by Hazel Martingell. These findings are reported elsewhere. For the purposes of this report all worked flints, irrespective of age and type have been included.

Results

Details of the finds are given in the Appendix, Tables A-E. Worked flint finds are summarised below, Fig. 2, and illustrated graphically in Fig. 4. A total of 200 flints were found, this from a 10% sample of the area.

Box	E72	E73	E74	E83	E84
A	2	1		7	3
B	0	1		1	1
C	0	1		3	4
D	0	0		3	2
E	3	5		1	3
F		0			4
G	1	0		4	2
H	2	3		1	1
I	4	5		5	6
J	3	1		4	
K		0			0
L	0	1			8
M	0	0		4	5
N	2	1		1	4
P	1	0		5	
Q		3	2		3
R		2	2		5
S	2	8	0		4
T	5	3	0	5	
U	0	0	2	7	
V		2	2		8
W		3	0		2
X		1	0		
Y	0	2	2		
Z	2	4	0		

Fig. 2 Flint Finds Distribution by 20m square.

Only 38 sherds of pottery were found. These have been examined by Pauline Skippins, whose detailed report appears below. The majority of other material was peg tile. Nearly 2000 pieces were recovered, weighing about 42kg.

No other finds of significance were found, although one eagle eyed walker recovered a tiny blue bead, which has not been identified, but is probably modern.

Discussion

Distribution of **peg tile (Fig. 3)** was random over most of the field, consistent with introduction of the material by manuring during modern times.

The distribution of **worked flint** is shown in **Fig. 4**. The pattern seems to be superficially the same as that noted informally by Spencer and Dennis in 1988. Certainly there seems to be a concentration of finds towards the bottom of the slope at the south east end of the field. It is possible that this is due to down slope movement, either through ploughing or by natural geological processes. The random distribution of peg tile suggests that there has been very little down slope movement in recent times, and the presence of the flints in the field must predate any such manuring, but it is not possible on the basis of the evidence from the field walk to draw any conclusions as to the position of any habitation or flint working site.

Conclusions

The presence of such large quantities of worked flint is very strong evidence for considerable human activity over the whole of the site in prehistoric times. No further conclusions regarding specific centres of activity can be drawn. Analysis of the typology of the flints will however give further information on the type and duration

of such activities.

Further Action

No further action is planned by the Group at this time, but geophysical analysis by Tim Dennis (a group member) is ongoing, and may suggest subsurface features worthy of more detailed investigation.

Acknowledgements

Our thanks are due to:

Claire Cottrell, for making her land available for the field walk; Hazel Martingell for giving freely of her time and expertise to examine finds and to assist walkers in their recognition; David Simms for making himself, and his GPS equipment available for gridding out; and to all who took part and helped to make a successful and worthwhile day.

References

1. Spencer P S & Dennis N J; Neolithic Flint from Birch, near Colchester.
CAG Annual Bulletin **31** 1988 pp. 30-36

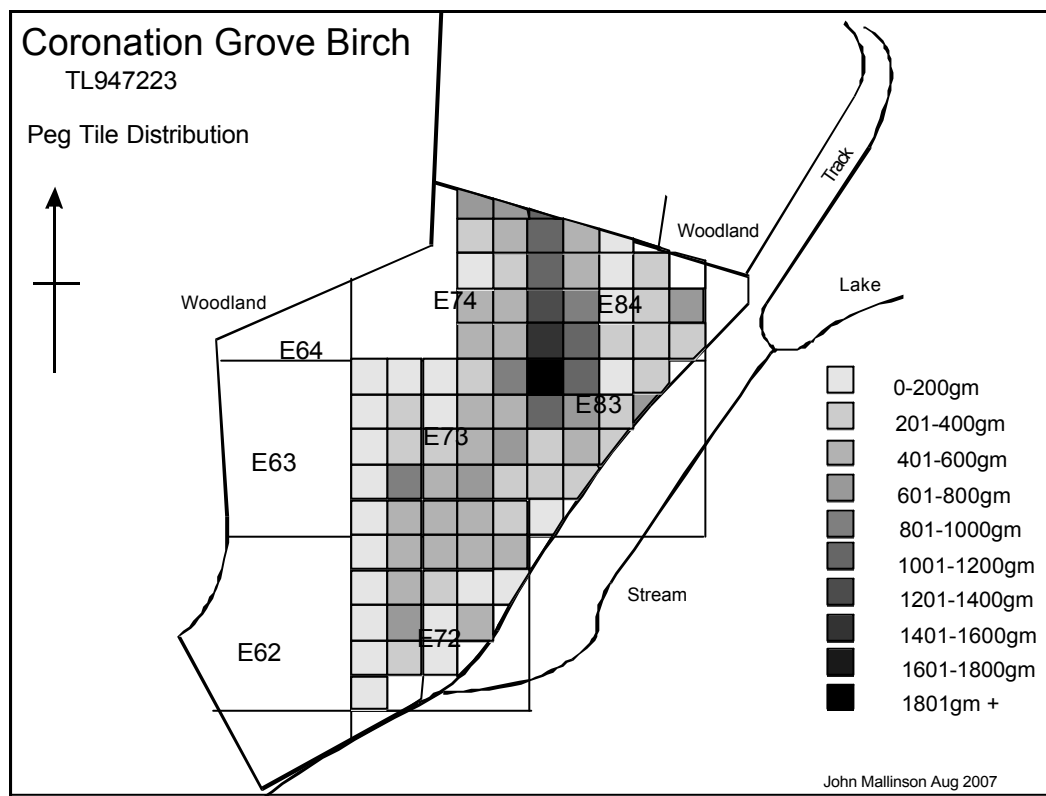


Fig 3. Peg Tile Distribution

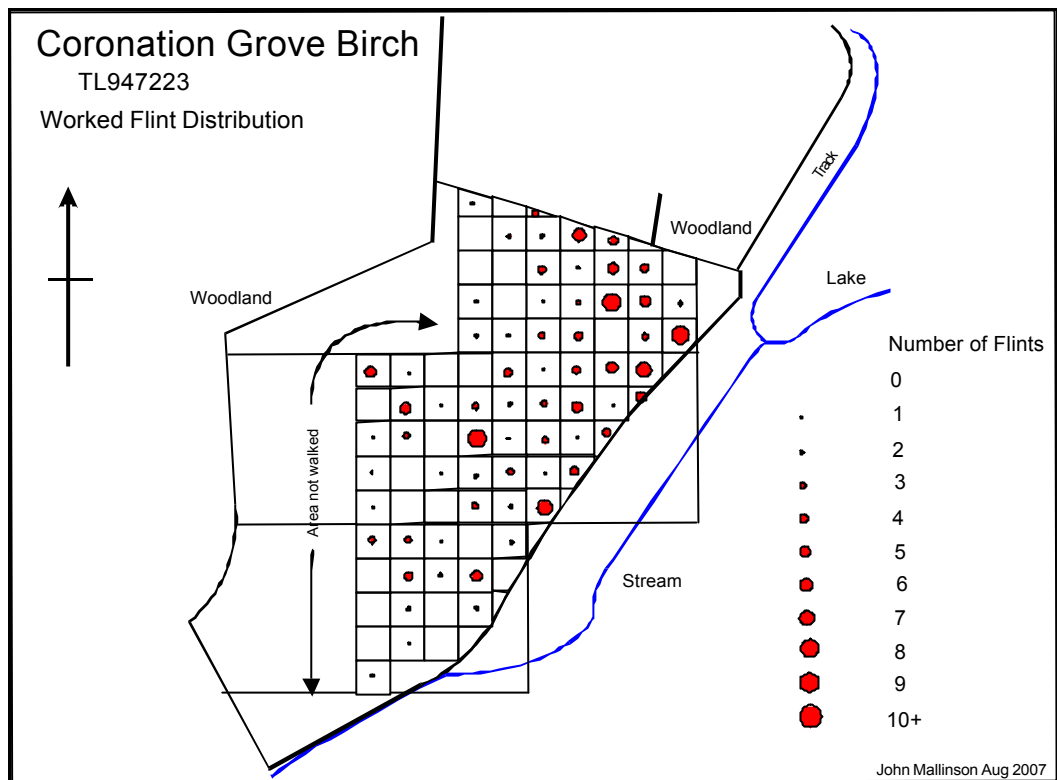


Fig. 4 Worked Flint Distribution

Report on Worked Flint found at Birch site D

Denise Hardy & Anna Moore

Hazel Martingell examined all the pieces from Coronation Grove and the results are shown in the tables below. Most of the pieces found were the waste from flint working, i.e. trimming pieces, flakes or debitage. A number of cores or fragments of cores were also found. However, a small proportion were completed tools, e.g. scrapers, blades, knives etc. The implication is that tools were manufactured on the site but taken away for use elsewhere.

The diagnostic pieces indicate a multi-period site, mainly mesolithic with some later neolithic activity. This corresponds well with previous investigations in the area by Nick Dennis and Patrick Spencer which yielded a number of mesolithic microliths. There is no evidence of habitation, but the site could be described as a 'working-floor' area, with the possibility of a seasonal mesolithic camp. This is what could be expected from a situation overlooking a river valley and surrounded by good raw materials, i.e. flint nodules.

During the morning of the fieldwork, Hazel had shown some interest in particular boxes which she thought were yielding some interesting finds. Therefore, in the afternoon, some of the walkers stayed on to conduct a '100% sweep' of these areas, i.e. they moved across the boxes in close formation picking up all the worked flint pieces. The boxes were those towards the bottom of the slope, close to the stream. The results from this walk are shown in Table 2.

Table 1 Results from the 10% fieldwalk on Birch site D

Type of piece	Pal	Meso	Neo	LNEBA	BA	BA/IA	IA	ND
Blade		7 *						7
Bladelet		3	1					2
Core (or part)		1	1	1		3	1	11
Core (blade)		3	2 *					1
Core (flake)								
Flake	2	3 *	4 *	0		0		71
Fragment (a worked piece that has been broken)		1				1		3
Knife	1							
Notched flake						3		4
Piercer		2	2			1		
Retouched natural						1		1
Scraper	1		3	1				1
Sickle			1					
Strike-a-light						1		
Trimming piece								2
Debitage				3				28
Worked Flake	1	2	1	3*		1		7

- * one of these meso blades possibly neo
- * one of these neo flakes an axe-trimming flake from Lincolnshire Wold Flint
- * one of these meso flakes burnt, possibly neo
- * one of these LNEBA flakes retouched, with sickle gloss
- * one of these neo blade cores possibly meso

1 piece of mesolithic bladelet waste from making microliths was also found

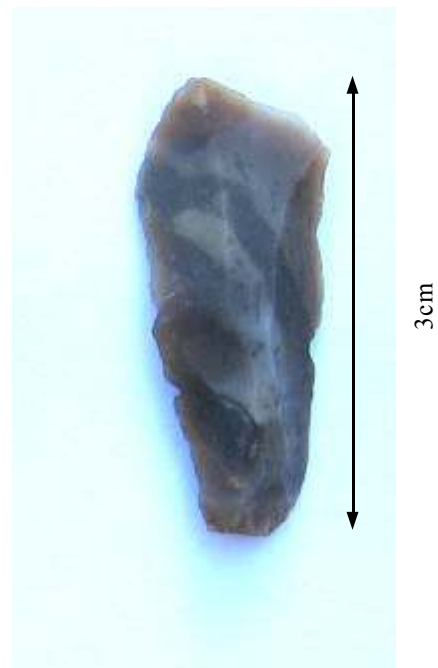
Table 2 Results of 100% sweep

	Pal	Meso	Neo	LNEBA	BA	BA/IA	IA	ND
Blade		1	1					2
Borer								1
Core (blade)								3
Flake			1 *					1
Retouched natural								1
Scraper		1	2 *					
Debitage								39

* this neo flake from burnt flint (burnt before knapping)

* one of these neo scrapers a rare bifacial disc scraper

Pal	Paleolithic
Meso	Mesolithic
Neo	Neolithic
LNEBA	Late neolithic/early Bronze Age
BA	Bronze Age
BA/IA	Bronze Age/Iron Age
IA	Iron Age
ND	Non-diagnostic



A Mesolithic blade core and blade

The First Word on Follies?

James Fawn

This extract from *The Colchester Standard* of 22 August 1922 shows that the discussion in recent CAG Annual Bulletins 37, 42 and 45 is nothing new. Probably written by the editor and proprietor, Gurney Benham, it first complains about the lack of maintenance of Camp Folley South and continues as follows:-

‘Talking of our “follies,” we have so many in Colchester that the word has become familiar, and natives are apt to assume that a folly is a term in general use for a narrow lane. As matter of fact the dictionaries give no such word, and strangers visiting Colchester often express astonishment at the mysterious expression which they had never heard elsewhere. It is not to be found even in the comprehensive Oxford dictionary, nor does it appear in Joseph Wright’s exhaustive dialect dictionary. In some parts of England a clump of trees on the crest of a hill is called a “folly,” but this is no connection with folly in the sense of alley or lane. Must we suppose that the word is peculiarly Colcestrian? “Folly” is of course a term frequently applied to a building or other work left uncompleted on account of the projector’s lack of resources, as in Hickman’s Folly on (sic) S.E. London, but in this case the word is used in its natural sense of foolishness and has nothing to do with “folley,” a lane or passage.’

Still a “mysterious” expression then, after 85 years!

A timber framed building at 12–13 Trinity Street, Colchester

Richard Shackle

Numbers 12 and 13 Trinity Street are a small two storied building made of oak with a clay tile roof. It has two bays and is jettied to the Trinity Street front. The front elevation (Fig 1) has on the ground floor a carriage arch DB. The other ground floor bay FD probably had a pedestrian door and or a window. The upper floor had a window in bay DB and probably a matching window in bay FD. End elevation AB (Fig 2) is open framed on the ground floor with two arch braces and fully framed on the first floor with a tension brace. There was a small window at the front looking up Trinity Street. You can see the shutter rebate for this window on the tie beam. These two features, the open framing on the ground floor and the window on the upper floor, suggest that originally the building was built against another smaller building. Our building borrowed the wall of the building next door for the ground floor but this building next door was low enough for our building to look over the top of it up the street. Later this low building was replaced by a taller long wall jetty building, which is still there hidden behind a brick front. The central truss CD (Fig 3) is fully framed on the ground floor but open framed on the upper floor. This tells us that the ground floor was divided into two compartments while the upper floor was one large room. In the ground floor room CD, EF, there is a short wall with studs about three feet from the end wall EF. This suggests a pedestrian passage to the street. The end wall EF is difficult to understand but may have been open framed on the ground floor like the elevation AB. The building has a plain crown post roof with curving braces (Fig 1). The braces are as thick as the crown post see fig 3. The crown post and brace in truss AB, were removed when a brick chimney was inserted in the 19th century.

The building was almost certainly built as a gatehouse. On the ground floor there would have been a carriage arch in bay AB/CD with the other bay CD/EF being a room for the gatekeeper. This room may have had a pedestrian door and a window to the front. The upper floor was one large room, probably with two windows facing Trinity Street and one looking up the street to the North. We do not know how the upper floor was reached. There could have been a ladder in bay CD/EF or a stair tower, behind. The gate house was probably built to provide protection and a dignified entrance to a large house in the plot behind. The room over the gatehouse may have been used a guest accommodation for people staying at the big house behind. The gatehouse was probably built in the 15th century. By the 17th century it appears to have been converted into a house, a shop or perhaps an inn. There used to a sign painted on the fascia board of the jetty saying that the building was once the Fleur de Lys inn. The extensions attached to the rear of the gatehouse are of various dates some dating back to the 17th century.

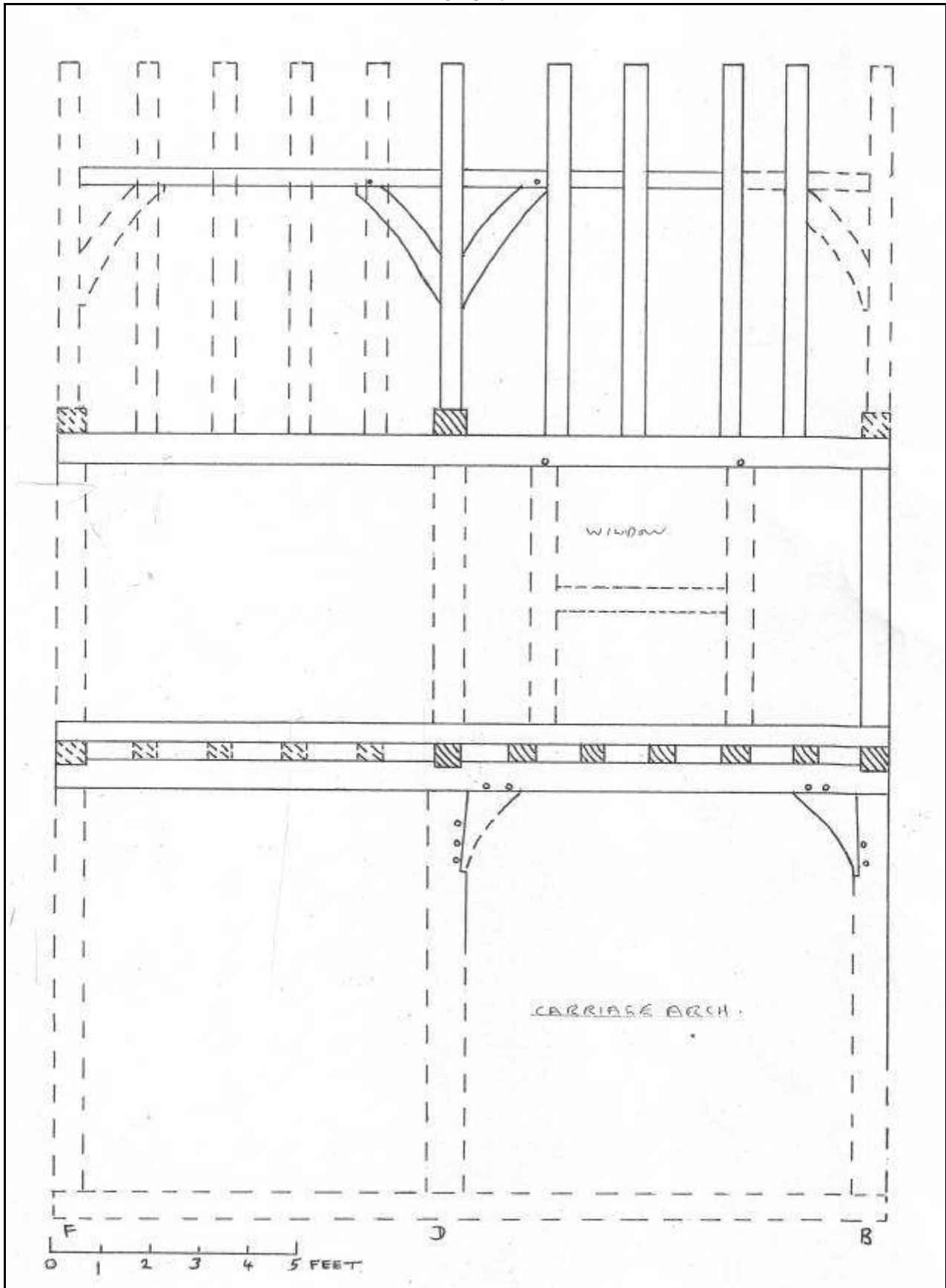


Fig 1, 12-13 Trinity Street, Colchester
 Front elevation B-F
 R Shackle 2007

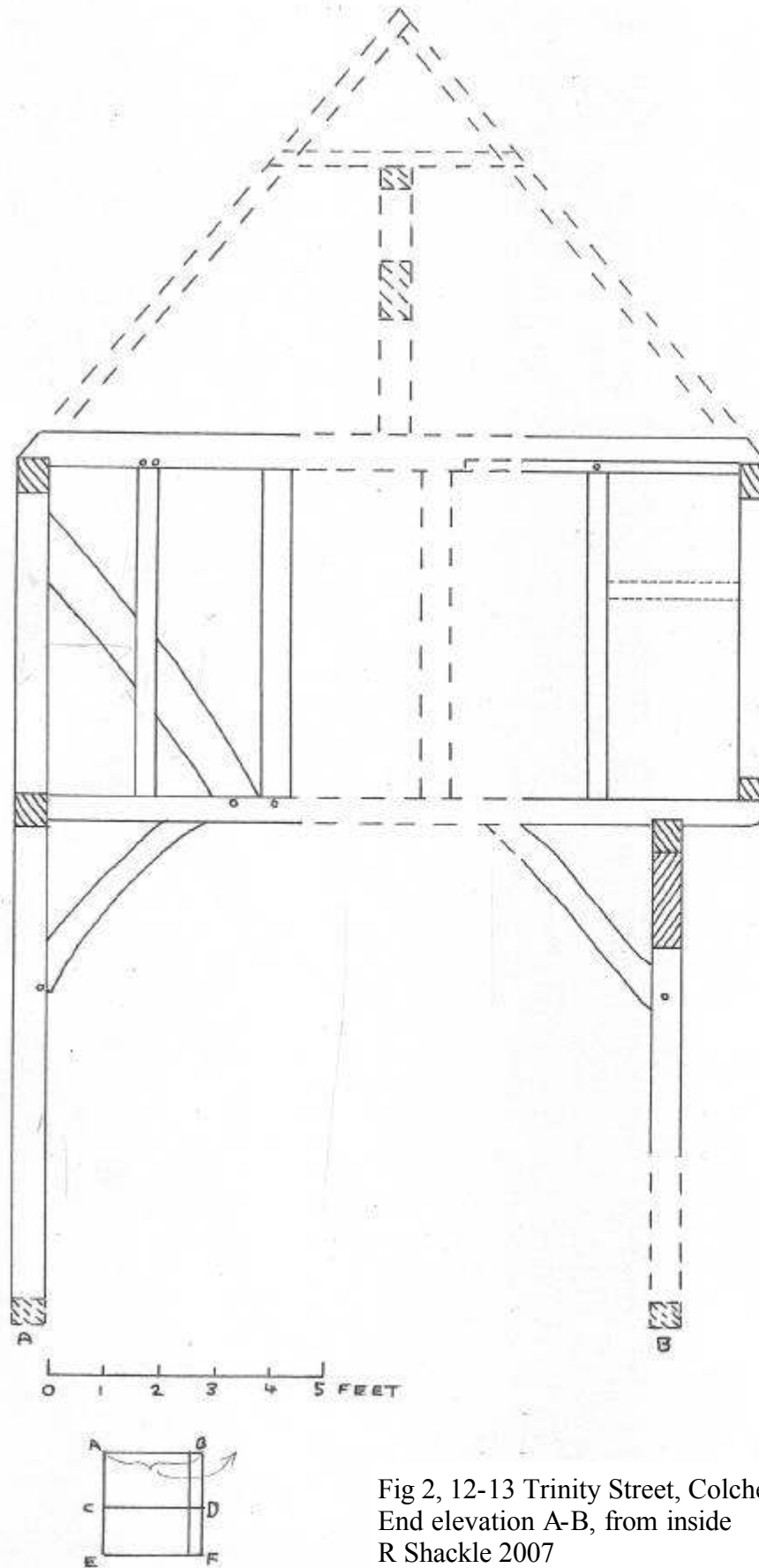


Fig 2, 12-13 Trinity Street, Colchester
End elevation A-B, from inside
R Shackle 2007

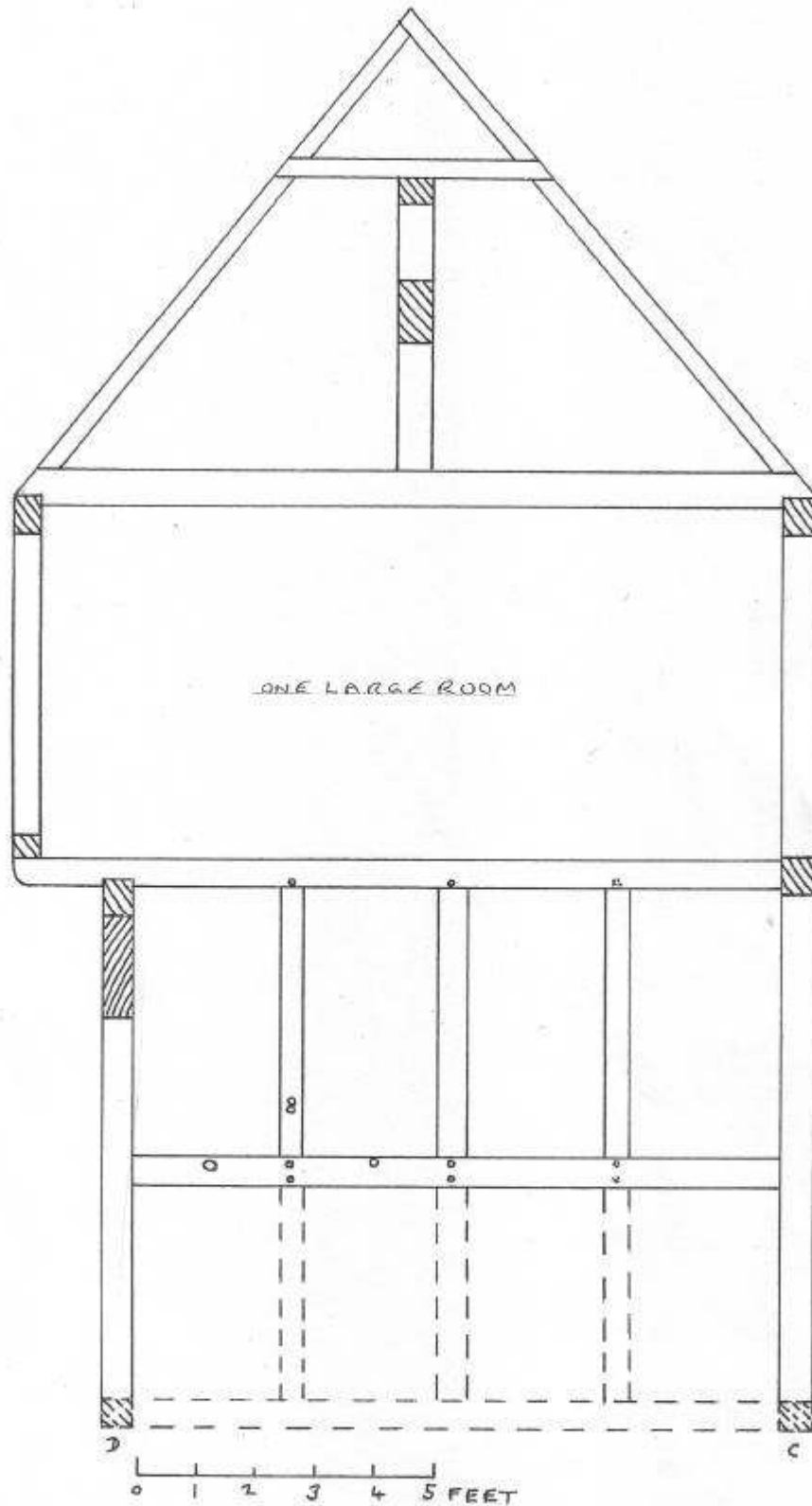
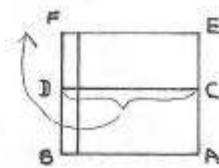


Fig 3, 12-13 Trinity Street, Colchester
 Cross section C-D
 R Shackle 2007



Auxiliary Units (aka The British Resistance Movement)

John Moore

The Group has completed the survey of Second World War defence sites in the Colchester Borough Council area, under the direction of Fred Nash, Essex County Council Military Archaeologist, and a comprehensive report will be received in due course. However, the final investigations revealed evidence of a little-known aspect of the British war effort - the remains of two secret underground bunkers for the use of members of the British Resistance Movement, the only local guerrilla force ever formed in any country **before** an invasion took place. One bunker was discovered in woods at Copford and the other cut into a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Layer Iron Age Dyke, at Layer-de-la-Haye.

"I have been following with much interest the growth and development of the new guerrilla formations known as 'Auxiliary Units'. From what I hear these units are being organised with thoroughness and imagination and should, in the event of invasion, prove a useful addition to the regular forces." Churchill to Eden, 25th September 1940.

With the ever-increasing threat of Germany's military ambitions, the idea of organising some form of civilian resistance in the event of invasion was first proposed in 1938, but it was not until June 1940 that the selection and training of recruits began. Pre-requisites were an intimate knowledge of their local area and being physically capable of living rough and harassing enemy forces, so the men selected were ideally countrymen - farmers, foresters and gamekeepers, although eventually many other occupations were represented. The recruits were sworn to secrecy and equipped and trained separately from local Home Guard Units. The cover name given to the organisation was Auxiliary Units, with an operational brief 'to act offensively on the flanks and in the rear of any German troops who may obtain a temporary foothold in this country' (PRO WO 199/738). The headquarters and training centre was Coleshill House, a Palladian mansion about 10 miles from Swindon, where the extensive parkland and woods were eminently suitable for guerrilla warfare training. After two days training, recruits returned to their local areas where they continued training several nights a week. Although not in the official Home Guard, Units were formed into three special Home Guard battalions as a cover. With around 3,500 men trained at Coleshill and others trained locally, a total of nearly 5,000 well-trained and armed men awaited a possible German invasion.

Key to the operation of the new force were hidden underground bunkers, known as 'Operational Bases', and by the end of 1941 there were well over 500 OB's in use, mainly constructed by the Royal Engineers. Built mainly of pre-formed corrugated iron segments, the largest number of bases were sited in Southern England and East Anglia, as these were the most likely areas to be invaded. Most were large enough to house six or seven men in reasonable comfort, fitted with bunks, cooking stoves, Tilley lamps and a chemical toilet, well stocked with food and water and with plenty of room for arms, ammunition and sabotage material. In some cases, supplies were sufficient to sustain a patrol for up to a month, although the normal tour of duty would be a fortnight. Explosives were the main offensive weapons, as the aim was to attack the enemy's stores, transport and communications, rather than his ground troops. The bunkers had concealed entrances and a separate means of escape, often a concrete tube that exited via a hidden trapdoor some distance from the bunker itself. They were located in remote areas, often in woods, and were so well concealed that anyone walking over them would not notice anything unusual in the ground below.

By November 1944, the threat of invasion had passed, and the Auxiliary Units were disbanded. What had begun in secrecy also ended in secrecy, as it was not until April 1945 that the existence of the British Resistance Movement was released to the Press, and whilst Defence Medals were issued to members of the Home Guard with three years service, members of the Auxiliary Units were overlooked, as there were no written records of their service, giving them no official standing. (Belatedly, in 1996, Defence Medals were issued to known surviving Auxiliaries). After the war, demolition teams from the Royal Engineers were sent around the country to destroy all the Operational Bases to keep them from becoming the hideouts of criminals. Equally, they could become play places where small children might easily get hurt. However, a number were not destroyed, and although most of them have by now caved in, leaving only hollows in the ground to mark their positions, a few still survive, mostly on private land where they are unlikely to become a nuisance.

Further reading: 'The Last Ditch: Britain's Resistance Plans Against the Nazis' David Lampe
'With Britain in Mortal Danger: Britain's Secret Army' John Warwicker

The Museum of the British Resistance Movement is at Parham Airfield, Suffolk

Remains of an Auxiliary Unit Operational Base cut into
Layer Iron Age Dyke, Chest Wood, Layer-de-la-Haye



The Obelisk on Lexden Heath

James Fawn

In 1759 William Stukeley, the antiquarian of repute, visited Colchester and, among other activities, drew sketch plans of the earthworks on Lexden Heath, including Gryme's Dyke and the Triple Dyke. Morant, the Essex historian, had also drawn plans in the previous year, 1758. These are in the Essex Record Office at Chelmsford where the County Council believes that Colcestrians may study them more conveniently than in Colchester.

Fortunately, some of the plans are illustrated and discussed in some detail by C F C Hawkes and Philip Crummy in Colchester Archaeological Report 11 (copy in Group library). Two of Morant's plans (figs 2.2 and 2.3 in the Report) depict an 'obelisk' on the south side of Gryme's Dyke, here the boundary between Lexden and Stanway parishes. The 'obelisk' does not appear to be shown on any later map of the area and the site of the Heath itself has been swallowed up in the expansion of Colchester. As Hawkes remarks "And what the 'obelisk' was, marked in this (Fig 2.2) and in Figure 2.3, standing beside Gryme's Dyke and on the lip of its ditch, who can say?" Figure 2.2 is repeated here.

William Wire, another well-known antiquarian and a diarist of mid-nineteenth century Colchester, thought he could say. In his diary entry for 27 April 1844, also at Chelmsford, he wrote 'Mr Tracy of Lexden who is between 60 and 70 years of age informs me that there was formerly a wooden post near the ramparts Lexden Heath which was used as a whipping post to secure the soldiers to when flogged during the time the Camp was on the heath that it was removed when the heath was enclosed some years since. This post has been referred to by Morant as the obelisk.' (The syntax is Wire's.)

Was this interpretation correct? That Stukeley does not show the post may be because he judged it of no relevance to ancient earthworks. Morant's interest appears to be confined to his drawings and he makes no reference to it in his History of Colchester, although it may be further mentioned in those of his papers that are not in Colchester.

Mr Tracy's statement infers that he was a witness to the enclosure of the Heath, which took place in 1821. He obviously noted that the post had been removed, although he may not have seen the actual removal, and he was then old enough to know what its function had been. But whether he knew of it named as 'the obelisk' Wire does not make clear.

The Heath had played a part as an assembly point in the Civil War and in the next century from the 1740s onwards troops camped there from time to time prior to taking part in various wars on the Continent and whenever there was a threat of invasion such as in the Napoleonic period. Some permanent facilities may well have been provided, including a post for corporal punishment. As an instrument of discipline it could have been a reminder visible from anywhere on the parade ground and calling it an obelisk may be an example of sardonic military humour. Morant drew it as a tall triangular feature rather than a simple post and maybe that shape was suitable for securing a person about to be flogged. Or perhaps it was just a marker for the parish boundary.

Reproduction in the Annual Bulletin may make reading of Morant's hand writing difficult. The entries, moving from right to left, are;

SW, NW

Coel Kitchen

Obelisk from hence to ye London road is 640 paces or yards

Round wood

London road

1696 paces from London road

a ditch on each side

The rampart here is 20 paces over

interrupted by cultivated land

Tumulus, Tumulus

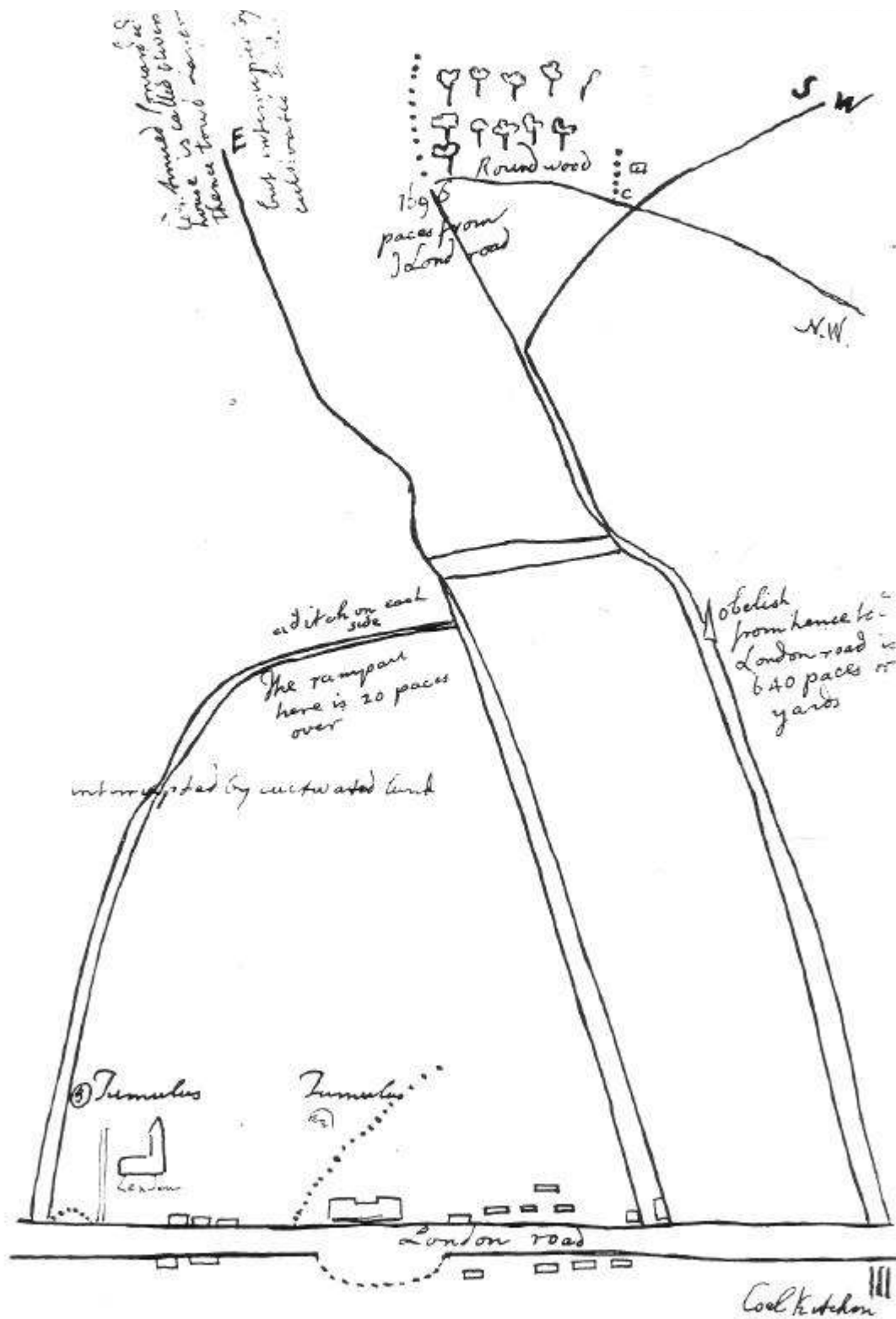
Lexden

E

Continued forward ad house is called Olivers thence towd Layer but interrupted by cultivated land

While researching this article I felt relieved that I had managed my National Service in the RAF without a flogging. However, I need not have been concerned; flogging in the Army was abolished in 1881.

Morant's plan, 1758



F

The CAG Logo

Anna Moore

The first CAG Bulletin was produced in 1958 in order to publish the fieldwork carried out by the recently formed Colchester Archaeological Group during the previous year. At first, the annual Bulletins appeared with the cover illustrated with the Borough and County coats-of-arms and both faces of the Camulodunum coin depicting the wheat-ear and the horse. From 1967 the Bulletins, which were by then smaller, had a plain cover with a border in a Greek key pattern, but later it was decided to adopt a logo. The design chosen was taken from a Roman potter's hand stamp, drawn by a member of the group, and it first appeared on the title page of Vol. 22, published in 1979. In that year, our then Chairman, Kath Evans, wrote a description of the stamp and to mark our anniversary, the article is reproduced below. The current version of the logo was drawn by T. Moyse and dates from 1991.

A Potter's Hand Stamp

Kath Evans

The potter's stamp illustrated on the bulletin cover was found on Hilly Fields, Colchester. It is now in the Castle Museum (acc.no.11. 1957) and we are grateful for kind permission to reproduce it.

The stamp is mushroom shaped with a somewhat bossed or raised centre to fit the interior curve of a bowl. It is in strong relief and depicts Triton blowing a conch and the figure is so arranged that it approximately fits into a circular space. Hull (1) considers it typical of the work of the Colchester potters which, at times, had a fine disregard for detail and accuracy. For example, the disproportionate size of the hands. At the back of the stamp is an almost cylindrical handle and the whole is made of a particularly fine grained clay which is very hard (2). One other such stamp with a leaf design is also preserved at Colchester and there is a possibility that a third was found though its whereabouts are not now known.

Method of using hand stamps:

The stamps were used on moulds for decorated sigillata (samian ware). A mould to reach the sides of a bowl to the limit of any decoration on it was prepared in soft clay, and after turning but before drying, the stamp was impressed on the inner side of the mould. When the mould was fired, clay for the bowl was spun into the mould by the wheel, thus a positive version of the stamp was taken on to the outer surface of the bowl, the inner surface of which was finished by wheel. The mould was then left until its contents had shrunk sufficiently to be removed easily (some moulds had a central hole to facilitate this). Once removed from the mould the bowl was given a rim and a footring. Stamps and moulds could be used many times.

The Colchester samian kiln:

Decorated sigillata was obviously produced at one kiln in Colchester (3) where characteristic moulds, and the tubes and potters' rings now recognised as belonging to the technical process of sigillata, were also found. Some 400 mould fragments were found; none of them were signed but Hull (4) says they are easily separated into two groups by marked differences in shape, use of clay and style of decoration, indicating that they were the work of two different potters. His impression is that both potters worked on the same site (not necessarily contemporaneously) because they used the same stamps and the same clay. Hull has designated them Potter A, over 50 of whose mould fragments have been recognised, they are thicker with a heavier beaded rim and a more rounded shape than those of Potter B. He produced a finer surface both inside and outside his bowls and his decoration is recognised particularly by the deep finely cut grooves close to the decorated zone at the bottom - of the bowl. His work seems rather more sophisticated than Potter A's, maybe he was, in fact, his successor. Our stamp of Triton is undoubtedly the work of Potter A.



But in 1933 when the samian kiln was uncovered no trace of the stamp itself had been found, nor had its imprint on mould fragments been recognised. However, at least three pieces of the actual decorated ware were known (5). It is of interest to compare the stamp itself with the impression on the decorated ware; obvious shrinkage has taken place in the drying and firing processes and the degree of relief and dimensions of the figure vary according to how deeply the stamp was impressed on the mould. Some 25 pieces of decorated ware, which were undoubtedly the work of one man who Hull has called Potter C, have been found. Although he seems to have worked in Colchester none of his moulds have been found.

Native Samian ware in Britain:

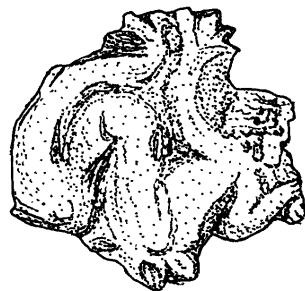
Most Samian ware found in Britain was imported from Gaul but imports virtually ceased at the end of the 2nd century (6) when the Gaulish industry was disrupted by war. By this period the Colchester kiln was active and its discovery confirms that such ware was produced here, though it is unlikely that the potters were native Britons. Hull (7) suggests the figures of men in the decoration are Roman in character, though the animals, vines and tendrils are in more native style. The industry was short-lived; Frere (8) thinks because the clay was unsuitable and the production poor - he does not say whether it was material or workmanship that cause poor production. Hull (9) writes that local clay was unsuitable and probably firing it was difficult, but Hartley (10) thinks the clay, which needed to contain the mineral illite to produce the glossy finish, was imported. So perhaps a regular supply was not possible. There is evidence of a small samian ware industry in London, though probably later than at Colchester (11) and again the industry lasted only a short time.

The importance of Colchester pottery:

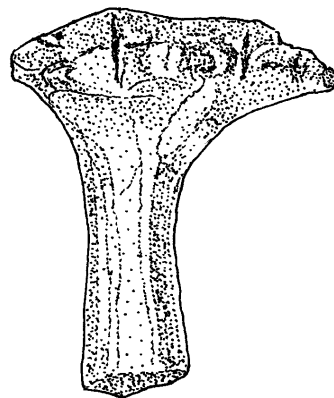
Colchester was a flourishing centre for pottery manufacture and although the samian proved unsatisfactory many products were highly successful; for instance the mortaria which was supplied to the armies in Britain. There were many potters who were well organised and archaeological finds demonstrate their expertise. Dunnett (12) comments that Colchester pottery was different in various ways from that made in the south-east, even that produced as near as Chelmsford and Kelvedon. As for the decorated sigillata, if this was first produced in Colchester, then perhaps Potter A's workshop was the first of its kind operating in Britain. Since the industry was so specialised and so short-lived and since only two of these unique hand stamps are known, the Triton stamp is of considerable archaeological significance - and a seemly symbol for our bulletin cover.

References

- 1 Hull, M.R. The Roman Potters' Kilns of Colchester (1963) 50
- 2 *ibid* 69
- 3 *ibid* Kiln no.21
- 4 *ibid* 44
- 5 *ibid* pl. XVIb 2,3
- 6 Frere, S. *Britannia, a History of Roman Britain* (1974) 291
- 7 Hull, M.R, *op. cit.* 72
- 8 Frere, S, *op. cit.* 292
- 9 Hull, M.R, *op. cit.* 143
- 10 Hartley, B.R. Chpt. XIII in *The Archaeology of Roman Britain* (1969)
- 11 Frere, S, *op. cit.* 292
- 12 Dunnett, R. *The Trinovantes* (1975) 130.



Drawing of potter's hand stamp
by A Moore 2007

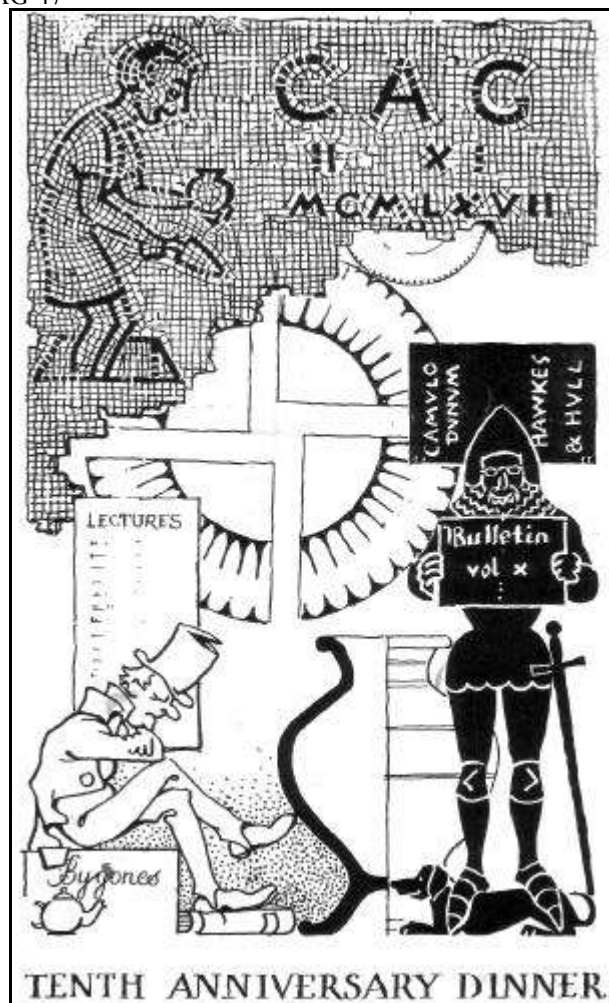


6cm

Images of the stamp by kind permission of Colchester & Ipswich Museums

50 Years of Celebrations
 Anna Moore

CAG 47



MENU

Cream of Asparagus or Fruit Juice

Steak, Kidney and Oyster Pie

Creamed Potatoes, Garden Peas

Peach Melba

Welsh Rarebit

Coffee

TOASTS

The Loyal Toast

The Colchester Archaeological Group

proposed by

His Worship the Mayor of Colchester

Alderman E. P. Duffield, J.P

response by

Professor C.F.C. Hawkes, M.A., F.S.A.

As you will see (page 64), the Summer Party 2007 was a special event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Group. In so doing, we were following a long tradition of marking such landmarks by a party (Colchester Archaeological Group members love a party!). As the following menus show, they also neatly illustrate the changing fashions in celebrations. In 1967, a formal event for fifty members was held at the Red Lion Hotel, with a six-course dinner, a loyal toast, and a menu card designed in the style of W Gurney Benham's menu cards for the Oyster Feasts of the early twentieth century. Fifteen years later in 1982, for the 25th anniversary, a much less formal party was planned. The venue was a member's house, with the Group ladies doing the shopping and cooking all the food (plus ça change.....) and 66 people paid £2 per person for a four-course meal followed by celebration cake. No menu cards were produced but the shopping list reproduced below is an interesting archive, not least for the prices! By 2007, nobody wanted to do the shopping and cooking themselves, so a caterer and a venue were hired and 60 people sat down to a semi-formal three-course dinner, followed by an anniversary cake made by Kath Hunt, the sister of one of our members. Another contrast with the two previous events - menu cards were produced, but this time they were printed on a member's computer, using desk-top publishing software, something that could never have been imagined in 1967.

C.A.G. Party 1982			25 th anniversary
{ Bacon 1lb. }			
{ Bacon 2lbs }	1.96		
Meat (23lb)	46.65		
{ Carrots 1lb }	.28		
{ 2 nd Carrots or Onions 3lb }	.88		
4 bottles Wine in Meat £1.80	7.20		
Serviettes	.87		
Plates etc 150	3.75		
Mushrooms 3lbs	2.42		
Plates 50 Extra etc	1.25		
? Oil Dressing etc 2pts	.47		
Butter 1lb	1.35		
Bread 1/2 57x2	.57		
Salads 1/2 30p 1/2 16p 1/2 5p	1.43		
Celery (Maine)	.28		
Strawberries 20lb			
Salmon Mousse	7.00		
cream (Sweet) 5pts	7.50		
Cheeses	4.00	(all sold)	
Potatoes 22lb	2.20		
Milk 4pts	.76		
Free drinks			
Hire bins, cutlery	3.00		
+ song etc	1.00		
Lemons (Fresh)	.30		
R. Ples 28s 23	.46		
Milk (Potatoes)	.57		
Coffee	1.03		
	110.51		
			103.62
			112
			116
			111
			115

66 people @ £2 = £132
 Held at Mary & Tony Boncarter's
 Abberton Lodge.
 No. 100 racks for cooker.



*Grand
50th Anniversary
Gala Dinner*

*Marks Hall, Coggeshall
Monday 16th July 2007*

TOASTS

Ida McMaster MBE

Guest-of-honour

Colchester Archaeological Group

proposed by

John Mallinson, Chairman

MENU

Cucumber & Mint Mousse

Chicken with Red Grapes, Pecan Nuts & Roquefort

or

Summer Vegetable Layered Pancakes

both served with

Hot New Potatoes & Mixed Salads

Anniversary Cake with Fresh Fruits & Cream

Coffee or Tea

Wine, Beer & Soft Drinks

Winter Lectures 2006 -2007**Bread and Circuses from Colchester to Constantinople**

Mark Davies

2nd October 2006

Notes taken by Jean Roberts

Circuses are an important part of our knowledge of the Roman World; Britain was full of horsemen and charioteers and the discovery of the Circus in Colchester has encouraged more people to become interested in Archaeology and this aspect of it.

Even in the 6th Century BC burials in Paestum showed chariot races being run as part of Religious and Funerary Games. However, the Circus Maximus in Rome, also originally laid out in the 6th Century BC, would have been used first as a running track and only later would chariot races have taken place. In 10AD the Emperor Augustus built a more impressive structure on the site, seating 150,000 people, with an ancient Egyptian obelisk, circa 1280BC, on the central spina.

Chariot racing involved large sections of the population, breeding horses, manufacturing all the equipment needed and attending to the spectator's needs on the racing days. There was a strong link between the Games and Religion. For instance, in present day Tarragona there are 3 linked terraces from the Roman Period, housing the Temple of the Imperial Cult on the highest one, then the Forum and on the lower one, the Circus, all connected by a Processional Way.

Mosaics seen in Lyons and Merida, show charioteers with their horses, the Lyons one shows 8 quadrigae, travelling anticlockwise, while the very fine one in Merida is of a famous charioteer, riding in his light chariot, pulled by his 4 horses.

Circuses can be found all over the Roman world, including Toledo, Cadiz, Saragossa and the one in Istanbul situated in front of the Blue Mosque.

Metal Mining in Prehistoric Britain

Paul Chaddock, BSc, PhD, HNC, British Museum

9th October 2006

Notes taken by Lilian Morrow

This is a new area of research looking for the remains of metal mining in prehistoric Britain. Early working of copper began in the Middle East c10,000BC and smelting c6,000BC in Central Anatolia. By 4,000BC really big metal tools were spreading into Europe and by 3,000BC metal working had spread over all Western Europe.

Between 60-70 sites in the British Isles have been identified, mainly by abandoned hammer stones but deer antlers, used as picks and the tines as wedges, generally do not survive. The hammer stones were gathered locally, rounded by river, glacial ice and sea, as from the beach at Aberystwyth. About the size of bricks, they were hafted in wooden cradles and probably bound with wet rawhide. An absence of hammer stones has been noted in Scotland and Cornwall.

By 2,500-2,200BC the copper age had arrived in the British Isles at Ross Island, County Kerry, 2,500-2,200BC, Mount Gabriel, SW Ireland, 2,000-1,500BC; Great Orme and Paris Mountain NW Wales, a vast open cast mine started c2,000BC until 1780AD; Alderley Edge, south of Manchester, c1800BC a series of pits and some Victorian mining; Cligger Head, Cornwall, a tin mine easily worked as the granite is soft like sugar; a late Bronze Age trench mine at Charterhouse in the Mendip Hills, where the Romans mined the native metal in malachite in deep mines.

The areas of mineral deposits were identified by the flora, as certain species do not grow well over it, the presence of quartz which suggests minerals, and areas of small outcrops of ore on the surface. Some mines were open cast, others tunnelled to a depth of 8 metres or more with galleries leading off the main shaft. No pottery was found in the workings but 10,000 bones were discovered in the calcareous rock workings. The early miners threw the galena out with the debris but the Romans dammed the area and washed it out. There is no evidence of smelting at the sites. A Beaker burial was discovered beneath a Roman lead smelting site but without the usual Beaker pot.

The Cwmystwyth Valley, near Aberystwyth, in Wales shows evidence of 4000 years working of copper, lead, zinc and copper sulphate until the 1920s, the seams running down the hillside. Evidence of a wooden drain carved out of Alder wood with the bark still intact gave a radiocarbon date of c2000BC for its felling. On Great Orme, NW Wales, copper bearing mud was retrieved from fissures in the soft limestone. Fire was used against the rock face to split the stone, a method the Romans used, and also used in Derbyshire until the 1700s. This method was strictly controlled, no fires to be lit before 4pm and all personnel were to be cleared from the area.

There is some evidence for Bronze Age circular hut sites near to the mining areas on Dartmoor and at Grimes Graves, mined around the same time, possibly where the miners lived.

Recent Excavations at Leominster Priory, Herefordshire

Bruce Watson, MOLAS

16th October 2006

Notes taken by Pat Brown

Leominster today is a small market town on the River Lugg, a tributary of the Wye. It had been a Saxon *burh* and the town developed from the monastery.

Founded c660 by Merewalh, ruler of the Magonsaetan, as a minster church, Leominster was known to have been one of the biggest such churches in England before the Conquest, with three Anglo-Saxon saints, including Edfrith, its Northumbrian founder. Possibly there was friction with Hereford, a foundation of the Roman church, since it never came under the Bishop of Hereford, and appeared to be very wealthy. Border wars in the reign of Edward the Confessor caused considerable disruption to Leominster and it was re-founded after the Conquest as a monastic church under the Abbot of Reading. But little from this period survives, and "Operation Leofric", part Heritage Local Initiative funded, was launched to investigate.

Bruce Watson was in charge of a team excavating the car park to the north of the church, on the original Priory cloister, where geophysical survey had indicated a large circular feature. Could this be connected with the Anglo-Saxon church? However, excavation revealed nothing of the kind, merely make-up for the car park. But the medieval cloister path and walls could now be seen, and, at lower levels, pits and gullies where animal, fish and bird bone appeared, giving C14 dates c.660-700. This, when analysed, should give a rare and valuable insight into Anglo-Saxon diet. Saxon Leominster appeared aceramic until the 11th century. Other finds include 537 pieces of medieval floor tile (possible demolition debris from the Dissolution) with a variety of patterns, - floral, heraldic, stamped, checkerboard – or plain.

The present church survives as a West tower and the twin naves and aisles of the post-Conquest monastic church. The Anglo-Saxon church probably lay under the North nave – later the monks' church – while the South nave became the parish church. After the Dissolution other monastic buildings go, one becoming a 19th century workhouse, as well as the Eastern part of the church.

The site has now been sealed by a membrane, labels in place, and the car park re-instated.

In questions, Bruce Watson acknowledged that the geophysical "rotunda" was difficult to explain, but it had encouraged excavation to a considerable depth in an attempt to account for it, with very worthwhile results.

London Under Ground

Dr Dennis Smith, Birkbeck College, London

23rd October 2006

Notes taken by Tim Dennis

The closest most people get to the subsurface parts of London is, of course, the Underground. Dr Smith was able to expand hugely on this, with discussion of its long-buried rivers, commemorated in names like Fleet Street, its sewers, other tunnels, cellars, carparks and secret bunkers. The earliest remains include a Roman bath house beneath Lower Thames Street, and an Amphitheatre at the Guildhall: no hint of a Roman Circus however!

Henry VIII's wine cellar now lies beneath the Ministry of Defence, and is the only remnant of the former Whitehall Palace. It owes its survival to Queen Mary, who requested that it be preserved when the new MoD

building was constructed on its site. To do so and avoid interfering with the plans for the new building, the whole structure had to be moved, intact, about 9 feet west and 18 feet below its original position.

The Brunel family have strong connections with London, in addition to Isambard Kingdom's Paddington Station. Isambard's father, Marc, an equally brilliant engineer, came to England from France via New York, where he had produced the winning design in a competition for the Capitol building in Washington D.C. - not the building that exists today, however, because of cost. It was Marc who was appointed engineer for the Thames Tunnel between Wapping and Rotherhithe in 1823, the first of its kind. Isambard eventually became Engineer to the project, and coped successfully with a major flood, when an assumed protective layer of clay above its route proved not to exist and the river broke through.

Less well-known than the Brunels is James Henry Greathead, born in South Africa in 1844, who developed and improved their tunnelling techniques, with the introduction of the now-standard travelling shield, and working under raised air pressure. Greathead is responsible for the deep level underground railway tunnel system.

Joseph Bazalgette, also with a French immigrant background in the person of his grandfather, was championed by Brunel, but is best known for his leading role in the design and construction of the London sewer system, sanctioned by Parliament at huge cost after the 'Great Stink' of 1858 and a series of cholera epidemics. A man of astonishing foresight, he calculated a diameter for the tunnels based on the most densely populated areas of London at the time; realising that a construction on this scale was a once-only exercise, he then doubled the figure to allow for future contingencies, one of which duly turned-up in the form of the tower block. Partly also a result of Bazalgette's obsessive attention to construction and materials quality, the sewers remain in use.

We owe a huge debt to the science and especially engineering skills of the first half of the nineteenth century, when polymath individuals like Brunel and his contemporaries were the first to exploit the new materials and techniques that had emerged during the Industrial Revolution of the eighteenth. They created the modern world and how it works; only the tools have changed.

Garden Canals in the 18th Century

Edward Martin, Archaeological Officer, Suffolk County Council and Chairman of the Suffolk Gardens Trust
30th October 2006
Notes taken by John Wallace

Edward Martin was called in to look Boundary Farm, Framsdon in 1990. What he saw was a long ditch (54m) about 6m wide, in which there was a wooden water pipe and remains of brick 'steps' at one end. This was no moat but probably the first piece of garden archaeology in the county! It was recognised as a canal, created by Edward Mann who was a yeoman farmer, in the late 17th/early 18th century. This new type of garden feature was usually confined to the top rank of landed gentry.

In 1998 a canal created by Maynard Colchester at Westbury Court, Gloucestershire was restored by the National Trust and said at the time to be a "rare example" of a garden canal.

The idea for canals came in from the continent, notably France and Italy, where interest in this style of garden feature became popular in 17th century. The King of Portugal had a tiled canal built, and the King of Naples had one at Caserta. In 1660, King Charles came back from France with this new idea and had a huge canal built in St James's Park, which is now the Serpentine. The canal at Hampton Court was built soon afterwards in 1663.

The English gentry created many long straight ponds that they called 'canals', usually as part of formal gardens, in which alignments and symmetry were important factors. They were designed to dominate the landscape. Canals became the status symbol in many landscaped gardens during the next 70 or 80 years.

Edward Martin said that no fewer than 50 examples have been identified in Suffolk and showed illustrations of some of them. For example, at the Rookery (Battlesea Hall), Stradbroke. This canal is 300m long and 17m wide with a small island at the end furthest from the house and was built late 17th century, probably by Joseph Fox. There is also a small island at one end of the canal at Abbots Hall, Stowmarket, built by Charles Blosse, late 17th century.

At Tendring Hall, Stoke by Nayland, the canal has a summer house at one end (sometimes referred to as a

fishing lodge) called The Temple. The canal and Temple are shown on an Estate map of 1723.

Sometimes earlier features were adapted to make canals. At Parsonage Farm Boxford (formally a Rectory) for example, the rear arm of the medieval moat was made into a canal by the Rev. John Warren, Rector of Boxford (1683-1721).

In a Terrier of 1723 it is recorded that "a Green Walk bounded by a canal of great length (actually 68m long and 10m wide) & well stocked with fish, and made by the late Incumbent in a place, where before was nothing but a foul stinking ditch".

Sir John Hervey, 1st Earl of Bristol had a wide canal (212m long x 60m wide at the widest part) built at Ickworth early in the 1700s. Another interesting example survives only as a series of earthworks at Coombs Hall, where the house built in 1724 was demolished in 1756 and the garden, designed by Orlando Bridgeman, fell into disuse.

A number of other examples were shown, an unusual one being a Mount at Pettistree Lodge, which was 7.9m high and had a spiral walkway to the top. This flanked a canal 150m long x 12m wide. In his will dated 1745 just after it was built, the proud owner decreed it should be named after him and called "Hunn Wyards Mount".

The building of canals only enjoyed a relatively short period of popularity and went out of fashion at the end of the 18thC.

Edward concluded by suggesting that with so many canals identified in Suffolk, there is potential for research in Essex.

The Temple of Mithras 50 Years on

John Shepherd, Institute of Archaeology

6th November 2006

Notes taken by Blanche Anderton

After the Second World War blitz, the City of London needed to be rebuilt. Archaeologists would have the opportunity to investigate these sites.

The discovery of the temple was made on the Westside of Walbrook by Professor W Grimes in 1954. The first trench that was dug at the bottom of a basement found the remains of a Roman building. The basement was removed and then the excavation took place.

Among the foundations of the 3rd century temple white marble statues were found. The statues bore the likenesses of Minerva, Mercury, and Mithras. Clay figurines of Venus were also found.

The remains of many small buildings were found which had collapsed due to subsidence, probably caused by water.

As the site was due to be developed the foundations were dismantled and moved to a builders yard, until it was decided what was to be done. While at the yard some of the masonry was stolen; when it was eventually placed at Temple Court, Queen Victoria Street, modern masonry was used to replace the missing stone.

In the future, a visitor centre is planned to recreate what the Mithraeum would have looked like and this will be partly underground. The artefacts that were recovered are at present in the Museum of London but will be moved back to the visitor centre once complete.

The Gloucester Tables Set

Malcolm Watkins, Knowledge and Learning Manager, Gloucester City Council

13th Nov 2006

Notes taken by Blanche Anderton

An excavation took place at Gloucester Castle in 1983; during the excavation the remains of a gaming board and 30 playing pieces were found. They appeared to have been thrown into a pit; the gaming board had been smashed before being thrown into the pit.

The board was made of wood which had been engraved and was inlaid using thin pieces of bone.

The gaming pieces were made of either antler or bone and each bore a different image. Each disc was 45mm in diameter and all of them were decorated. The first disc to be found showed the image of a centaur, others included a snake, a figure with outstretched arms and a figure seated on a beast. Some of the discs were badly damaged but they appeared to be different colours; some were red, others were brown and some were green.

Research has been ongoing to compare the images with other recorded images in order to try and understand what each image represents, and any possible ideas as to how to play the game.

The Ancient Human Occupation of Britain Project

Nick Ashton, British Museum

20th November 2006

Notes taken by Ron Cattrell

This project was undertaken by the British Museum; Natural History Museum; Royal Holloway, University of London; Queen Mary, University of London; University College, London; University of Durham and University of Loughborough.

Some major questions to be investigated were; when did humans first colonise Britain and Northern Europe? what barriers did they have to overcome? how did they survive in the North? when did Britain first become an island?

The first people came from Africa into Eurasia and colonised places such as Dmanisi in the Caucasus about 1.7 million years ago and Pirronord and Ceprano in Italy and Orce in Southern Spain about 1.5 million years ago, where numerous artefacts have been found. Moving north, these people had to overcome mountain barriers in the East as well as the Alps and sea barriers in the Mediterranean.

Research has shown that the colonisation of Britain and Northern Europe only took place about 500,000 years ago. The climate during this period was warm and humid and the land was covered in dense tropical forests and rich vegetation which created a natural habitat for wild animals such as lions, leopards, hyenas, hippos and rhinos.

Some of the early evidence of human occupation in Britain comes from the cave sites of Westbury-sub-Mendip (Somerset), Kent's Cavern (Devon) and the open-air locations of Boxgrove (Sussex) and High Lodge near Mildenhall (Suffolk). Artefacts such as handaxes and flake scrapers were found. Other discoveries in the deposits of clays, silts and sands were bones of extinct mammals, small vertebrates, birds, as well as insect remains and pollen. Further important sites are Clacton in Essex; Barnham, Beeches Pit and Pakefield in Suffolk; Happisburgh and Hoxne in Norfolk.

Neanderthals were the dominant population during the period of 130,000 – 30,000BP, but became extinct during the Ice Age.

The Ice Age left a cold, barren landscape without vegetation and wildlife and human activity ceased altogether. With the melting of the ice cap, the water flowed down the Rhine from the Alpine regions, bursting through the chalk of northern France and southern England. This created the channel which caused Britain to become an island. After this period, the climate gradually became warmer and a Scandinavian-type flora and fauna developed with pine and beech forests and animals such as elk, roe deer and brown bear. Humans came back, but little is known about the 'modern' humans which form the base of Celtic inhabitants of the British Isles

To sum up, climate change dictated the movement of people – it was either adapt or move!

The Use of DNA in Archaeology

Jonathan Belsey, Researcher in Evidence-based Medicine

27th November 2006

Notes taken by Aline Black

In the 50 years since its structure was determined, DNA has become a household word and its twisted double helix structure generally recognised. The use of DNA in forensic science to identify criminals is now routine.

As a tool in archaeology the use of DNA is far less simple. DNA degenerates rapidly after death, with not much left after 2 or 3 years, let alone a few thousand. With the minuscule sample of DNA that an archaeologist is likely to have at best, contamination - from bacteria, from laboratory equipment, from the archaeologist - is a major problem. Despite the problems, the potential is enormous.

Dr Belsey gave a brief description of DNA, elegantly simple with its two strands of ribonucleic acid held apart by only two different pairs of molecules (base pairs), like the rungs of a ladder. The sequencing of these base pairs is responsible for every aspect of life. A gene is a section of DNA with a particular sequence of base pairs. Chromosomes, the 23 pairs found in the nucleus of every living cell, comprise DNA chains some 150million base pairs long.

The breakthrough for archaeology came in the 1980s. A small piece of DNA, perhaps no more than 50 base pairs long, could be 'unzipped' (the ladder split across its rungs) and in a suitable chemical environment each half could be made to replicate itself. The process repeated like a chain reaction until sufficient identical DNA was produced for identification by normal laboratory methods.

In archaeology, particular aspects of DNA biology are useful:

- r whilst most pairs of chromosomes are identical in males and females, only males carry the 'Y' chromosome and this is passed from father to son;
- r mitochondrial DNA, found outside the nucleus in a cell, is passed solely down the maternal line;
- r genes mutate - as a result, for example, of sunlight radiation. On average 50 mutations a year occur and the types of mutation are specific to particular regions of the world. Comparing the number and kind of mutations from two populations can indicate how long ago the two populations separated;
- r specific sequences of DNA base pairs can be linked with specific diseases.

Some recent archaeological uses of DNA analysis include:

Migration patterns:

Can DNA help resolve the conflicting theories of Saxon invasion - were the Romano-British annihilated or pushed to the Celtic fringes by invading hordes, or did a relatively few warrior males impose their culture on a basically Romano-British population?

Mitochondrial DNA from an early Saxon cemetery, culturally Saxon, showed mainly Romano-British and Celtic origin. But where did the fathers come from? The 'Y' chromosomes of a sample of modern Britons living in small market towns along a line drawn across central England and into Wales were compared with those from Norwegian and Dutch (Friesland) populations. The result was a near identical match across east and central England with Friesland, no match with Norway. The best match for the north Welsh was with Basque DNA!

Analysis of the DNA mutations suggested, as most likely, that there was over 50% replacement of male DNA in England some 1500 years ago.

Diseases:

Perceived wisdom is that Columbus took tuberculosis to America. But one section of DNA from a skeleton dated to 966AD was identified as unique to TB. So...

Was the Black Death Bubonic Plague? There is much evidence that it was not but DNA analysis should confirm this.

Sexing skeletal remains:

-impossible for a young person, an opinion based on features such as brow ridges, muscle attachment and pelvic shape for adults, but a fact if the 'Y' chromosome can be found.

At Ashkalon in eastern Turkey 100+ infant skeletons were found outside a Roman bathhouse. Were they female and so possibly selective infanticide? No, they proved to be almost equally male and female - and archaeological evidence suggests that the bathhouse was used as a brothel...

Dr Belsey made the point that science is no substitute for archaeology - it can help to understand findings in the context of full archaeological consideration.

Clarification of evolutionary trends:

Identification of the known gene for sophisticated language use in prehistoric remains tells us that man learnt to use language 50 to 100 thousand years ago. Did Neanderthals have this sophistication?

Neanderthals:

Neanderthal DNA turns out to be 8% different from that of modern humans. (Chimp DNA is only 1% different). The split between Neanderthals and humans occurred about 50 000 years ago. Very limited DNA study implies that human males did mate with Neanderthal females (but not vice versa), which suggests coexisting populations and viable mating.

Dr Belsey predicted that by 2008 the complete Neanderthal genome will have been sequenced, from which we

may be able to characterise physical appearance, language capacity, disease propensity - and what else?

He concluded his lecture by pointing out that, just as a dinosaur was cloned in fictional Jurassic Park, and Dolly the sheep cloned for real, knowing the genetic code would make Neanderthal cloning theoretically possible if not practically feasible - yet - but how would we feel about the ethics of this?

The Lost Roman Town of Great Chesterford

Maria Medlycott, Research Officer, Historic Environment Branch, E.C.C.

15 January 2007

Notes taken by Janet Harrison

Great Chesterford lies on the Essex side of the boundary with Cambridgeshire, north-west of Saffron Walden. The Roman town is not lost but hidden under a grassy field north of the modern town with the River Cam and the M11 forming the western boundary. It was an important town, being the second largest after Colchester.

In the 18th Century, William Stukeley found that the local people were robbing the Roman walls to repair the Newmarket Road. In the 19th Century the Roman town was excavated, the pottery was kept but the bones were thrown away and few records were made. More excavations took place throughout the 20th century. ECC was called in by local societies to publish all the findings.

Geophysics surveys of the town area showed a forum and main roads, with substantial buildings fronting the market place and smaller houses in side roads. An octagonal building could have been a temple. Some irregular features could be Iron Age, as a number of coins, mainly of Cunobelin, have been found. The original fort, built about the time of the Boudican revolt, is in the northern part of the town, and its main road became the main road of the town. There was a military ditch outside the town.

The wall was built in the late 4th century, sited on flattened earlier buildings. It was a high flint rubble and Roman brick wall with a double gateway similar to Colchester's. From artefacts found it seems that the town had looked towards the Catevellauni, perhaps that is why they built a wall when Roman influence was waning. There were suburbs outside the wall. The main cemetery was north of the town but burials have been found all round it. Of 50-60 Roman burials recorded only the bones of 5 have been retained.

The temple is 1km east along a small river. The first building was a small wooden Iron Age shrine which was enclosed by the Roman temple. During some refurbishment, two mosaics were put in, one of these has had its centre smashed. Initially there was a ditch around the temple precinct, then a flint rubble wall was built during the refurbishment. In the south-east corner of the precinct a series of pits up to 4m deep have been found, these contained 75 years worth of front right leg and shoulder of newborn or 3 month old lambs. There were also day old chicks and a few other animals including dogs and the frontskull and antlers of a stag. A knife was found in one pit. At the time of the refurbishment a half-building was put up in the precinct. In this area was found a mask of a hairy face, a statue which could be of a river god, some silver leaves, a letter D and non-functional brooches, perhaps for selling at the gate. South of the temple was another building with similar artefacts. There was another, late Roman, walled enclosure east of the town wall. Within it were shafts, one containing a large hoard of iron artifacts, others containing pots. Saxon graves had been placed on top.

170 Saxon graves, dating from 450-650 AD, have been found north of the town. Among them is a small Romano-British group and a few burials with Frankish goods. A Saxon spear was found in one corner of the temple precinct and one Saxon building has been identified.

Most of the evidence of the town's economy and environment has been thrown away but it can be assumed to have been similar to settlements to the north. These were mixed farming areas with cereals, mainly wheat, and cattle, sheep, horses and pigs. There were hay-meadows on the flood plains and no large wooded areas. They hunted wild animals. The fields to the south of Great Chesterford were small, typical of Essex, but to the north were larger Cambridge style fields.

Further investigation is likely to be piecemeal, mainly for financial reasons. It is hoped to survey the rest of the temple precinct but so far permission has been refused.

CAG Members' Activities

22nd January 2007

Notes taken by Barbara Butler

Richard Shackle used slides to illustrate his survey of Cocks Hall in West Bergholt, a farmhouse which had been in the ownership of the Able family for five generations. The buildings were arranged around a double courtyard and consisted of two bays of medieval and three bays of Tudor timberframe construction. In addition there was a four-bay Tudor wing and four bays dating from the 17th century. The granary and cartlodge was 19th century and a Victorian dairy had also been added.

Other interesting features highlighted by Richard were a late 17th century chimney, a four-bay oriel window, a Napoleonic brick floor, a stone bath with a glazed interior, a saddle hanger, a 1940s butter churner, butter pats, Napoleonic-shaped display niches and a ham salting tub.

Tim Dennis took us through his geophysical survey of the Birch alignment between Layer Marney, Layer Breton Heath and Stanway, ending at the end of Layer Dyke.

It revealed the site of a Roman villa south of Layer Breton Heath and Saxon and medieval waterworks. The magnetometry survey showed the line of a field drainage system, running along a medieval hedge line. Since this survey was done in the heat of July, there was some interference with the signal.

Don Goodman and **John Mallinson** reported on the excavations of the Roman Road at Great Tey, thought to be a spur road to the villa at Warren Farm, which was first discovered in 1955. A disused river bed had also been discovered on the Roman Road excavations, where a coin of Licinius II has been found. This had been minted in Trier and could be dated somewhere between 317 and 324 AD. The Evening Gazette and Essex County Standard had featured the CAG excavations in December 2006 and the local primary school made a visit.

Lexden Mill

David Cawdell

January 29th 2007

Notes taken by Bernard Colbron

David started his lecture by explaining the geographical area of the mill site and why the road has such a sharp bend. The road was altered in the 1970s to realign it for the Spring Lane roundabout and the A12 bypass.

The first mill on the site was an overshot mill built by Thomas Godstone in 1431. The mill was altered between grain and fulling over a long period and was also an oil seed mill at one time. To the west of the road in 1496 a substantial depth dam was dug by hand to create a large millpond. The millrace went across where Spring Lane is now and back into the river Colne. The mill was finally demolished in the 1970s but areas of brick are still visible. One wall is partially standing to the southeast of Spring Lane but is covered in ivy and can only just be seen. It is in front of the millpond, which is in the garden of a private house.

When the mill was working, the out buildings on the other side of the road were a gig house, an open shed and a stable. In 1970 they were converted into a cottage where David and his wife now live.

There was originally a ford and a wooden footbridge leading to the mill. The first bridges were all made of wood, which deteriorated over time. The present iron bridge, beside the cottage, was erected in six weeks during 1904 at a cost of £400.

Cosmetic Grinders, Well-being and Identity in late Iron Age and Roman Britain

Ralph Jackson, Curator of Romano-British Collections, British Museum

5th February 2006

Notes taken by Pamela Bradley

As early as the turn of the century, the few such finds had been considered a form of amulet. Mr Jackson has been studying cosmetic grinders, or cosmetic sets, for approximately 25 years. Initially, a metal detectorist presented him with a small object and this object, together with subsequent finds, were categorised into a new type of artefact: cosmetic grinders. Two years later, when 100 such objects had been accumulated, the first paper on cosmetic grinders was published.

Cosmetic sets are generally bronze or copper alloy. Their design is varied, generally with a suspension loop either at one end or in the centre. Their size ranges from 2 to 8cm in length and take the form of a small crescent shaped mortar or groove, with accompanying pestle or rod, to form a set. They are aesthetically pleasing, with decoration ranging from simple to intricate.

Various hypotheses have been put forward for their use: grinding salt, condiments or medicines. The favoured use is the grinding of colourants or face paint eg ochre, rose madder etc. Tests have been carried out on the surfaces of grinders, but the results were inconclusive.

The finds have generally been from archaeological excavations, predominantly in towns, also from burial sites; both inhumations and cremations. One was found in the recent excavation of a cemetery in Colchester. Cosmetic grinders have been found in the graves of both men and women. Another location for finds were temples, where they may have been part of votive offerings.

The production of cosmetic grinders is unclear. It is thought they were first cast in lead moulds and then the individualised decoration added after casting. The use of bird or animal heads and knobs to decorate the ends is common. The crescent-style shape is a symbol of fertility and aspects of decoration ie ox head may be associated with power and virility. Tothing decoration with enamel work on some finds is of high quality. Some of the decoration is more indicative of late Iron Age culture, and others more in keeping with Roman. Mr Jackson suggested the owners may have wanted to express their British or Roman identity in the mixed culture of the time.

Dating of cosmetic grinders is from 100BC to 300AD.

Distribution of the finds has been almost all in Britain. The one exception being a grave find in the Pas de Calais, thought to be a British wife of a local citizen.

In Britain the finds stretch from Carlisle in the North, a few in Wales, a scattering along the South coast and in the Midlands, but the majority are in East Anglia. The style with central loops have generally found more in the East and complete sets more frequently in towns ie St Albans, Canterbury and Chichester.

In summary, Mr Jackson stated these small personal objects would have been owned by a wide range of individuals. Their use is associated with the way people made themselves look; their identity and well-being.

Colchester Life on the Home Front in World War II

Patrick Denney, Local Historian

12th February 2007

Notes taken by Dorothy Townend

Patrick, with the aid of photographs and tape recorded memories of people who lived during the war, gave us an insight into what life was like in the period 1939-45.

He described how in September 1939 people were already issued with gas masks and strict rules were in place for blackout. Anderson shelters for the garden were issued, free if you earned less than £2.10s or otherwise paid for. Some people had metal framed Morrison shelters in their houses.

In September 1939 Colchester became an Evacuation Reception Centre, and about 10,000 children and mothers with babies, arrived from London. From St. Boltophs Railway Station Reception Centre the children were sent to the Winstree and Tendring areas whilst the mothers and babies were housed in Colchester.

By September 1940 the policy had changed as the Government thought there was an imminent threat of invasion and Colchester became an evacuation area. In one week between 10-12 thousand children and mothers with babies were evacuated by train to Kettering, Burton Latimer and Stoke on Trent. The assembly points were East Ward and Wilson Marriage schools. The evacuation was rushed and badly organised.

Some women worked in the munitions factories, having first done a 6-10 week course at the Technical College to learn how to use a capstan and lathe. Others worked in the Land Army, WVS. and as plane spotters. Men worked as Air Raid Wardens, on fire-watching duties or as part of the Home Guard. We saw a photograph of rocket launchers on the Abbey Fields manned by the Home Guard.

The first bombs to cause loss of life fell in October 1940 on the Old Heath Laundry where 3 young women were killed, and in Scarletts Road, where a mother and son died. Severalls Hospital was hit in August 1942 when 38 people were killed and 23 wounded. Four houses in Chapel Street were bombed in September 1942. The worst damage was caused in February 1944 when St. Bolttophs Corner was hit with 1,000 sticks of incendiaries and 14 buildings were destroyed. We heard an eye witness account of what it was like that night.

Our final images were of the VE Day and VJ Day celebrations in 1945.

Crossing the Lines

Paul Gilman, Essex County Council Historic Environment Branch

19th February 2007

Notes taken by Andrew White

This was a project funded by the European union under the heading of Inter Reg 3b, which was established to foster good relations between border states, in this case, South Netherlands, Belgium, North France and Great Britain. The funding for the "Crossing the Lines" project was 3¼ million Euros for the restoration and funding of new uses for former defensive forts. Two forts were identified in Essex, namely Tilbury fort and Jaywick Martello tower.

Tilbury Fort:

This fort was designed as a stella fortification by Sir Bernard de Gomme who was engineer to Charles II. It was built on the site of a former Henry VIIIth block house following the raids by the Dutch up the Thames and Medway in 1667. The design is acknowledged as Sir Bernard's masterpiece. The site was restored by English Heritage but enhanced by the Crossing the Lines project through the provision of interpretive displays and material.

Jaywick Martello Tower:

This fort is one of a line of artillery towers constructed along the East Coast between 1808 and 1812. This tower ceased to be used until the two World Wars and afterwards became a store for the surrounding caravan site. The Crossing the Lines project consisted of £100,000 contribution to a £600,000 restoration of the Jaywick Martello tower providing for the conversion of the building into an Art Gallery and exhibition space.

Fort aan de Klop Utrecht:

This fort is one of a line of forts constructed between 1819 and 1821 as part of the Utrecht waterline defence. Crossing the Lines made a 500,000 Euro contribution to the conversion of the former fort into a tea house, youth hostel and camp site whilst protecting an existing bat colony.

Antwerp Fort:

Known as Fort 4 Mortsel this was one of seven forts constructed for the defence of Antwerp between 1860 and 1865. Belgium succeeded in staying out of the Franco Prussian war because of its strong defensive positions. Crossing the Lines made a 500,000 euro contribution to a 2,100,000 euro fund to restore the line of forts around the city. Part of the project is to find uses for all the forts including the provision of cultural activities such as art galleries.

Crossing the Lines was a trans national project aimed at bringing member states together through joint working arrangements.

Parish Constables in Essex

Maureen Scollan - Police historian

Feb 26th 2007

Notes taken by John Spears

Maureen is an ex-police officer and police historian; she had recently completed a PhD thesis on police history and her lecture would embrace some of her research findings. Police records in Essex are patchy, with some periods well recorded and others completely missing.

Prior to the municipal Corporations Act 1835, Parish constable was responsible for maintenance of law and order with Essex having some 400 parishes. Parish constables were generally regarded in low-esteem by the general public, were considered unintelligent and inefficient. By 1830, complaints about the police were rife but the Act of 1835 made local government more accountable to rate-payers and the police were re-

organised as a Borough force.

In Essex, Watch-Committees were established at Saffron Walden, Maldon, Harwich and Colchester to organise and control the borough forces. Later the 'County Police Act 1839' established a paid police force for the remainder of the county. Of the four borough forces, Maureen claimed Colchester to be the most efficient and best organised and remained an independent borough force long after the others were assimilated into the County force.

Police recruits had to be between 25 and 40 years, be at least 5ft 6ins tall, were issued with uniforms, paid 7 shillings per week (superintendents 21 shillings), were employed full-time and could serve up to 25 years. Police officers were to be given written instructions and more serious crimes reported directly to the mayor. Watch committees were responsible for payment of officers and had the power of dismissal. In 1856 two members of the borough force were dismissed because they could not read.

By 1856 the Army had established barracks in Colchester and the additional population, especially of young soldiers, put undue pressure on the borough force. Colchester police fell into disrepute through their inability to maintain law and order and the Watch committee was forced to increase the number of constables. Maureen claimed that it became necessary for the borough and military police to co-operate to maintain law and order. This co-operation continues to the present day - especially on Saturday nights.

Finally Maureen described a humorous incident when working as a Police Sergeant in the 1980s she was sent to investigate a suspect break-in at Colchester castle. Nothing was found but Maureen decided to search the upper castle park and eventually found she was locked in the park and had to effect a discrete unobserved break-out to prevent possible jibes from her fellow officers.

Who are the British?

David Miles, English Heritage

5th March 2007

Notes taken by Phil Mann

David Miles is an archaeologist with English Heritage and author of the well known book, "Tribes of Britain", on which this talk is largely based.

As a species, we started as a very small group coming out of Africa that probably came very close to extinction. With a generally accepted generation time of 20-30 years since then, we all have, theoretically, billions of ancestors and in consequence, we are all closely related to each other genetically. People have lived in Britain for over 500,000 years as evidenced by finds from Boxgrove. Neanderthals moved in and out of Britain for far longer than Homo sapiens sapiens has. Eventually they were out-competed by smarter, faster people but they remained in Europe until about 30,000 years ago. Subsequently, climate change has influenced what happened in Britain, with ice cutting Britain off until about 9000BC. Thereafter, animals moved in, closely followed by people to whom we are closely related. Mesolithic people exploited the sea, with artefacts frequently brought up from the North Sea by trawlers. The transition to farming from hunting took place about 4000BC in Britain, using plants from Iran and Iraq. As farming became more successful, it allowed populations to increase. Populations from defined areas including England plus her regions such as East Anglia, Scotland, Wales and Ireland have contributed to the British, not forgetting the various incomers over the centuries such as the Celts, Romans, Vikings, Saxons, and Normans to name but a few. Why did they come here? The reasons are many and varied, from escaping persecution to looking for trade and economic advantage.

The Celts were a people from the "north west", referred to as such by the Greeks including Herodotus. People speaking Celtic languages wandered over much of Europe, Turkey, northern Italy, Spain, Rhineland, France and "Albion". As they had no written language, we don't know when they came here, possibly with the Neolithic farmers or in the Bronze Age. We can put together a map of tribal Britain using the evidence provided by coins, many with horses depicted on them, around the time of the Roman invasion. Cross channel trading continued with small numbers of people of the Belgae and Parisians arriving, proving that Britain is an island but not isolated. Water and the sea in particular was a major highway, far easier to move around than over land. The Romans did not conquer all of Britain. They did however bring to Britain a greater cultural mix from Europe. When they left, Germanic people came over the north sea bringing new clothing styles and jewellery; in the 5th and 6th centuries, it was possible to identify your location by people's clothing. Further migrations of Friesians, Jutes, Saxons and Angles followed from Holland, north Germany and Denmark. When the Vikings came, it is suspected that they quickly became Christian, highlighting the role that religion could play. Place

names can indicate a foreign influence, especially where a Scandinavian lord ruled. The Scandinavian invasions ended with the Norman conquest but was this an invasion, 5,000 Normans against 2 million British? It was the loss of the British leaders that allowed the Norman influence to predominate. However, as a military elite, they kept their own language.

Summer Programme 2007

Saturday 21st April

A Group of about 30 members joined a coach for a visit to Flag Fen Bronze Age Centre. The site is quite extensive with reconstructed Bronze Age and Iron Age round houses. We were met by an excellent guide and were also able to see the museum and timber preservation hall. After lunch we travelled the short distance into Peterborough, where there was time to visit the City Museum and Cathedral before returning to Colchester.

Monday 21st May

A visit to Coggeshall Abbey at the kind invitation of the owner, Mr Roger Hadlee. He showed us parts of this historic building not normally accessible to the public and was amusing and informative about its long and colourful history. Later, we were met at The Fleece pub by Richard Shackle who talked to us about the visible timberwork on this group of buildings, which includes Paycockes. This outing proved so popular that a second group visited the following evening.

Monday 4th July

We were lucky to have Mark Davies as our guide for a walking tour of the Northern Iron Age Dykes. About 50 people turned out for what proved to be a most interesting evening, the handouts which Mark provided were useful to keep for future exploration.

Monday 16th July

The Summer Party this year was a special one to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Group. About 60 members enjoyed a 3 course meal at the Marks Hall visitor centre. Our Guest of honour was Ida McMaster MBE. Honorary Life Memberships were awarded to Pat Brown, James Fawn and to Ida, to mark our appreciation of their contribution to the group. The weather was fine, the wine flowed and a memorable evening was had by all.

Guest-of-Honour at our Anniversary Summer Party, Ida McMaster MBE receiving her Life Membership of the Group



Photograph by David Harrison

North Wales 4th – 7th May 2007

Another CAG week-end, the ninth we are reliably informed. A King's coach carried 41 members north west towards our weekend base in Mold. The first stop was at Lichfield, where those with a sufficient turn of speed and a willingness to forgo lunch were able to visit the cathedral. Built on the site of an Anglo-Saxon church, the 13th century structure was subject to a considerable battering during the civil war. The current gothic splendour is the result of restoration by George Gilbert Scott in the late 19th century. Alright if you like that sort of thing.

The main stop of the day was at Chirk Castle, one of Edward I Welsh Castles, and the only one still to be lived in. Much of the building is original, but continuous occupation has meant that the interior is very varied in style and content. Perhaps of most interest to plebeians such as us were the rules of behaviour displayed in the staff

kitchen, and the splendid Victorian laundry house.

Saturday morning was taken up with a visit to Anglesey, to look at the henge at Bryn Celli Ddu and the chambered tomb at Barclodiad-y-Gawres. Although both had been heavily restored, they both had that presence and atmosphere so frequently associated with prehistoric monuments, and dominated the landscape within which they were set. Mark Davies was as usual invaluable in explaining the history of the sites and helping us understand what we were seeing. After the obligatory stop for souvenirs and ice-creams at Llanfairpwllgwyngyll-gogerychwyrndrobwl-llantisiliogogoch we drove back over the Llanberis pass and through the magnificent scenery around Snowdon to the Llanberis Slate Museum. This proved to be a fascinating experience, the displays, films and live demonstrations all combining with the slate mining buildings and machinery of the processing factory to give a vivid picture of life in a slate producing community. Some members preferred to go for a ride on the train.

Sunday is a day of rest. Not on a CAG week-end it isn't. The morning was spent climbing the Great Orme to visit the Bronze Age copper mines, although admittedly the climb was done on the tram, in fact the only cable-hauled tramway still operating on British public roads. The visit to the mine proved to be one of the highlights of the week-end. It was known that copper had been mined on the Orme since prehistoric times, but it was only in 1987 that the true extent of the Bronze Age workings became apparent. We were able to visit only the uppermost levels of the mine, but the extent and size of the workings came as a surprise to many of us. Our guide was excellent and gave us a very clear account of the geology and history of the mines, as well as details of the ongoing excavations.

In the afternoon the party split, the smaller lunatic fringe setting off for their now traditional walk, this time to climb onto Moelfre behind Llanfairfechan. They were rewarded with improving weather and were able to view a wide variety of Bronze Age circles and henges which are scattered across the top of the mountain. A very interesting and rewarding walk. The rest of the party spent the afternoon at Caernarfon Castle and the Roman fort of Segontium. They said they had an even better time, but they would say that, wouldn't they?

Monday. Time to go home, but also time to stop at Stokesay Castle, which rightly deserves its reputation as the best preserved fortified 13th century manor house in the country. We were able to spend nearly two hours exploring the great hall, the solar, the servants quarters and kitchens and the magnificent timber framed gatehouse

The hotel was excellent, and as far as we are aware, ran out of nothing. The week-end was as always superbly organised by Anna Moore, and Mark Davies contributed his usual illuminating commentaries on the places we visited, on this occasion supplemented by numerous anecdotes arising from his local knowledge of the area.



Members of the Group outside Stokesay Castle

For more photographs from the North Wales Weekend, see Annexe 2.

50th Anniversary Lecture

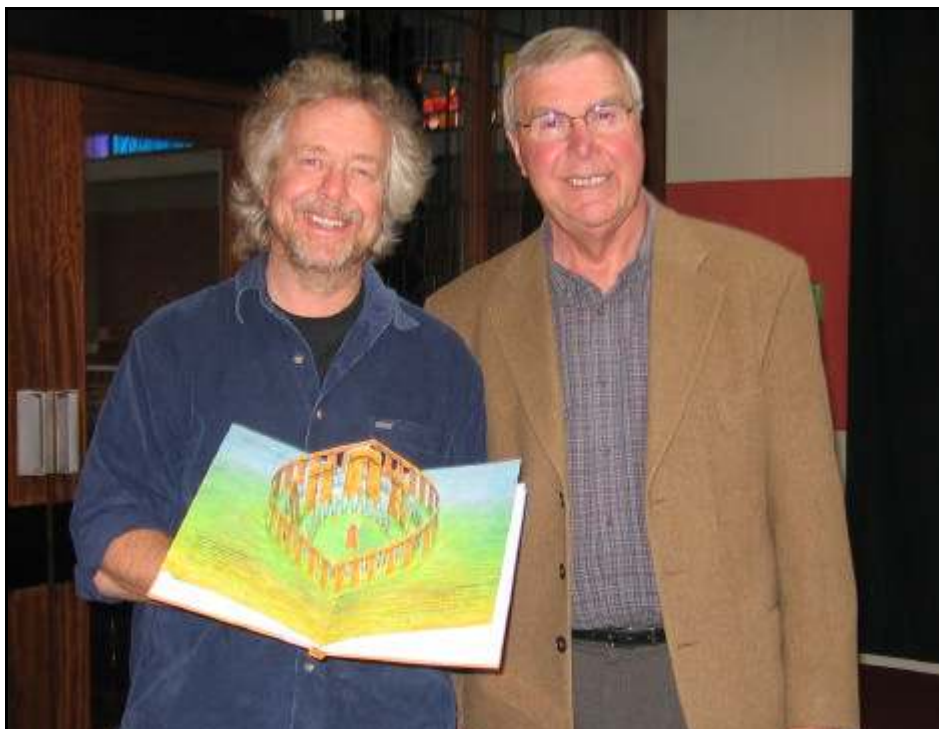
As part of our anniversary celebrations, a special public lecture was held on Saturday 27th October at the Castle Methodist Church in Colchester. The speaker was archaeologist Julian Richards, the popular broadcaster and writer from *Meet the Ancestors*, *Timewatch* and *Mapping the Town*, among others. He has worked on Stonehenge since the early 1980s and so the title of his talk was 'Stonehenge – The Story so Far', which is the subject of his new book, published during the summer of 2007.

Julian started by showing how the monument has been presented and explained to the public, from its earliest description in Henry of Huntingdon's *Historia Anglorum* in 1130, through John Aubrey's and William Stukeley's investigations of the 17th and 18th centuries, the painted landscapes of Turner and Constable, up to the use of the monument as a backdrop in a poster advertising Guinness in the 1960s !

He then went on to describe the development of Stonehenge starting with the earliest bank and ditch of Phase 1, dating from between 3000 and 2920BC and the timber structure of Phase 2. Phase 3 encompassed the 'stone' period, possibly lasting 1000 years, when the bluestones from Preseli in Wales and the sarsen stones were introduced and moved into their final positions.

Julian explained that the majority of present-day visitors to Stonehenge are only concerned with the stones themselves, and very few venture into the surrounding area. However, those who do find themselves in a landscape rich in monuments contemporary with Stonehenge. He stressed that the importance of Stonehenge itself can only be understood when seen in the context of this wider landscape.

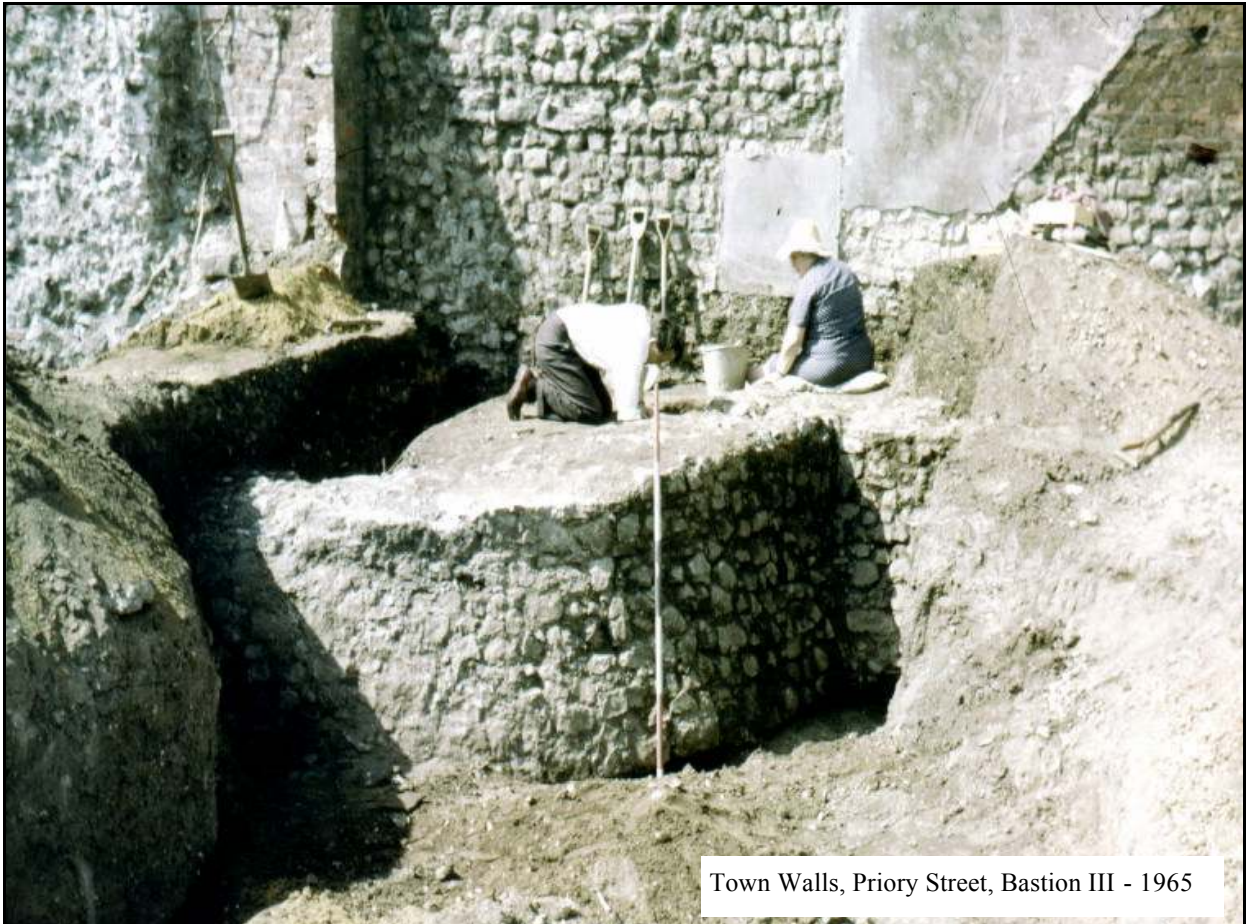
He finished a most entertaining lecture by examining the various theories put forward by himself and others on the meaning and function of Stonehenge, but suggested that if they could be transported back to the time when the monument was in use, they would almost certainly discover that all the modern theories are wrong!



Julian Richards demonstrating his 'Amazing Pop-up Stonehenge', with CAG Chairman Don Goodman looking on

Annexe 1 Images from the archive

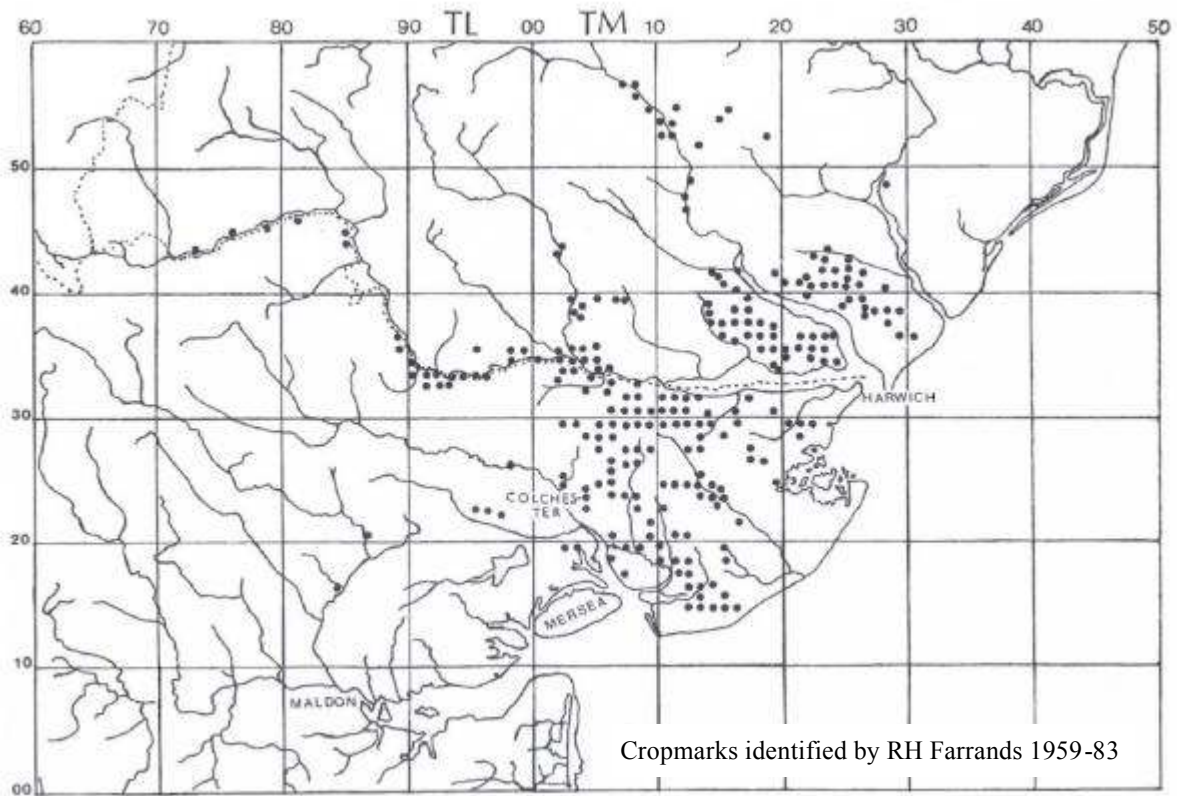




Town Walls, Priory Street, Bastion III - 1965



Colchester Excavation Committee 1972-73



September 26 1958

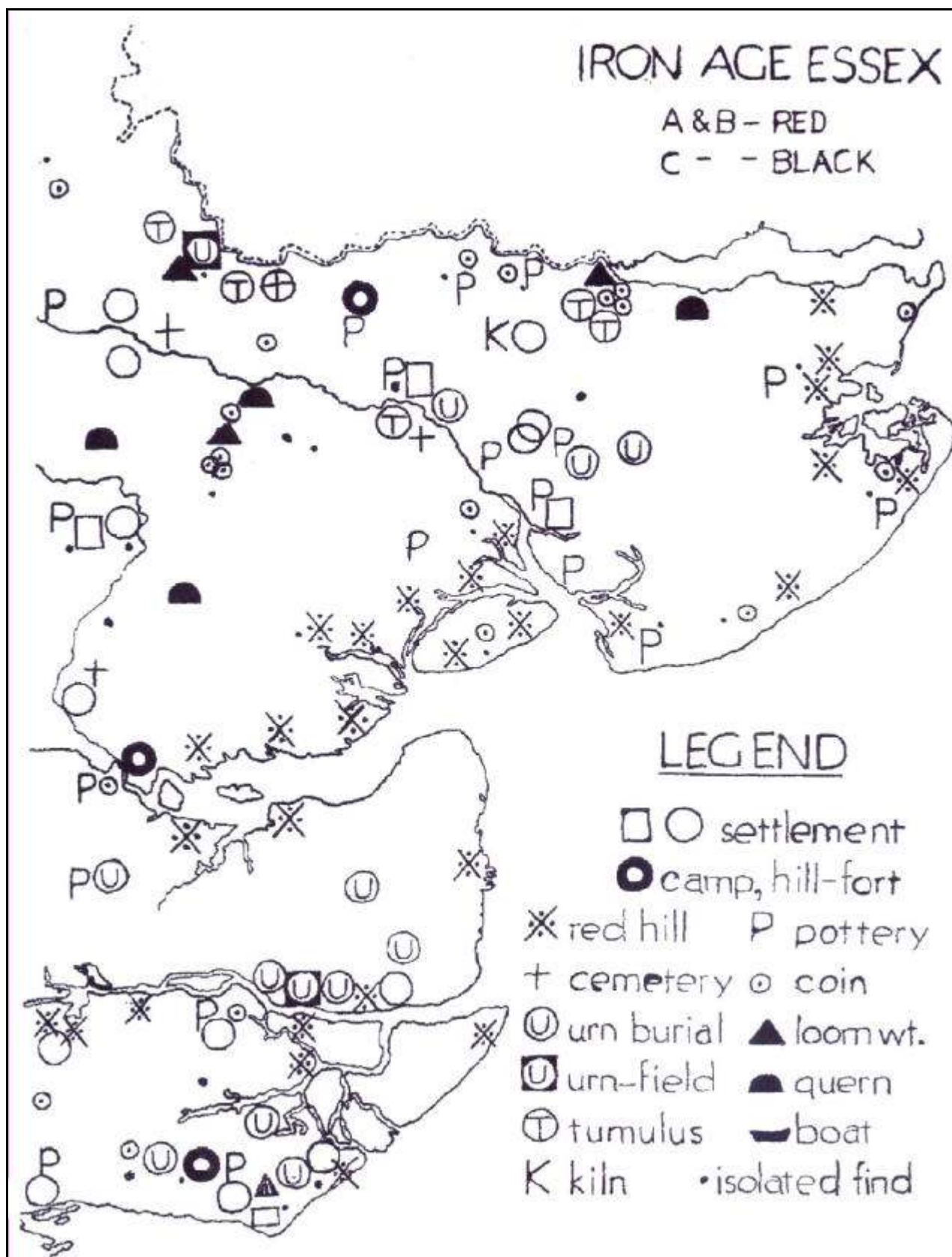
THE DEDHAM DIG



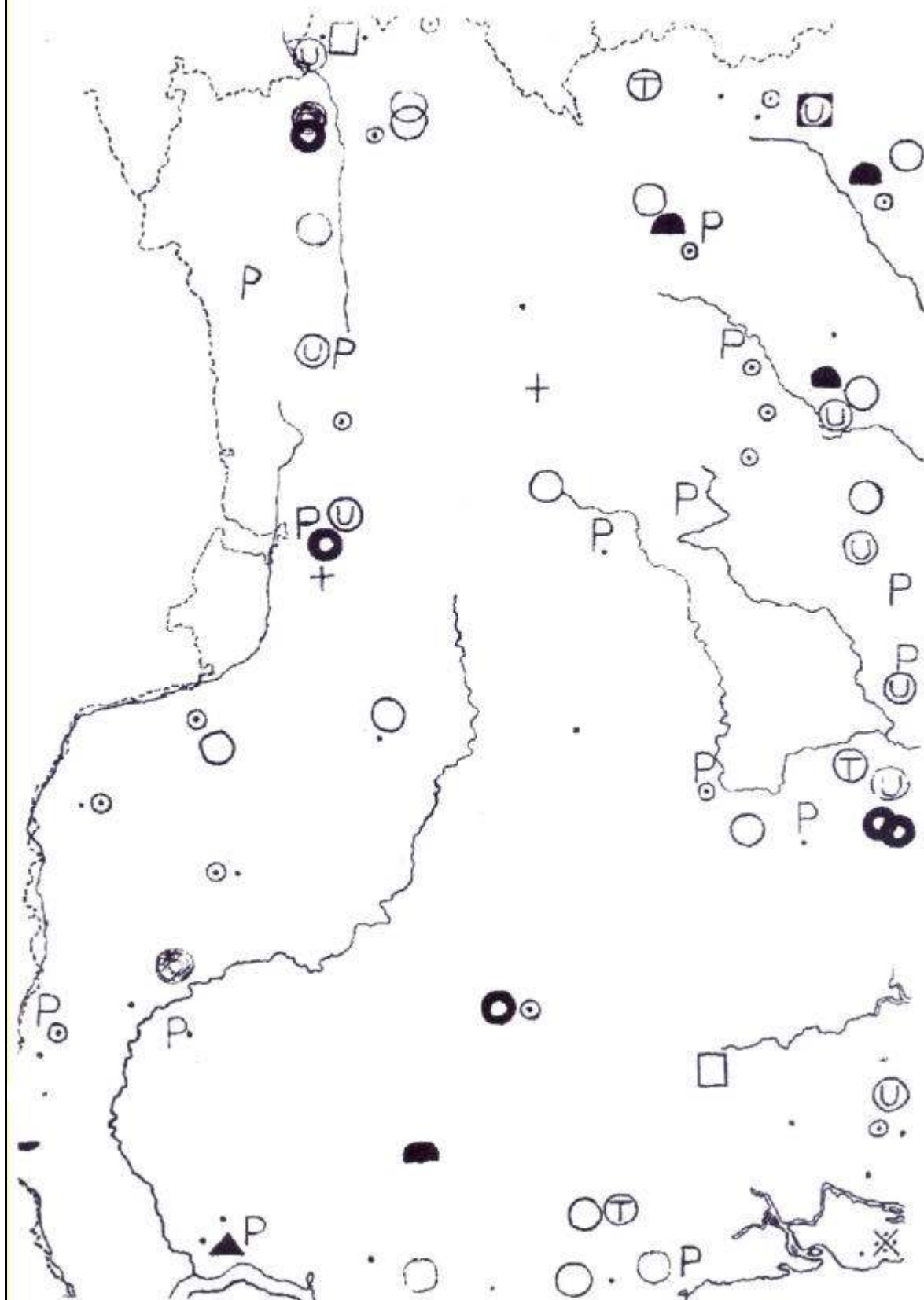
Digging by the Colchester Archaeological Group, under the direction of the Colchester Museum authorities, is still going on at the mid-bronze age round barrow site at Jupes Hill Farm, Dedham.

On Wednesday the site was

visited by Mr. Nicholas Thomas, assistant keeper of archaeology in the Birmingham City Museum, and in the picture he hears about the Dedham dig from Mr. Brian Blake, assistant to Mr. M. R. Hull, curator of Colchester Museum.



I A Essex Map 1958-1



I A Essex Map 1958-2



Lawford 'Cursus' - Roman Rd



Lexden Moat Farm 1970 - Roman Kiln 2

Lexden Moat Farm 1970 - Roman Kiln site 1



Longinus Site 1996 with James Fawn on the left



Mistley Hall - Roman Rd



Oliver's Orch Hoard 1, 1983



Osea Road - topsoil 1971



Peldon Red Hill



Peldon Red Hill 1973 Kay de Brisay



Roman Kiln, Lexden Lodge Farm 1970



Shut 4 Acres, Ardleigh



Teybrook Farm, Great Tey, Bronze Age Urns



Teybrook Farm Roman Road, Great Tey; Ruth Rolfe and Denise Hardy in foreground



Teybrook Farm, Great Tey; Iron Age enclosure



Town Wall, Vineyard St drain - found 1957

THE RED HILLS OF ESSEX

Salt-making in antiquity



Colchester Archaeological Group

The Red Hills of Essex 1990



West Bergholt Kiln 1977

Annexe 2 Photographs from the weekend in North Wales



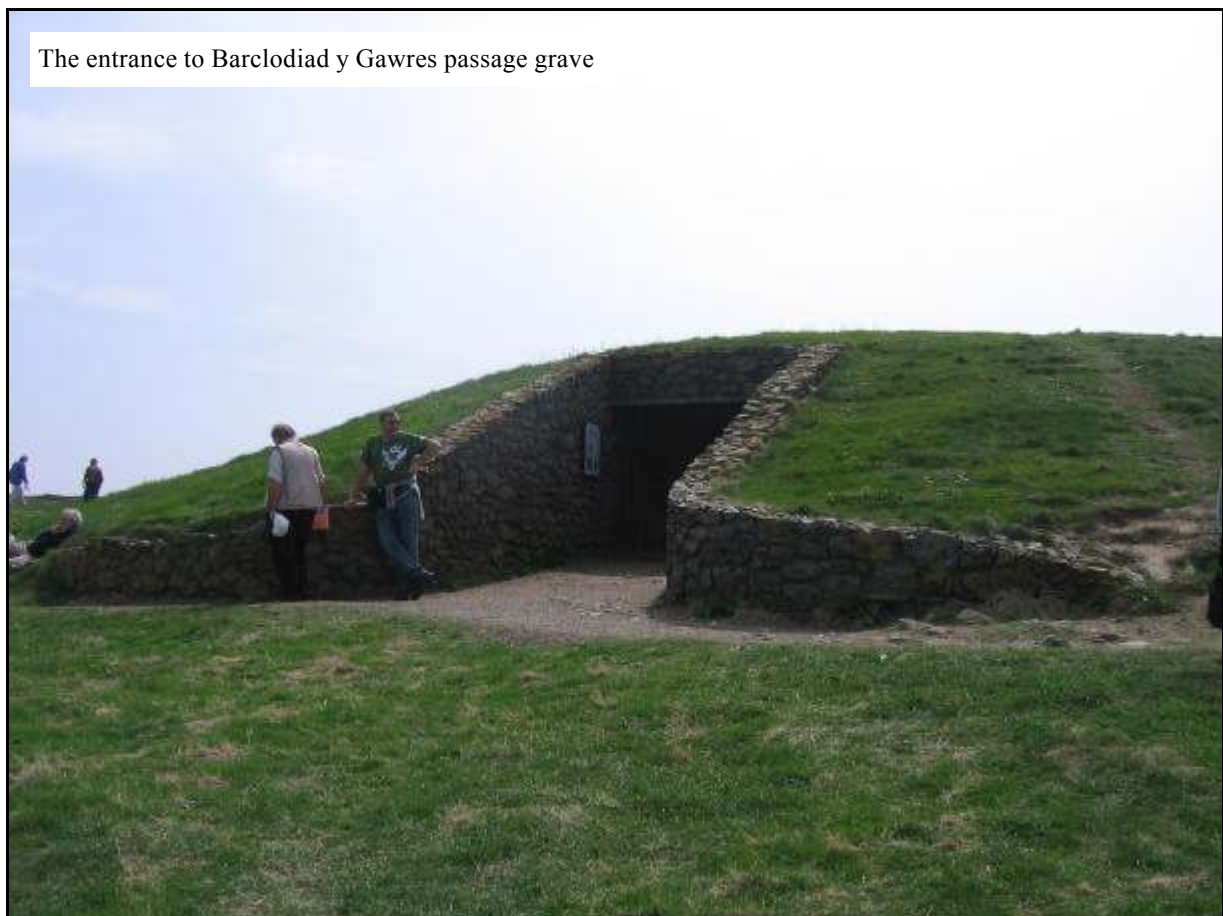
James Fawn contemplating Bryn Celli Ddu burial chamber



Bryn Celli Ddu burial chamber - the entrance



Members of the Group doing what they do best at Barclodiad y Gawres passage grave



The entrance to Barclodiad y Gawres passage grave



A carved stone from Barclodiad y Gawres passage grave



A carved stone from Barclodiad y Gawres passage grave

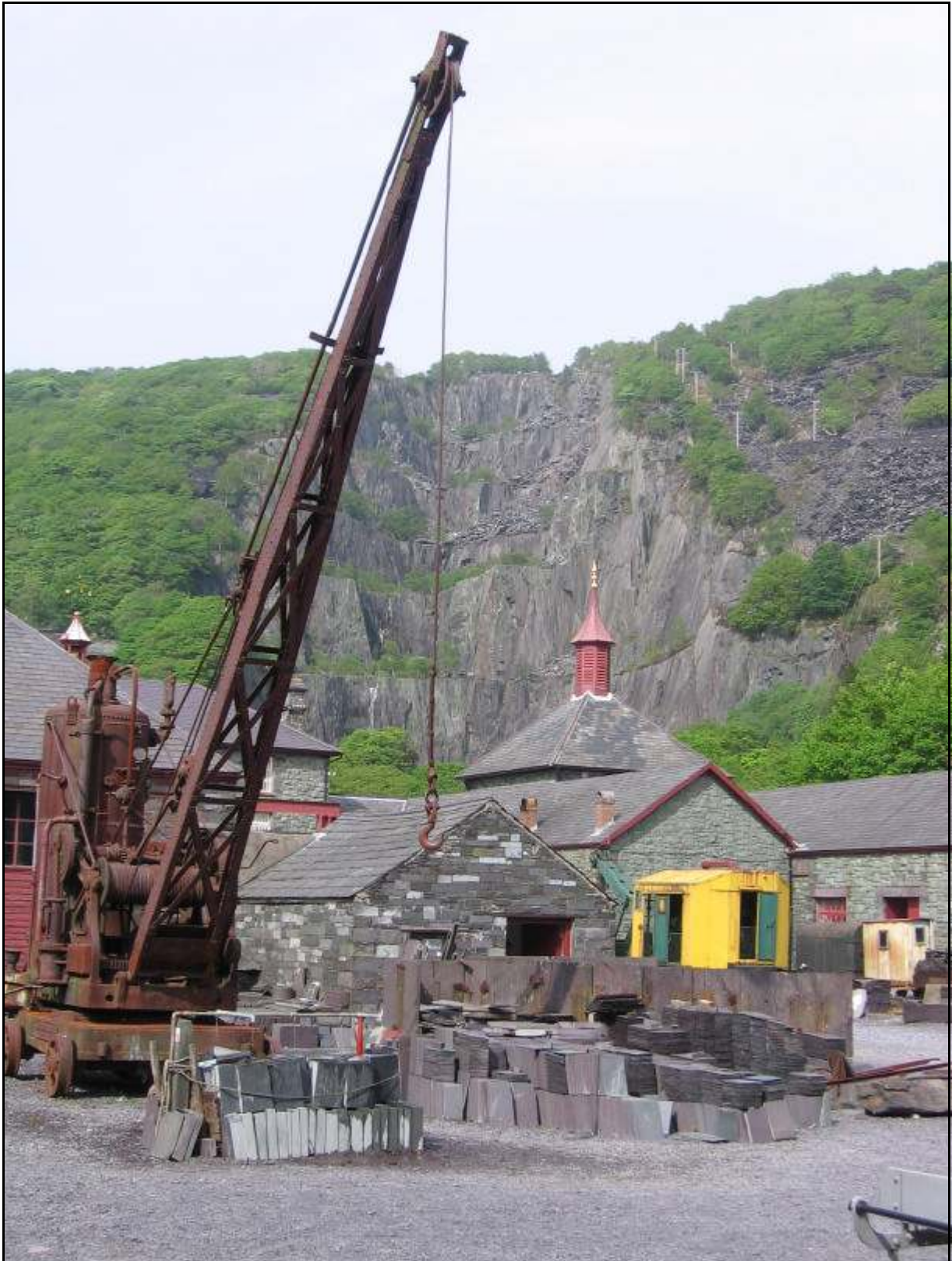


The entrance to Barclodiad y Gawres passage grave from below

The Bronze Age Copper Mine, Great Orme, Llandudno



The Bronze Age Copper Mine,
Great Orme, Llandudno



The National Slate Museum, Llanberis



Stone circles above Penmaenmawr





Stokesay Castle



A view of Stokesay Castle from the tower

The gatehouse, Stokesay Castle



SALT

THE STUDY OF AN ANCIENT INDUSTRY



REPORT ON THE SALT WEEKEND

HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX

20, 21, 22 SEPTEMBER 1974

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Front cover of the Salt Report

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The Face of Longinus, found by James Fawn in 1996