

6. EAST ANGLIA

By PAUL BOOTH

NORFOLK

(1) **Downham Market**, *land at Downham Market south-east sector* (TF 61755 02315): an evaluation investigated a rectilinear enclosure and adjoining trackway, located on a south-east-facing slope beside a stream. Finds from the enclosure and trackway ditches were limited but included early to mid-first-century A.D. and late first/second-century pottery, the latter including Wattisfield-type fabrics. This was found alongside larger quantities of early and middle Iron Age pottery.¹⁷³

(2) **Hethersett**, *Little Melton–Hethersett pipeline* (TG 1617 0773–TG 1472 0518): the southernmost strip, map and sample area of this project was located close to Hethersett Roman villa. Pits and ditches broadly dated to the second century were identified. A line of post-holes of Roman date was also excavated as part of the northernmost strip, map and sample area, located to the south of All Saints Church, Little Melton.¹⁷⁴

SUFFOLK

(1) **Belstead**, *The Bridge School* (TM 1306 4242): an area of *c.* 0.29 ha was excavated in advance of construction of a new school building. In the south-east corner of the site features, including a large ditch and several pits or post-holes, contained material dating largely from the early Roman period up to the third century. They suggest relatively modest occupation in the vicinity, possibly developing from an Iron Age background. However, other finds include part of a later Roman annular bracelet and building material from a reasonably well-appointed building likely to have been nearby.¹⁷⁵

(2) **Darsham**, *land west of Mill House, The Street* (TM 41490 70170): two Romano-British cremation deposits were found, one of which was radiocarbon dated and produced a calibrated date range of 20–175 cal A.D. (93.4 per cent) and 190–210 cal A.D. (2.0 per cent) at 95.4 per cent confidence.¹⁷⁶

(3) **Glemsford**, *land at rear of 49–55 Schoolfield* (TL 82 48): an evaluation revealed three pits and two ditches probably of early to mid-Roman date. The ditches were parallel to each other and may have formed part of a small track or driveway on the periphery of an area of Roman settlement.¹⁷⁷

(4) **Great Barton**, *land north-east of Bury St Edmunds* (TL 88113 65456): evaluation in advance of a proposed housing-led development revealed features in 37 trenches, concentrated on the higher ground in the northern part of the site. Numerous late Iron Age/early Roman pits and other cut features contained significant amounts of unabraded pottery and other domestic refuse. They were probably associated with a substantial enclosure ditch and two or three smaller ditched enclosures recorded elsewhere on the site. An extensive rectilinear enclosure

¹⁷³ Work by J. House and T. Fletcher of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd for the Heritage Collective. T. Vitali sent information.

¹⁷⁴ Work by A. Haskins of Oxford Archaeology East (OA East report 1737). K. Hamilton sent information.

¹⁷⁵ Work by L. Everett of Suffolk Archaeology CIC for Concertus Design and Property Ltd. Suffolk Archaeology CIC report no. 2015/12. F. Minter sent information.

¹⁷⁶ Work by A.R.R. Mustchin of Archaeological Solutions Ltd for Hopkins Homes Ltd. F. Minter sent information.

¹⁷⁷ Work by M. Brook of Britannia Archaeology for Oxbury Chartered Surveyors. F. Minter sent information.

system developed in the northern part of the site later in the Roman period and was associated with pits, at least one inhumation and a horse burial.¹⁷⁸

(5) **Ipswich**, *land west of Downham Boulevard, Ravenswood* (TM 1896 4131): an open area excavation revealed part of a long-lived field-system, which developed from the middle Bronze Age onwards. Charcoal from the latest ditch in the stratigraphic sequence returned a radiocarbon date of 230–385 cal. A.D. (95.4 per cent probability; 1746 ± 30 BP), indicating that the agricultural landscape was maintained into the late Roman period and that the Bronze Age boundary alignments still had currency at that time.¹⁷⁹

(6) **Lakenheath**, *recycling centre* (TL73 81): two areas stripped in 2015 contained early Roman ditches on similar alignments to those recorded in the previous phase of works on this site in 2014. A number of earlier (late Iron Age?) pits and later (late Roman and/or early Saxon) pits were also recorded. The occupation on site was clearly dominated by Roman activity, which seemed to increase in intensity towards the eastern edge of the site.¹⁸⁰

(7) **Mildenhall**, *West Row Primary School* (TL 6722 7612): an evaluation of part of the school playing-field added to the evidence seen in previous work, identifying two ditches and a pit. One ditch formed a substantial boundary and, in conjunction with previous results, appears to mark the western edge of the Roman settlement area which underlies much of the school site and neighbouring properties.¹⁸¹

(8) **Newton**, *Roger's Farm* (TL 9282 4168): evaluation recorded two substantial Roman quarry pits. The backfill of one of these contained large quantities of ceramic building material suggesting the nearby presence of a Roman building, although no *in-situ* building remains were found.¹⁸²

(9) **Oulton**, *land off Lime Avenue* (TM 518 941): an excavation revealed a Romano-British enclosure, hearths and a post-built structure. Prehistoric and early to middle Anglo-Saxon activity was also recorded.¹⁸³

(10) **Sudbury**, *Harps Meadow Close* (TL 879 421): excavation along the east edge of the site confirmed the presence of a large ditch of Roman date, previously recorded in evaluation. This produced a few sherds of very abraded pottery of first- to second-century date and a charred seed-rich infill, suggesting the burning of cereal-processing waste in the near vicinity.¹⁸⁴

(11) **Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet**, *land off St Michael's Way* (TM 4285 7535): an excavation demonstrated the presence of a significant Roman settlement, as indicated by substantial metalwork and other surface find assemblages recovered in the past from the surrounding fields. Features mainly of second-century date included a regular system of ditched plot boundaries across the higher ground in the western part of the site. The central part of the site focused on a former spring with palaeochannel deposits running east from the spring head. An

¹⁷⁸ Work by K. Heard of Archaeology South-East for Berkeley Strategic Land Limited. OASIS ref: 192101. F. Minter sent information.

¹⁷⁹ Work by M. Jones and T. Fletcher of Pre-Construct Archaeology for CgMs Consulting on behalf of Persimmon Homes. T. Vitali sent information.

¹⁸⁰ Work by R. Brooks of Suffolk Archaeology CIC for Defence Infrastructure Organisation. F. Minter sent information.

¹⁸¹ Work by J. Craven of Suffolk Archaeology CIC for Suffolk County Council. SACIC report no. 2015/050. F. Minter sent information.

¹⁸² Work by S. Joyce of Cotswold Archaeology. J. Hart sent information.

¹⁸³ Work by A.R.R. Mustchin and J. Walker of Archaeological Solutions Ltd for Persimmon Homes Ltd. F. Minter sent information.

¹⁸⁴ Work by M. Webster of Oxford Archaeology East for Bellway Homes. OA East report 1724. K. Hamilton sent information.

enclosure and further ditched boundaries controlled access to wells and water holes sunk into the high water table encountered in this part of the site. Later features spread across the whole site included storage pits, a cesspit and further water holes sunk into the spring. Timber structures were indicated by three groups of post-holes.¹⁸⁵

(12) **West Row**, *land off Beeches Road* (TL 675 759): a metal-detecting survey yielded late Roman and later finds, including 12 Roman coins. Evaluation trenches revealed a well-defined area of Roman settlement, broadly corresponding to the coin scatter. The core of the settlement included a network of intercutting ditches, rubbish pits, a possible well and a metallised surface covered by a thick deposit of artefact-rich 'dark earth'. The quantity and range of artefacts suggest a relatively wealthy or high-status farmstead-type settlement, dating from the second to fourth century A.D. with roof-tile, floor-tile and box-flue tile suggesting the presence of a structure with underfloor heating in the vicinity. An articulated inhumation was discovered but left *in situ*.¹⁸⁶

ESSEX

(1) **Burnham on Crouch**, *Wick Farm* (TQ 9604 9567): five evaluation trenches were excavated, targeting anomalies seen on a geophysical survey. Finds from prehistoric and other features sealed beneath alluvial deposits included a small assemblage of early Roman briquetage and fired clay.¹⁸⁷

(2) **Radwinter**, *East View Close* (TL 60853 37506): excavation of 0.61 ha revealed part of an early to mid-Roman settlement of relatively high status, with the main occupation focus lying further to the north and probably west. Numerous well-preserved features included possible structures, small paddock-like enclosures and large pits backfilled with midden material. Three high-status cremation burials were located in the northern part of the site. Grave goods included brooches and hairpins, while one had a worked bone gaming-piece within the cremated bone deposit. Thirteen Anglo-Saxon inhumations were also excavated.¹⁸⁸

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7. GREATER LONDON

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CITY OF LONDON

(1) *Bank Station capacity upgrade, Arthur Street utilities diversion, EC4* (TQ 32799 80775): excavation of a new BT inspection chamber was monitored at the junction between Arthur Street and Upper Thames Street. It was located just behind the projected line of the early second-century Roman waterfront which has been recorded in other excavations, most significantly those at the adjacent site of 12 Arthur Street. The earliest deposit in the monitored area consisted of infill with large quantities of rubbish, particularly second-century pottery. Driven into this layer were four timber posts, possibly forming a property boundary. These

¹⁸⁵ Work by G. Clarke of Oxford Archaeology East for CgMs for Hopkins Homes Ltd. OA East report 1792. K. Hamilton sent information.

¹⁸⁶ Work by K. Nicholls of Oxford Archaeology East for Pigeon Investment Management Ltd for Suffolk County Council and Mr J. Waters. OA East report 1838. K. Hamilton sent information.

¹⁸⁷ Work by P. Moan of Oxford Archaeology East (OA East report 1761). K. Hamilton sent information.

¹⁸⁸ Work by P. Moan of Oxford Archaeology East (OA East report 1785). K. Hamilton sent information.