

CBA East EVENTS

Alas the Covid 19 crisis is still impacting local events, but looking on the bright side, local groups and national organisations have excelled at adapting their activities to ZOOM and similar platforms, and “ZOOM fatigue” notwithstanding this has given us the opportunity to broaden our horizons, with some local groups hosting talks by speakers from the further reaches of England, from Scotland and even from Australia! It has also been possible to attend several important conferences from the comfort of home. We all hope that things will get back to normal soon, and there are some “green shoots” appearing below. Although the Newsletter is still rather thin on future events, I hope I have nonetheless found something to interest all our Members.

We still hope to run at least some physical events this year, and Members will be alerted by e-mail as soon as there is any news. **If we still do not have your e-mail address please let us have details at**

CBAEast@archaeologyuk.org. This will be used purely for contact purposes and will not be passed to other organisations. **Without a current e-mail address, you may not receive details of CBA East events.**

At the moment we only have one planned event:

GUIDED TOUR OF CLARE. Tour of Dig at Clare Castle, Suffolk, Wednesday 6th October 2021.

WARNING: this tour may have to be cancelled if restrictions relating to the Covid-19 virus are still in place at the time. Clare Castle comprises the remains of a 19thC railway station driven through a Norman motte and bailey castle which, in turn, overlies an Anglo-Saxon cemetery. The whole is now a country park, within a substantial medieval town. This is the final year of a 3-year project to investigate the archaeology below ground.

Tea and coffee will be available from 10.40 am in The Old Goods Shed, and the **dig tour** will commence at 11.00 am. It will be led by archaeologists from Cotswold Archaeology Suffolk and last about 1.30 hours.

Attendees are then encouraged to have lunch in Clare in one of several eating places, or enjoy a picnic in the park, followed by a **self-guided tour of the town**. ‘Clare Town Trail’ is available in Clare at £2 (correct at time of writing) or a pdf overview can be downloaded from the Visit Clare website https://www.visit-clare.co.uk/things_to_do/the-town-trail/

The dig tour is **free to all members** but places are limited and will be issued on a first come, first served basis. NOTE: The dig site is a hazardous working environment with rough, uneven ground in most places. Flat, sensible shoes or boots are essential. Site health and safety rules must be obeyed. There is some wheelchair access.

BOOKING WILL OPEN IN AUGUST. Please keep an eye on announcements on our website! To book **when booking opens**, please email CBAE.Secretary@archaeologyuk.org or write to L. Harrison, CBAE Secretary, 57 Irvine Road, Colchester, CO3 3TT with the following information **for each attendee**: full name, email address (preferred) or postal address, and contact telephone number.

We have reluctantly decided to again postpone our **AUTUMN CONFERENCE**. It had been hoped to include contributions from many local societies and community archaeology groups under our theme *Archaeology for All*, and this would have involved considerable planning, with many people involved. It would be unwise to commit to such an ambitious plan when the future is still uncertain. We hope that we will be able to arrange a new Conference in Autumn 2022.

We also hope to rearrange our **GUIDED TOUR OF THE BARROW CEMETERY ON THERFIELD HEATH (Royston)**. This proved impossible to schedule again this year owing to Covid restrictions, but we still plan to hold this tour in April 2022.

Please remember to check the website for event updates: <http://cbae.archaeologyuk.org/events.2020/>

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Committee decided not to hold the 2020 AGM, following advice from the Charity Commission, but we were able to go ahead this year thanks to the magic of ZOOM. The AGM was followed by a fascinating talk from Jo Caruth of Cotswold Archaeology Suffolk – see report below. There were several changes to the Committee. Our longstanding Chairman Andrew Rogerson stood down from the role, and several other members did not stand for re-election. Eight members were elected/re-elected to the Committee:

Chair	Aileen Connor
Treasurer	Richard Cushing
Secretary	Louise Harrison
Committee Members	Mark Curteis (Suffolk rep)
	Andy Instone (Herts rep)
	Henry Webber (Essex rep)
	Michael Coles (Minutes Secretary)
	David Gordon (Newsletter Editor)

The Secretary would be pleased to hear from members interested in being co-opted to serve on the Committee. Help with updating the website would be particularly appreciated.

REPORT: The Site and Excavation of Court Knoll, Nayland, Suffolk, by Jo Caruth, Principal Post-excavation Manager, Cotswold Archaeology Suffolk.

Report on the talk given at the AGM.

Jo began with a brief history of how the Nayland with Wissington Conservation Society had initiated geo-physical surveys of the site, followed by excavation which was supported by Suffolk Archaeology (now Cotswold Archaeology Suffolk). A Scheduled Ancient Monument, identified as a pre-Norman D-shaped ringwork which is rare in East Anglia, the site is situated within a fork of the River Stour, on the Essex/Suffolk border, near an old river crossing and a former Roman road.

Geo-physical surveys carried out 2014 – 2016 under the direction of Dr Tim Dennis revealed what appeared to be a cruciform ecclesiastical building and other possible structures, with a possible internal moat enclosing the church from the rest of the site. The GPR survey showed the church as having a possible apse at each end, which is an unusual form for any English church.

On the basis of these results Suffolk Archaeology obtained the necessary consent to carry out a community excavation in September/October 2016.

Trench 1 was placed over the E end of the building to investigate a trench excavated in 1924 by Major Dick who had recorded some significant structural remains. This revealed a square ended building which had been cut into by a later, more robust, curved structure. The curved structure was not therefore an earlier apsidal end which had been subsequently squared off, and represented the opposite of normal church architectural progression. The 1924 drawings had recorded these structures exactly and, further, seemed to indicate that the curved building was circular, possibly the base of a tower placed within the earlier building. The walls were constructed from reclaimed Roman material, still having adhering Roman mortar. Significantly, some of the stone was burnt pink, and charcoal was found on the rammed-mortar floor, evidence the earlier building had burnt down. Sitting against the centre of the E wall is the possible base for an altar. This has plaster limewash facing on the two sides but not the front.

In Trench 2, placed on the S ‘arm’ of the cruciform shape, were a robbed-out wall confirming the geo-physics, the same rammed-mortar floor as at the square E end and the collapsed in situ remains of a window arch. Trench 4 confirmed an internal ditch of up to 3m in depth, isolating the church building from the rest of the site. Trench 7, placed to the north of the building’s E end, revealed a burial which is likely to represent a much larger cemetery. Radio-carbon dating on some disarticulated bones gave a date of late 10thC or early 11thC. This was a surprise because churches built in stone are usually mid-11thC or later. The stone fabric highlights the high status of the building.

Of considerable importance were 11 fragments of late Anglo-Saxon polychrome glazed tile which were recovered. These are thought to date from the first quarter of the 11thC and resemble tile fragments found at

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Bury St Edmunds. They have a raised pattern and are part of a nationally distributed group found mainly at important ecclesiastical sites such as Winchester, Peterborough, Bury St Edmunds, and others. The fragments do not show wear so were probably wall rather than floor tiles and may have been affixed to the front of the possible altar base. Several pieces of moulded mortar were also found in the vicinity which may have held the tiles in place.

160 pieces of window glass were recovered, all badly damaged by fire. The glass was made using potash and while this is usually associated with the 13thC, some was imported into England much earlier, as in Westminster Palace in the 11thC.

Much burnt wood was recovered as charcoal. A study by Dana Challoner (funded by CBA East) discovered evidence of carving which may represent carved roof timbers or carved panelling. The wood, although burnt, was in good condition with no wormholes or signs of decay suggesting it was destroyed by fire without first being abandoned or dismantled. Radio-carbon dating on the charcoal produced a much earlier date of 9thC – mid 10thC, even earlier than the burial. Was there an earlier church on the site or was the carved wood brought from elsewhere?

Jo went on to compare the shape of the Court Knoll church to other known churches such as Reculver and St Laurence, Bradford-on-Avon. Court Knoll's geo-physical data strongly suggest an arrangement similar to the latter's pillars separating nave from chancel. However, the supposed apsidal west-end shown on the GPR survey may be another circular tower, in which case the nave was much longer and rectangular, making Court Knoll almost identical in size to the early 11thC North Elmham Chapel, Norfolk. No excavation of Court Knoll's W end has yet taken place and it would be extremely interesting if there had been a square tower there, like North Elmham.

Jo summed up Court Knoll as an early stone ecclesiastical building containing important high-status tiles and glass. Is there a link with Bury St Edmunds given that similar tiles were found there? Some chemical analysis of the tiles is forthcoming but no comparison with the Bury St Edmunds' tiles can be made as these have gone missing.

In the mid-10thC, Ealdorman Aelfgar of Essex bequeathed the reversion of Mersea minster, Colchester, to Stoke-by-Nayland minster, which has never been found. More investigation of Aelfgar's will is being undertaken as the structure at Mersea has footings very similar to Court Knoll's. Is there a link between them and could Nayland's Court Knoll be the missing minster?

As yet, no solid interpretation of Court Knoll can be made as there are many outstanding questions about the site. The hope is that publication of all the results so far will stimulate academic interest and debate, which may inform further coring and excavation. Some questions still to be answered include: confirming the round structure was a tower; were there two round towers built within the church; the precise location of the W end and was there a square tower there; were there pillars separating the chancel and nave; when did the church burn down; was soil which was built up around the church taken from the ditch around the Knoll; was the ground of the Knoll itself built up artificially?

Anyone who has knowledge of the Bury St Edmunds' tiles or knows of a site similar to Court Knoll or has knowledge of early stone churches or ringworks with associated churches may contact Jo at Joanna.Caruth@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk. (LH)

[Court Knoll excavations update - Cotswold Archaeology](#)

CBA NATIONAL NEWS

Festival of Archaeology 2021. 17 July – 1 August.

Find details of the Festival and links to the many scheduled events at [About the CBA Festival of Archaeology | Festival of Archaeology \(archaeologyuk.org\)](http://archaeologyuk.org). This page also contains links to recordings of many events from the 2020 Festival.

Many CBA publications are still available to download free. See [Council for British Archaeology | Books and Publications \(archaeologyuk.org\)](http://archaeologyuk.org) and follow the links.

Follow the CBA blog at <http://blog.archaeologyuk.org/>

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BOOKS

Belonging and Belongings - Portable artefacts and identity in the civitas of the Iceni by Natasha Harlow has recently been published by BAR [Time Period :: Bronze Age and Iron Age :: Belonging and Belongings \(barpublishing.com\)](#). This volume presents new research which tests the archaeological evidence for the Iceni as a defined group, through analysis of the region's distinctive material culture, particularly highlighting the impact of metal-detector finds on the available dataset for research. It evaluates the validity of the theory that the Iceni were slow to adopt Roman imports and luxury goods, either as a form of deliberate resistance or due to cultural conservatism following the failed revolt. The interpretive narrative of the Iceni as 'Other', in both Classical and modern sources, is also investigated. The artefact dataset used in this research is available as an accompanying digital download. The author natasha.harlow@nottingham.ac.uk has a range of lectures on the Iceni and **will be happy to arrange talks with local Groups**.

The first of an important series of monographs on the recent discoveries at **Stonehenge**, by **Mike Parker-Pearson et al**, can still be read online **free** at [Stonehenge for the Ancestors: Part 1 \(sidestone.com\)](#). Volume II is also now available but you have to pay for it!

Many CBA publications are still available to download free. See [Council for British Archaeology | Books and Publications \(archaeologyuk.org\)](#) and follow the links.

CONFERENCES

Bronze Age Forum, Cambridge. 13-14 November 2021

The Conference due to be held in Cambridge last year had to be cancelled. However the Forum expects to make it to Cambridge this year. The organising committee will be making a final decision about whether to go ahead around the end of August. The web site still has numerous references to 2020, including incorrect dates in the draft programme. Beware!

The Bronze Age Forum is for everyone with an interest in the Bronze Age—university academics, commercial archaeologists, museum curators, postgraduate students, independent scholars, and the public. The Forum is a chance to showcase new finds and excavations, present survey results, discuss emerging research, try out different interpretations, and to meet others in the field.

This year's conference will include sessions on burials, grave goods, objects, settlements, and special landscapes. The programme is expected to be largely unchanged from last year's: [baf2020 draft programme \(filesusr.com\)](#) (But please note change of dates – Ed.).

BAF2022 will be held in Leicester.

Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society April 2022 – Advance notification.

The Society are planning a one-day Conference on the theme of Community Archaeology, with a provisional date at the beginning of April. We hope to have firm details in the January Newsletter.

Colchester Archaeological Study Group: Landscape Archaeology Study Day. 26 June 2021.

This will be held in the Hawkins Room, St Botolphs Church, Colchester from 10am to 4pm and the cost will be in the region of £20 depending on numbers.

The tutor will be Richard Hoggett, an experienced landscape archaeologist who has spent many years working for local authorities in East Anglia and is now freelance. He will concentrate on the practical aspects of Landscape Archaeology, i.e. how to go about it, as well as a bit of theory, i.e. why we do it. His website address is <http://www.richard-hoggett.co.uk/>

e-mail Anna Moore on moc.tenretnib@eroomeanna for more details/booking. CAG has also published details of their busy lecture programme for 2021/2, and placed videos of their recent lectures online.

Cambridge Antiquarian Society Autumn Conference.

The CAS Autumn Conference is scheduled for 27 November.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR MARCUS BRITTAIN

Dr Marcus Brittain, Senior Project Officer at the Cambridge Archaeological Unit, has been selected as this year's Field Archaeologist in Residence at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge. Starting on 10 May, Marcus will take up this position for 10 weeks. Marcus' project is concerned with the character of sub-Antarctic archaeology and the changing pressures that leave its long-term survival in a particularly vulnerable state. His research will focus on fieldwork conducted on the islands of South Georgia and the Falklands where, respectively, warming climate and ecological conservation, sometimes with modernising development, are conditions that have required rapid fieldwork on sites of historical human activity that speak of a broader global narrative. Our area is well represented in the nominations for 2021. (Source: Cambridge Heritage Research Centre).



Find out more about Marcus' research in this area – here is his talk on the subject to the Cambridge Antiquarian Society: [South Georgia Archaeological Project 2019 – YouTube](#)

DIGGING OPPORTUNITIES

All provisional at the moment but it does look as though there will be opportunities to participate in excavations this summer.

Aylsham Roman Project hope to continue excavations in August: [Future Events – Aylsham Roman Project](#)

Caistor Roman Project will be digging again on their temple site just outside Venta Icenorum (Caistor St Edmund). Dates are 14-28 August. You need to join the group to participate. [CRP Summer Dig 2021 – Dates For Your Diaries | Caistor Roman Project](#)

Waterbeach Barracks development. OAE will be digging there again later this year and hope to arrange community involvement. This will likely be via local societies such as **Fen Edge**.

Training digs. The **Mercian Archaeological Society** are running a series of training digs this summer. Details are on the CBA web site at [Council for British Archaeology | Fieldwork \(archaeologyuk.org\)](#).

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ONLINE TALKS AND INFORMATION

Most of our local Societies have been keeping their members up to date with lists of online talks, or indeed arranging their own events via ZOOM. Many of the latter are now available on YouTube.

Since our last Newsletter there have been additions to the **Lindybeige** series of videos: [Lindybeige - YouTube](#), the **Career in ruins** podcasts: [Career in Ruins \(podbean.com\)](#), and **Dig Ventures**: [Archaeology News, Sites, Discoveries and Finds | DigVentures](#)

The Middle Bronze Age Revolution: A seminar from Oxford Archaeology on Thursday 17 June at 4.30. You can register for the seminar at [Middle Bronze Age Revolution Research Seminar \(oxfordarchaeology.com\)](#), or watch it later on the OA YouTube channel.

Oxford Archaeology invites you to join us and our panel of distinguished experts as we discuss our recent excavations of middle Bronze Age settlement sites from across southern Britain. The years between 1500–1150 BC have often been seen as a key period of change in later prehistory. Settlements and field systems become more visible in the archaeological record, in what has been characterised as a time of ‘settling down’, or even a ‘second agricultural revolution’. It may be a good time to reassess these ideas, as sites are being discovered in regions where few or none were known before, and regional diversity is becoming more apparent. We will present exciting new results from sites that shed light on this important period, including Clay Farm near Cambridge; the Norwich Northern Distributor Road in Norfolk; Wallingford in the Thames Valley; Bridgwater Gateway in Somerset; and Eastbourne in Sussex. There will be the opportunity to submit your own questions to the panel during the seminar.

The May Update from **Cambridgeshire JIGSAW** lists some more resources: [Community Archaeology Bulletin - May 2020 \(jigsawcambs.org\)](#)

YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS (YAC)

The Council for British Archaeology’s Young Archaeologists’ Club (YAC) is calling out for heritage organisations to join its well-loved “YAC Pass” scheme.

The scheme allows Young Archaeologists’ Club members to access hundreds of special offers at museums, historic houses and heritage sites across the UK, such as discounted tickets, special offers, free gifts and more. Participating sites include many of the UK’s most famous heritage sites, including the majority of English Heritage, Historic Environment Scotland and Cadw properties.

As the only UK-wide club where 8–16-year-olds can participate in archaeology and discover why it matters, the YAC has set a precedent of providing unique experiences to their members. They have over 70 clubs spanning the breadth of the UK, from Jersey to Orkney, run by over 500 volunteers, and are keen to ensure that each and every member has access to a breadth of exciting heritage sites.

YAC is looking to expand their network of sites across the UK, and are calling out to museums, historic houses and heritage sites to join the YAC Pass scheme. They’re also asking members and volunteers to nominate exciting local places that they would like to see included in the scheme.

Dr Joanne Kirton, Youth Engagement Manager at the Council for British Archaeology, said “The YAC Pass is a truly unique scheme, allowing young Archaeology and heritage enthusiasts to indulge their passion by visiting historic houses and heritage sites with their families, friends, or their local YAC group. It’s a great way for members to learn more about archaeology, heritage and history and an opportunity for heritage sites to introduce themselves to local children, their families, and friends. We’re really keen to get as many locations on board as possible, so would encourage anyone who may be interested to get in touch. All you have to do is provide some sort of benefit to our members. This could be a discounted or free ticket, discount in your gift shop or a free gift upon arrival, or similar. In return, participation will raise the profile of your site and we can feature you on our YAC blog and social media channels.”

Interested heritage organisations should email yac@yac-uk.org with a request to join the YAC Pass Scheme.

LOCAL GROUPS AND SOCIETIES

At the date of compiling this newsletter most affiliated groups are not yet listing their autumn programmes. Those listed below are showing current or planned activities. Please check individual Society websites for the latest information. Bear in mind that it may be necessary to book for online lectures. Some groups are beginning to resume field walking and excavation.

AYLSHAM ROMAN PROJECT

August dig. Details at <https://aylshamromanproject.com/>

FEN EDGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Tuesday 22 June: FEAG Zoom talk

‘30 years of Extraordinary Finds in the Cambridgeshire Fenland’ by Grahame Appleby, Leicester City Archaeologist

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit has carried out excavations in the Cambridgeshire fens since it was set up in 1991. These excavations have been ahead of quarrying and the development of new settlements, with evidence spanning the Mesolithic to Medieval periods. Grahame’s talk looks at some of these sites, highlighting some of the remarkable discoveries found during excavations by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit.

This talk will be delivered by Zoom. If you would like to attend, email vicki.harley@care4free.net

Full details will appear on the blog at <https://feagblog.wordpress.com/>

COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Comprehensive lecture programme commencing on **4th October**. Details at <http://caguk.net/> . **Recent lectures are on YouTube.**

CAFG Fieldwalking at Clopton, Cambridgeshire (CBA East grant)

Field walking investigations near the Scheduled Deserted Medieval Village site at Clopton began in 2018 when a preliminary visit revealed numbers of surface pottery finds. Subsequently, targeted field walking was carried out in fields north and south of the Arrington/Tadlow bridleway and west of the scheduled area. Field walking south of the bridleway was not completed in 2019 but finished in 2020. Most of the 2020 finds still await identification.

Clopton has very few entries at the Cambridgeshire HER apart from the DMV site itself. The DMV was planned by the RCHM in 1962 and J Alexander excavated there between 1961 and 1964. He dated the first occupation to the 2nd – 4th C Roman period with the village established in the Early Saxon period (7th – 9th C). The village flourished in the 12th – 14th C (pottery finds extended west of the scheduled area but not to the east). The land was enclosed by John Fisher for sheep grazing in the late 15th C. The Cambridge University collection of aerial photographs has a number of Clopton taken between 1957 and 1981.

Our 2019 field walking largely confirmed Alexander’s results with recovered surface finds dating from the Bronze Age through to the Post medieval period. The table shows the pottery amount and identification carried out by Paul Blinkhorn, **funded by a CBA East grant.**

	Bronze Age	Iron Age	Roman	Saxon	Medieval	Late med	Post med	19/20th C
North	2	6	34	22	534	190	44	4
South	8	17	92	152	1520	219	19	10

North of the trackway 3 pieces of lava quern stone, 11 of slag and 16 oyster shells were found.

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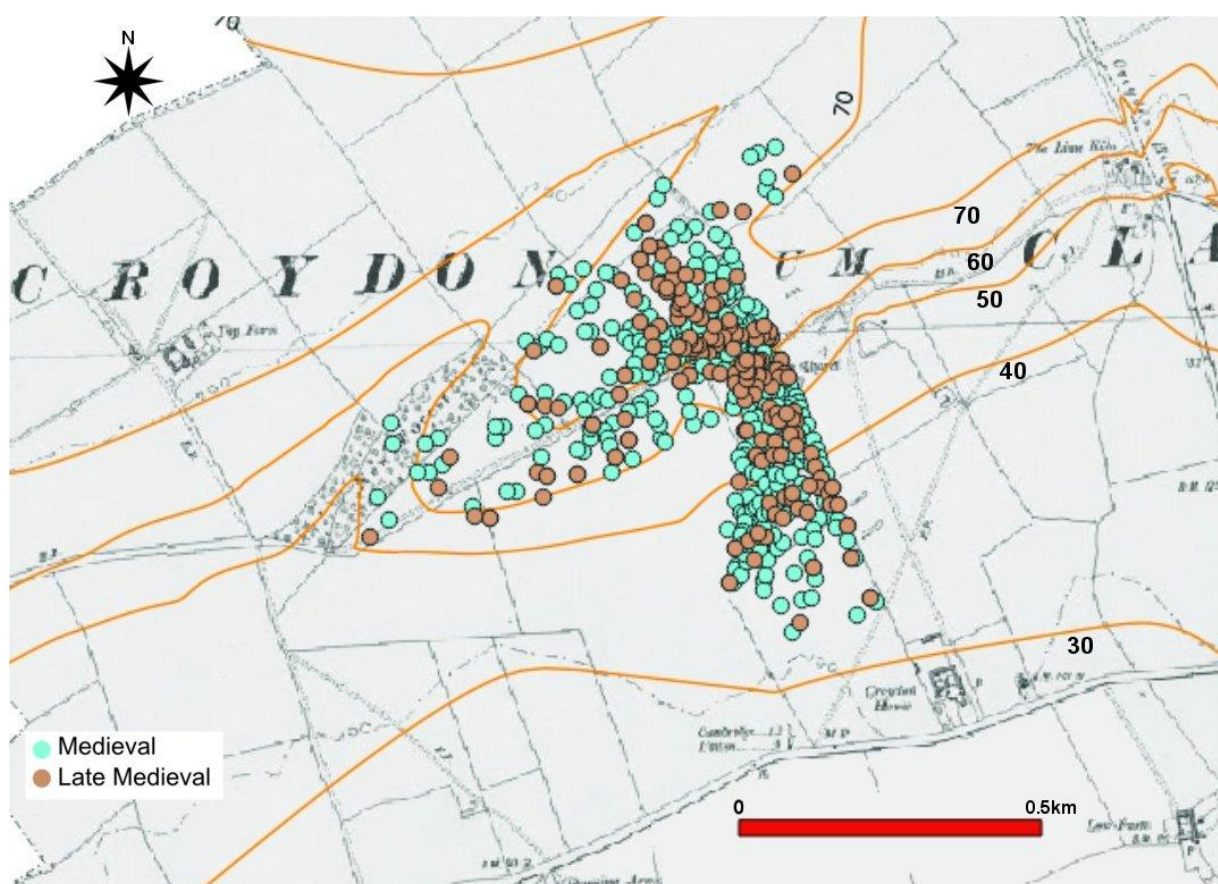
To its south, walking in 2019 produced 39 pieces of lava quern stone, 48 of slag and 45 oyster shells, plus animal bones. Also recovered were 49 pieces of daub and 36 of coprolite (there is known coprolite mining on the site).

The few Bronze Age finds came from south of the trackway, part way down slope and close to the current spring line. The Iron Age finds lie further west and away from the presumed medieval activity. These finds represent new information about earlier occupation of this site.

The Roman finds clustered near the western edge of the scheduled area, extending from the ridge crest down to the modern B1042 road. Saxon period finds occupy a similar area.

The medieval finds are prolific both sides of the trackway and extend some 800 metres west of the scheduled area boundary, shown here for the 2019 finds.

The sheer quantity of medieval finds and the spread correlates well with Alexander's suggestion that this was when the village was at its peak in terms of occupancy and area. The final report will confirm the extent of the site.



The full Interim report can be downloaded from www.cafg.net.

ELY MUSEUM

Ely Museum has reopened after its 21 month closure for **complete refurbishment**. At present, tickets must be booked in advance. www.elymuseum.org.uk

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LOCAL GROUP PROFILE: FEN EDGE ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

We hope in each edition of the Newsletter to present a profile of one of our CBA East affiliated groups. This time it's FEAG. We'd love to receive profiles from other affiliated groups for future editions.

The **Fen Edge Archaeology Group** was formed in 2008 by enthusiasts who had enjoyed digging test pits in local gardens during the 2007 Fen Edge Family Festival and wished to develop their interest in archaeology. Our aim is to be active in the villages that form the catchment area of the Fen Edge Community Association – Cottenham, Landbeach, Rampton, Waterbeach and Willingham – but anyone is welcome to join, wherever they live.

Since 2008 we have arranged an annual programme of talks, and carried out excavation and fieldwalking. Visits have included digs run by commercial units, other sites of interest and museums, including three visits to the Must Farm Bronze Age site. Our speaker meetings are open to everyone, members and non-members alike, and have been held in Cottenham, Landbeach, Rampton and Willingham. In 2021, like so many others, we switched to using the Zoom platform. Speakers have ranged from members of the group, archaeologists with local commercial units, university researchers and internationally known experts such as Mike Parker Pearson and Nick Ashton. We continued our association with the Fen Edge Family Festival (now the Fen Edge Festival) by digging test pits on or near the village green at three such events and having displays at all the Festivals since 2009.

Our main fieldwork project has been the Twenty Pence Project, an investigation of the archaeology of a field near the scheduled Romano-British site of Bullocks Haste, just outside Cottenham, and adjacent to the Car Dyke ([Romano-British settlement on Bullocks Haste Common, Cottenham - 1006897 | Historic England](https://www.historicengland.org.uk/monuments-and-places/roman/romano-british-settlement-on-bullocks-haste-common-cottenham-1006897)).

Background research was followed by a geophysical investigation conducted for us by CBA East-affiliated RheeSearch Archaeology Group. Small trenches were dug to confirm the geophysics results, followed by opening up three larger evaluation trenches. We also augered a transect across the Car Dyke to investigate its profile. Professional archaeological specialists and FEAG members carried out the post excavation analyses. In summary, the Project site seems to have been a modest, localised, small-scale agricultural site based on arable farming and animal husbandry. A few sherds of an unusual pottery type suggested that local pottery production may have occurred nearby.



Digging an evaluation trench at Twenty Pence Project.

In 2017 we carried out a geophysical survey at the request of the Landbeach Tithe Barn Trust in support of their efforts to secure the future of this unusual historic building.

Reports on both the Twenty Pence Project and the Landbeach geophysical survey are available from the Archaeological Data Service: (<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/>)

An ongoing project, held up by Covid, is a study of ponds and greens in Landbeach, which may be extended to other villages. For the future, we are looking forward to being involved in the **New Life on the Old West** project. This lottery-funded project, developed by Cambridgeshire Acre, aims to improve community green spaces and will create wildlife habitat improvements, such as making wildlife ponds, in parishes near the Old West River. Some of FEAG's role will be to dig test pits where these actions take place in locales of archaeological significance

We have been supported by grants from Cambridge Antiquarian Society, CBA East and Cottenham Parish Council and gratefully acknowledge their help. We have also been invited to volunteer on excavations by Cambridge Archaeological Unit and Pre-Construct Archaeology.

You can find out about our current activities at <https://feagblog.wordpress.com/>. To enquire about membership, email feaginfo@gmail.com.



FEAG Members digging with CAU on a very damp site – Lancaster Way near Ely.

MAJOR EXCAVATIONS ON SITE OF NEW TRUNK ROAD

Following the completion of the new section of the A14 between Cambridge and the A1, a new major project will be creating opportunities for archaeological investigation along the route of the A428 from the Black Cat Roundabout on the A1 to Caxton Gibbet. [A428 Black Cat - Latest news - Understanding our local history – archaeology on the A428 Black Cat scheme - Highways England](#). Evaluation trenching along the route of the A428 continued throughout last summer, and finished in September. 41 sites were found between Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet. The application for the Development Consent Order for permission to start excavation has now been submitted. Steve Sherlock (Archaeology Lead for the A428 and A14, Highways England) is reviewing the research agenda for the scheme to target sites with the greatest potential for excavation. He is also undertaking audience mapping, to identify who the audiences for the archaeological work are and what it is they want to see in terms of communications, activities and events. Steve is still involved in the A14 post-excavation analysis. Oxford Archaeology East have been asked by Cambs County Council to work on interpretation boards along the route of the A14. (Source: JIGSAW).

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LONDON OPEN HOUSE FESTIVAL

Open City, the charity behind London's Open House Festival, has announced that the 30th edition of the much-loved city-wide celebration of architecture and landscape, will take place from 4th and 12th of September 2021. [Open House Festival — Open City \(open-city.org.uk\)](https://open-city.org.uk)

TREASURES OF RAMSEY ABBEY EXHIBITION

This exhibition has been delayed by the lockdown. The latest on the Ramsey Community Archaeological Project website is "The physical exhibition will start at all three museums, Norris, Chatteris and Ramsey Rural between 3rd and 10th of July. The Norris will look at life in a monastery, Ramsey Rural is more hands on with test pitting for young folk, dressed stone display, a sand table for adults and children to practice their abbey layout geometry plus colouring for young children, etc". However it's important to check with each museum to confirm times and dates.

[Exhibition News – Ramsey Abbey Community Project \(ramseyabbeyresearch.org.uk\)](https://ramseyabbeyresearch.org.uk)

GRANTS

CBA East awards **individual grants of up to £250** in support of archaeological study. We are keen to support a broad range of activity, and particularly wish to promote education, research, public awareness and participation in archaeology in the region. The criteria are flexible and hence appropriate for individuals or newly formed groups who are seeking funding for training, help with investigation of potential sites, or informal publication of initial work. Applications from young people who live in the region are welcome.

Applications should reach the Committee by 31 December, and will normally be decided upon at the next Committee meeting. Further details at <http://cbae.archaeologyuk.org/grants/>.

Open Access Archaeology Fund.

If you wish to deposit with the Archaeological Data Service or publish an article with Internet Archaeology but have no means to pay, there is a new **Open Access Archaeology Fund**.

For more information on the fund and to apply, please see:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0TULQcvhsCyWlwb7tlpNghisveB6jD7UnEiMpBW48Axz5Qg/viewform>

COPY FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter is due to be published in January 2022. Please send items for inclusion to CBAE.Newsletter@archaeologyuk.org **before the end of December**.

We may put out an interim newsletter in September if sufficient content becomes available. Please send in your updates.

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