

NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Please note:

Members are reminded that the next meeting of the Advisory Committee will be preceded by a tour of the Lynn Museum starting at 11 am. The tour will be led by the Curator, Oliver Bone, whom will provide an introduction to the museum and to the displays (including Seahenge). A Location map which shows public car parking in the vicinity of King's Court and near to the Lynn Museum is enclosed. Lunch will be available at the offices of the Borough Council from 1pm for those taking part in the tour.

Date	Time	Place
Friday 9 March 2012	2pm	The Committee Suite Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk King's Court Chapel Street King's Lynn PE30 1EX

A G E N D A

- 1 To Receive the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 10 October 2011 (PAGE)**
- 2 To Note any Apologies for Absence**
- 3 To Note whether any Items have been Proposed as Matters of Urgent Business**
- 4 To Note any Declarations of Interest by Members**

Please indicate whether the interest is a personal one only or one which is prejudicial. A declaration of a personal interest should indicate the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which it relates. In the case of a personal interest, the member may speak and vote on the matter. Please note that if you are exempt from declaring a personal interest because it arises solely from your position on a body to which you were nominated by the County Council or a body exercising functions of a public nature (e.g. another local authority), you need only declare your interest if and when you intend to speak on a matter.

If a prejudicial interest is declared, the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed unless members of the public are allowed to make representations, give evidence or answer questions

about the matter, in which case you may attend the meeting for that purpose. You must immediately leave the room when you have finished or the meeting decides you have finished, if earlier. **These declarations apply to all those members present, whether the member is part of the meeting, attending to speak as a local member on an item or simply observing the meeting from the public seating area.**

- 5 **Historic Environment Service Reporting Arrangements**
Joint Report by Head of Museums and Archaeology and the Director of Environment, Transport and Development (PAGE)
- 6 **Report on the Historic Environment Service 2011-12**
Report by the Director of Environment, Transport and Development (PAGE)
- 7 **Half-Yearly Report of the Activities of NPS Archaeology**
Report by the Archaeology Manager of NPS Archaeology (PAGE)
- 8 **Half-Yearly Report of the Archaeology Department, Norwich Museum and Art Gallery October 2011- March 2012**
Report by the Head of Museums and Archaeology (PAGE)
- 9 **To Answer Formal Questions (if any) of which Due Notice has been Given**
- 10 **Any Other Item of Business that the Chairman decides should be considered as a Matter of Urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972**

Chris Walton
Head of Democratic Services

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1 March 2012

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NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2011

Present:

Norfolk Joint Museums and
Archaeology Committee

Mr J Bracey
Mr P Duigan

Borough Council of King's Lynn and
West Norfolk

Mrs E Nockolds

Breckland District Council

Mr R G Kybird

Broadland District Council

Mr D Buck

Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Mr B G Coleman

North Norfolk District Council

Mrs L Brettle (Substitute)

South Norfolk Council

Dr C Kemp

Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society

Mr R Bellinger

1 Election of Chairman

Resolved –

That Mr P Duigan be elected Chairman of the Advisory Committee for the ensuing year.

(Mr P Duigan in the Chair)

2 Election of Vice-Chairman

Resolved –

That Dr C Kemp be elected Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Committee for the ensuing year.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 March 2011 were confirmed by the Advisory Committee and signed by the Chairman.

4 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Ward (Norfolk County Council), Mr T FitzPatrick (North Norfolk District Council), Mr S Altman (Norwich City Council), Mr E N Stanton (Norfolk Farmers Union, County Branch) and Mr W Fletcher (English Heritage).

5 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

6 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

7 Half-Yearly Report on the Work of the Historic Environment Service (the HES) (Formerly Norfolk Landscape Archaeology)

The annexed report by the Historic Environment Manager (County Archaeologist) was received.

Mr David Gurney, Historic Environment Manager (County Archaeologist) said that during the period covered by the report, 725 Historic Environment Records (HERs) were created along with 1,025 event records and 1,323 source records. He said that during the reporting period staff had also undertaken some significant enhancement work with HERs, focusing in particular on sites recorded by the Norfolk Industrial Archaeology Society and had dealt with the integration into the HER of information previously held by Norfolk County Council's Building and Landscapes Team at County Hall. Furthermore, he pointed out that staff had begun a parish-by-parish audit of HER records to identify other unrecorded historic landscapes and built heritage sites and had worked to ensure all former Heritage Landscape Team data was fully integrated into the HER.

Mr Gurney went on to report that the HES had commented on 304 planning applications and issued 130 briefs in the period between 1 March 2011 and 31 August 2011. He said that this placed the HES on track to be nearly as busy as in 2008-2009 (the busiest year ever for planning applications) and reflected the general, if slow, upturn in development in Norfolk. He said the Planning Team were also involved in consultation on the Localism Bill and the draft National Policy Framework which were expected to be finalised and enacted in time to be considered at the next meeting of the Advisory Committee.

Members were informed that the most worrying aspect of the Localism Bill (as published) was that it appeared to remove much of the protection afforded to listed buildings and conservation areas and this was being challenged at every level, including in the House of Lords. The other proposed legislative change, the National Planning Policy Framework, was aimed at replacing Planning Policy Statement 5 and its associated guidance. There was some concern that the presumption in favour of development present throughout the draft document could place undesignated assets such as historic landscapes at risk. However, small scale assets were considered to be adequately protected through similar measures to those in PPS 5.

In reply to a question from Dr Christopher Kemp, Mr Gurney said that the HES had produced a useful guide for when a local community started work on a community-led plan such as a Parish Plan, Village Design Statement, or similar neighbourhood initiative. Mr Gurney said that copies of the guidance note had been sent to Local Authority Planning and Conservation Officers and were available on request. (Note by Committee Clerk: Following this meeting copies of the guide were published on the County Council's Members Insight web page).

Mr Gurney said that the HES was involved in work to identify heritage crimes at Billingford, Burgh Castle and Bromholme Priory. At the instigation of the HES,

Norfolk County Council had joined the Alliance to Reduce Crime against Heritage. In reply to a question from Mr Danny Buck, Mr Gurney said that the HES staff had brought this initiative to the attention of District Council Conservation Officers, and as a consequence, a countywide meeting about heritage crime was arranged for 20 October 2011. The seminar was free to attend and open to NASAC Members who contacted Broadland District Council to book a place. (Note by Committee Clerk: Details about the event were emailed to NASAC Members after the Advisory Committee meeting).

In reply to a question from Mr John Bracey, Mr Gurney said that work had continued on UEA's Rural Schools Survey project adding over 200 new records and enhancing many others. He added that material from this project had been used as part of a small exhibition placed on display at the Norfolk Record Office.

Mr Gurney went on to report that East Anglian Archaeology, the regional monograph series based in HES continued to flourish, with new titles in print and further work in press describing a range of archaeological discoveries. Recent published volumes included:

- A report on the Roman town at Billingford, the site of the largest Roman cemetery so far excavated in Norfolk and where evidence was found for occupation continuing into the fifth and sixth centuries, after Britain ceased to be a Roman province.
- A report on the archaeology of the Newland in Kings Lynn, where excavations on the site of the Vancouver Centre explored the processes of land reclamation and the gradual building of tenements along the banks of the Purfleet and Broad Street fleet in the 13th century.

The Advisory Committee then went on to receive a PowerPoint presentation from Dr Richard Hoggett, Coastal Heritage Officer, about Norfolk's Coastal Heritage Project. The Advisory Committee were informed that this project allowed Norfolk's coastal communities to prepare for the impact that coastal change could have on their heritage. Dr Hoggett pointed out that initially this project had focused on Happisburgh, before broadening its focus to work with other communities. He went on to say that as the project entered its second phase, he was developing additional links with other interested individuals, groups and societies. He gave as examples, the close links that were being developed with RSPB staff and volunteers at Titchwell and Snettisham and National Trust volunteers at Sheringham Park, all of whom were keen to learn more about the archaeological remains in the areas under their management so that those items could be promoted and interpreted for the public. In reply to a question from Mrs Elizabeth Nockolds, Dr Hoggett said that the coastal heritage project had given some publicity to Seahenge which took centre stage in the Bronze Age Gallery at Lynn Museum.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

8 Half-Yearly Report of the Archaeology Department, Norwich Museum and Art Gallery

The annexed report by the Head of Museums and Archaeology was received.

Dr John Davies, Chief Curator and Keeper of Archaeology at Norwich Museum and Art Gallery said that during the last six months the work of the Archaeology Department had focused on the key priorities within NMAS; the rationalisation of office space and collections. He said that archaeology staff and volunteers had been involved in the wider Norwich programme of moving offices and stores. Alongside this work the Archaeology Department had maintained a balanced programme of curatorial activities and public services.

Dr Davies went on to point out that there had been a number of important acquisitions made by the Department, including several very generous donations of finds by members of the public. The most significant acquisition involved the securing of £14,250 of external funding to purchase a large collection of Treasure material found on a significant Iron Age site in north west Norfolk. This came from field work at the site during the 2000s, which had yielded a substantial assemblage of gold, silver and bronze objects dating from the Bronze Age to the Roman periods. Most were Iron Age in date including fragments of torc, brooches and 118 Iron Age coins. The most unusual and significant items were five fragments of iron chain mail, which were especially rare from this period. Roman items included coins and some religious items, including miniature votive axes. Thanks to the positive relationships established with metal-detector users and to their generosity, many of the items acquired were gifted to the museum.

The Advisory Committee was informed that the *Collecting Cultures Scheme*, the subject of reports from previous Advisory Committee meetings, was enabling the enhancement of the archaeology collections and displays. This project, worth £220,000 in total, remained a major part of the Department's work programme into 2013. 'Collecting Cultures' funding, derived from a HLF scheme and supported by the Friends of the Norwich Museums, provided for the purchase of a number of important acquisitions. It also allowed for the development of the website and for it to include 'star object' trails.

Members were informed about a new partnership that had been formed between the NMAS and the British Museum, with the project title 'Norwich Castle Gateway to Medieval England', with the aim of creating major new displays in Norwich Castle Keep. The project was based on a partnership between Norwich Castle Museum and communities in the south of England and in Normandy aimed at exploring and developing some of the historic, intellectual and physical links between historic sites, relating to the Norman period.

Members were informed that the Honorary Research Associate, Faye Kalloniatis, had continued to work on the Egyptian Collection Project which represented a major collaboration between Norwich Castle and the British Museum. Once the Shroud had been fully opened it was possible to see that the surface was covered with hieroglyphic inscriptions from the Book of the Dead. The study had shown this to be a rare eighteenth dynasty shroud (c1550BC), of which only a few were known worldwide. It was pointed out that a second phase of study was planned. It was also pointed out that during the reporting period, a workshop on the subject of 'Fakes' had been held at the Castle Museum and that a joint seminar would be held

in conjunction with the Egypt Exploration Society at Norwich Castle in April 2012 about 'Ancient Egyptian Funerary Practices'. The Norwich Egyptian Shroud would be featured during this event.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

9 Half-Yearly Report of NPS Archaeology

The annexed report by the Manager of NPS Archaeology was received.

Ms Jayne Bown, Manager of NPS Archaeology (formerly NAU Archaeology) presented a report that described the Norfolk projects and outreach work undertaken by NPS Archaeology during the period March 2011 to August 2011 inclusive. Members were informed that during that period NPS Archaeology had worked on 92 projects (along with the post-excavation stages of ongoing projects) of which 65 (71%) were Norfolk projects.

Ms Bown went on to outline some of the major Norfolk projects of the last six months, which included an evaluation that took place prior to the construction of a new residential dwelling on land off Cross Lane at Brancaster, within what was an area of allotments and gardens close to the Roman fort of Branodunum. She said that this excavation had revealed a number of well-preserved archaeological features. The majority of these remains were of likely or probable Roman date, including a partially clay-lined flue (associated with some form of agricultural or light industrial process), several substantial ditches and a pit. The work provided clear evidence that remains from the fort continued into the Cross Lane area.

Ms Bown said that a silver disk had been found during metal detecting in moat deposits at Caister Castle in July 2011. The disk measured 36mm across with a thickness of 1mm and was inscribed on both sides with lettering and decoration. One face of the disk had the wording 'M H Sharpe, Proprietor', with the other side reading 'Norwich Theatre 1786, 5'. The disk was pierced near to one edge; so that it would have hung with the writing the correct way up from a chain, either around the neck or from a fob chain. These 'tickets' were originally created by Thomas Ivory in 1768, whom was the sole owner of the Theatre Royal at this time. The name on the ticket appeared to be M H Sharpe and could refer to the musician and composer, Michael Sharpe, who had close associations with Norwich during that period.

Ms Bown went on to explain how NPS Archaeology staff had been involved in the recent 'Hands on History' event at The Forum in Norwich and in the 2011 annual community project at Acle which had again attracted much interest.

Resolved –

That the report be noted.

10 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Resolved –

That the next meeting of the Advisory Committee should be held in King's Lynn in March or April 2012 and be preceded by a site tour of archaeological interest.

The meeting concluded at 4.20pm.

Chairman



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Historic Environment Service reporting arrangements

Joint Report by the Head of Museums and Archaeology and the
Director of Environment, Transport and Development

Summary

- The Joint Museums Agreement, which currently makes provision for the Norfolk Archaeological Services Advisory Committee, is due for review and this will be undertaken during 2012. This is an appropriate time, therefore to reflect the organisational change involving the transfer of the Historic Environment Service to the Department of Environment, Transport and Development (ETD) in 2010,
- It is now the responsibility of ETD to determine how archaeological stakeholders are involved in a monitoring or advisory role, and to report to the ETD Overview and Scrutiny Panel as necessary. It is not appropriate, therefore, that NASAC should continue to be part of the Joint Museums Agreement.
- However, in order to maintain the strong connections between museums and archaeological services it is proposed that officers should continue to make an annual report to the Joint Museums Committee.

Recommendation / Action Required

It is suggested that the Advisory Committee resolves to recommend to the Joint Museums and Archaeology Committee that the meetings of the Advisory Committee be suspended pending changes to reporting arrangements to be agreed between the County and District Councils in a revised Agreement for the Provision of a Joint Museums & Archaeology Service.

1. Background

- 1.1. The Historic Environment Service (HES)(formerly Norfolk Landscape Archaeology) transferred from the Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service (NM&AS), a joint service of the county and district councils, to Environment, Environment and Waste, Environment Transport and Development (ETD) in Norfolk County Council on 1 April 2010 as part of the County Council's *Organisational Review*.
- 1.2. As the Joint Museums Agreement making provision for a Norfolk Archaeological Services Advisory Committee was still in force at the time of that transfer, it was agreed that, until such time as the Agreement was subject to review, the existing reporting arrangement should continue. The Agreement is now due for review and any necessary updating or amendments are being identified.
- 1.3. NASAC meets twice a year and receives reports from the HES, NPS Archaeology and the NM&AS Archaeology Department.
- 1.4. Now that the HES is no longer part of the Joint Service and is located in ETD, it is no longer appropriate for the terms of archaeological stakeholder involvement to be determined by the Joint Museums Agreement. The correct reporting route for HES

should be to report where necessary to the ETD Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

- 1.5. This will remove a means of formal reporting by HES to the Joint Committee on archaeological matters. This was originally intended to complement reports relating to museum archaeological collections, and the arrangement was put in place at a time when what is now NPS Archaeology, what is now the HES and the NM&AS Archaeology Department were all part of the NM&AS. Now, only the Archaeology Department remains within the Communities directorate.
- 1.6. The main area of interaction between the HES and the NM&AS is the HES's Identification and Recording Service for Archaeological Finds (I&RS) and Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS).
- 1.7. HES staff working on the I&RS and PAS are in regular contact with their former NM&AS colleagues in the Archaeology Department, and the relocation of the HES to ETD in April 2010 has not diminished this day-to-day liaison and effective joint working between the two departments.
- 1.8. The HES has Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for the provision of historic environment services with all of the District Councils and the Broads Authority, and this provides an alternative reporting mechanism on HES activities in each district.
- 1.9. It is suggested that the HES should report on historic environment matters where necessary through its own panel i.e. the ETD Overview and Scrutiny Panel, and that the existing links with Museums should be maintained by means of 1) continued liaison and joint working by officers and 2) an annual update by the Historic Environment Manager presented directly to the Joint Museums Committee.
- 1.10. The HES will also report to the Districts and other stakeholders as required through other fora, such as the Great Yarmouth Heritage Forum, and the SLAs.

2. **Resource Implications**

2.1. **Finance** : None

2.2. **Staff** : None

2.3. **Property** : None

2.4. **IT** : None

3. **Other Implications**

3.1. **Legal Implications** : References to NASAC will be removed from the new Joint Museums Agreement, which the Head of Museums is in the process of redrafting for agreement with the Districts.

3.2. **Human Rights** : None

3.3. **Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)** : A full programme of equality impact assessments has been carried out covering all Environment, Transport and Development activities. However, this report is not directly relevant to equality in that it is not making proposals which may have a direct impact on equality of access or outcome

- 3.4. **Communications** : The District Councils will be informed of any proposed changes to reporting arrangements as part of the consultation on the new Joint Agreement.
- 3.5. **Health and safety implications** : None identified
- 3.6. **Any other implications** : Officers have considered all the implications which members should be aware of. Apart from those listed in the report (above), there are no other implications to take into account.
4. **Section 17 – Crime and Disorder Act**
- 4.1. N/A
5. **Risk Implications/Assessment**
- 5.1. None
6. **Alternative Options**
- 6.1. To leave the existing reporting arrangements in place in the new Joint Agreement, and for the HES to continue to report to NASAC and the Joint Museums Committee on its activities within the ETD directorate.

Recommendation / Action Required

- (i) It is suggested that the Advisory Committee resolves to recommend to the Joint Museums and Archaeology Committee that the meetings of the Advisory Committee be suspended pending changes to reporting arrangements to be agreed between the County and District Councils in a revised Agreement for the Provision of a Joint Museums & Archaeology Service.

Background Papers

None

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

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Report on the Historic Environment Service 2011-12

by the Director of Environment, Transport and Development

Summary

This report provides a report on the work of the Historic Environment Service. HES services and projects all continue to make excellent progress.

Recommendation / Action Required

Members are asked to review and comment on HES activities.

1. **Background - The Historic Environment Service in 2011-12**
- 1.1 2011-12 has proved to be another exciting and very significant year for the provision of historic environment services in Norfolk by Norfolk County Council. The Historic Environment Service (HES) moved from the Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service to the Environment Transport and Development directorate in NCC in late 2010, and the full integration of the former Buildings and Landscapes Team with Norfolk Landscape Archaeology to create the HES has been successfully completed.
- 1.2 The HES is also on track to make the savings required as part of the *Big Conversation* (E18) over the next two years (£240,000), and we continue to review and refocus our activities, to seek new sources of funding, to work more closely with communities on the management of what we now call 'heritage assets' and for the newly-unified service to design and deliver a range of historic environment projects on time and to budget. We do this through partnerships with a wide range of organisations and over the last year we have secured around £275,000 of external funding for work on Norfolk's historic environment.
- 1.3 We have also successfully renewed our Registered Organisation status with the Institute for Archaeologists for 2011-14, as a mark of our ongoing commitment to deliver work of the highest possible quality.
- 1.4 Even in these times of change and uncertainty, we remain confident that our work, services and projects make a real difference to Norfolk and that they will continue to do so. More and more people are getting involved in heritage issues, keeping them active and healthy and providing interest and enjoyment. This is an area of renewed interest and focus for the HES in 2012 with the appointment of a Community Archaeologist, building on our work with communities through the hugely successful *Norfolk Heritage Explorer* and *Norfolk's Coastal Heritage* projects.
- 1.5 The historic environment makes a major contribution to the places where we live, work and play, delivering character, local distinctiveness and sense of place. The buildings, monuments and landscapes around us document our past and, at the same time, signal the inevitability of change. The historic environment also informs and guides future development, heritage-led regeneration, economic development and heritage tourism, so we believe that the historic environment has a place at the heart of both central and local government's strategies for growth, in managing change, protecting the environment, strengthening the economy, delivering localism and promoting health and well-being.

2 **Divestments**

- 2.1 During 2011-12 two heritage assets owned by or leased to Norfolk County Council were transferred to new owners or leases terminated. The gatehouse and medieval earthworks of Burnham Norton Friary have been transferred to the Norfolk Archaeological Trust, as has the Bronze Age burial mound known as Fiddler's Hill at Warham, with an event on site recreating the legend which gives the site its name. Work continues on other heritage assets which, in the longer term, would be more appropriately owned by or managed by other organisations or community groups.

3 **The Norfolk Historic Environment Record**

- 3.1 The Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER) is the definitive record of the county's historic environment. It holds information on 60,000 sites, finds, industrial sites, marine and coastal remains, defences, parks and gardens and historic buildings, and is continually enlarged and enhanced. It is one of the largest and most comprehensive records of its type in the country, and it is in continuous use for planning work, research, education and public interest.
- 3.2 Since October 2011, 537 new monument records have been created along with 738 event records and 1171 source records. The integration of the former Buildings and Landscapes Team's records has continued, with the majority of the photographic print archive now added to the NHER.
- 3.3 In 2011-12, two important areas of enhancement were records of milestones, with 232 records added (and more to follow) by our Bradford student placement, school buildings with 237 additions from the UEA's *Rural Schools Survey*, and enhancement of records of drainage mills in order to provide the Broads Authority with a fuller dataset.
- 3.4 The NHER has benefited greatly from three very regular volunteers who have made great progress with the digitisation of film registers and the reorganisation and repackaging of secondary files and archives. Work on digital archives, digitisation of records and records management is in progress.
- 3.5 In 2011, two 3rd year UEA undergraduates worked part time in the NHER team as part of a placement unit entitled *Working in the Historic Environment*. The main focus of their work was to enhance historic parkland records by integrating detailed surveys carried out by NCC and UEA in the late 1980s and early 1990s.
- 3.6 The award-winning *Norfolk Heritage Explorer* website – the online version of the NHER – continues to attract high numbers of users, with more than 90,000 visitors since March 2007 and up to 140 users a day. We continue to encourage local communities to download and reproduce (in, for example, parish magazines) the user-friendly Parish Summaries, which provide an overview of the historic environment in each of Norfolk's 540 modern civil parishes. Many users also contribute new information to update or enhance our records.
- 3.7 In addition to offering access to over 60,000 records relating to Norfolk's archaeological sites, findspots and historic buildings, the *Heritage Explorer* also offers considerable additional content, including a series of 'how to' guides, galleries of artworks inspired by the historic environment and much more. Now five years old, the website is currently being redesigned and updated to bring it into line with modern internet technology and is due to be relaunched in April 2012. Visitors will be able to enjoy a more user-friendly interface, enhanced search facilities, as well as improved mapping and additional content. See www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk

4 National Mapping Programme Project

- 4.1 The National Mapping Programme (NMP) is an English Heritage-funded project which identifies, maps and interprets archaeological sites visible on aerial photographs, and which aims to inform and facilitate planning, management, preservation and research decisions concerning the historic environment by providing baseline archaeological data, comprising of digital maps, interpretative records and thematic synthesis.
- 4.2 Since 2001, the Norfolk NMP team has mapped nearly 37% of the county, recording 8000 archaeological sites, many of which had not previously been recorded. This has created an archaeological map covering more than 2000 sq km. Sites recorded by the project include Bronze Age burial mounds, Iron Age settlements, Roman villas, ancient field systems, medieval villages and extensive World War Two defences.
- 4.3 The Norfolk NMP team are currently working on a project covering the 'Growth Points' of Norwich, Thetford and the A11 Corridor. In 2011 reports on Norwich and Thetford mapping were completed and can be downloaded from <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/research/landscapes-and-areas/national-mapping-programme/norwich-thetford-a11-corridor-nmp/>
- 4.4 Together, the Norwich and Thetford mapping cover more than 378 sq km, encompassing both the urban centre of each 'Growth Point' and its rural hinterland. The project has identified, mapped and recorded more than 1700 archaeological sites in these areas, an average density of nearly five sites per sq km. Many of the sites recorded are entirely new discoveries, and they range in date from the Neolithic to World War Two. The results of the project are already facilitating planning and development within the 'Growth Point' areas, including work related to the Norwich Northern Distributor Route.
- 4.5 In the Thetford Study Area, a particular highlight has been evidence of the medieval and post medieval landscape at, for example, the deserted medieval settlement at Kilverstone. Another important site is the impressive 'Seven Hills' linear barrow cemetery at Brettenham, where the NMP map compares well with 18th-century depictions of the site.
- 4.6 The initial stages of mapping the A11 Corridor have now commenced in an area southwest of Norwich. The character of the archaeology in this area is markedly different from the environs of Norwich and Thetford. This is a clear reflection of the heavy soils of the Boulder Clay Plateau, with relatively few cropmark sites but a preponderance of medieval moats. Sites relating to probable medieval and post medieval common-edge settlement have also been a notable feature, particularly in the area around Wymondham. Sites surviving as earthworks, at least until recent decades, have also been relatively common; the numerous medieval to post medieval earthworks, and also a World War Two prisoner-of-war camp within Kimberley Park, have been particular highlights.

5 Historic Environment Planning

- 5.1 The Planning Team continues to work with planning and conservation officers in NCC, the District Councils, the Broads Authority and English Heritage to implement Planning Policy Statement 5, and to ensure the continued protection and effective management of the historic environment.
- 5.2 The Historic Environment Planning Team provides information and advice on planning policy and the implications for the historic environment of development proposals to

planners, conservation officers, developers and their agents and consultants engaged in managing change. This includes weekly planning meetings, work on specific consultations and applications, preparing briefs for programmes of work and monitoring contractors' fieldwork and reports.

- 5.3 At the national level, the National Planning Policy Framework which will replace PPS5 in due course is still in draft. It is likely that most if not all of the protection afforded to the historic environment in the PPS will roll forward into the NPPF.
- 5.4 Under the provisions of the Localism Act (2011), parishes are now able to fine tune Local Development Framework development areas through the creation of Neighbourhood Development Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders. Once these are adopted, any measures within the Orders are deemed to have *de facto* planning permission. The exact mechanism of how these will take account of the requirements to manage the historic environment have yet to be finalised. However, the HES has attended two public meetings related to the first two proposed Neighbourhood Development Orders in the county, at Sprowston and Cringleford, which are also amongst the first in the country.
- 5.5 Related to the creation of Neighbourhood Development Orders was the creation of two Local Development Orders as part of the creation of the Great Yarmouth Enterprise Zone. The Historic Environment Service was consulted as part of the process of creating these orders to ensure that they take account of the historic environment.
- 5.6 In July 2011, the HES produced a local guidance document *Parish and Neighbourhood Plans and the Historic Environment in Norfolk*, helping anyone producing a Community-Led Plan, such as a Parish Plan, Village Design Statement, or similar neighbourhood initiative, to take the historic environment into account at an early stage and how they can get advice.
- 5.7 The HES has commented on 428 applications and issued 112 briefs in the period between September 2011 and mid-February 2012. This will make this the busiest year ever and reflects a general upturn in development. 18 of these new cases were in advance of the submission of an application (in line with national planning policy), although there has been a large increase in the number of pre-application advice requests where the HES has not commented (these are not recorded). We continue to comment on Local Development Framework documents as consultations are issued, and these include site allocation consultations from King's Lynn and West Norfolk, South Norfolk and Broadland.
- 5.8 Amongst the many development-led archaeological investigations in 2011, the discovery of a hoard of Middle Bronze Age copper alloy metalwork during an evaluation at Hopton on Sea in September 2011 is especially significant. The hoard, which comprises two torcs, two bracelets and two quoit-headed pins, had been deliberately, possibly ritually, placed in the fill of a ditch. It is potentially the first hoard of its type to have been archaeologically excavated since the 19th century and has been submitted for consideration as Treasure. Further archaeological work is, not unexpectedly, planned at the site.

6 Designation

- 6.1 During 2011-12 the HES has continued to work on the designation of heritage assets and to provide information from the NHER to English Heritage as part of the designation consultation process.
- 6.2 One interesting recent addition is a prohibition (No Entry) sign at Coast Road, Overstrand, dating to 1904-19. The first traffic signs were introduced in the mid 19th

century by the 'Bicycle Union', but it was not until 1904 that local authorities were allowed to erect their own signs. In 1919 the establishment of the Ministry of Transport led to increasing standardisation and, over the years, the gradual removal of any earlier signs. Those that survive today are mostly to be found in museums.

- 6.3 The HES also worked with the Norfolk Archaeological Trust to secure the designation of "Dunston Field" to the west of the Roman town at Caistor St Edmund. The evidence which was presented in support of this to English Heritage included the detailed plot of cropmarks by the National Mapping Programme, and the records of the thousands of finds recorded by the Identification and Recording Service over many decades.
- 6.4 Another designation proposal (in progress) has been the Clement Scott memorial fountain at Cromer. Remarkably, this is the only monument anywhere in Norfolk to Clement Scott and "Poppyland".

7 **Conservation projects and partnerships**

- 7.1 Recent and current conservation projects for the HES, working with and supporting the work of communities, partnerships and trusts to conserve important heritage sites and buildings, all of which will benefit and boost the local economy, include:-

- St Benet's Abbey (Horning) (Norfolk Archaeological Trust)
- Ketteringham icehouse (East Carleton and Ketteringham Parish Council)
- Oxwick church (Colkirk Parochial Church Council)
- Warham, Fiddler's Hill (Norfolk Archaeological Trust)
- Ickburgh Warren Lodge (Friends of Thetford Forest Park)
- Dereham Windmill (Trustees of Dereham Windmill)
- Langham Dome (North Norfolk Historic Buildings Trust)
- St Saviour's church, Surlingham
- Burnham Norton Friary (Norfolk Archaeological Trust)
- Norfolk Milestones (Nigel Ford and the Milestone Society)

- 7.2 The HES continues to deal with the management, maintenance, health and safety and public access to the heritage assets owned by or leased to NCC, especially those iconic windmills and drainage pumps looked after by the Norfolk Windmills Trust. The HES also continues to support the work of the Norfolk Historic Buildings Trust, the Norfolk Churches Trust and the Norfolk Archaeological Trust through participation in projects and specialist advice.

- 7.3 The HES has been working with volunteer Nigel Ford and the Milestone Society on a project to bring the county's milestones into a good state of repair with a Diamond Jubilee year target of restoring sixty milestones during 2012. Fifty of the county's 400+ milestones have been repaired and/or painted to date, including those on the A11 between Norwich and Thetford and the B1108 Norwich to Watton road. The project has involved groups of local school children and has received excellent media coverage.

8 **The Norfolk Monuments Management Project**

- 8.1 The Norfolk Monuments Management Project was established in 1990 to promote the positive management and conservation of Norfolk's most important and best-preserved archaeological sites and ruined buildings. It has been involved with more than 9000 sites, hundreds of the most significant are now under beneficial management, and the project is recognised nationally as a leader in the field of heritage asset management.

8.2 In 2011-12, £30,000 of English Heritage funding was issued in grants to farmers and landowners. Conservation agreements and grants cover land and vegetation management at a number of sites, including the ruined church of St Edmund at Southwood, a specification for the repair of ruins at West Acre Priory, the work of a structural engineer on Castle Acre Priory precinct wall and an interpretation panel at Fiddler's Hill burial mound at Warham.

9 Mills and Pumps (Norfolk Windmills Trust)

9.1 NCC owns or leases 16 mills and continues to work in partnership with the Norfolk Windmills Trust to maintain these properties. In 2011-12 this has included necessary health and safety works, asbestos surveys and fire insurance valuations.

9.2 Following health and safety checks and the implementation of new procedures Old Buckenham mill has now re-opened to the public. The HES is working with the local committee to put together a funding package for new sails.

9.3 At Billingford Mill (near Diss) the millwright has produced a specification for new stocks and sails, and an application for Listed Building Consent will be made shortly. HES is working with the NWT and the local landowner on involving the local community with the intention of fund raising for new sails.

9.4 At Stracey Arm's Mill on the Acle Straight a report on interpretation was commissioned and further work in 2012 will include a questionnaire to collect opinions on the current displays and what visitors would like to see at the site in the future.

9.5 Polkey's and Wicklewood Mills have been painted and major works at St Olave's Mill, following damage in 2007, are complete. Repairs have been completed at Boardman's Mill and repairs to the sails at Wicklewood are nearing completion.

9.6 Polkey's Mill and Reedham Marsh Steam Engine House were open as part of National Mills Weekend and Heritage Open Days in 2011, and 81 people visited this remote location on the River Yare.

10 Community Archaeology

10.1 HES staff represent Norfolk on 24 external committees at national, regional and local levels, present academic papers at conferences, give talks to local groups, publish papers and reports in academic journals, liaise with the media over stories of local and regional interest, lead archaeological tours and walks and support the wider aims and objectives of NCC.

10.2 On average HES staff are involved in at least two outreach activities each week, including local metal-detector club meetings, media interviews, making NCC's own historic buildings and mills accessible, health walks, lectures to local societies and events in community venues, museums and libraries.

10.3 From January 2012, Richard Hoggett took on the new role of Community Archaeologist in order to capitalise on the momentum gained during the Coastal Heritage Project and broaden the scope of this work to encompass the entire county. He will be working with local communities on community-led projects to explore, discover, record, interpret and promote the historic environment.

10.4 Examples of work currently being undertaken with community groups include:-

- Working with the BBC on heritage-themed events linked to the new Michael Wood television series *The Great British Story*.
- The Paston Heritage Society, providing heritage-themed training events for local residents and school children. In May 2012, there is to be a village-wide test-pitting

survey as a part of the Cultural Olympiad.

- Binham Local History Group, who are keen to undertake fieldwalking and geophysical surveys to locate a Roman villa in the parish.
- National Trust volunteers in Sheringham Park who are photographing and monitoring archaeological sites and feeding their results into the NHER.
- The Loddon and District Local History Group, who are keen to undertake a programme of historic building recording and archaeological test pitting.

The West Norfolk and King's Lynn Archaeological Society, with community heritage events culminating in a conference to celebrate 45 years of the society.

- 10.5 From April 2012, the HES will be hosting a one-year Community Archaeology Training Placement. This post is one of just 12 funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and NCC is the only local authority to be awarded a placement. The trainee and the Community Archaeologist will be co-ordinating an intensive series of heritage events throughout the coming year.

11 **Landscape Partnership Projects**

- 11.1 The Landscape Partnerships programme focuses on restoring the built and natural features which create the historic landscape, increasing community participation in local heritage, providing more training activities in local heritage and improving access to and learning about heritage.
- 11.2 The bid in 2011 to the HLF for a Landscape Partnership project for the Broads was, unfortunately, unsuccessful, although much of the valuable work on this project by HES and the Broads Authority will undoubtedly resurface in other bids for smaller projects in 2012, involving the HES, to protect, conserve and promote the Broads' historic and natural environment.
- 11.3 NCC's Environment Team, encompassing both the natural and historic environment, has subsequently been working with the Brecks Partnership, Suffolk County Council, the Breckland Society and many other organisations with an interest in the Brecks to put together a £2m Landscape Partnership bid to the HLF. The application was submitted in February 2012 and the decision will be made in July. HES staff have been part of the project working group preparing the bid, and the HES is likely to be involved in a number of the projects if the project is successful.

12 **Environmental Stewardship**

- 12.1 The HES continues to work with Natural England (NE) and with farmers and landowners and their agents to provide the historic environment content for Environmental Stewardship (ES) schemes. These represent a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to manage the landscape to benefit heritage assets, particularly through Higher Level Stewardship (HLS).
- 12.2 In 2011-12 the HES received over 80 HLS consultations, one of the highest numbers of any county. Along with Suffolk, Norfolk continues to be in the busiest part of the Eastern Region.
- 12.3 As a result of the HES's work many important archaeological sites are under enhanced and beneficial management. Important monuments now managed under ES include Bronze Age burial mounds at Cockley Cley, Necton and Carleton Forehoe, medieval fishponds at Hindringham and medieval moats at Marham, Deopham and Hardingham.

12.4 The HES received additional funding from NE in 2011-12 to enhance the NHER specifically for use in Entry Level Stewardship schemes. To date over 1600 records have been created for NE to import into their database.

13 **Forests and Defence Estates**

13.1 Since the mid 1990s the HES has worked closely with the Forestry Commission (FC) to ensure important historic assets are protected during forestry operations in Thetford Forest and elsewhere. This work ensures important monuments, including burial mounds, features associated with medieval and post medieval rabbit warrens and remnants of World War Two military activities, are treated sensitively during felling, ground preparation and replanting.

13.2 To support the FC's work in the protection of historic assets, HES and FC staff undertake joint site visits, and the HES is represented on the FC's regional Archaeological Liaison Group.

13.3 The HES is also represented on the MoD's Stanford Training Area Conservation Group, meeting twice a year to discuss conservation issues and to ensure that important historic assets are considered in the planning and delivery of military training.

14 **Characterisation**

14.1 Work by the HES for the Greater Norwich Development Partnership has been highlighted as a case study of best practice in an English Heritage guide *Understanding Place: Character and context in local planning* (2011). The guide offers ideas for local authorities, councils and communities on the practical uses of historic characterisation within local and neighbourhood planning using the Greater Norwich Growth Point as an example. This project provides the evidence base for historic character for the Joint Core Strategy for housing growth and jobs in an area where the Regional Spatial Strategy had identified a need for 21,000 new homes. The guide is available at <http://www.helm.org.uk/>

15 **Portable Antiquities**

15.1 In the ten months to the end of January 2012 the Identification and Recording Service for Archaeological Finds and Portable Antiquities Scheme recorded more than 14,000 portable antiquities. Staff paid monthly visits to five metal detector clubs, and liaised with hundreds of individual finders.

15.2 Amongst the many thousands of finds of local, regional and national importance, the following are particularly interesting or significant:-

- Early Bronze Age. An exceptionally large flat axe from Grimston (3602).
- Iron Age. A ring-headed pin from Pentney (50319), the eleventh from Norfolk, with a very sub-regional distribution. There are 10 examples from south-west Norfolk, one from West Rudham and none from the east.
- Roman. A boar figurine from Beetley (56178). Boars are commonly represented in Romano-Gaulish iconography as emblems of ferocity, invincibility, tenacity and strength. However, it is difficult to be sure of its significance in a Roman context and it may be the symbol of a Celtic boar-cult.
- Roman/Early Saxon. A continental Germanic version of a crossbow brooch, or *Bügelknopffibel*, from Alderford. This is the first from Norfolk, and one other is known from the Isle of Wight. Late 4th to early 5th century.

- Early Saxon. Probably imported extraordinary elaborate small-long brooch from Sporle with Palgrave (29403). Early 6th century.
- Early Saxon. Two “new” inhumation cemeteries are suggested by finds at Flitcham with Appleton and Narford.
- Middle Saxon/Late Saxon. A 9th-century strap-end from Colby. One of seven Norfolk finds recorded, this will be discussed, along with twenty other pieces of Carolingian metalwork from England, in a forthcoming paper in the *European Journal of Archaeology*.
- Medieval. A very small and delicate repoussé 14th or 15th-century silver sheet mount, probably from a book cover depicting the Pieta, from Oxborough.
- Medieval. A gilt copper alloy enamelled *casket mount* in the form of robed male figure, a robed priest or saint with a book resting against his left forearm, and his right hand holding the top. This type of figure, which would have been attached to a cross or fixed along with others to an elaborately decorated *chasse* or casket, is known in French as a *poupée* (doll). It was made at Limoges in the late 12th or the first half of the 13th century. From Morley (56195).
- Medieval. A 15th-century gold livery badge in the form of a “Gothic” jousting shield, from Sustead.
- Post-medieval. Henry Prince of Wales hawking vervel, 1610-12, from Cley-next-the-Sea. The badge and inscription refers to Henry Frederick, son of James I and Anne of Denmark. Henry was born in 1594 and created Prince of Wales in 1610. He died of Typhoid fever in 1612.

15.3 Recent numismatic finds include the following:-

- Iron Age. A so-called 'Barley Boar' silver half unit of the Iceni from Foulsham is only the second example recorded of this very rare type. It dates to the second half of the 1st century BC.
- Roman. A *solidus* of Theodosius dating to 388-92 from Hevingham together with three *siliquae* represents a dispersed hoard deposited at some stage in the very late 4th century or very early 5th century.
- Early Saxon. An unknown type of Merovingian *tremissis* from Beachamwell depicting a Roman-style bust on the obverse with a garbled central design of letters has confounded the Early Medieval Corpus at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge.
- Middle Saxon. A hoard of 65 sceattas from Aldborough deposited about 715, the second largest hoard (after Aston Rowant in Oxfordshire) of this rough date.
- Post-medieval. A chopped half of a silver plated Commonwealth half crown forgery with a base core from Postwick attests to how common plated copies of the larger silver denominations were in this period.
- Post-medieval. A hitherto unknown 17th century farthing token issued by Morrow Dobbs of Setchey in 1660 was recently discovered at Sedgford, c.20 km north of Setchey. Morrow Dobbs is listed as being involved in a Tithe agreement dated 1663-9 in a document in the Norfolk Record Office.

16 Heritage Crime

- 16.1 Norfolk is one of the richest areas for archaeological finds, but it is also one of the worst areas in the country for illegal metal detecting according to an English Heritage ‘Nighthawking’ report published in February 2009. In response to this the HES has

reviewed liaison procedures with Norfolk Police, who have had meetings with local metal-detector groups and issued a briefing document to Safer Neighbourhood Teams in those areas where archaeological sites are most at risk from illegal activity.

16.2 Norfolk County Council was also the first authority in Norfolk to sign the Alliance to Reduce Crime against Heritage's *Memorandum of Understanding*, agreeing to work with the police, local communities and the District Councils to:-

- prevent and detect damage caused to the historic environment.
- prevent and detect unlawful excavation and removal of articles from the historic environment.
- prevent and detect architectural theft from the historic environment.

prevent and enforce unlawful alteration and demolition of listed buildings.

16.3 This was followed by a seminar at Reepham, organised by Broadland Council, to encourage other authorities and organisations in Norfolk to join the project. The Historic Environment Record has recently been configured so that information about future heritage crimes can be recorded.

17 **Moving Thetford Forward**

17.1 The HES continues to work with Moving Thetford Forward and Norwich HEART on historic environment planning, conservation and promotion of Thetford's Great Heritage. This has included preparatory work to investigate how the serious erosion scars at Thetford Castle might be repaired, and on interpretation panels for the Iron Age and early Roman site and the findspot of the Thetford Treasure on Gallows Hill. See <http://www.movingthetfordforward.com/>

18 **Coastal Heritage Project**

18.1 Between January 2010 and December 2012 the HES worked with North Norfolk District Council to deliver the community heritage element of the £3m Norfolk Coastal Change Pathfinder programme. The project was developed to inform, engage and empower local communities, allowing them to play an active role in preparing for the impact of coastal erosion on their heritage.

18.2 The project initially worked with the community of Happisburgh, where coastal erosion is particularly extreme, before broadening its focus to work with other coastal communities. Workshops and training sessions were offered on a range of heritage-based research skills, and in the process brought together a group of like-minded individuals who have now founded the Happisburgh Heritage Group to carry on the work. The Project Officer also co-wrote *The Book of Happisburgh*, which incorporates several decades of research undertaken by local historian Mary Trett. This book was published in November 2011 having sold over 400 pre-publication copies and it continues to sell well

18.3 During the course of the project, the Project Officer gave over 30 talks to local groups and in libraries to more than 1500 people. In March 2011, a very successful one-day conference was held in Happisburgh at which invited speakers and members of the local community gave talks about coastal heritage.

19 **Coastal Access Project**

- 19.1 After the passing of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, Natural England are currently engaged in the implementation of the England Coast Path, a new National Trail around all of England's open coast. In Norfolk, this work involves linking up the existing stretches of coast path, and a new path is being planned between Weybourne and Sea Palling.
- 19.2 The HES has been working closely with colleagues in the NCC Countryside Access team and NE to ensure that the heritage assets which lie along the proposed route are identified at an early stage of the route-mapping process with the twofold aim of protecting those assets which are vulnerable to public access and promoting those assets which are of significant interest and importance to the public understanding of the county's coastal heritage.

20 **Coast Alive! Project**

- 20.1 The HES continues to participate in the European Interreg IVB North Sea Region Coast Alive! project, the aim of which is to develop a set of strategies and procedures for promote local paths and outdoor facilities for recreation and fitness.
- 20.2 The HES has designed a methodology for identifying and significance scoring heritage assets in the coastal zone vulnerable to climate change impacts and coastal path use. This has already been used to great effect, and is being shared with European partners, many of whom are interested in adapting and applying the new methodologies developed in Norfolk to their own heritage assets. See <http://coast-alive.eu/>

21 **St Benet's Project**

- 21.1 St Benet's Abbey at Horning, an iconic landmark of the Broads beside the River Bure, was probably founded in Anglo-Saxon times, destroyed by the Vikings and re-founded around AD 1020 as a monastery for Benedictine monks. Uniquely it was never 'dissolved' in the 1530s, and the Bishop of Norwich retains the title of Abbot of St Benet's.
- 21.2 In 2011 the HES worked very closely with the Norfolk Archaeological Trust with its Stage 2 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a project to conserve and open up St Benet's to the public. The project will conserve the upstanding remains, improve physical and intellectual access, provide learning opportunities, encourage participation and the acquisition of new skills, and develop partnerships to conserve and raise awareness of the historic and natural heritage of the Broads. See www.norfarchtrust.org.uk/stbenets/index.htm

22 **Caistor Roman Town Project**

- 22.1 The research project at the Roman town is a partnership between the Norfolk Archaeological Trust, South Norfolk Council, the University of Nottingham, the Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service and NCC. Excavations at the Roman Town of *Venta Icenorum* continued in 2011, with five trenches inside the walled town.
- 22.2 The project continues to provide results which change our understanding of the Roman town. The excavated evidence suggests that the street grid was laid out after AD120, and not in the 70s as once thought. Trenches in the Forum have revealed traces of earlier buildings destroyed by fire around AD140, and evidence that the Forum was rebuilt in the early 300s at a time when other towns appear to be in decline. In

contract, occupation at Caistor seems to have been at its most intense in the 4th century AD, raising interesting questions, as yet unanswered, about the role and status of the town in the late Roman period.

23 World War Two projects

- 23.1 The HES is represented on a NCC project working group looking at WW2 USAAF airfields, as part of the *Eighth in the East* project to celebrate and promote wider awareness of the heritage of the USAAF 8th Air Force and the 70th anniversary of the 'Friendly Invasion' in 1942. An HLF bid is at the Development phase.
- 23.2 The HES continues to work on preparing a 'Your Heritage' bid to the HLF. It will be a community based project to engage local communities in the recording, conservation, management and interpretation of WW2 heritage in Norfolk.
- 23.3 The HES has recently established links with the War Memorials Trust and works with the Trust on any issues concerning war memorials in Norfolk. A memorial at Lenwade on the A1067 was recently dismantled and is being relocated, and the HES made a record of this in its original position beforehand. See <http://www.warmemorials.org/>

24 East Anglian Archaeology Project

- 24.1 *East Anglian Archaeology*, the externally-funded regional monograph series based in HES continues to flourish, with new titles in print and further work in press describing a range of archaeological discoveries in the region; see www.eaareports.org.uk.
- 24.2 Recently published volumes for Norfolk include:-
- a report on the Roman town at Billingford, the site of the largest Roman burial ground excavated in Norfolk, and where evidence has also been found for occupation continuing into the 5th and 6th centuries, after Britain ceased to be part of the Roman Empire
 - a report on the archaeology of the Newland in King's Lynn, where excavations on the site of the Vancouver Centre explored the processes of land reclamation and the gradual building of tenements along the banks of the Purfleet and Broad Street Fleet in the 13th century.
- 24.3 EAA work in press includes:-
- a study of the Roman town at Scole and a nearby Roman temple.
 - an account of the discoveries along the route of the Bacton to King's Lynn gas pipeline. This construction project provided a rare and valuable window on a long transect through the landscape. Twenty-four sites were excavated, including an Early Saxon inhumation cemetery at Tittleshall and settlement of the same date in Foulsham.
 - a study of three Bronze Age weapons hoards from Waterden and Fincham
- 24.4 The HES has also provided the heritage content for NCC's hugely popular *Norfolk Health, Heritage and Biodiversity Walks* project. Twelve booklets have been produced, for Thetford, Aylsham, Cromer and Sheringham, Dereham, Diss and Harleston, Downham Market, Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn, Wymondham, Swaffham, Watton, Wells and Fakenham. See www.countrysideaccess.norfolk.gov.uk/health-walks.aspx
- 24.5 The Regional Research Framework, first developed around ten years ago and recently reviewed and revised, guides the work of the HES and the work that is required through the planning process. The Framework summarises the current state of knowledge and

identifies gaps to be filled by current and future research. It establishes the context in which archaeological work is undertaken so that the justification and research aims and objectives for developer-funded investigations are explicit. See www.eaareports.org.uk. The RRF is to be updated on a regular basis, with supplementary reports detailing significant projects across the region which contribute to the research agenda.

25 **Comments on HES services**

25.1 Here are just a few of the comments from the 2012 HES Open Day as part of the annual *Festival of British Archaeology*, and the BBC's *Dig It* event at the Forum :-

- *I learnt so much today, and it has really whetted my appetite.*
- *Utterly fascinating and hitherto unknown to me.*
- *What incredible collections of data and information. Very interesting. Very enthusiastic staff made it so enjoyable.*
- *This is all fascinating, and there are loads of things for me to follow up.*
- *Thank you so much for making your displays so easy to read*

25.2 And here is a very small sample of the many compliments paid to HES staff during the last year:-

- *I am SO impressed at the speed that consultations are coming back! Difficult to keep up with you!*
- *Thank you so much! We have never received such comprehensive information.*
- *The HER team is clearly hyper efficient, as if I didn't already know that, as I got both my ENF number and HER search within about an hour of asking for them!!*
- *Thank you so much for explaining what is happening. Your knowledge of the archaeology is unsurpassed and you are always such a pleasure to work with and seek advice from.*
- *The feedback has been great. Thanks so much for your time and efforts preparing and delivery a very successful day. There is a bit of buzz about all things old and (until now) forgotten.*
- *This mighty piece of work could not be clearer and it is all a joy to read.*
- *Your lecture on Tuesday was brilliant and one of the best we've had.*
- *Your service is much more straightforward and better organised than another authority in the region.*

26 **Resource Implications**

26.1 Finance : None

26.2 Staff : None

26.3 Property : None

26.4 IT : None

27 **Other Implications**

27.1 Legal Implications : None

- 27.2 Human Rights : None
- 27.3 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) : A full programme of equality impact assessments has been carried out covering all Environment, Transport and Development activities. However, this report is not directly relevant to equality in that it is not making proposals which may have a direct impact on equality of access or outcome.
- 27.4 Communications : None
- 27.5 Health and safety implications : None identified
- 27.6 Any other implications : Officers have considered all the implications which members should be aware of. Apart from those listed in the report (above), there are no other implications to take into account.
- 28 Section 17 – Crime and Disorder Act: None
- 29 Risk Implications/Assessment: None
- 30 Alternative Options : None

Recommendation / Action Required

| Members are asked to review the report and to comment on HES activities.


Background Papers

None

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

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If you need this report in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact 01362 869280 and ask for David Gurney or textphone 0344 800 8011 and we will do our best to help.

Norfolk Archaeological Services Advisory Committee

9 March 2012
Item No. 7

Half-Yearly Report of the Activities of NPS Archaeology

Report by the Archaeology Manager of NPS Archaeology

Summary

This Report describes the work of NPS Archaeology from September 2011 to January 2012 inclusive

1 Introduction

1.1 This work summarised in this report was carried out by NPS Archaeology during five months between March and September 2012.

During this reporting period the organisation was invited to bid for 133 projects of which 106 (71%) were Norfolk projects. We undertook work on 96 new projects during the reporting period and issued reports on 54 projects.

A list of Norfolk projects is shown in Appendix 1 and summaries of some of those projects are presented below in Section 2.

2 Norfolk Projects

2.1 Harvey House, West Lynn, Norfolk

The site is located close to the River Great Ouse and archaeological remains associated with medieval salt production have previously been identified to the north. A single evaluation trench was excavated to the north of Harvey House in which were recorded no features or artefacts of archaeological significance. However a sequence of clay and silt deposits to a depth of 1.10m below current ground level were revealed, the banded appearance of one of these sediments indicating that flooding had occurred at some unidentified point in the past..

The absence of archaeological remains might in part be explained by the evaluated site lying away from the focus of medieval activity which was perhaps centred to the north of the site on a watercourse draining into the Great Ouse.

2.2 Greyfriars House, Birch Tree Close, King's Lynn

The site is located within the historic core of the town and three evaluation trenches were arrayed across the development area. Due to the depths of deposits at the site each trench required shoring.

The evaluation revealed the earliest deposits at the site were of natural origin, consisting of alluvial silts and clays over 2m in depth. These were shown to be present across the site and had been deposited by the River Gaywood which runs close to the north of the

site. It is possible that the deposition of these sediments resulted from environmental changes and human impact in the environs of the town and its wider setting.

The earliest datable human activity at the site was a pit containing a small assemblage of tile and pottery of 13th- to 14th-century date. No other significant archaeological remains were revealed by the evaluation suggesting human activity at the site was limited in extent, density and period.

Though activity at the site was limited, the naturally-derived sediments at the site provided an informative record of past environmental conditions. The waterlogged nature of the site meant that anaerobic conditions conducive to preservation of organic remains were identified. There was no visible indication of contamination in the evaluated areas and little indication of later disturbance by modern activity.

2.3 The Lodge, Manor Road, North Wootton

Archaeological excavation was conducted ahead of the construction of a new house as previous evaluation had revealed evidence of Roman iron working on or close to the site and excavation of the adjacent plot had revealed further iron working evidence.

This excavation confirmed the results of both the evaluation and earlier excavation by recording fairly extensive evidence for Roman iron working in the form of large quantities of iron working waste. However, only one Roman feature was present, an east-west ditch that ran across the entire site; no evidence for any structures was recorded in this excavation, or the earlier works. It would seem that the excavation area was located on the northern limit of the Roman activity and that the main focus of iron working and any associated settlement would have been to the south of the site.

Two medieval or post-medieval ditches ran north-south along the west edge of the excavation and they may have been former boundary ditches to the plot, which have been since replaced by the modern boundary. A number of medieval and/or post-medieval pits, which may have been small-scale gravel extraction pits, were present in the west half of the excavation and these cut both the Roman and later ditches.

A small amount of prehistoric material was also recovered during the excavation

2.4 Blakes Farm, Felthorpe

A Strip Map and Sample Excavation carried out on land at Blake's Farm, Felthorpe, Norfolk revealed a series of archaeological features including a small concentration of Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age pits and a single pit of early Bronze Age date. The pottery assemblage included sherds from at least two later Neolithic early Bronze Age Beakers and five sherds from an undecorated early Bronze Age vessel (perhaps an urn). The deposition of the Beaker pottery indicates occupation of the period i.e. the fragmentary and incomplete

assemblage is typical of non-funerary deposits in the region.

Three long narrow ditches were located to the south of Blake's Farm, two of which have been tentatively dated to the prehistoric period. IN addition there was an undated small enclosure adjacent to Reepham Road and a post-medieval ditch in the same location as the parish boundary.

2.5 Former Pontins Holiday Camp, Hemsby

Trial trench evaluation of this site revealed preserved archaeological remains of wide ranging date - Early Neolithic to 20th-century date.

Four of the ten trenches opened contained archaeological remains. One trench contained evidence of Early Neolithic and Second World War activity, one had remains of Saxon date, Early Neolithic, Roman and medieval evidence was recovered from a third and the fourth contained an undated fire pit.

The Early Neolithic flint flakes came from two features and the topsoil in one trench whilst a post-hole in another trench contained single-side flint scrapers. Iron Age or earlier pottery was also present.

Despite some artefacts being recovered from features it is not certain that these finds can be confidently used to date the features and the finds may have been intrusive or residual. Many of the finds were from lateral deposits which also contained artefacts from prehistoric through to Saxon date but in no discernable stratigraphic sequence. Similar deposits have been observed in comparable circumstances on the landward side of dunes at Caister-on-Sea where undifferentiated layers contain a range of artefacts from prehistoric to medieval date - although at Caister the finds were in a broad stratigraphic sequence.

The area appears to have been levelled or landscaped at some point in the 20th century as evidenced by the presence of a shallow turf and topsoil immediately above truncated features.

2.6 Thetford Academy site

Evaluation at the former Rosemary Musker School on Croxton Road, Thetford revealed a small number of archaeological features consisting mostly of ditches, as well as a post-medieval post-hole, a possible quarry pit of perhaps 17th-century date and features of probable natural origin.

The most significant archaeological features were six ditches, three of which lay in the west of the site with the remainder broadly in the centre of the evaluated area. They all appeared to share approximate north-south alignments. It proved difficult to assign even a broad date range to these features; the only artefacts recovered being two iron objects. It is considered possible and indeed likely that these ditches represent more than one period of activity. Based on appearance and location some at least might date to the late prehistoric period, and it is suggested that all had been supplanted by enclosure in the 18th to 19th centuries.

Archaeological remains would seem to be present at the western end of the evaluated area on higher ground (c.40mOD) though features here had also been truncated by agricultural activity. Overall very few artefacts were recovered with no indication that organic remains might be present.

The paucity and character of remains and the likely previous land use hints at the site having been used historically as heath or similar rough grazing.

2.7 Former Festival Amusements, Wells-next-the Sea

An archaeological evaluation was conducted in a site on the quayside in the core of the medieval town.

A brick and beach pebble surface dating to between the 14th and 15th centuries was recorded. This external yard/thoroughfare had been truncated by a flint cobble and brick wall possibly associated with a late 16th-century merchant's house which adjoined the site.

Walls and floors of a warehouse of probable 17th-century date which had been built on the site were recorded. The lowering of the floor level of this building had resulted in the truncation of much of any earlier archaeological features or deposits which may have survived there.

The warehouse underwent a major programme of re-modelling in the early 20th century before being converted into an amusement arcade.

3 Contracts

3.1 During the reporting period NPS Archaeology produced 133 Written Schemes of investigation and fee proposals for potential projects. This total is made up of Excavation (15), Evaluation (44), Watching Brief (43), Fieldwalking (1) Historic Building Recording (3), Geophysics (4), Other (14). The remaining project bids were made up of Desk-based Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment/ Heritage Statements (9).

A total of 106 (71%) of the 133 projects were Norfolk-based.

The appointment rate for projects in the last five months is 55% of the tender bids submitted.

We undertook work on 96 new projects during the reporting period of which 70 (73%) were Norfolk projects.)

4 Post-excavation, Publication and Reports

4.1 Fifty-four reports were issued between September 2011 and January 2012 inclusive (Appendix 2) of which 39 (72%) are reports on sites in Norfolk.

5 Outreach

5.1 A community excavation has taken place at Thorpe Langley School where pupils of all ages had the opportunity to have hands on

experience of archaeological excavation and discovered Roman evidence. The work was devised by Lilly Hodges who is currently studying part-time for an MA in Community Archaeology. The school is keen to develop the project further – perhaps as an after school club.

Negotiations to set up other community excavation projects are underway with several interested groups.

6. Staffing

6.1 Recruitment for new staff took place in the autumn and Mick Boyle (Project Officer), Rachel Cruse (Project Assistant) and Rob Brown (Project Assistant) were appointed.

Lilly Hodges has been promoted to Assistant Project Officer.

Michelle Bull is on maternity leave.

The number of staff currently employed is 19.

7 Resource Implications

7.1 None

8 Other Implications

8.1 None

9 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

9.1 There are no EqIA risk areas

10 Any other implications

10.1 There are no other implications to take into account

11 Section 17 – Crime and Disorder Act

11.1 Not applicable

12 Risk Implications/Assessment

12.1 None

13 Recommendation

13.1 That this report be noted

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Appendix 1

Projects undertaken between September 2011 and January 2012 (inclusive)

Norfolk		
Project Name	Type	District
Attleborough, Land at Honeysuckle Way	EVAL	Breckland
Aylmerton S101a	EVAL/WB	North Norfolk
Brancaster, Sundowner House	EXC	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Burgh Castle, Welcome Pit	DBA	Great Yarmouth
Burgh Castle Test Pitting	WB	Great Yarmouth
Caister on Sea, 20 Roman Way	WB	Great Yarmouth
Colney Woodland Burial Park Extension	WB	South Norfolk
Coltishall, Land off Scottow Road	EVAL	Broadland
Cringleford, Cantley Lane	EVAL	South Norfolk
Dickleburgh Norwich Road	GEO	South Norfolk
Drayton, Canham's Hills Cemetery	EVAL	Broadland
Felthorpe, Blakes Farm	SMS	Broadland
Feltwell, Red Lodge Garage, Lodge Road	WB	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Gayton, 2 Church Farm Cottage, Mill End	ASSESS	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Gayton, Wells Wondy Lane	WB	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Great Ellingham Parish church	WB	Breckland
Great Yarmouth, Greyfriars Lighthouse	WB	Great Yarmouth
Happisburgh Beach Road Sewer Diversion	WB	North Norfolk
Hardingham site	WB	Breckland
Hardingham, St George's Church	WB	Breckland
Hemsby, Former Pontins Holiday Centre	EVAL	Great Yarmouth
Hethersett, St Remigius Church	WB	South Norfolk
Hillington Highway Depot	EVAL	K Lynn and W Norfolk
King's Lynn, College of West Anglia	WB	K Lynn and W Norfolk
King's Lynn, 47 Gayton Road	WB	K Lynn and W Norfolk
King's Lynn, Greyfriars	WB	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Langley, Thorpe House Prep School	EVAL	South Norfolk
Lingwood Primary School	EVAL	Broadland
Loddon to Ditchingham pipeline	EVAL/WB	South Norfolk
Long Stratton, A140 Link Sewer	WB	South Norfolk
Longham Quarry 2011	EXC	Breckland
Marlingford, High House Farm' Colton	GEO	South Norfolk
Morley Primary School	WB	South Norfolk
Morley St Botolph, Manor Farm	WB	South Norfolk
Narborough, Chalk Lane	GEO	Breckland
Narborough, Chalk Lane	EVAL	Breckland
Necton, proposed substation	DBA	Breckland
North Walsham, Wood View, Skeyton Rd	EVAL	North Norfolk
North Wootton, Plot 1, Manor Road	EXC	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Norwich, Berners St.	WB	Norwich
Norwich, Bishopsgate, Great Hospital,	HBR/EVAL	Norwich
Norwich, The Canary PH, Watling Rd	WB	Norwich
Norwich Cathedral Close fire hydrant	WB	Norwich

Norfolk		
Project Name	Type	District
Norwich Cathedral Replacement Gas Main	WB	Norwich
Norwich, Dereham Road Bus Transit Lane	WB	Norwich
Norwich, Family Life Centre, Heartsease Rd	EVAL	Norwich
Norwich, Land off Griffin Lane,	DBA	Norwich
Norwich, Land adj to Pigg Lane/Palace St	WB	Norwich
Norwich, 75-81 Pottergate,	EXC	Norwich
Norwich, 197 Queens Rd.	WB	Norwich
Norwich St Stephens church	WB	Norwich
Norwich, Westlegate Tower	WB	Norwich
Pentney Abbey Gatehouse	EVAL	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Rollsby Parish Church	WB	Great Yarmouth
Salhouse, All Saints Church	WB	Broadland
Snettisham, Park Farm	WB	K Lynn and W Norfolk
St Olaves, Bridge Close	WB	Great Yarmouth
St Olaves Priory/Creake Abbey Int panels	WB	Great Yarmouth
Stoke Ferry, Bridge Road	WB	K Lynn and W Norfolk
Swanton Morley-East Dereham Water Main	WB	Breckland
Thetford Academy site	EVAL	Breckland
Thetford, Queensway Infant School	EXC	Breckland
Thetford, Redcastle,	WB	Breckland
Tibenham, All Saints Church	WB	South Norfolk
Trowse, Deal Ground	EVAL	South Norfolk
Wells-next-the-Sea, Festival Amusements	EVAL	North Norfolk
Wymondham High School	Consultancy	South Norfolk
Wymondham, Land N. of Norwich Common	EXC	South Norfolk

Other Counties	
Project Name	Type
Wimblington, Land adj to 3 Eastwood End, Cambs	EVAL
Mildenhall, St Johns Close, Suffolk	EVAL
Harrowby to Easton Watermain, Lincs	GEO
Benhall to Snape Mains Scheme, Suffolk	WB
Aldeburgh, Britten Pears Library, Suffolk	EVAL
Aldeburgh, Britten Pears Library, Suffolk	EXC
Bardwell, Spring Road, Suffolk	EXC
Barrow, The Green, Suffolk	DBA
Barrow, Clarkes Farm, North Lincs	DBA
Bourn, Bourn Hall, Cambs	WB
Bury PZ Water Main, Suffolk	DBA
Campsea Ashe, Ash Road, Suffolk	HBR
Clacton, St John's, Essex	EXC
Corton, St Winifreds, Yarmouth Road, Suffolk	WB
East Bergholt, B1070 Mains replacement, Suffolk	WB
Gisleham, 58 Pinbush Road Suffolk	EVAL
Gisleham, South Lowestoft Industrial Est, Suffolk	EVAL
Icklingham Mains Replacement, Suffolk	EVAL
Ipswich, St Mary at Quay Church, Suffolk	EVAL
Little Oakley rising Main Replacement, Suffolk	EVAL/WB
London, St Barts Private Patients Unit	ASSESS
Long Melford, Reservoir-Bull Lane pipeline Suffolk	EVAL/WB
Murrow, Back Road, Cambs	EVAL
Soham, Land at the Shade, Cambs	DBA
Stretton PS and RM Scheme, Rutland	GEO
Stretton PS and RM Scheme, Rutland	EVAL
Wickham Market, Parma site, High St, Suffolk	DBA
Whittlesey, Burdett Nurseries, Cambs	EVAL

ASSESS = Assessment; **AUPD** = Assessment and Updated Project Design; **EIS** Environmental Impact Statement; **EVAL** = Evaluation; **EXC** = Excavation; **FS/MD** = Fieldwalking/Metal-detecting Survey; **GEO** = Geophysical Survey; **HBR** = Historic Building Recording; **HS** = Heritage Statement; **SP** Statement of Potential; **SREP**; Specialist Report; **WB** = Watching Brief; **WS** = Window Sampling

Appendix 2

Reports issued between September 2011 and January 2012 inclusive

Norfolk Reports		
No.	Title	Type
2195	197 Queens Road, Norwich	ASSESS
2452	St Remigius' Church, Hethersett	WB
2589	47 Gayton Rd, King's Lynn	WB
2619	St George's Church, Hardingham	WB
2661	Brandon Road/Canterbury Way, Thetford	WB
2666	All Saints' Church, Tibenham	WB
2671	Jolly Sailor Yard, Wells-next-the-Sea	AUPD
2677	Stone Cottage, West Caister	WB
2710	Kings House, Surrey St, Norwich	WB
2722	Land at Honeysuckle Way & Carver's Lane, Attleborough	EVAL
2739	Wells Wondy Lane, Gayton	WB
2745	Ouse Lane, Hickling	WB
2751	St James' Church, Great Ellingham	WB
2757	Land South of Norwich Common, Wymondham	EVAL
2768	Land off Norwich Road, Dickleburgh	FS/MD
2775	Blake's Farm, Felthorpe	AUPD
2778	Canhams Hill, Reepham Road, Drayton, Norfolk	EVAL
2783	Former Canary Public House, 107 Watling Road, Norwich	WB
2784	Plot 1, The Lodge, Manor Road, North Wootton	AUPD
2785	Former Pontins Holiday Camp, Hemsby	EVAL
2789	Family Life Church, Heartsease Lane, Norwich	EVAL
2820	Abbey House, Church Green, West Acre	ASSESS
2827a	Thetford Academy, Croxton Road, Thetford (I),	EVAL
2827b	Thetford Academy, Croxton Road, Thetford (II)	EVAL
2837	Yarmouth Road, Norwich	EVAL
2860	Red Lodge Garage, Lodge Road, Feltwell	WB
2875	Busseys, Bedding Lane, Norwich	WB
2879	Chalk Lane, Narborough	EVAL
2885	Land Off Wood View, Skeyton Road, North Walsham	EVAL
2888	Geotechnical Sampling at Welcome Pit, Burgh Castle	WB
2889	All Saints' Church, Salhouse	WB
2902	Land off Scottow Road, Coltishall	EVAL
2904	Easton Quarry, Longdell Hills, Easton	AUPD
2908	2 Church Farm Cottages, Mill End, Gayton	ASSESS
2909	Festival Amusements, Wells-next-the-Sea	EVAL
2930	Welcome Pit, Burgh Castle	DBA
2935	Dudgeon Wind Farm New Substation Site, Necton	DBA
PA07_2 5650T	Harvey House, 50 Ferry Road, West Lynn, Norfolk	EVAL
PA07_2 5649T	Greyfriars House, Birch Tree Close, Kings Lynn, Norfolk	EVAL

Other Counties' Reports		
No.	Title	Type
2370	Land South-west of 3 Eastwood End, Wimblington, Cambs	EXC
2737	14 Market Place, March, Cambridgeshire	EVAL
2776	Sth Lowestoft Ind. Est., Hadenham Road, Gisleham, Suffolk	EVAL
2811	High Street, Wickham Market, Suffolk	DBA
2813	Land adjacent to The Green, Bury Road, Barrow, Suffolk	DBA
2814	Back Road, Murrow, Cambridgeshire	EVAL
2831	Barnham Cross to Little Whelnetham Reservoir Pipeline	DBA
2836	Haverhill Football Club, Hamlet Croft, Haverhill, Suffolk	DBA
2842	Former Goods Shed, Campsea Ashe, Suffolk	HBR
2852	Bourn Hall, Bourn, Cambridgeshire	WB
2873	58 Pinbush Road, Gisleham, Lowestoft, Suffolk	EVAL
2910	St Winifreds, Yarmouth Road, Corton, Suffolk	WB
2923a	Former Burdett Nurseries, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire	DBA
2923b	Former Burdett Nurseries, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire.	EVAL
2946	St Bartholomew's Hospital Private Patients' Unit, London	IA

ASSESS = Assessment; **AUPD** = Assessment and Updated Project Design; **EIS** Environmental Impact Statement; **EVAL** = Evaluation; **EXC** = Excavation; **FS/MD** = Fieldwalking/Metal-detecting Survey; **GEO** = Geophysical Survey; **HBR** = Historic Building Recording; **HS** = Heritage Statement; **IA** = Impact Assessment **SP** Statement of Potential; **SREP**; Specialist Report; **WB** = Watching Brief; **WS** = Window Sampling

**Report to Norfolk Archaeological Services Advisory
Committee
9 March 2012
Item No 8**

**Half-Year Report of the Archaeology Department,
Norwich Castle Museum and Art Gallery,
October 2011- March 2012**

Report by Head of Museums and Archaeology

Summary

This report reviews and provides information about the range of duties and activities undertaken by Norwich Castle Archaeology Department, which is part of the Curatorial and Collections Management Section of Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service.

1. The Archaeology Department, October 2011 to March 2012

- 1.1 The Archaeology Department, comprising Dr John Davies (Chief Curator), Dr Tim Pestell and Alan West (part-time) have undertaken a broad range of activities and collections management, while working on specific individual projects, which are outlined in this report.
- 1.2 In addition to the core staff, the Department benefits from the contributions of specialist Honorary Research Associates. Alongside Dr Peter Robins (lithics) and Faye Kalloniatis (Ancient Egyptian collection - section 8), Dr Harriet Foster has recently joined the team in this voluntary capacity. Dr Foster is a specialist in the field of ancient glass and will be working on aspects of the post-Roman glass collection.
- 1.3 Other long-term volunteers continue to work on aspects of the collection, archives, accessioning and documentation enhancement. William Wallis, a Cambridge Classics graduate, is currently an intern for a full year, while undertaking a Choral Scholarship at Norwich Cathedral.

2. Collections management and Office Moves

- 2.1 Current priorities within NMAS include the movement of the Costume and Textile collections and services from Carrow House to the Shirehall. In order to accommodate the additional material, a substantial reorganisation of the building has been undertaken, which

involves all existing staff. Significant work has been undertaken during the period to move Archaeology offices, stores, books and records within the Shirehall. Staff have benefited from the contribution of volunteers for this purpose.

- 2.2 Due to pressure of space in the county stores, considerable work is also being undertaken to scrutinise collections and centralise bulk material at Gressenhall. Where appropriate, collections are also being designated for rationalisation.
- 2.3 The Curatorial Department is now combined with the Collections Management team (documentation, Registrar and Conservation) within a new reporting structure, which will provide benefits through closer daily working.
- 2.4 The movement of collections and records, as part of the reorganisation of space within the Shirehall complex, has provided the opportunity for the improved organisation of Department stores and records.
- 2.5 The contribution of interns within the Department has resulted in significant progress in accessioning old material and supplementing existing records and for identifying material for disposal and rationalisation.

3. Treasure Act and Acquisitions

- 3.1 The Department continues to monitor Treasure cases, working in conjunction with staff from the Identification and Recording Service. This scrutiny is still ensuring that the best and most archaeologically significant items being discovered in the county are being acquired.
- 3.2 Last year (2011) saw a small rise in the number of Treasure cases recorded in Norfolk, with a total of 79, up from the low of 67 in 2010 and on a par with the 80 found in 2009. 2012 looks set to be another bumper year, with 26 cases already recorded by mid-February.
- 3.3 A number of important acquisitions have been made in the last six months, aided by the Department's funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund's *'Collecting Cultures'* scheme – the only such grant awarded to an archaeological project in Britain. The scheme has enabled the following acquisitions to be made:
 - coins of Edmund – the last king of East Anglia (AD 855-870)
 - a gold solidus (Roman coin) of the Emperor Theodosius I, struck at Milan between AD 378 and 387
 - a rare penny of King Athelstan, King of East Anglia between AD 825 and 845
 - a rare *patrix* die depicting the Anglo-Saxon god woden

- 3.4 Other funding bodies have also been approached. These have enabled the acquisition of:
- an important collection of Iron Age and Bronze Age metalwork items and coins from the internationally important site at Snettisham in west Norfolk
 - a rare Anglo-Saxon silver disc brooch
- 3.5 Members of the public also occasionally make important gifts to the collection. These have been:
- a silver animal-headed hanging bowl escutcheon of the Anglo-Saxon period, probably made in Ireland and found at Deopham
 - a collection of Anglo-Saxon objects found at Caistor St Edmund

4. Loans

- 4.1 The Archaeology Department continues to be actively involved in assisting other museums with loans for exhibitions. The status of the collections both nationally and internationally, is reflected in the regular and frequent requests for loans. During the last six months, the Department has worked towards providing loans for the following:
- Roman glass and pewter drinking and eating vessels to Colchester Castle Museum for an exhibition on buried treasure.
 - Anglo-Saxon material, including the Balthild matrix, was loaned to Sutton Hoo for their annual summer exhibition.
 - Anglo-Saxon material to Peterborough Museum for a display about the Vikings, for summer 2012.
- 4.2 The Department is planning to receive a loan display of the Dallinghoo (Suffolk) hoard of Icenian gold coins.

5. Castle Museum displays

- 5.1 The '**Norwich Castle: Gateway to Medieval England**' project continues. The plan is bring together some of the outstanding collections from London and Norwich in major new displays at Norwich Castle. Plans continue to be developed by the project team and preparations are being made for a series of evaluation workshops.
- 5.2 The 'Recent Finds Case' in the *Anglo-Saxon and Viking Gallery* has been renewed, allowing the presentation of newly acquired material.

6. The Norman Connections Project

- 6.1 Establishment of the Norman Connections project was reported in the previous report to NASAC. Funding has been secured from the Interreg IVa France (Channel) – England Programme for the project which will

last until December 2013. The project is based on a partnership between Norwich Castle and Colchester Castle, Rochester Castle, Hastings Castle, Caen Castle, Falaise Castle, Bayeux Tapestry Centre, Calvados Tourism Department. The objective is to explore and develop some of the historical, intellectual and physical links between our historic sites, relating to the Norman period.

- 6.2 Initial work within this project is geared towards developing a fuller understanding of Norwich Castle's historic and architectural background in order to inform future improvements in the display and interpretation. For this purpose, staff are working on an international conference to be held in Norwich in May 2012, at which scholars from France and England will give presentations related to castles and the Norman world (section 10 below).
- 6.3 Work on new displays will be developed following the conference, discussion with partners and feedback from the public.

7. Norwich Castle Study Centre

- 7.1 The Department continues to invest time to support researchers who request to study the outstanding Designated collections.
- 7.2 Researchers and students have continued to visit the Study Centre from across Britain and the world. Collections studied during the last six months include:

Prehistoric

Iron Age coins
Middle Palaeolithic handaxes
Bronze Age metalwork
Bronze Age spearheads
The Snettisham collection
The Lynford site archive

Anglo-Saxon objects

Spong Hill glass beads
Bracteates

Medieval objects

Items associated with arms and warfare

Ancient Egyptian objects

The shroud
X-rays of Ankh Hor
Ceramics
The wooden mummy tablet
Cunieform tablets

Archives

Boardman papers

Frederick Ringer Japanese collection

Jewry material

- 7.3 Researchers on the collections have come from the following institutions:

From institutions within the United Kingdom

- University of Durham
- University of Cambridge
- University of East Anglia
- University of Manchester
- University of Southampton
- University of Nottingham
- University of Cardiff
- University of London
- British Museum

From institutions Worldwide

- Humboldt University, Berlin, **Germany**
- Nagasaki Institute of Applied Science, **Japan**
- The Totenbuch Projekt, Bonn, **Germany**
- Falaise Castle, **France**

8. The Egyptian Collection Project

- 8.1 The Honorary Research Associate, Faye Kalloniatis, has continued to work on this project. She is currently undertaking the preparation of a catalogue of the Egyptian collection. In addition, the following work has been undertaken.

8.2 *The Norwich Shroud*

Although the conservation of the shroud has been completed, great interest continues. Dr Marcus Mueller, from the *Totenbuch Projekt* based in Bonn, visited Norwich to view the shroud. This was preparatory to including it on the international database. Dr Mueller is also carrying our research into the shroud and will report his findings in a talk later this year. He has already presented information about the shroud to a variety of groups in Germany, where news of the shroud has been received with excitement. As he reports:

I presented a paper... I have shown the Norwich shroud on one slide and the audience were astonished and a ripple of voices ran through the audience.

Forthcoming events relating to the shroud include:

- a seminar at Cambridge University (February)
- A presentation at Norwich Castle to MA students (March)

- a study day at Norwich Castle (April)
- 2 further publications

8.3 *The Castle Mummies*

In order to facilitate the first ever full programme of photography on the two Castle mummies, they were removed from the gallery in December and detailed images were taken. The collections database (MODES) have been greatly enhanced. The Research Associate is currently organising an X-ray archive of the mummies and animals (a hawk, cat, ibis and crocodile) to ensure that images are available for future use and are properly stored to conservation standard. The X-rays will also become part of an international archive database (based in Canada), which has been established to assist comparable research into collections worldwide.

8.4 *Research*

The Egyptian collection continues to be made available to researchers.

- Dr Sian Thomas (Cambridge University), a specialist in demotic texts, has examined the wooden mummy tablet.
- Dr Eleanor Robson (Cambridge University) has identified two of the cuneiform tablets and is currently working on a translation.
- The Research Associate continues to work on the history of the Norwich Castle collection and the artefacts themselves. This is part of the ongoing work which will contribute to the publication of a full catalogue.

9. **Education, Outreach and Media**

9.1 Members of the Department have given the following presentations:

- John Davies 'The Land of the Iceni', for Downham Markey Heritage Society, December.
- John Davies 'Boudica: Her Life, Times and Legacy', to Cringleford Historical Society, February.
- Tim Pestell 'Monasteries in Norfolk', to Ludham Archives Group.

9.2 Dr Tim Pestell visited Sedgeford to assist with filming for a forthcoming documentary by Michael Wood, on the origins of English villages, making use of the NMAS collections, including an Anglo-Saxon urn found in the village.

9.3 The Department has assisted with filming for a new BBC2 programme on human evolution. The site archive from the site at Lynford Quarry provides a unique insight into the environment 60,000 years ago – the world of the Neanderthals. Filming at Gressenhall involved Dr Danielle Schreve of Royal Holloway College (University of London) and Dr David Waterhouse (NMAS Curator of Natural History).

10. Conferences

- 10.1 An international conference on the theme of '**Norman Castles**' is being developed and will be held at Norwich Castle on 17-18 May 2012, involving contributions from prominent scholars in England and Normandy. The conference will embrace the theme of castles, from their earth and timber beginnings to the magnificent stone keeps associated with the Normans today, while showcasing new research into key Norman sites in England and Normandy. Reflecting on Norman period architecture and artefacts, the conference will also look towards new approaches in museum presentation. Twenty prominent scholars from France and Britain will participate in the programme over two full days.
- 10.2 A special study day '**The Funerary Practices and Beliefs of Ancient Egypt**' has been organised for 28 April, to be held at Norwich Castle, in conjunction with the *Egypt Exploration Society*. The event will detail the latest research into the shroud of Ipu (section 8.2 above), which was recently unravelled at the British Museum after being in store at Norwich Castle since the 1920s. Speakers will include Dr Marcus Mueller from Bonn, Dr John Taylor from the British Museum and Research Associate Faye Kalloniatis.
- 10.3 Staff are planning an additional conference on the subject of '**Oral History in Archaeology**'. Based on a pioneering project being piloted in the Archaeology Department, this symposium is being provisionally scheduled for autumn 2012 or Spring 2013.

11. Publications and Committees

- 11.1 The following publications have been completed:
- The volume '*The Iron Age in Northern East Anglia: New Work in the Land of the Iceni*', edited by John Davies, was published at the end of December.
 - Faye Kalloniatis has published a paper, 'The shroud of Ipu at Norwich Castle Museum', in *Egyptian Archaeology*, 39 (2011), pp 15-17.
- 11.2 Staff are currently undertaking the following writings for publication:
- John Davies and Tim Pestell are writing a history of Norfolk through 100 objects, for *The History Press*.

- Tim Pestell has completed a chapter reassessing pagan belief in Anglo-Saxon Norfolk, for the forthcoming book 'Art of Faith' conference volume, for the *Boydell Press*.
 - Tim Pestell is writing a chapter on Viking settlement in Norfolk for a forthcoming volume on East Anglia and the North Sea World, to be published by the *Boydell Press*.
- 11.3 Tim Pestell continues to serve on the Bury St Edmunds Cathedral Fabric Advisory Committee, and the Council of the Norfolk & Norwich Archaeological Society, and continues to sit on the Department of Culture, Media and Sport *Treasure Valuation Committee*.
- 11.4 Tim Pestell undertakes the role of Curatorial Advisor for the 100th Bomb Group Memorial Museum at Thorpe Abbots, south Norfolk.

12. Metal-detecting liaison

- 12.1 Members of the Archaeology Department continue to have an active relationship with metal-detecting in the county. Tim Pestell has attended metal-detector club meetings and worked alongside staff from the Finds Identification and Recording Service at these events. Staff also contribute specialist reports on objects for finders and for the HER.

13. Recommendation

- 13.1 Recommendation - that the report be noted.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

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