

# *Rutland Record 27*

*Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society*



# Rutland Local History & Record Society

The Society is formed from the union in June 1991 of the Rutland Local History Society, founded in the 1930s, and the Rutland Record Society, founded in 1979. In May 1993, the Rutland Field Research Group for Archaeology & History, founded in 1971, also amalgamated with the Society.

The Society is a Registered Charity, and its aim is the advancement of the education of the public in all aspects of the history of the ancient County of Rutland and its immediate area.

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*No 27 (for 2007)*

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*Front cover illustration: Hills west of Uppingham, from Wardley Hill*  
*(J Judd, Geology of Rutland (1875), pl. IV)*

*Back cover illustration: Aerial view of Wardley Hill (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947)*

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## Obituary: G H Boyle

If one name should stand above the rest in the history of the Friends of the Rutland County Museum and of the former Rutland Record Society, one of the antecedents of the Rutland Local History & Record Society, it is that of George Hamilton Boyle, who died on 27th April 2007. For twenty years, from 1973 to 1993, George ('Geordie') Boyle was President of the Friends of the Museum, having succeeded Col Tom Haywood in that office; upon his relinquishing the Presidency he was presented with a silver salver and a painting by Alan Oliver, and appointed Patron. In 1978 he hosted a meeting at Bisbrooke Hall, his family home, attended by a small group including Prince Yuri Galitzine, Bryan Matthews, Edward Baines and Tim Clough, which led to the formation of the Rutland Record Society; at its first AGM in May 1979 he was elected President of that organisation too, an office he held until 1998. His simultaneous tenure of these two posts fairly reflects his enthusiastic support for the Rutland County Museum and the heritage organisations closely associated with it, support which continued, albeit at a distance, when he and his wife Alatheia (*née de Lisle*) went to live in their much-loved rural retreat at Bruas near the village of Nozières in the Ardèche département of France. The Patron's message then became a regular feature of the Friends' AGM, and he always made a point of calling into the museum on his visits to Bisbrooke.

George Boyle was someone who valued highly the traditional institutions of county and country life, proud to have been High Sheriff of Rutland in 1964, High Sheriff of Leicestershire and Rutland in 1976, and then a Deputy Lieutenant of Rutland, and proud too to see one of his three sons, Robert, follow in his footsteps as High Sheriff. It was largely due to his influence that the tenth and twentieth anniversaries of the Rutland County Museum were graced by return visits from HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, who had opened the museum in 1969.

Family connections, amongst which were the earldoms of Cork and Orrery, were a constant fascination, particularly those of the Boyle family, which included the famous Robert Boyle. He also maintained a keen interest in the history of the Leicestershire Yeomanry – it was his maternal grandfather Lt Col P C Evans-Freke, commanding officer of the regiment, who fell with many others at the battle of Frezenberg on 13th May 1915 – and he gladly allowed the museum to use extracts from diaries and an album of watercolours, reflecting the regiment's activities during the last South African war, when it opened its (now dismantled) Volunteer Soldier gallery – an event attended by his mother, then in her nineties.

Mr Boyle was a kind and thoughtful man who quietly offered support and encouragement when he perceived it might be needed, either on a personal level or to promote the interests of the Friends or the Record Society or indeed the museum itself. He was not one to stand on ceremony: annual general meetings would be enthusiastically dispatched with commendable speed (though not necessarily, it must be said, without a little quiet prompting from the Honorary Secretary to ensure that Minutes were signed and procedures duly followed!).

He was also a practical man – someone who farmed his estate and maintained its woodlands, added a Great Hall to Bisbrooke Hall and played the organ he had installed there. He was a capable woodworker, too, but perhaps most notably he was an expert at tapestry, patiently completing a faithful scale replica of the renowned Lady and the Unicorn tapestry from the Cluny Museum in Paris; another similarly ambitious project remains unfinished.

Sadly, the Boyles' retirement was marred when Alatheia became ill and had to move to hospital in nearby Lamastre, where she survived him; his final years were spent largely in the company of his Labrador, Baguette, who always gave those fortunate enough to seek out this corner of France a warm welcome.

Many in the Friends of the Rutland County Museum and the Rutland Local History & Record Society remember George Boyle with grateful affection. The success of both societies owes much to his unswerving support of their interests.

### Notes on Contributors

**Tim Clough** was Curator of the Rutland County Museum from 1974 to 2002. He is the Society's Honorary Editor, and has written and edited many works on local history, archaeology and numismatics.

**Robin Jenkins**, a member of the committee of the Rutland Local History & Record Society, has been on the staff of the Record Office for twenty-one years, since 1990 as Keeper of Archives.

**Elaine Jones** studied archaeology at the University of Leicester and has worked for the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS). She has led field walking surveys in Rutland since 1985 and in 2007 published *The Oakham Parish Field Walking Survey – archaeology on the ploughland of Rutland* in addition to several articles for Rutland Record.

**John Wales** is a semi-retired consultant physician with a lifelong interest in railways.

The contents of *Rutland Record* reflect the views of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Society or its Editor.

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## Rutland passes muster: aspects of the Militia

ROBIN JENKINS

*The history of the militia, the citizen soldiery and for many years the only British military force raised by compulsion, stretches back over a thousand years. This*

*brief summary of the history of the Rutland Militia attempts to link that long history to the few documents that survive.*

The principal exhibition at the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland in the autumn of 2007 was a survey of the militia in the two counties. This was prompted by the 250th anniversary in this year of the Militia Act, a measure which began a much needed reform of Britain's reserve and auxiliary forces.

The notion of a militia – a citizen soldiery as opposed to a regular army – dates back, of course, to before the Norman Conquest. In 1558, the old Anglo-Saxon idea was dusted off and revived. Suddenly, every able-bodied man in Rutland aged from 16 to 60 found himself liable to be called up. Moreover, for the first time, arms and equipment were specified according to a man's wealth, varying from those with an income below £10 (who were to provide for one lightly armoured bowman or halberdier) to a magnate worth in excess of £1,000 (who was required to keep equipment for six armoured *demi-lances* and ten light horsemen, as well as a small army of foot soldiers, arrayed with pikes and polearms, bows and harquebuses).

In the same year, Parliament passed an *Acte for the taking of Musters*, which required the gathering of each county's militia for inspection and training. In 1573 the system was further refined with the creation of the 'trained band', a select group of militiamen to be '*tried, armed and weaponed, and so conveniently taught and trained*'.

The earliest Rutland document exhibited at the Record Office dates from 1640 and shows the county's response to the king's demands for troops to serve against the Scots. In a small paper booklet the names of militiamen are recorded, by hundred and parish, with a letter in the right margin indicating their 'Arme' ('C' for corslet, the armour of a pikeman, or 'M' for musketeer) and a 'P' on the left showing that they were 'present' or perhaps even that they 'passed muster' (Fig. 1).

Despite a keenness by both sides at the start of the Civil War in 1642 to control militia arms and men, the century that followed was one of decline for the militia. The Commonwealth militia was economical, efficient and active but it did not survive the Restoration. The militia thereafter was neglected

and generally unequal to the few demands put upon it. Attacks by the Dutch in the 1660s and 1670s, as well as the invasions of the Duke of Monmouth in

Parish	Name	Arme
Dunham	James Smith	C
	Robert Dutton	C
	William Gibson	C
P.	Richard Dutton and	
	John Mbbey	M
Dunham	Robert Dutton	C
	Thomas Rowson	C
Dunham magna	Anthony Dutton	M
	William Dutton	M
Castleton	Henry Sharp	M
	John Dutton	C
Dunham	Wm. Wright	C
	William Shipley	M
Dunham	Robert Brightman	C
	John Ballist and	
Dunham	James Dutton	M
	Robert Dutton	M
Dunham	Paul Dutton	M
	Robert Dutton	M
Dunham	Robert Claitor	C
	William Claitor	C
Dunham	John Manning	C
	Mrs. Dutton and	
Dunham	M. Dutton	C
	William Dutton	C
Dunham	John	M
	Henry Dutton and	
Dunham	Thomas Dutton	M

Fig. 1. Militiamen of Rutland's East Hundred in 1640 (ROLLR DE 3214/270/10).

1685 and Jacobites in 1715, 1719 and 1745-46 all showed the importance of regular troops and the weaknesses of the militia.

The stage was set for the reforms of 1757 and an *Act for the better ordering of the Militia*. The legislation of the 1750s (several Acts were required before the 'well-ordered and well-disciplined Militia' that they prescribed could be created) set the new militia upon a firm footing.

Each county was to raise a regiment, varying in size according to population. In Rutland the regiment was to be of 120 men, raised from men aged

between 18 and 50. Each parish was then made responsible for finding men to fill that quota, according to its size. Uniquely amongst British armed forces, militia service was compulsory, militiamen being chosen by lot where there were insufficient volunteers. There was to be annual training and, in time of danger, mobilisation or embodiment which would last as long as the threat.

Rutland's militia seems to have been completed for service by 1759. It consisted of only two companies, with a headquarters at Oakham. Much of the remainder of the eighteenth century was spent at war with the French (and their allies) and so the Rutland Militia was more often embodied than not: garrisoning coastal defences, guarding enemy prisoners, and training in the great camps at Warley and Coxheath. Their movements are fully charted in Major C A Markham's *The History of the Northamptonshire & Rutland Militia* published in 1924.

The Act of 1757 proved to be a godsend for nature's bureaucrats (and by extension her archivists and historians) as well as for advocates of the militia. Every stage of a militiaman's service was as dominated by paper as it was by pipe clay or gunpowder.

The process began with the orders to the (Lord) Lieutenant to embody his regiment. His clerk would then issue notices and, in each parish, the constable would compile a list of all the able-bodied men, from which the recruits would be drawn by lot. Alas, none of these 'ballot lists' appear to have survived for Rutland (only one exists in Leicestershire) although some counties are fortunate enough to have complete lists – for example in Northamptonshire, where some are even published (Hatley 1973). It may be that the lists were cut up as part of the balloting and so perished as the result of the very process for which they were created.

A list of the men drawn for the militia would then be created, forming the basis of the muster rolls by which the paymaster would confirm attendance at the muster. Sadly (again) the only one of these muster rolls that appears to be extant locally is in private hands (though there are others at the National Archives). However, Rutland's 'Militia Roll, 1779-1783', said to be in the possession of a Dr J Perkins, was published as a transcription (Perkins 1979) and is accessible at the Record Office. The roll lists the militiamen, their parishes and occupations.

Nor would the storm of paper stop there. At the parish level work had just begun. The dependants of absent militiamen had to be cared for, generating settlement examination certificates and (where something went wrong) reams of ill-tempered correspondence.

On 17th March 1779 John Carter, a private of the

Rutland Militia, was examined by William Burton of Oakham, one of the county's magistrates but also Major Commandant of the regiment (Markham 1924, 206). Though Burton's purpose is unclear, and potentially there was some conflict of interest, it may have been to ascertain which parish was to bear the cost of Carter's family whilst he was away. Two others were also questioned, and all three examinations survive amongst Oakham's parish records (ROLLR DE 2694/459-461) (Fig. 2). Carter's case

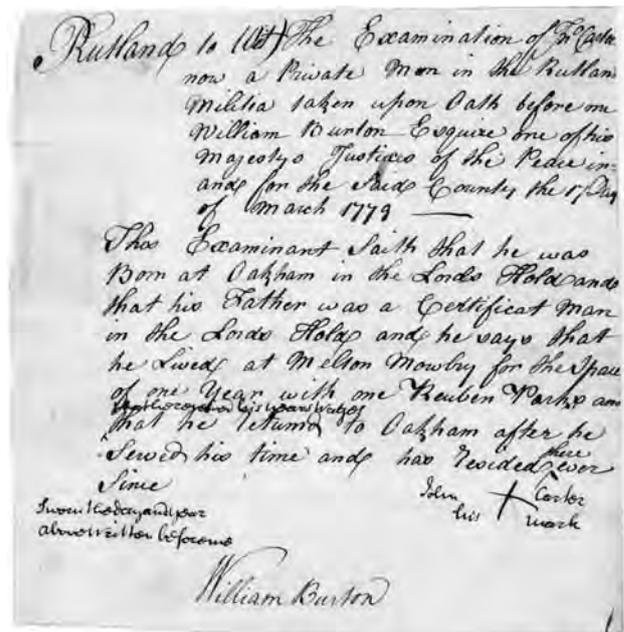


Fig. 2. Major Burton's examination of Private John Carter in 1779 (ROLLR DE 2694/460).

was reasonably straightforward. He was born in Oakham, in the 'Lords Hold', where his father was a 'Certificat man.' He had lived with one Reuben Parks at Melton Mowbray for a year but having served his time and received his year's wages he had come home to Oakham.

The whole process was complicated by another feature of the 1757 Act: the widespread practice of substitution. Whilst selection by ballot was inescapable, two loopholes had been left open for the reluctant militiaman. Anyone anxious not to serve (and there were many) could pay a fine of £10 or hire a substitute to serve in his stead. A glance at the 1779 Militia roll shows how widespread this was – of the 207 names, at least 70 are substitutes from outside Rutland.

Many people were able to pay the fine or hire a substitute by themselves. The notice of Gerard Noel's selection by ballot to serve (by virtue of his London property) in the Middlesex Militia survives amongst the Exton Mss. Although his response does not, little imagination is required to know what it was. Groups of the well-to-do and sometimes even parishes would organise subscriptions, on the

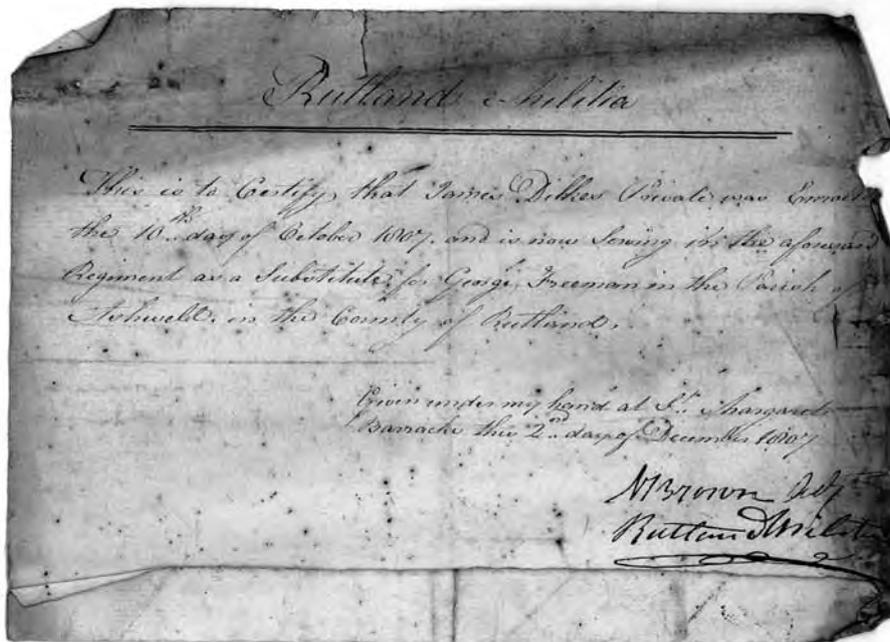


Fig. 3. Certificate dated 10th October 1807 showing that Private James Dilkes was serving in the Militia as substitute for George Freeman of Ashwell (ROLLR 23D52/12/2/1).

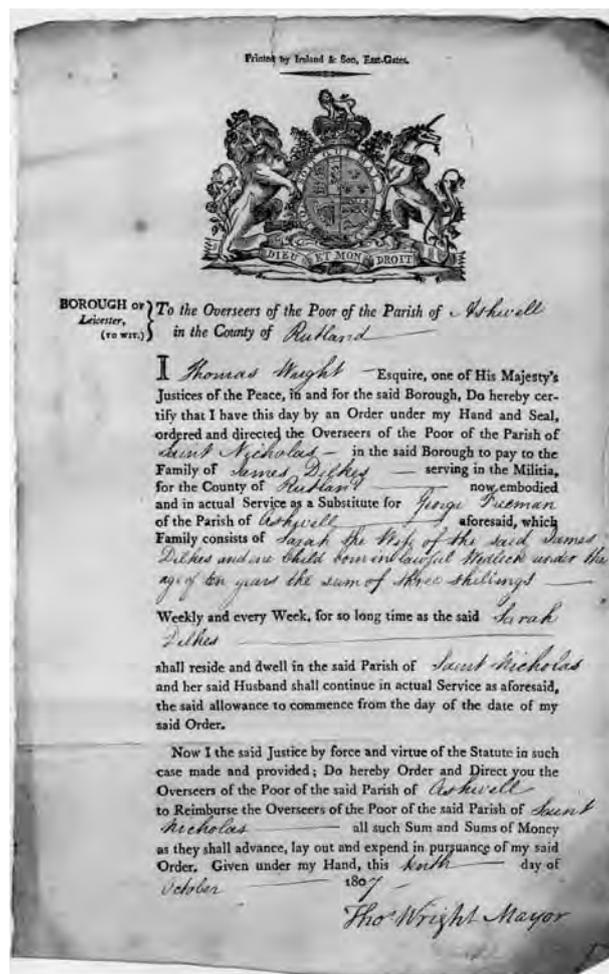


Fig. 4. Order dated 10th October 1807 to the Overseers of the Poor of Ashwell to reimburse the Overseers of St Nicholas, Leicester, three shillings a week for the family of Sarah Dilkes so long as James Dilkes serves as a militia substitute (ROLLR 23D52/12/2/2).

insurance principle, to pay for substitutes in case one of their number was balloted. It is intriguing that in a notice printed by the *Leicester Journal* on 8th April 1803, of fifteen Rutland Militiamen noted as deserters (having failed to appear at the General Muster in Oakham) only one – Robert Blessit of Seaton – was a native of the county.

One of the two other Rutland Militiamen quizzed by William Burton JP in 1779 was William Simpson. This was a tougher case than John Carter's, as Simpson was a native of Barsby in Leicestershire who had been apprenticed in Syston and employed subsequently in two Leicester parishes. There is no doubt that Simpson was serving as a substitute.

Substitution provided work for the regiment too. No dutiful overseer of the poor would pay out relief without proof of a claimant's rights. The parish chest at Leicester St Nicholas was therefore crammed with certificates – including one issued by the adjutant of the Rutland Militia at Deal in Kent, certifying that James Dilkes (presumably of Leicester St Nicholas) was enrolled on 10th October 1807 as a substitute for George Freeman, of Ashwell (ROLLR 23D52/12/2/2/1) (Figs. 3-4).

Raising men for the militia may have been a local responsibility; arming, clothing and equipping it was shared with national government. Here again

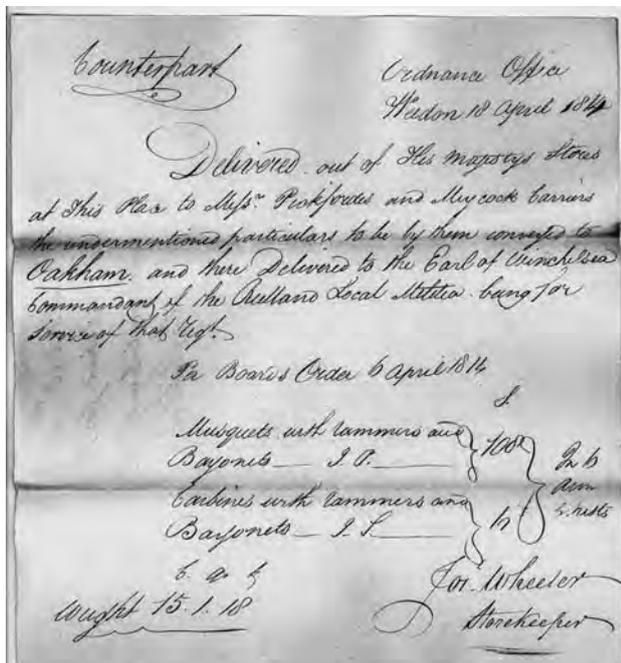


Fig. 5. Delivery note for 'musquets' and carbines supplied to the Rutland Militia on 18th April 1814 (ROLLR DG7/Rut/5/6/1).

(thankfully for us) was work for the paper mills. The papers of George Finch, Earl of Winchelsea and Lord Lieutenant of Rutland, are a marvellously rich vein of information about the administration of the militia.

There are seven bundles of returns and correspondence, covering the period from 1794 to 1826 (ROLLR DG7/Rut5/1/1-7). Much of the information concerns pay and other financial matters. The appearance of the Rutland Militia is well documented too, with a series of returns of clothing and accoutrements held in store for the regiment and receipts for arms issued from and returned to the Ordnance depot at Weedon, Northants (Fig. 5).

A picture of the Rutland regiment can be built up. In 1813 for example, 'new Grey Cloth Trowsers and Half Gaiters' were authorised by Lord Sidmouth to replace the old breeches – regular army cut-offs it seems – previously worn. In 1816, the French wars over, the storekeeper general reported that he had



Figs. 6 and 7. A Rutland Militia officer's coatee button, c1830-55 (RCM 1993.21.1), and an other rank's scroll cap badge for an undress Balmoral cap, c1850-60 (RCM 1991.33).

enough clothing and equipment to re-embody the regiment as required. From this itemised list we can readily visualise the Rutland militiaman: his plumed cap topping a head held erect by a stock and clasp, with a yellow-faced red jacket and frilled shirt above those gaitered grey 'trowsers'. One or two later items survive in the Rutland County Museum (Figs. 6-7).

The correspondence of the 1820s takes us back to the pre-war days of economy and decline. By 1820 the total establishment had shrunk to 83 (and three of those were 'casualties'). The following year Winchelsea was advised to arrange the annual training period 'that it may not terminate on any Sunday, as a considerable expence will then be avoided'. In 1826 Colonel Pierrepont submitted his return of permanent staff (himself, a second lieutenant, 2 sergeants, 2 corporals and a drummer) (Fig. 8) with a rather pitiful note that he had neither paymaster nor agent (no replacement having been appointed since the death of Mr Prestage 'which took place at the end of the war'), that he would soon have no adjutant due to the cancellation of a commission, and that a local 'professional man' acted as surgeon 'at a small allowance', the late surgeon, who had remained on the establishment without pay, having been appointed to another regiment (ROLLR DG7/Rut5/2/6).

(Snodin, Printer, Oakham.)

**Monthly Return of the Non-Commissioned Officers of the  
Rutland Militia.** 1<sup>st</sup> April 1826

HEAD QUARTERS.		SERGEANTS.	CORPORALS.	DRUMMERS.
	Present at Head Quarters.	1	2	1
<i>Oakham</i>	On leave of Absence.	1	1	1
	Total Effective.	2	2	1

Officers

Names	Rank	Residence	Remarks
<i>Mr. Pierpont</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Col</i>	<i>Ryhall</i>	
<i>J Bird</i>	<i>Adjutant &amp; Paymaster</i>	<i>Weymouth</i>	<i>Weymouth</i>
<i>Pos L Tomlin</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut</i>	<i>Weymouth</i>	<i>Weymouth</i>
			<i>Weymouth</i>

Fig. 8. Monthly return of the Officers and NCOs of the Rutland Militia, 1st April 1826, compiled by J Bird, Adjutant and Paymaster (ROLLR DG7/Rut/5/1/2/7).

The Rutland Militia was not embodied again after 1815 until further reforms revitalised the reserve forces in 1852. There followed a brief flurry of activity and interest. Some men even volunteered for foreign service (which had never been the intention for the militia) at the height of the Crimean War in 1855. In 1860, however, the regiment was amalgamated with the Northamptonshire Militia, the resignations of Captain the Hon H Noel and Lieutenant Edward Costall, in February 1861, signalling the end of the county's military independence.

Further reforms, in 1881 and 1908, were to create a far more professional and efficient force than the

militia had ever been. Nevertheless, thousands of Rutland men had served when needed – and been ready to repel invasion had it ever come. There was a brief revival of the militia in 1939, when the term was used for the first batch of conscripts, but the great days of the 'Constitutional Force', that source of trained reserves and supposed guardian against a dictatorial royal army, were over. Undoubtedly the militia had its weaknesses – but we would do well to recall George III's characterisation of it as 'a never failing resource on every occasion of difficulty and danger'.

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# Railways in Rutland

The Bryan Matthews Lecture, delivered to the Society on 21st April 2005

JOHN WALES

*This paper explores the development of railways in Rutland. The Welland Valley line from Market Harborough to Peterborough, opened in the early 1850s, followed by the Midland route from Kettering to Nottingham, crossing the Harringworth Viaduct in 1880, are described. The importance of these lines and their links with established trunk routes is discussed, and their historical role for the transport of goods and passengers*

*in a rural and agricultural community explored. Although most of the lines no longer exist, they have left their imprint on the landscape. The old Midland line, however, remains and is pressed into use for freight and diverted passenger trains, as well as the occasional steam-hauled special. Another section deals with motive power. The conservative nature of railway timetabling over the years is illustrated.*

## Introduction

The re-establishment of Rutland as an independent local authority in 1997 acknowledged the unique nature of this geographical area, previously the smallest county in England. Despite its small size it straddled an important collection of railways, many of which disappeared after the implementation of the Beeching review of railways in 1963. Rutland was traversed by important cross-country lines, which were developed early in railway history and which came to link, geographically if not functionally, important trunk lines radiating from London.

The Welland Valley line passed through Rutland between Market Harborough and Peterborough, and consequently linked what became the Midland main line from St Pancras with the East Coast main line from King's Cross. The Welland Valley line also connected with the unique Great Northern and North Western joint venture which passed north-south near the western edge of Rutland, so linking the coal-fields of Nottingham with the West Coast main line at Rugby. Further, important connections were established between Syston in Leicestershire and Peterborough.

## Early history

Railways initially developed as private ventures linking important centres, and were originally conceived for the fast transport of goods – fast, that is, by comparison with road or indeed canal transport. Each railway required an Act of Parliament and capital subscription, and many were fiercely opposed by landowners across whose land the proposed line of rails would travel. An example is the Syston & Peterborough Railway, conceived in the early 1830s and finally completed throughout in the late 1840s.

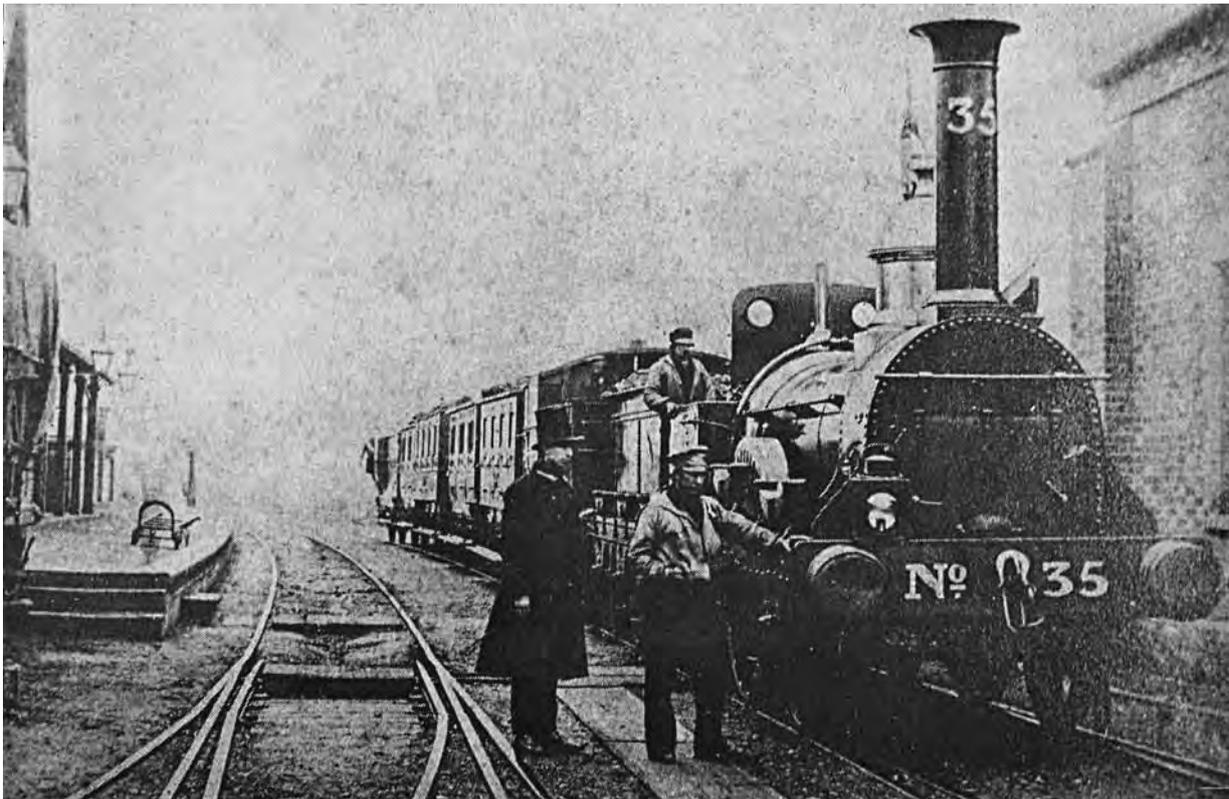
In the 1840s and 1850s, these independent railways became grafted onto established trunk lines to form part of railways whose names were to become household words by the end of the nineteenth century.

There are a few interesting literary associations, too. For example, 'Mugby Junction', described by Dickens in *Christmas Stories* (1866), is widely thought to have been inspired by Clifton Mill Junction at Rugby, the junction between the western end of the Welland Valley line and the London & Birmingham Railway, one of the earliest trunk lines in the country (Jowett 1989, 85).

## Early development

Perhaps the earliest line to have implications for Rutland's railways was that from Blisworth, Northamptonshire, on the London & Birmingham main line, to Peterborough via Northampton, which finally opened completely on 2nd June 1845. A large party of London & Birmingham directors and friends attended the formal opening on 31st May, exciting Herapath's *Railway Journal* to one of its Editor's characteristically peevish comments. No invitation had been extended to that journal for the opening of the line, causing him to refer to those friends thus: '...we have not the honour to be in their number, and therefore cannot speak of the beauties of the Line, nor of the good things they enjoyed' (Davies & Grant 1975, 167). In 1846 the London & Birmingham Railway was amalgamated with the Grand Junction Railway and the Manchester & Birmingham Railway to form the London & North Western Railway (9 & 10 Vic., cap 204, 16th July 1846). The London & North Western in later years modestly described itself as the premier line, and photographs of the track bed show immaculately maintained track and ballast. The capital subscribed from the constituent companies amounted to £13.2 million.

The west end of the Welland Valley line was now secured at Rugby's Clifton Mill Junction. From here, a single line of rails was laid towards Market Harborough, reaching there on 1st May 1850. The line was extended as double track to Rockingham, which was reached on 1st June 1850, and finally



*Fig. 1. An early 2-2-2 built for the London & North Western railway heading a train to Rugby at Market Harborough, about 1860*

extended to join the hitherto Syston & Peterborough Railway, now completed, at Luffenham Junction on 2nd June 1851. By this time the Syston & Peterborough Railway had become part of the Midland Railway, which at the date of its incorporation (10th May 1844) was the largest railway in England under a single management structure. A glance at a map will show that this is not the shortest route to Peterborough, and on 1st November 1879 the Seaton to Wansford cut-off was opened to passengers, the junction being made with the original line from Northampton to Peterborough, referred to above, just west of Wansford Tunnel at Yarwell Junction. The line was now complete between the West Coast main line at Rugby and the East Coast main line at Peterborough, though not yet in its final form. Although frequently stated in the standard texts, the Seaton to Luffenham branch was not relegated to single track straightaway. Preston Hendry has produced convincing evidence that the line remained double for some time, and when plans were issued for a station at Morcott in September 1898, it was for a double-track station. It seems that the line was not finally singled until 1907, some years after this could easily have been justified (Hendry & Hendry 1982, *sv* Morcott).

Although strictly outside the county, the Great Northern and North Western joint line should be mentioned, because it leaves the Welland Valley line

between Market Harborough and Rockingham. In 1872, the Great Northern Railway obtained an Act for a line from Newark in Nottinghamshire to Marefield to the south of Melton Mowbray. A planned extension to Leicester was deleted in the House of Lords. The Great Northern then joined with the London & North Western Railway to extend the line to Market Harborough and also to revive the Marefield to Leicester branch. Triangular junctions were laid out at Marefield and also at Hallaton. Stations were opened at Ashley & Weston on the Welland Valley line and at Medbourne on the limb extending from Hallaton to the Welland Valley. The Great Northern and North Western joint line ran from Welham Junction a few miles east of Market Harborough via Hallaton and Marefield to a junction at Stathern, north of Melton Mowbray, splitting at that junction into one branch to Newark, on the East Coast main line, and another gaining access to Nottingham with what became the Nottingham London Road Low Level station. The Newark line opened as far as Melton from Stathern on 30th June 1879 and was then completed to link at Welham Junction with the Welland Valley line on 15th December 1879. Finally, the branch from Marefield Junction to the Great Northern station at Leicester Belgrave Road was opened on 1st January 1883. This was an extensive and ambitious project which probably never fulfilled its builders' expectations,



*Fig. 2. An Ivatt 2-6-2 tank photographed at Uppingham, 2nd June 1951*

but it did provide interesting possibilities through its links with the Welland Valley line.

The last branch line to be constructed was the London & North Western's  $3\frac{3}{4}$  mile Uppingham branch (Fig. 2). Uppingham's famous headmaster, Edward Thring, had first made a note in 1860 that a railway was being discussed but it was seen that

Manton station served the school's purposes adequately at that time (Leleux 1976, 108). The branch from Seaton was opened to the public on 1st October 1894. Uppingham School specials at the beginning and end of term continued until the 1960s.

The last part of Rutland's complex of railways was the Midland line from Glendon South Junction



*Fig. 3. The Welland or Harringworth Viaduct with 'Jubilee' No 45627, 'Sierra Leone', crossing the viaduct with the 3.15 pm from St Pancras to Bradford Forster Square*

near Kettering to Nottingham via Manton Junction, Oakham and Melton Mowbray. It passed over the Harringworth Viaduct (Fig. 3), sometimes incorrectly thought to be the longest viaduct in the country. This honour rightly belongs to the London and Greenwich railway, the first railway in London, built on a viaduct 3¾ miles long and opened in December 1836. However, at 1,275 yards, the Harringworth Viaduct is the longest viaduct across a valley in Britain (Marshall 1972, 106). The line was opened through-out for goods on 1st November 1879. Through passenger trains from St Pancras to Nottingham and the north followed on 1st June 1880. Leaving aside the very short section of the Great Northern line from King's Cross, which clipped the eastern boundary of Rutland, and a line from Bourne in Lincolnshire to Essendine which opened in May 1860, preceded by what became a short branch line from Essendine to Stamford, the county's railway system was now complete. The exclusion of Stamford as a station on the main east coast route arose from the initial opposition of the 2nd Marquess of Exeter, which stemmed from his political affiliations as an opponent of the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1847 and the impact this would have on his seat if Stamford were to become an industrial town. He relented later, and the branch line from Essendine to Stamford East station opened on 1st November 1856 (Leleux 1976, 203).

In summary, there was a major north-south route completing a useful alternative Midland route to the north, via Oakham, Melton Mowbray and Nottingham, rejoining the original main line at Trent Junction. The Welland Valley line connected the

East Coast main line at Peterborough with the West Coast route to the north at Rugby. It passed under the new Midland route at Harringworth Viaduct and crossed the old Midland main line at Market Harborough on its way to Rugby.

Only the north-south Midland line now remains after the cutbacks in the 1960s. It still provides a link with Kettering over the Harringworth Viaduct and is used at the moment as a relief and freight line. From Manton Junction, the line also continues east via Stamford to Peterborough, now forming part of an extensive cross-country service between Liverpool, Birmingham, Norwich and Cambridge, as well as Stansted Airport.

Although all the other lines have now disappeared, many of the bridges, earthworks and station buildings still exist, notably at Seaton and Rockingham. Rockingham is an interesting station because it clearly served Caldecott rather than Rockingham, though Rockingham was considered a more important centre in the middle of the nineteenth century, especially as it boasted a castle. The buildings and adjoining inn are still clearly visible at the point where the track crosses Rockingham Road (Figs. 4, 5 and 6). The original station building was to be a 'lodge'; subsequently a more substantial building was erected, although the cost of construction was reduced from £180 to £150 (Moore 1998, 108). Would that such buildings were available at this price today!

Apart from Rockingham station, walking the Welland Valley line towards Seaton reveals several bridges, carrying the railway either over water or under roads. At Seaton, the station buildings and a



*Fig. 4. Rockingham Station in 1952 (National Railway Museum)*



*Fig. 5. Rockingham station before the First World War*



*Fig. 6. Rockingham station in 2003 (author)*

footbridge are clearly identifiable and there is, of course, a magnificent view of Harringworth Viaduct. Many of Rutland's railway bridges were photographed by Sterndale Bennett of Uppingham School during the Second World War as part of his Home Guard activities, and his annotated photographs are now in the Rutland County Museum.

Railways were much affected by the extraordinary developments of the twentieth century, not least by the two World Wars. By 1918 there were

approximately 123 independent railway companies, of which the Great Northern, the Midland and the London & North Western formed a very important trio. However, in 1923 the great amalgamation of all these companies took place and the London & North Western became part of the London, Midland & Scottish Railway (LMS). Other major constituents of the LMS included the Midland Railway, the Caledonian Railway, the Glasgow & South Western Railway and the Highland Railway, but not the

Great Northern which became part of the London & North Eastern Railway. Its influence in Rutland was marginal geographically although of paramount importance historically: we have seen that the eastern-most corner of Rutland was crossed by the East Coast main line, at Essendine, and it was just north of this that the world speed record for steam traction was set in 1938.

As the twentieth century progressed, the Second World War was followed by a further period of financial devastation which was one of the major factors leading to the nationalisation of railways in 1948. The lines in Rutland became part of the Midland Region of British Railways, although by 1964 the Midland line from Luffenham entered the Eastern Region between Luffenham Junction and Ketton & Collyweston station. The Welland Valley line entered Eastern Region territory as it passed under Harringworth Viaduct.

### **Motive power**

The earliest photographic record I can trace of motive power on the Welland Valley line relates to a London & North Western 2-2-2 photographed in the original Market Harborough North Western station as it was about to depart for Rugby, having come off the Welland Valley line (Fig. 1). The records show that this locomotive was delivered to the Southern Division of the London & North Western Railway by Sharp Bros, Manchester, on 8th December 1847 (Jack 2001, 71). At the time of the photograph, the new Market Harborough station had not been built, so the old station was shared with the newly opened (1857) Leicester & Hitchin railway, which was incorporated into the Midland Railway. The engine was rebuilt in 1860 and was withdrawn from service in April 1874.

It is interesting to note that motive power on a particular railway often owed its origins to the parent company. Locomotives which had been allocated to express passenger working in the pre-grouping companies found their way onto secondary and branch lines. This was not necessarily a good idea, since they tended to be uneconomical in the use of coal although capable of a fair turn of speed. Stirling singles from the Great Northern Railway would therefore find their way onto the Welland Valley line on the way from Leicester to Peterborough, and certainly the famous North Western Jumbo 2-4-0s were to be found on the Nottingham to Northampton trains. These engines had performed so spectacularly in the 1895 races to Scotland when the East Coast and West Coast main lines competed to arrive first in Aberdeen, having left respectively King's Cross and Euston in London. Other early twentieth-century locomotives, the Prince of Wales 4-6-0s, Precursors, and George V 4-4-0s, could be seen on through trains. There are records of

a Prince of Wales or a superheated Precursor coming down through Theddingworth at 76 mph prior to joining the Welland Valley line at Market Harborough. Later on, the ubiquitous Stannier Class 5 4-6-0, one of a class numbering 842, would be found on the Welland Valley line. They were great travellers and could be found as far north as Wick and as far south as Bournemouth. Freight would be handled by the very powerful ex-London & North Western 7F 0-8-0s. For more local traffic, the Ivatt 2-6-2 tanks and their descendants, the standard class tanks with the same wheel arrangement, could be found (Fig. 2). A curious interloper was the 4-4-2 tank which worked the Uppingham branch and originated on the London, Tilbury & Southend railway, heading commuter trains on that line.

The main line over the Harringworth Viaduct saw a profusion of ex-LMS express passenger engines, including Jubilees (Fig. 3) and rebuilt Royal Scots. Standard class 4 & 5 4-6-0s were also to be found, and freight certainly attracted the very powerful standard 9F locomotives, and the Stannier 8F 2-8-0s.

Finally, of course, Rutland had its moment of glory in July 1938 when Mallard, having broken the world speed record for steam on Stoke Bank, passed through Essendine station and, although braking at the time, was certainly travelling in excess of 100 mph. The record set has never been beaten by steam traction.

It is interesting to note that the lines through the Welland Valley either crossed it, as the Midland Railway did on Harringworth Viaduct, or travelled up the length of the valley as the North Western line did, and that no connection was ever constructed between the two lines. Motive power, therefore, did not stray from one line to the other.

### **Train services**

The Welland Valley line originally carried much agricultural traffic – farm machinery, seed and fertiliser, and cattle, and of course served the hunting community with transport for horses. On the North Western and Great Northern joint line to Nottingham, one of the stations, John O'Gaunt, was named after a fox covert, something which appears to be unique. Otherwise, the transport of domestic and commercial material was almost unlimited and the railways acted as general carriers. Reference to the Syston & Peterborough Railway in the 1840s mentions the rates for wheeled carriages of whatever description as 'at a rate of five pence per mile,' or if having only two wheels, 'two pence per mile' (Leleux 1976, 106). The Midland Railway timetable from 1913 gives an undertaking to transport a motor vehicle providing notice is given to the stationmaster half an hour before the intended departure time of the

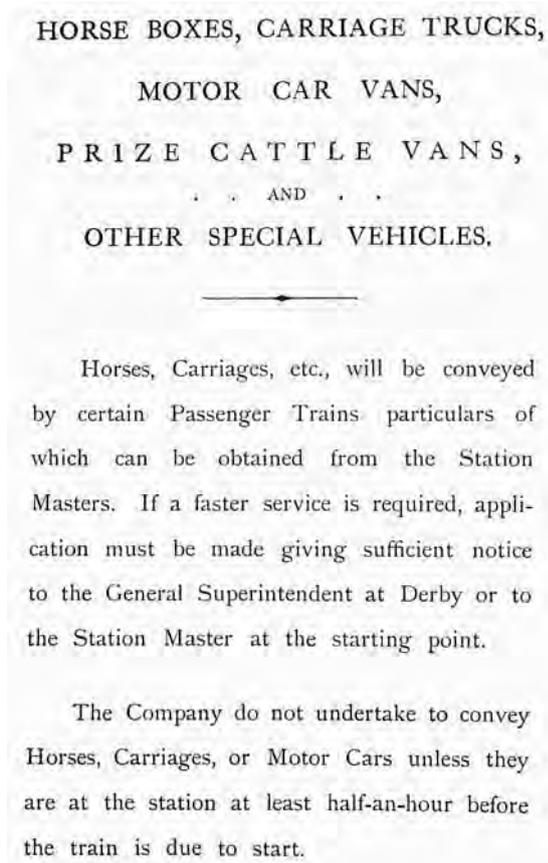


Fig 7. From the Midland Railway timetable, July to September 1913

train (Fig. 7). It also stated that a glass of filtered water could be obtained free of charge at any station.

The North Western and Great Northern joint line also provided a through route from the Nottinghamshire collieries at Colwick to London, and perhaps half a dozen trains a day did use this line at one stage.

In terms of passenger traffic, with the opening of a seaport route via Peterborough in 1879, through coaches from Birmingham ran to Harwich. In 1899, the train left Birmingham at 16.00, Rugby at 17.10, finally arriving via Peterborough at Harwich at 21.30. These trains were called ‘contis’, presumably

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a shortening of ‘continental’. The route continued to be used between Birmingham and Great Yarmouth by holiday specials.

Foxwell & Farrar, in their classic *Express Trains, English and Foreign*, recorded three trains running from Rugby to Peterborough at ‘express speed’. An average speed of 42 mph exceeded the 40 mph requirement to be included in the express category (Foxwell & Farrer 1889, 13). In later years, the fastest train was the 02.40 departure from Rugby, which in 1910 arrived at Peterborough at 04.05 and in 1938 at 04.07. By 1964, the train left Rugby at 02.42 and arrived at 04.12, fascinating confirmation of the conservative, unchanging nature of passenger timetabling. This was the mail train connecting with the West Coast main line at Rugby.

On the Midland main line, Foxwell & Farrar (1889, 10) note the Manchester Express leaving St Pancras at 14.00 and arriving in Manchester at 18.20, giving a average running speed of 50.5 mph (inclusive average 46.7 mph). They note that this was the quickest train on the Midland. Generally speaking, when the Midland line crossing the Welland Valley was open, the Leeds-Bradford expresses travelling via Nottingham used it, whereas the Scotch expresses continued on the main line through Leicester.

This is not, of course, a comprehensive account of the railway history of Rutland, and does not take account of its industrial railways, but is intended to give a glimpse of its history, its sad truncation in the mid-1960s, and the development and use to which railways have been put, particularly in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is perhaps fitting to conclude with John Bright’s quotation: ‘Railways have rendered more services and received less gratitude than any other institution in the land’ (Williams 1883, frontispiece).

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# The Last Hunters and Gatherers of the Uppingham Plateau: some Palaeolithic and Mesolithic sites and findspots in Rutland

ELAINE JONES

*Before, and following, the last Late Glacial Maximum some 18,000 years ago nomadic hunters and gatherers of the Upper Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age) and Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age) left their flint tools and debitage on the high ground around Uppingham and surrounding*

*parishes in Rutland. The sites and find spots are usually found by paths and ridge ways and springs and streams emanating from the Uppingham plateau, where Boulder Clay mantles the porous Northampton Sand Ironstone overlying the impervious Upper Lias Clay.*

## 1. THE LANDSCAPE AND GEOLOGY

Uppingham, in Rutland in the English east Midlands, is equidistant from Leicester and Peterborough, 20 miles in each direction on the A47 trunk road. The town is on the ‘great Uppingham outlier’ of the Northampton Sand Ironstone, much covered with Boulder Clay, at an altitude of around 145m OD. ‘Uppingham is situated upon an outlier of considerable size, which is, however, by the numerous streams intersecting it, divided into numerous long spurs...’ (Judd 1875, 107). These long spurs form east-west ridges north of the town, from Ayston to

Glaston, and from Ridlington to Launde up on the Rutland-Leicestershire border (IGS Sheet 157). Beneath the high ground of the Northampton Sand Ironstone lies the Upper Lias Clay, with easterly flowing streams and tributaries of the River Chater flowing into the Gwash and then the River Welland near Stamford. Tributaries above Belton flow south-westwards into the Eye Brook on the Leicestershire border, and then on to the Welland at Caldecott. The two river systems are divided by a glacial interfluvium linking Uppingham and Ridlington.



*Fig. 1. The hills west of Uppingham from Wardley Hill, looking over Castle Hill (on the left) and southwards towards the Eye Brook and Welland valley, by Frank Rutley, FGS, plate IV in John Judd's Geology of Rutland (1875).*

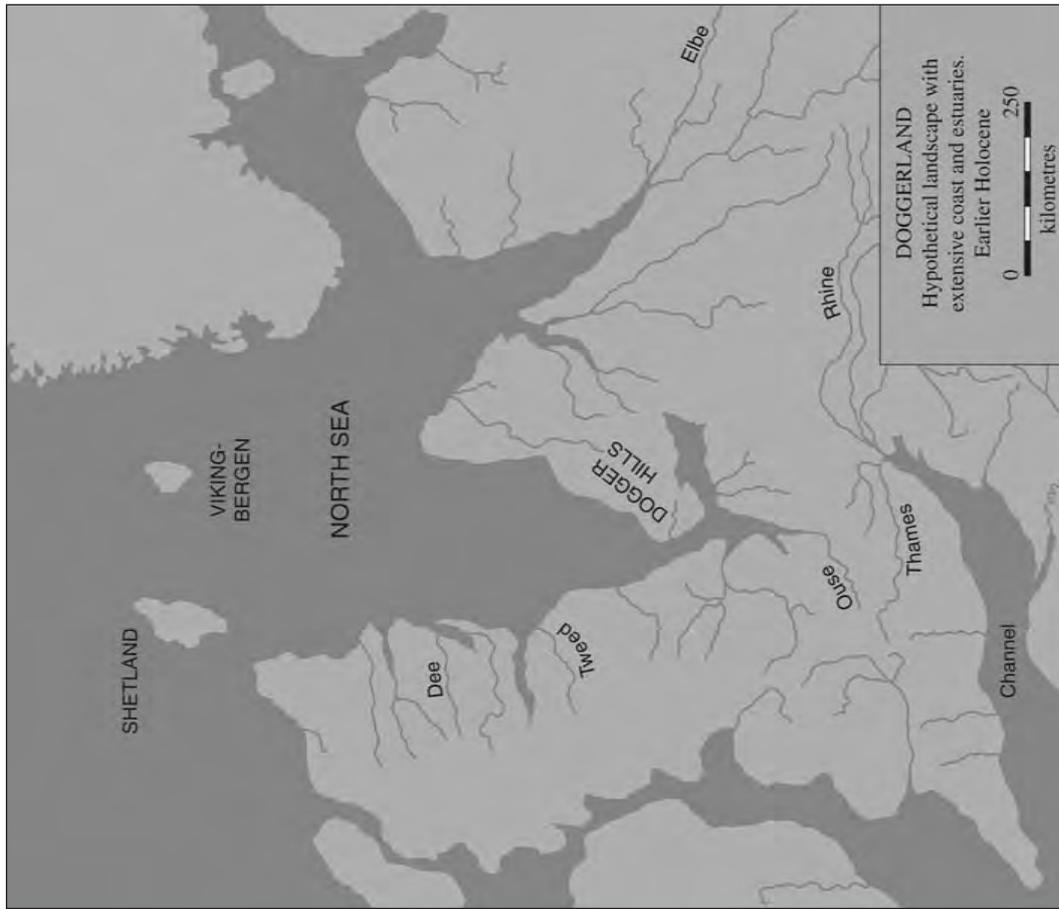


Fig. 3. The land about 12,000 years ago (after Bryony Coles & Sue Rouillard in Gaffney 2007, 13): 'Global warming had turned "Doggerland" into what was probably a veritable Garden of Eden for Mesolithic hunter-gatherers'.

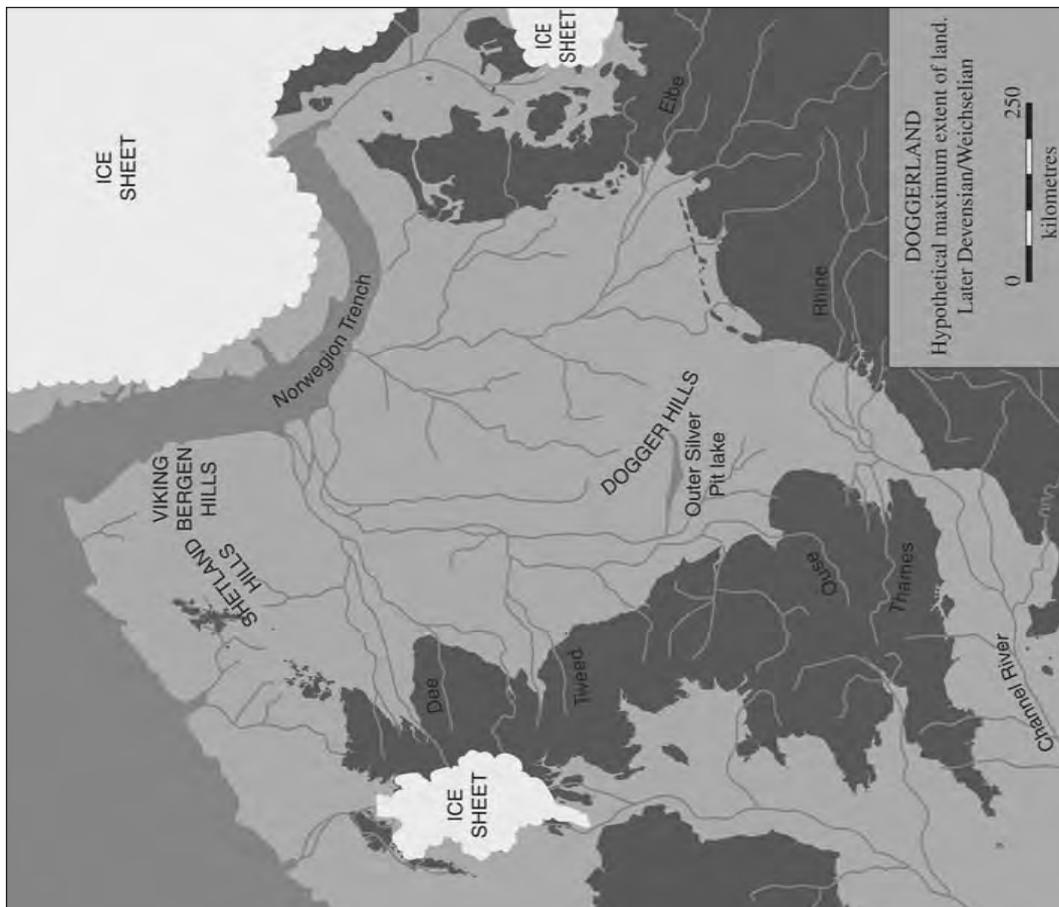


Fig. 2. The extent of the former landmass now covered by North Sea around 17,000 years ago (after Bryony Coles & Sue Rouillard in Gaffney 2007, 13).

## 2. THE BACKGROUND

Dates (BC approx)	Pollen Zone	Vegetation	Climate	Archaeological Phase
1200 - present	VIII Sub-Atlantic	Ash, birch, beech & hornbeam – large land clearances	Cool and wet	Iron Age to present
3200 - 1200	VIIb Sub-Boreal	Alder, oak, elm & lime – small and large land clearances – elm decline	Warm and dry	Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age
5300 - 3200	VIIa Atlantic	Alder, oak, elm & lime	Optimum	Late Mesolithic – Early Neolithic
7500 - 5300	V & VI Boreal	Elm, oak, lime, pine, hazel & birch	Improving	Mesolithic
8300 - 7500	IV Pre-Boreal	Birch & pine	Improving	Early Mesolithic
9000 - 8300	III	Park tundra	Loch Lomond readvance	Late Upper Palaeolithic
10,000 - 9000	II	Birch & park tundra	Sub-arctic to temperate	Late Upper Palaeolithic
11,000 - 10,000	I	Park tundra	Sub-arctic to Perth readvance	Late Upper Palaeolithic
13,000 - 11,000	Late last glacial		Sub-arctic	Late Upper Palaeolithic
25,000 - 13,000	Full last glacial	Maximum ice advance	Arctic to sub-arctic	None or little seasonal activity by earlier Upper Palaeolithic
50,000 - 25,000	Middle last glacial		Sub-arctic to temperate	Earlier Upper Palaeolithic

Table 1. Vegetation and climate changes from the last glaciation (after Megaw & Simpson 1979).

In recent years, as a result of archaeological field-walking and observations carried out in the Uppingham area, more and more finds of prehistoric flint implements have come to light. Many of these can be identified as dating from the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods, providing important evidence for some of the earliest human occupation yet known from this area. In order to understand just what this evidence represents, it must be seen in the context of extensive changes to the environment that were taking place over what, to us, is north-western Europe and that area of the North Sea, then above sea level, which has been given the name ‘Doggerland’.

The beginning of the end of the Mesolithic hunting and gathering way of life can be seen in the effects of global warming, which led to rising sea levels and the submersion of Doggerland, cutting Britain off from the rest of north-western Europe. The process has been dramatically described by Professor Vincent Gaffney in his feature in *Current Archaeology* (Gaffney 2007, 14-15):

‘Most of Doggerland was inundated between c8000 BC when the glaciers began their final retreat, and c6400 BC, when Britain was finally severed from the Continent ... Mostly the waters advanced gradually and imperceptibly, but occasionally, when a wall of land that had acted as a dam broke, they must have surged through with tsunami-force ... Around 6000

BC, a massive submarine landslide over an area the size of Scotland occurred at a depth of 500m on the continental slope off Storegga in south-west Norway ... The result was a series of monster tidal waves that crashed against the land-masses abutting the northern North Sea. ‘Mesolithic people may have heard the distant rumblings...’ writes Kevin Edwards ... ‘Water from the northern North Sea would have rushed into the space vacated by slope-failed material. People on land would have noticed that the sea receded, probably as far as the eye could see, in a matter of tens of minutes. They may have thought that the newly revealed shellfish and stranded fish represented an amazing bonanza ... or that ‘Doggerland’ had reappeared! The seawater, having piled up in the depression, then begins to flow out again as a series of massive waves or tsunamis, travelling at 20-30m per second on shallow coasts. Four or five waves would have hit the coast over two or three hours, each separated by a strong backlash as water flowed back to sea. Any coastal settlements would have been flooded without warning; indeed, the water depth would have been many metres, and people and animals would have been drowned. Coastal and estuarine areas, resources and people would have been devastated.’

‘Similar events, smaller and more localised in effect, seem likely throughout the period of glacial melt and rising seas. But whether consumed by violent flood or creeping inundation, the world engulfed by the Southern North Sea, lying undisturbed for 8000 years,

its remains pickled in brine, must represent something akin to a Mesolithic Pompeii. Only now are we beginning to find a way to its secrets.'

Before the flood the climate had been much cooler. Around 22,000 years ago, and culminating with the Late Glacial Maximum at c18,000 BP [Before the Present], ice sheets moved down into the Midlands, reaching the high ground in Lincolnshire and the Derbyshire Peaks and creating periglacial conditions in Rutland and Leicestershire. It is believed that polar desert conditions precluded occupation by humans and all of the large mammals. Humans retreated south from Britain and northern Europe to refuges such as southern France (Cooper 2004b, 18).

Megaw & Simpson (1979, 33) describe the vegetation and climate during the Later Upper Palaeolithic (pollen zone II). Areas of trees and shrubs appeared in place of the barren wastes of tundra with small wind-blown shrubs that had existed for so long previously. In coastal zones of east England and especially in Doggerland, the great plain that stretched over what is now the North Sea into Denmark and the Low Countries, there were regions of thick forest steppe, probably mainly pine and birch, in which animals such as the Giant Irish Elk and other deer would have been excellent game to follow.

### ***The later Upper Palaeolithic (13,000-10,000 BP)***

As the climate warmed and Britain began to be re-colonised, distinct types and technologies in stone tools point to four different traditions that are broadly consecutive, although the genetic linkage of the peoples responsible remains uncertain. Lynden Cooper (2004b) writes that these four Later Upper Palaeolithic traditions are:

- a) Creswellian hunter-gatherers (12,600-12,000 BP)
- b) Hengistbury Head type-sites  
(straight-backed blades, c12,000 BP)
- c) Federmesser sites  
(convex-backed blades, 12,000-10,800 BP)
- d) Terminal Palaeolithic 'long blade' sites  
(10,300-9700 BP)

#### *a) Creswellian hunter-gatherers*

Limestone caves in the Creswell Crags on the Nottinghamshire-Derbyshire border have occupation levels that continue through the Later Upper Palaeolithic into the Mesolithic phase. Their type fossil is the Creswell point – a variant of the Cheddar point or trapezoidal backed blade. These pieces have also been found in the succeeding Final Upper Palaeolithic as at Launde (Site 2, below), and also at Ayston (Site 3).

The blade production is also very distinctive, with a technique not found in other Late Glacial traditions although it is seen in the continental Late Magdalenian, suggesting some cultural links. Only some 28 British

During the colder climate of the Loch Lomond re-advance (pollen zone III) the trees would have declined again; shrub tundra re-established itself in many parts of the country, with snowfields on the higher ground. However, after about 9500 BP gradually the birch and pine returned, the snow and ice retreated and have never returned to the same extent (ibid, 39).

The distribution of archaeological sites of the Later Upper Palaeolithic phase shows a division into two areas, northern Britain (especially the eastern and southern foothills of the Pennines), and the south-west of Britain (with concentrations around Kent's Cavern in Devon, the Cheddar Gorge area of Somerset, and in south Wales). There are also scattered open-air sites in southern and eastern Britain. The northern sites may have been used as summer seasonal sites, or the two areas may have represented varying migration routes from Europe to the British hunting grounds.

'Generally the later upper Palaeolithic hunters seem to have concentrated less on the larger animals that had been common during the colder periods and to have learnt to increase their ability to snare and catch the smaller forest animals, rodents and birds. Probably due to their fragility, fish bones are rare' (ibid, 43).

Creswellian findspots had been recorded, but now there are discoveries of a Cheddar point and three possibly contemporary blades from Lockington/Hemington (Leicestershire / Derbyshire / Nottinghamshire border), and at Farndon near Newark (Nottinghamshire), where an important open-air site has also been found.

At Bradgate Park, Newtown Linford (Leicestershire), a cluster of flints eroded by a footpath has produced an assemblage of more than 450 pieces, including two Cheddar points, backed blades, burins (tools worked to a distinctive type of point) and several piercers. Seven of the blades are of the Creswellian type. This is the first open-air Creswellian site identified in Britain and is of international significance (Cooper 2004b, 19).

#### *b) Hengistbury Head type sites*

No sites have yet been identified in Rutland and Leicestershire. The type-site in Dorset produced a tool repertoire with straight-backed blades, end scrapers and burins; there were also a few angle-backed points including Creswell points.

#### *c) 'Federmesser' sites*

The 'federmesser' (convex-backed blade), including the penknife point, is seen as representing a change from spears to bows and arrows as hunters adapted to an increasingly wooded environment. 'Federmesser' appear across much of northern Europe and are probably linked

to Azilian industries from southern Europe. One was found at Castle Donnington (Leicestershire). Curved backed pieces also occur in the Mesolithic and it is possible that smaller ‘federmesser’ have been assigned to the Mesolithic rather than the earlier period.

### *The Mesolithic (9700-5500 BP)*

Although the distinctive flint ‘long blade’ straddles the boundary of the Pleistocene (‘most recent’) and Holocene (‘wholly new’) periods 9700 years ago, by the late pre-Boreal stage there were also new tools such as hafted axes and microliths (very small worked flint tools). Microliths are commonly made using the micro-burin technique, a feature rarely seen in Terminal Palaeolithic assemblages. Obliquely truncated points (‘otp’) remain common and are complemented by new forms such as isosceles triangles and elongated trapezoids. This Upper Palaeolithic-Early Mesolithic transition raises a key research question, for while there is evidence for continuity or evolution, there are also differences that might indicate a cultural rupture (Cooper 2004b, 23, 24).

Early and late stages can be identified in the British Mesolithic. Early Mesolithic technologies are similar to those of the Maglemosian hunters, when Britain was still linked to north-west Europe by ‘Doggerland’, the marshy North Sea Plain, rich in food resources such as fish, waterfowl and other birds, edible plants and small mammals, with forest deer and aurochs on higher drier forested regions between river valleys (Megaw & Simpson 1979, 51).

Star Carr (Yorkshire), with its radiocarbon dates of 7607±210 and 7538±350 bc, is probably the most famous example of an early Mesolithic site, and is therefore the subject of continuing research and interpretation. Here, at the west end of the Vale of Pickering on a reed swamp by a lake, was a platform of hewn birch timber and brushwood, onto which were thrown stones, clay, moss and debris such as red deer antlers (Megaw & Simpson 1979, 46-60):

‘The camp was important for the seasonal hunting of the deer in the forest, especially red deer; roe deer and elk were of lesser importance ... Further afield the site can be seen as a possible base camp for the exploitation of more distant environmental resources such as the hill hunting ground, or the sea shore ... The sea shore at the time of occupation (mid eighth millennium bc in the pollen zone IV Pre-boreal) was probably about where the 20 fathom (36.6m) depth line is today, and would have been about 15 km from the site ... But there are other early post glacial sites in the upland areas over 300m above sea level such as the Yorkshire Moors, in which due to their occupation density, certain similarities in flint types and the restricted scale of their finds have been interpreted as the temporary summer camps of the hunters whose winter base camps are in the

### *d) Terminal Palaeolithic ‘long blade’ sites*

An important ‘long blade’ site was excavated on the Rutland-Leicestershire border near Launde, west of Uppingham and Ridlington – see Site 2 below.

swampy and forested valleys below’ (ibid, 53).

The movement of red deer must have been important, for at Star Carr red deer remains are dominant (ibid, 56). Most of the bones and antlers come from adult stags, emphasising the hunters’ culling of males in their territory in the winter season: they rarely include hinds and immature animals. Elk and roe deer remains are fairly prominent and other forest animals include bear, wild pig, aurochs, fox, wolf, pine marten, hedgehog, hare, and badger. Domesticated dog was present, showing that domestication had already taken place some generations previously. Bird species include common crane, white stork, grebe, diver, lapwing and duck. ‘The barbed point seems to have been the main harpoon head ... the technique by which they were manufactured from the antler is part of a tradition going back to the early upper Palaeolithic Aurignacian industries of south-western France and [was] particularly strong in the late upper Palaeolithic groups of north-west Europe that preceded the mesolithic groups there’ (ibid, 57).



Fig. 4. Ritual slaughter was recorded in Johannes Schefferus, *The History of the Lapps* (1673).

The stone artefacts from Star Carr are also largely concerned with hunting and the preparation of animal products. The exception is the axe, primarily used to cut the timbers from the site. The majority of stone tools are burins, scrapers or microliths. Axes and adzes are few and small, and would need to be mounted in sleeves of antler, bone or wood. The microliths belong predominantly to obliquely blunted points up to 4cm in length. To be effective weapons these small points must have been set into wooden or bone shafts as tips or barbs. There are also triangular microliths and some elongated trapezes, one of which

had resin adhering to it, probably made from birch bark rendered down to a glue.

Some of the most interesting finds from Star Carr were a series of stag frontlets, with part of the antlers still attached, perhaps used as masks, either during hunting or ceremonial occasions. A similarly hollowed frontlet of red deer, probably from the early post glacial period, was found at the German Mesolithic site of Biesdorf and another fragment from Hohen Viechlen. The material from the site belongs to the cultural group known as the Maglemosian, and it is to this same group that Star Carr and a wide range of other sites in the British Isles, Scandinavia and north-west Europe belong in general terms (*ibid.*, 60). Like Star Carr, most of

*The later Mesolithic of Britain (Cooper 2004b, 23-26; Megaw & Simpson 1979, 60-64).*

The Maglemosian culture that had extended across the whole of north-west Europe was split when rising sea levels decreased the land surface and increased exploitation further inland. The number and density of Mesolithic sites in Britain increased from the eighth millennium BP onwards. Vast areas of swampy ground and forests were replaced by open sea and marshy seashore.

Tools changed during the Late Mesolithic. In the late ninth millennium BP there were smaller geometric microliths, a decline in oblique points and the disappearance of hafted axes. These techniques indicate changes in hunting and probably reflect evolving economic and social territories. The disappearance of some tools might indicate the increasing insularity of hunter-gatherers, as Britain

these early Mesolithic sites have been recorded in river valleys or low-lying areas, with a scatter of peripheral sites on the uplands to the west.

On the North York Moors, some thirteen Mesolithic sites were recorded by Raymond Hayes. They lie on high ground by springs and stream gullies. Around White Gill was a forest of deciduous trees and shrubs with oak, alder, birch and hazel. There are springs near most of the sites, which may be taken to suggest that they may have been somewhat more permanent camping sites. Animal bones include red deer and reindeer; the skull and vertebrae of an aurochs were radiocarbon dated to pollen zone V-VI, 10350±200 bp (Hayes 1988, 11).

became an island. This cultural isolation remained until the explosive arrival of the Neolithic in the sixth millennium BP.

The Late Mesolithic-Early Neolithic transition is also a key area of research. 'Blade' technologies lived long from the Middle Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age. Although bladelets are more restricted and usually attributed to the Mesolithic, their rapid decline at the beginning of the Neolithic reflects changes in projectile technology when microliths are no longer made.

The point is that the Mesolithic was dynamic, with differences between the hunter-gatherers of the pre-Boreal, Boreal and Atlantic periods – across some four millennia (Cooper 2004b, 24).

### 3. SITES IN RUTLAND AND LEICESTERSHIRE

The number of Mesolithic sites in Rutland and Leicestershire has increased five-fold due to recent fieldwork. Yet most of these sites have not been assigned to a chronological stage because of the lack of, or failure to recognise, diagnostic pieces. Small diagnostic microliths are rarely found by field-walking surveys. But now there are the data for further work.

A significant presence has been found in Rutland around Uppingham and Oakham, and at Glaston, Belton, Ridlington, Leighfield, and along the line of the Wing to Whatborough water pipeline easement. In Leicestershire there are sites at Medbourne, Brooksby and Rearsby, Grace Dieu Priory, Misterton, Eye Kettleby, Melton Mowbray, Saxby and Freeby (Cooper 2004b, 24).

Angela Monckton's research on ancient plant and animal remains provides evidence of the local environment (Monckton 2004, 155-6). At Wing a drift-filled basin at the site of the Anglian Water

treatment plant contained a pollen sequence from about 70,000 years ago. The profile showed the rise of mixed oak forest, a change to temperate hornbeam forest, and then deterioration to tundra-like vegetation. The sequence was dated to the last interglacial, the Ipswichian, and the beginning of the last glaciation.

Two miles south of Wing, at Glaston, 30,000-40,000-year-old bones of hyena, mammoth and glutton (wolverine) have been found – see Site 1.

From Hemington Quarry (Leicestershire) water-logged deposits from palaeo-channels at the end of the glaciation around 11,700 BP contained caddisfly larvae and pollens and plants of reed swamp and tundra. Dwarf willow and cold phase insects came from the quarry extension. Other palaeo-channels from the Soar occurred as the result of major changes in rivers at this date. At Croft a channel thought to date from the Allerod interstadial, about 11,000 years ago, contained birch and pine pollen

with *Helianthemum* and saxifrage as evidence of the generally open cool conditions (ibid, 156).

At the start of the Mesolithic the early post glacial environment is known from palaeo-channels in the Trent Valley and a peat bed at Austin Friars, Leicester. These show reed swamp conditions and open environment with some tree colonisation.

Early woodland is indicated at Watermead Park in Birstall as well as at Croft, where pollen in the profile was dominated by sedges and grasses, with a little birch and pine, persisting until at least 9840 BP. After a hiatus in the profile this was succeeded by birch, hazel and willow woodland as the climate warmed; there was some evidence of open ground from plant macrofossils. Late Mesolithic flints were also found (ibid, 156).

Human remains from the Mesolithic are rare and none have been found in Rutland or Leicestershire. However a Late Mesolithic human femur found in a quarry at Staplethorpe (Nottinghamshire) showed a diet of animal protein with little vegetable protein and no marine protein, suggesting that economic spheres lay inland; there was no evidence of the advent of Neolithic agriculture and food-gathering (Cooper 2004b, 25).

#### **4. ETHNOGRAPHIC PARALLELS FROM LAPLAND**

##### **Echoes of the culture, economy and environment of the people of the Mesolithic period.**

To breathe life into the people of Star Carr – and of the Uppingham area – we may look to the Lapps, whose way of life was studied by Marsden (1976), as providing a living example of a similar economy, environment and adaptation to change.

‘Lying almost totally within the Arctic Circle Lapland stretches across the northern regions of Norway, Sweden and Finland and touches the Kola peninsular of Russia. The landscape, an area of 100,000 square miles bears the indelible imprint of the last Ice Age ... To the west are high glaciated mountains and a coastline of fjords. East of these mountains is a tundra-like plateau chequered with bogs and traversed by rivers. Round its edges and reaching into the valleys are birch and coniferous forests’ (Marsden et al 1976, 18).

Lapland’s coasts and marshes are summer breeding grounds for birds from Europe, Asia and Africa. The lakes and rivers abound with fish. The mountains and conifer forests harbour the bear, the wolf, the lynx and the wolverine – animals that have already passed into history or legend in most other parts of Europe (ibid, 21).

‘The Lapps once depended upon their reindeer as closely as the Bedouin depend upon their camels. But today there are no more than 5000 Lapps who still derive their main income from reindeer, and of these

The increasing number of findspots resulting from field survey seems to confirm the choice for settlement of free-draining soils close to water and wetland habitats and an avoidance of heavy clays. Most of the sites on the Wing-Whatborough water pipeline easement and several sites identified during the Medbourne survey were on the ridge top on the ironstone – locations similar to sites found around Uppingham.

‘There does appear to be a trend of larger sites located on higher ground, offering wide vantage points over valleys and plateaux, but as yet it is difficult to know over what period of time these sites were formed.’ It has been suggested that the location of larger upland sites in Northamptonshire may indicate crossroads between major river systems. There is evidence from both sides of the Welland Valley of large scatters recorded from prominent upland sites. The general distribution points to clusters along the watersheds of the Soar-Avon, Trent-Avon, Welland-Wreake and Wreake-Trent (Cooper 2004b, 25).

The evidence suggests that there is a cluster of such sites in the Uppingham area, around the Eye Brook, Chater and Welland.

only a tiny minority still follow the ancient nomadic traditions of their ancestors’ (ibid, 24).

Who were the Lapps’ ancestors and whence did they originate? Two thousand years ago, Tacitus wrote of the Fenni, a tribe that lived on the northeast fringes of the great Germanic plains:

‘...I cannot make up my mind whether to assign the tribes of the Peucini, Venedi and Fenni to Germany or Sarmatia. The Peucini, however, who are sometimes called the Bastarnae, in language, social habits, mode of settlement and dwelling are like Germans. They are a squalid and slovenly people; the features of their nobles get something of the Sarmatian ugliness from intermarriage [‘The ugly Sarmatian “features” means the gaping nostrils and slanting eyes of the Mongolians’, wrote Mattingly (1948, 159)]. The Venedi have borrowed largely from Sarmatian ways; their plundering forays take them over all that wooded and mountainous country that rises between the Peucini and Fenni. Nevertheless they are to be classed as Germans, for they have settled houses, carry shields, and are fond of travelling – and travelling fast – on foot, in all these respects differing from the Sarmatians, who live in wagons or on horseback. The Fenni are astonishingly wild and horribly poor. They have no arms, no horses, no homes. They eat grass, dress in skins, and sleep on the ground. Their only hope is in

their arrows, which, for lack of iron, they tip with bone. The same hunt provides food for men and women alike; for the women go everywhere with the men and claim a share in securing the prey. The only way they can protect their babies against wild beasts or foul weather is to hide them under a makeshift network of branches. This is the hovel to which the young men come back, this is where the old must lie. Yet they count their lot happier than that of others who groan over field labour, sweat over house-building, or hazard their own or other men's fortunes in the wild lottery of hope and fear. They care for nobody, man or god, and have gained the ultimate release: they have nothing to pray for. What comes after them is the stuff of fables – Hellusii and Oxiones with the faces and features of men, but the bodies and limbs of animals. On such unverifiable stories I will express no opinion.' (Tacitus, *Germania*, ch. 46, trans Mattingley (1948, 139-40)).

The Fenni have been identified with the Lapps, but speculation on the Lapps' earliest origins continues. One theory is that the Lapps and Finns once shared a common Asiatic homeland and that the Lapps began a long migration that led to Finland and Scandinavia where they arrived before the Finns. It is suggested that the Lapps' physical characteristics, short stature, pear-shaped faces, darkish hair and olive complexion, were the result of mingling with peoples who were already in northern Europe when they arrived (Marsden et al 1976, 26). Both the Finnish and Lapp tongues are Finno-Ugric languages.

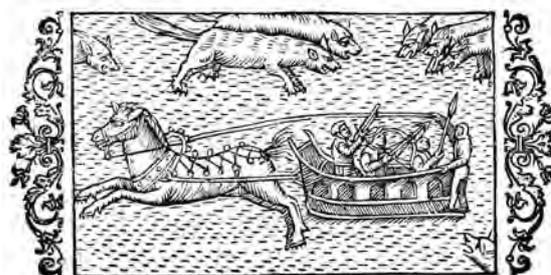
Others believe that the Lapps have always lived there and that they once spoke an entirely different language, modified by Finnish. Some Lapps prefer to be known as 'Same' or 'Sameh' since the name 'Lapp' may derive from an archaic Finnish word meaning 'banished'. If Lapps were living here 8000 years ago then they would have used the stone tools discovered on the coast of north Norway (ibid, 27).

From the earliest times the life of the Lapps was bound up with reindeer although it is not known for certain when they turned to herding as a supplement to hunting. In AD 892 the Norwegian chieftain Ohthere informed King Alfred of Wessex that the Lapps were hunters and fishers who also captured reindeer (ibid, 27).

'In the 16th century a Swedish priest Olaus Magnus travelled extensively through the wildest parts of northern Scandinavia, including Lapland, and in 1555 he published his "Historia de Gentibus septentrionalibus" ("Treatise Concerning the Northern Peoples.>")' Although his work concentrated on the people, it included studies of the flora and fauna (ibid, 88ff).

As the great herds of reindeer grew less plentiful and economic, social and political pressures increased, hunting declined and from the sixteenth

century, four separate occupation groups began to emerge. The Mountain Lapps tended semi-wild reindeer herds, moving with them on long migrations between winter foraging in the forests or plateaux and summer grazing in the mountains or by the coast. The Forest Lapps sometimes added agriculture to reindeer breeding. The Sea and River Lapps fished. In the past all these groups were more or less nomadic but now the Forest Lapps make only short migrations with their animals, which are tamer and in smaller herds than those of the Mountain Lapps. The Sea and River Lapps lead settled lives and frequently are no longer even fishermen.



*Fig. 5. Spears, bows and arrows, and guns are illustrated as being used at the same time, a sign of adaptation to new technologies to meet new circumstances.*

'It is the Mountain Lapps alone that the old ways still persist. They are western Europe's last wilderness folk...'. It was for this reason that Marsden made a five-day visit to a summer reindeer camp his priority (ibid, 27). Their camp was a few miles from the arctic coast of north Norway. Four conical tents that looked like Red Indian tepees were set on an isolated bluff overlooking a broad valley. Scattered alder and willows marked the course of a stream, and sparse birches, typically stunted and distorted by the elements, grew in the shadow of gaunt fells that rose on either side. Northwards the fells dropped away sharply to a coastal plain that stretched for about two miles to the Arctic Ocean.

Nowadays it is unusual for Lapps to live in tents in their summer camps, but out of pride for their ancestors the seven men in the group refused to build permanent turf huts or wooden cabins. Their tent covering was not birch bark as in the past, but sacking stretched over a dozen poles with forked upper ends; they used thread instead of reindeer sinews. Their women and children were left behind – the children for schooling (ibid, 28).

In camp, reindeer meat formed the bulk of Marsden's diet. The Lapps boiled the meat in a pot suspended over a fire by a chain dangling from a tripod of poles (ibid, 33). They also gathered plants like 'Icelandic' lichen, or bread moss, the best-known traditional vegetable food of the Lapps, and then there was angelica, mountain sorrel and so on.

Wherever possible they clung to their tradition. Domesticated pack-reindeer were grazing at the foot of the bluff. Propped up among the birches were the boat-shaped sledges, or pulka, the Lapps had used on their 200-mile trek across the snow, a trek that lasted from the middle of April until the first week in May.

Everyone was traditionally dressed in blue tunics much decorated with red, blue and yellow strips of felt, reaching below the knees and worn with narrow trousers and a broad leather belt from which dangled a sheathed knife. On the head was a cushion-like cap of dark felt with four stuffed protruding corners. Each man wore heel-less working boots turned up at the toe – none wore socks because it was impossible to keep feet dry among the bogs and brooks. Instead the traditional method of packing the boots with a fine sedge picked from the edge of the marsh was used.

The Lapps had travelled with some 700 reindeer, most of which had swum across to an island, only a hundred or so remaining in the area of the camp. The reindeer had to be discouraged from making off across the fells, and every few days they were rounded up by dogs the Lapps had brought with them (highly skilled herding animals of mixed breed but usually resembling the spitz) (ibid, 32). The reindeer are adept at making the most of their environment, an ability that has enabled them to survive in Scandinavia throughout the 10,000 years since the glaciers of the last Ice Age receded northwards. During the harsh winters they dig down through the snow to the lichens beneath. Towards the end of winter, thawing and sudden freezing can form tough ice-crusts over the snow and the reindeer start migrating to fresh pastures in the mountains or

on the coast, supervised by their herders.

The calves are born in May, often during the migration, and the herds must be halted for a couple of days at a time. The herdsmen set traps to give the calves, pregnant cows, and sick animals some protection from the red foxes, ravens and eagles. Once in the foothills, along the coast, or on the island the reindeer roam freely until the night frosts of August signal a return to the winter feeding grounds.

By mid-September the bulls start rounding up harems for the October rut. The rut is a strenuous time and leaves the bulls exhausted and emaciated, and they shed their antlers. Non-pregnant females and gelded males retain theirs until March or April. Pregnant cows do not normally shed their antlers until after they have given birth in May or June (ibid, 32).

The busiest and most exciting time of the year is the round-up that follows the autumn rut. The animals are driven into corrals, strays from other herds sorted, calves that missed the earlier ear-marking are notched, bulls no longer required are set aside for slaughter or castration. Animals selected for slaughter are stunned by a blow on the back of the skull and then killed with a knife thrust into the heart. Castration is usually performed with forceps although Lapps with good teeth effect the operation by biting. The reindeer are generally timid but can gallop wildly around the corrals to avoid the lasso. The men have trained since boyhood to use the lasso (ibid, 35).

Is it not feasible that the people who hunted and stayed awhile around Uppingham, and whose only surviving relics are their stone tools, once lived and adapted to their environment as did these Mountain Lapps?



*Fig. 6. View illustrating the 'tabular outlines' of the hills west of Uppingham, plate XI in John Judd's Geology of Rutland (1875).*

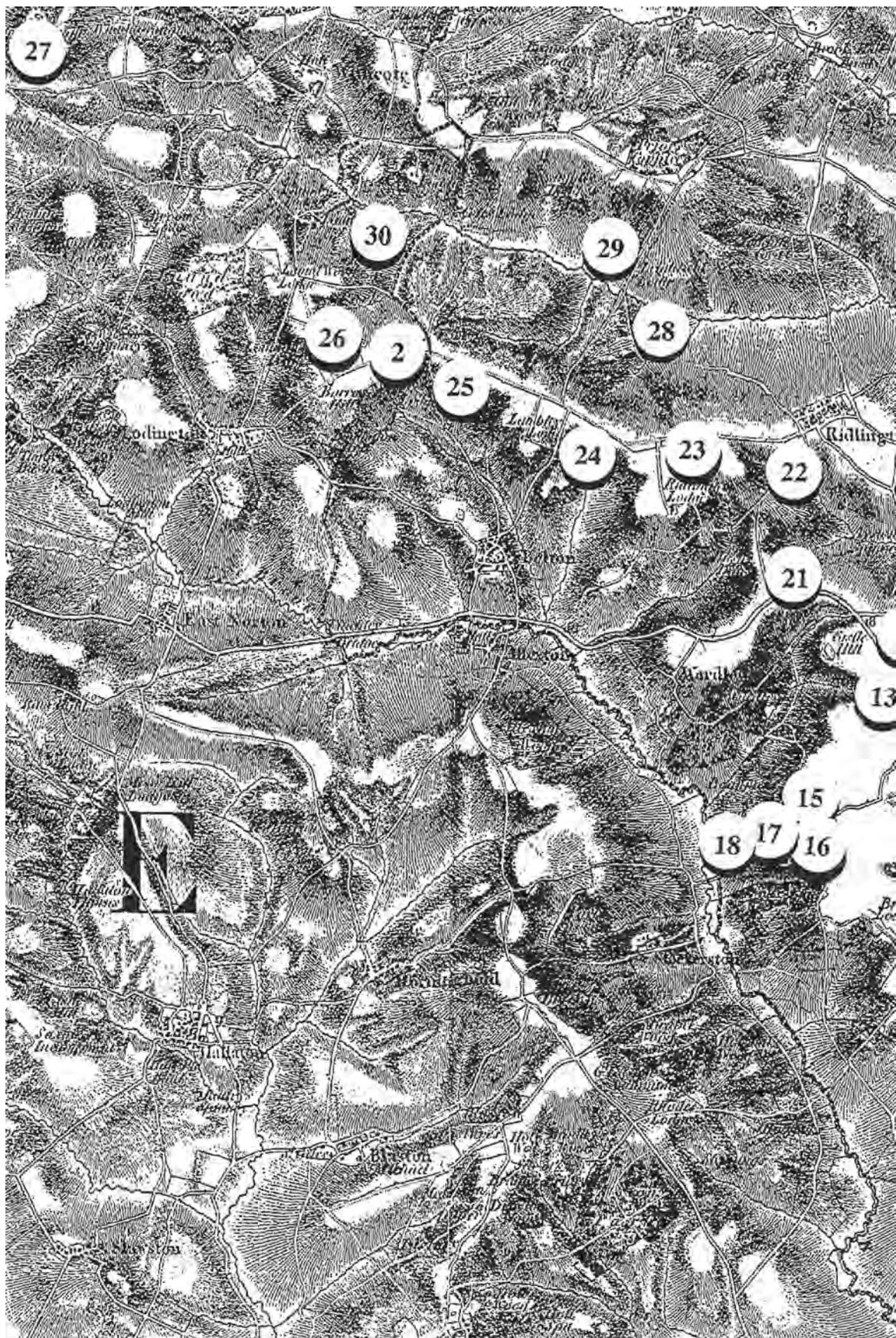


Fig. 7. Distribution of the known Palaeolithic and Mesolithic sites and findspots around the



Uppingham plateau, superimposed on the first edition of the 1" Ordnance Survey map of Rutland.

## 5. THE SITES AND FINDSPOTS AROUND UPPINGHAM

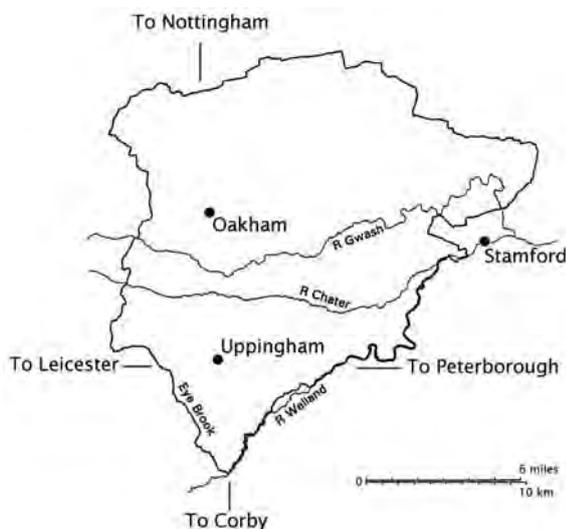


Fig. 8. General location of Uppingham.

The Uppingham area is an especial place in our prehistoric past, for it has yielded sites and findspots dating from before and after the Last Glacial Maximum c18 000 years ago. All are on open sites, on high ground and not in valleys, and all are near water sources and by paths and ridge-ways. Three ‘super’ sites have been found:

Glaston (Site 1), c30,000 years ago, before the Late Glacial Maximum (Cooper 2004b);

Launde (Site 2), c10,000 years ago, a Terminal Palaeolithic ‘long blade’ site with tools so similar to the Ahrensburgian sites of Belgium, Germany and Holland ‘that they may be directly related, possibly even the same individuals operating across a wide social and hunting territory’ (Cooper 2004a, 2004b, 2006).

The ‘Poor Field’ at Ayston (Site 3), where Early Mesolithic hunters left their flint material around 9 000 years ago. Some of these pieces are similar to those from Launde (Cooper, L. & Jones, E, 2006; Jones, E, 2005).

Added to these there are, to date, 27 other findspots. The first was found by the writer over twenty years ago when the 1980s A47 trunk road realignment revealed Mesolithic material at the top of Wardley Hill (Site 21). Other finds came to light in the 1980s and 1990s during building development off the Ayston and old Leicester Roads, but most have been found by systematic fieldwalking and collection from the surface of the ploughsoil, mainly by the RLHRS Archaeological Team, led by the writer, which commenced its survey around Uppingham on ‘Parliament Field’ (Site 4) in 2000 – this is an ongoing project. Other sites were found as the result

of excavation and field survey along the Wing to Whatborough Anglian Water pipeline by ULAS in 1996.

Stray doubtful but possible Palaeolithic pieces have been found here and there in several fields. Taken on their own they have only little significance, but taken together they equate to an extended Palaeolithic presence between Glaston and Launde. Of special significance is the hand axe from Site 13 (the technique of which appears to be similar to the much larger Middle Palaeolithic *bout coupé* hand axe from the Welland in Northamptonshire, recorded by Cooper (2004b, 16).

Fifteen Late Upper Palaeolithic-Early Mesolithic sites and findspots have been found, at Sites 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 13, 16, ?17, ?19, ?20, 24, 25, 27, and 30. Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic find spots abound, at Sites 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29, and 30 (twenty-four areas); later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age material was often present at these sites as well.

What is so special about these areas is that they are nearly all open-air sites on high ground on or near (ie, on the margins of) the Boulder Clay mantle on the hard Northampton Sand Ironstone of the Uppingham plateau and associated ridges. No sites were found on the Upper Lias Clay hillsides or in the valleys – unlike Mesolithic Oakham in the Vale of Catmose, or Star Carr in the Vale of Pickering, or the Creswell caves in their limestone gorge.

As well as the clusters of findspots along the watersheds in our own region, possible parallels are the Mesolithic sites on the North York Moors recorded by Raymond Hayes, where all are on high ground by springs and tributaries, yet not so far from the Vale of Pickering and Star Carr (Hayes 1988).

There are three exceptions to this type of location, where Mesolithic flint material has been found in the valleys, namely Sites 18, 28, and 29. These are on shelves of the Marlstone Rock Bed or glacial sands and gravels – not the clay – and none has produced diagnostically early pieces.

A trawl through the Sites and Monuments Record has shown that, as yet, there is little or no evidence for other Mesolithic sites east of this study area, ie in Barrowden, Edith Weston, Great Casterton, Ketton, Little Casterton, Lyddington, Morcott, Normanton, North Luffenham, Pilton, South Luffenham, Stoke Dry, Tinwell and Tixover – no doubt more fieldwork will rectify this.

As all the sites are on the Northampton Sand, as to be expected the area abounds with springs and tributaries issuing from the junction of the ironstone and the Upper Lias Clay. These issues feed the River

Chater to the north, and the Eye Brook in the west. Both rivers join the Welland. Of special note is the 'Poor Field' where the springs are the source of the possible 'Thornham Brook', an ancient boundary recorded in a Late Saxon 1046 charter for Ayston (Hart 1966, 108-09). Tributaries by the Ridlington ridge-way near Site 22 feed the 'Thursley Brook', also mentioned in the charter. These springs and issues point to watering- holes for herds and humans alike.

The ridge-ways at Ridlington, and at Luffenham (Site 20), plus the numerous south-east to north-west paths, may well be recent, but their proximity to these early sites suggests that these routes may be very ancient indeed, perhaps followed by herds and hunters during seasonal migrations from the Low Countries and 'Doggerland'. Three routes are noted here:

At 'Poor Field', where the path passes by the head of the springs (it crosses the River Welland before going north through Lyddington, then Redgate and on to Ayston);

The old 'Red Way' crossing the glacial land bridge linking the top of Wardley Hill to the Ridlington ridge and on the interfluvium of the Eye Brook and the Chater tributaries;

A track ascending the Eye Brook Valley from Belton in the south past Launde (Site 2) on the Rutland-Leicestershire county boundary.

Although the fieldwalking evidence is superficial and relies on diagnostic type-fossil flint tools for dating, the picture overall is one of human activity extending back to before the last glacial maximum. The environment ranged from glacial and tundra conditions of the Ice Age through to the warmth and woodlands some 6000 years ago. With environmental changes in flora and fauna, the tools for human economic survival and culture adapted from the hunters of Glaston and Launde, to the hunter-herders and gatherer-gardeners of the Mesolithic. A window on these effects can perhaps be seen in Lapland where living on the edge suggests affinities with our own past.

<b>Site 1</b>	
<b>Parish:</b>	Glaston
<b>Geology:</b>	Faulting = Lower Lincolnshire Limestone on Lower Estuarine Sands
<b>Aspect:</b>	121m OD, on east-west ridge crest
<b>Water source:</b>	Tributaries of the Chater and Welland nearby
<b>Method:</b>	Excavation in advance of development by ULAS
<b>References:</b>	Cooper & Thomas 2001; Cooper 2004b; Jones, Clive, 2001; Thomas & Jacobi 2001
	
<p><i>Fig. 9. The Glaston sand quarry with the farmyard adjacent (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947).</i></p> <p>The excavation of this Early Upper Palaeolithic open-air site of national importance (c30,000 BP) has been described fully elsewhere (see references). The excavation results emphasize the complementary value of fieldwalking surveys as another avenue of retrieving further archaeological evidence.</p> <p>During the 1940s quarrying for sand had exposed the remains of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery and Bronze Age cremations. Consequently when planning permission was sought for the building of new houses on the adjacent farmyard, in about 1999, provision was made in the planning process for an archaeological excavation in advance of development.</p> <p>John Thomas led the ULAS team on the site and found not only evidence for the 10th to 14th century medieval village, but also some hundred worked flints containing a strong late Mesolithic component as well as later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pieces. Although a small pit containing probable Bronze Age pottery was also found, no more of the Anglo-Saxons came to light.</p> <p>If this was not enough, and as the excavation was nearing completion, a final check of the site showed that recent rainfall had exposed some extremely large animal bones in the base of a trench, and in the midst lay a magnificent flint blade – a 'leaf point', probably a spearhead, lying on sand dated to 30,000±3000 BP. This caused the excavation to be extended, with inputs from English Heritage, the British Museum and the Natural History Museum as well as many others. John Thomas (ULAS) and Roger Jacobi (British Museum) recorded in <i>Current Archaeology</i> (Thomas &amp; Jacobi 2001) that the 'leaf point' suggested that it was laid down during a warm spell within the last Ice Age. Although for most of this time Britain had a cool climate, there were two intense cold spells, 74,000-60,000 BP and 22,000-13,000 BP, when</p>	

there were almost certainly no humans in Britain and probably very few large mammals either. Between the cold spells there was a series of warmer periods: Glaston probably belongs towards the end, about 40,000 - 30,000 BP.

The 'leaf point' spear tip is a tool common in Germany and Poland and is typical of the Early Upper Palaeolithic. In Britain it is rare, with only 30 find spots, including Creswell Crags. This was a time when modern humans were replacing Neanderthals, but it is not possible to say which used such points (only two points have ever been found with human remains, one in Hungary and another in Czechoslovakia, and both were with Neanderthals.)

During this period the sea levels were some 40 to 100m lower than today and Britain was joined to the European continent. The climate was dry and perhaps a few degrees cooler than now, with rich grasslands supporting wild horse, Irish giant deer, bison, woolly mammoth, woolly rhinoceros, reindeer, and their predators lion, bear, wolf, and spotted hyena, and also some hominids. At Glaston there are horse bones and woolly rhino bones in profusion.

Twenty metres from the 'leaf point' area, a spotted hyena den was found around limestone rocks. There were the gnawed bones of woolly rhinoceros, woolly mammoth, reindeer, wolverine and arctic hare as well as bones of small mammals such as lemming and vole.

The horse bones were found mostly near the flint area rather than the hyena den and showed few signs of having been chewed by hyenas. The angular spiral fractures would only have been made when the bone was fresh and are similar to those found on sites where marrow extraction was thought to have taken place – possibly implying that there was already a symbiotic relationship between human and horse at this time.

The finding of this 'leaf point' spear associated with animal bones and other Palaeolithic flakes and cores *in situ* here in Glaston means that all those possible potential Palaeolithic pieces found during fieldwalking now have a much greater significance than before this excavation.

## Site 2

<b>Parish:</b>	Launde, Leicestershire	<b>Grid Ref:</b>	SK 809032
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay on Northampton Sand Ironstone and Upper Lias Clay		
<b>Aspect:</b>	190m OD, ridge top with commanding views to the north and south		
<b>Water source:</b>	Tributaries of the Eye Brook and Chater nearby		
<b>Method:</b>	Excavation by ULAS in advance of the Wing to Whatborough water pipeline in 1997		
<b>References:</b>	Cooper 2004a; 2004b; 2006; IGS Sheets 156 & 157		

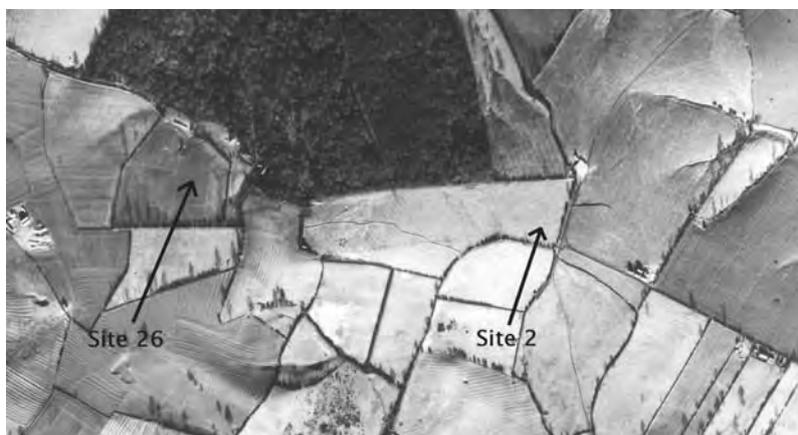


Fig. 10. Sites 2 and 26, Launde (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947).

The excavation of this Terminal Palaeolithic 'long blade' site (10,300-9700 BP) was directed by Lynden Cooper of ULAS who has described his results fully elsewhere. It was found during the evaluation of the water pipeline easement, and the decision to cut a trial trench here was basically chance and because of the stunning views from the ridge top on the Rutland/Leicestershire county boundary.

Launde joins about 30 other English sites of the later Upper Palaeolithic 'long blade' type and is of national archaeological significance. The campsite was subjected to meticulous excavation with all the artefacts three-dimensionally located. Some 3500 *in situ* flints were recovered mainly from a circular scatter 5m in diameter. Much of the material had been burnt in antiquity and when plotted showed that the knapping of blades and bladelets was undertaken around a central hearth. The dispersion of artefacts suggested that the hearth was in the open air rather than in a tent (there is evidence for tents at several Upper Palaeolithic sites: there are east European mammoth tents as well as north-west European tent rings like that from Zeijen, Netherlands, which have been compared to historically documented tent rings in Greenland and tipi rings in North America (Cooper 2006, 79); perhaps they can also compare to the tents used by the Lapps recorded by Marsden et al (1976, 28)).

By the hearth were several 'obliquely truncated points', or arrowheads, indicating the repair and maintenance of hunting kits. Scrapers were found beyond the hearth area indicating hide processing or woodworking (Cooper 2004a, 7). The tool assemblage shows that 'remarkable parallels are seen with several sites from Holland and Belgium, termed Epi-Ahrensbergian, strongly suggesting that they may be directly related, possibly even the same individuals operating across a wide social and hunting territory. As with the Creswellian projectiles it would seem that the flint projectile points were socio-cultural emblems, unifying the north-west European hunters, but differentiating themselves from hunters to the south and east' (*ibid.*, 7).

<b>Site 3</b>	
<b>Parish:</b>	Ayston (the 'Poor Field')
<b>Geology:</b>	Sandy & ironstone rubble over Northampton Sand Ironstone over Upper Lias Clay
<b>Aspect:</b>	150m OD, Uppingham plateau looking to the east
<b>Water source:</b>	Site by the springs and issues of (?) the 'Thornham Brook'
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2005
<b>References:</b>	Cooper & Jones 2006; Jones, E, 2005b; 2006b

On this third 'super' site, 861 flints were collected from the surface of the ploughsoil. The writer assigned 617 to the Mesolithic and 244 to the Neolithic-Early Bronze Age. Lynden Cooper of ULAS (*pers. comm.*) has identified diagnostic pieces from the Late Upper Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic technologies, including:

- 6 'crested blades' (possibly Late Upper Palaeolithic)
- 12 'obliquely truncated points' ('otp') (Terminal Palaeolithic and later – one example was similar to one from Launde)
- 5 Mesolithic crested bladelets
- 1 angle-backed fragment with heavy patina and staining which could be a Late Upper Palaeolithic Creswell/Cheddar point
- 1 backed blade – possibly Late Upper Palaeolithic

Later Mesolithic pieces include:

- a 'core tablet'
- a core of chert
- a leaf-shaped arrowhead
- 3 microliths
- 1 crescent microlith (too small for a 'federmesser')

Cores, blades and bladelets, 'crested blades' and 'core tablets' attest to flint-knapping on site. Cooper considers the site to date from the Early Mesolithic period around 9700 years ago, but it is worth noting that all the diagnostically early pieces are clustered around the springs at the top of the field in an area of about 80 sq m, with a smaller cluster to the east (see distribution plans, Fig. 13). Although Neolithic-Early Bronze Age flints were also present, the Bronze Age arrowhead, tools and scrapers were mid slope, 140m OD, with no tools identified on the higher ground.

The springs issued into a 30m wide natural bowl 4 to 5 feet deep along the interface of the Northampton Sand Ironstone and the underlying Upper Lias Clay. From this small corner of 'waste' on the Ayston-Uppingham parish boundary flows the stream that may be the 'Thornham Brook' referred to in the 1046 Anglo-Saxon Charter of Ayston (Hart 1966, 108-09; Phythian Adams 1977, 75, 80-81, fn17 & 21). At the head of the spring is a north-south footpath going west of Uppingham town centre to Ayston and beyond.



Fig. 11. Some of the early flint pieces from the 'Poor Field'. L to R: angle-backed fragment with heavy patina and staining, like a Late Upper Palaeolithic Creswell/Cheddar point (6N); 3 'obliquely truncated points' (5M); another 'otp' very like one from Launde (6N); backed blade – Late Upper Palaeolithic? (7K); crested blade – Late Upper Palaeolithic? or Mesolithic (5L).



Fig. 12. On the Ayston/Uppingham parish boundary flow issues, possibly of the 'Thornham Brook'.

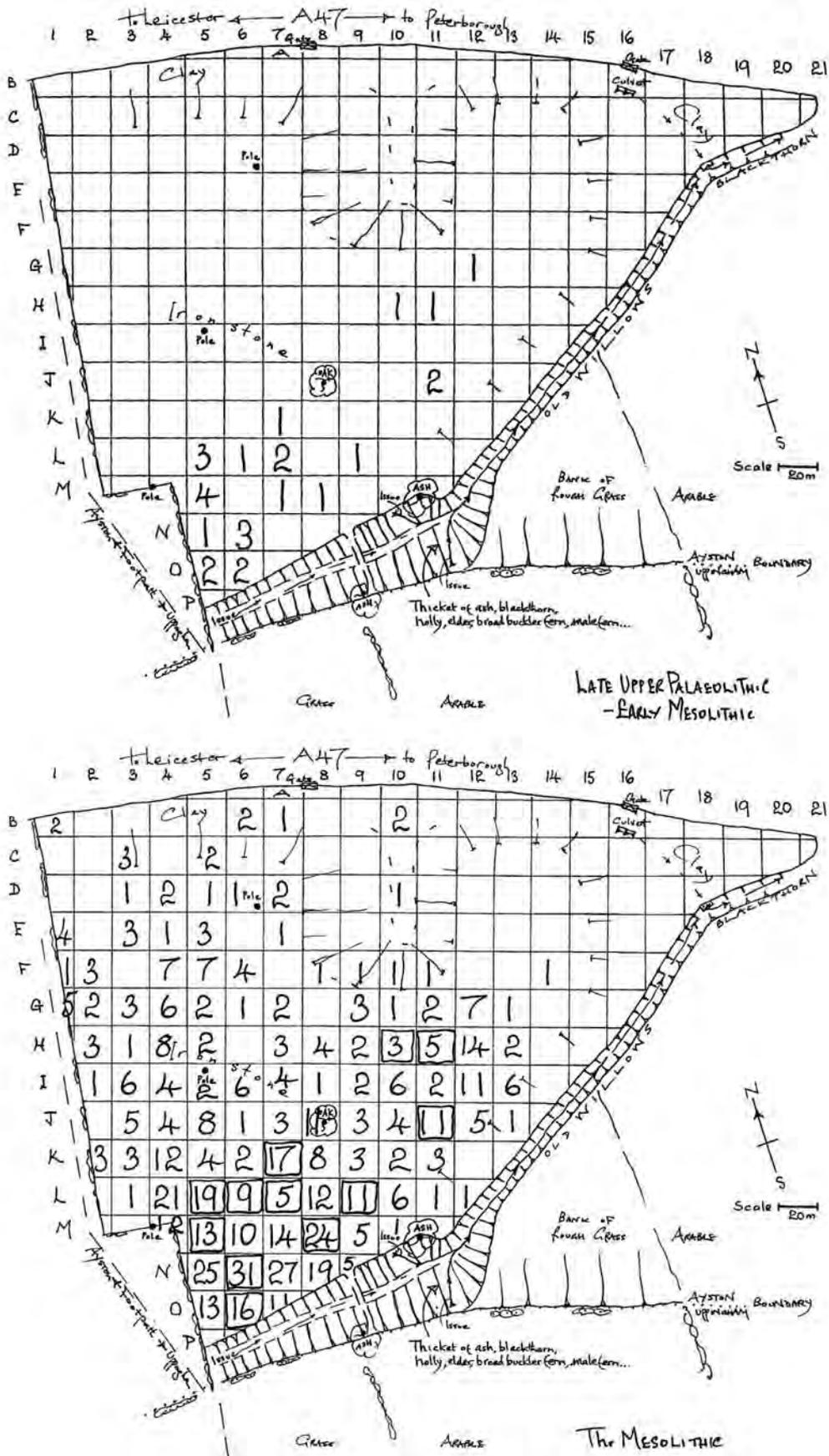


Fig. 13. The distribution of diagnostic Late Upper Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic finds around the spring at the top of Ayton 'Poor Field' (Site 3) (above), and the distribution of all the Late Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic flint from this field (below), adapted from the grid plans in the site archive (Jones, 2005b).

<b>Site 4</b>		<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 864008
<b>Parish:</b>	Ayston ('Parliament Field')	
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	140m OD,	
<b>Water source:</b>	'Thornham Brook'	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2000	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2001a; 2001b	
<p>An 'end-of-blade' scraper, possibly Late Upper Palaeolithic-Early Mesolithic, and a thick heavily patinated iron-stained flake which could also be Palaeolithic, were amongst nearly 300 Mesolithic and later flint pieces collected. The two early pieces were found on the upper south-facing slope about 60-80m from the ridge-way and about 500m from the 'Poor Field'.</p>		

Fig. 14. A possible Late Upper Palaeolithic-Early Mesolithic 'end-of-blade' scraper.

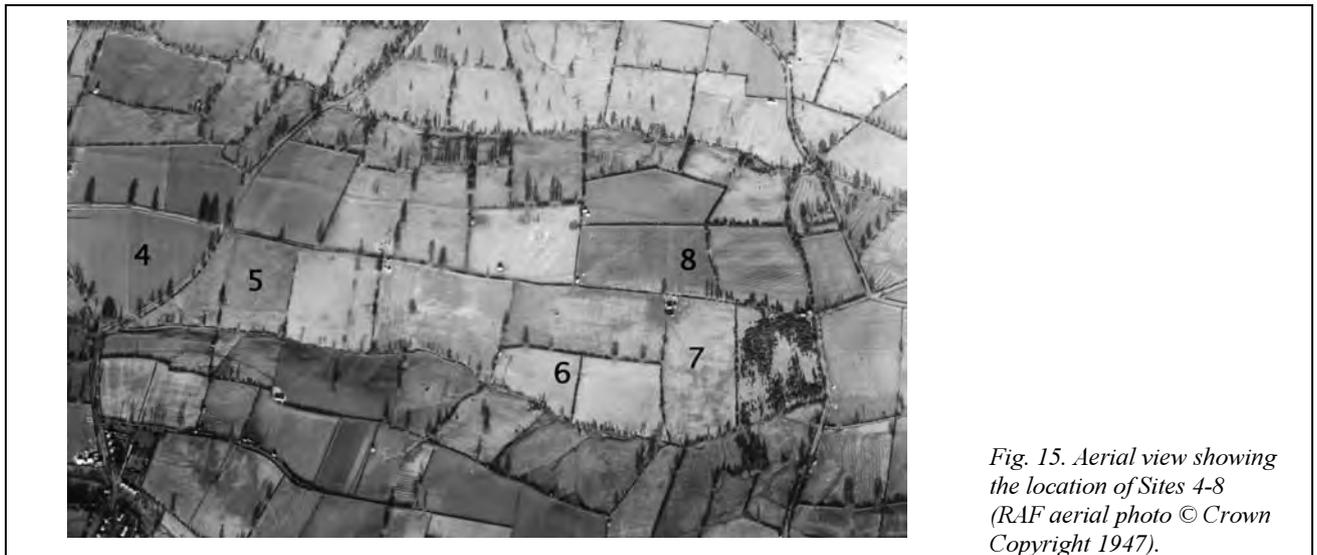


Fig. 15. Aerial view showing the location of Sites 4-8 (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947).

<b>Site 5</b>		<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 870009
<b>Parish:</b>	Ayston (the 'Damme Field')	
<b>Geology:</b>	Sandy ironstone rubble on Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	120-130m OD, slope facing south from the ridge-way	
<b>Water source:</b>	'Thornham Brook'	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2003	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2003; 2004a	
<p>Five possible Palaeolithic-Early Mesolithic flints (a blade-like flake, 2 flakes, 2 retouched blades) were collected from the western end of the field. Substantial scatters of later material dating from the Mesolithic were also there.</p>		



Fig. 16. The 'Damme Field' looking to the southeast across the 'Thornham Brook' towards Glaston.

<b>Site 6</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Ayston ('Uppingham Close')	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 876008
<b>Geology:</b>	Slipped ironstone rubble on Upper Lias Clay	
<b>Aspect:</b>	100-115m OD,	
<b>Water source:</b>	'Thornham Brook'	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2004c	
A heavily corticated flake and one pale blade-like flake found mid-slope could both be Palaeolithic. There were also 22 pieces of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flint along with Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age material.		
<b>Site 7</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Ayston ('Pisbrooke Close')	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 879009
<b>Geology:</b>	Slipped ironstone rubble on Upper Lias Clay	
<b>Aspect:</b>	100-120m OD, south-east facing slope by the ridge-way and crossed by a footpath	
<b>Water source:</b>	'Thornham Brook'	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2003	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2004b; 2006b	
The negative evidence – no diagnostic Palaeolithic or Early Mesolithic pieces found, but Mesolithic-Early Neolithic and later flint present.		
<b>Site 8</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Ayston ('Prettys' and 'Cornerfield')	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 876013
<b>Geology:</b>	Upper Lias Clay	
<b>Aspect:</b>	90-125m OD, north-east facing slope	
<b>Water source:</b>	'Thursley Brook' to the north	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2004	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2004d & e; 2005a; 2006b	
The negative evidence – no diagnostic Palaeolithic or Early Mesolithic pieces identified, but ?Mesolithic and later flint present.		
<b>Site 9</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham (Twitchbed Lane – 'Beeches' development)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 868003
<b>Geology:</b>	Lower Estuarine silt and yellow sand on Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	140m OD, south facing from the ridge-way	
<b>Water source:</b>	Stream to the south	
<b>Method:</b>	A 'watching brief' by Elaine Jones in 1987	
<b>References:</b>	SMR; Anne Graf ( <i>pers. comm.</i> )	
No Palaeolithic or Early Mesolithic flint found, but a few blade-type pieces present.		
<b>Site 10</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham ('Firs Avenue' 2000 development)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 862003
<b>Geology:</b>	Sand and ironstone rubble on Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	140m OD, Uppingham plateau	
<b>Water source:</b>	'Thornham Brook' to the north and stream to the south	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking, geophysics, and excavation by ULAS in 2000	
<b>References:</b>	Chapman 2000; Priest 2000; Butler <i>et al</i> 2001	
No Palaeolithic or Early Mesolithic pieces identified, but the Mesolithic and later flint pointed to 'prehistoric activity and possibly occupation'.		
<b>Site 11</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham (the Leicester Road allotments)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 860003
<b>Geology:</b>	Sandy ironstone rubble on Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	150m OD, Uppingham plateau	
<b>Water source:</b>	Just to the south is an issue/pond	
<b>Method:</b>	On-going allotment watch by Elaine Jones	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2007a	
Two (possible) Upper Palaeolithic pieces (a blade-like flake and a struck fragment) as well as Mesolithic and later material have been found to date.		



Fig. 17. Aerial view showing the location of Sites 3- 5 and 9-13 (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947).

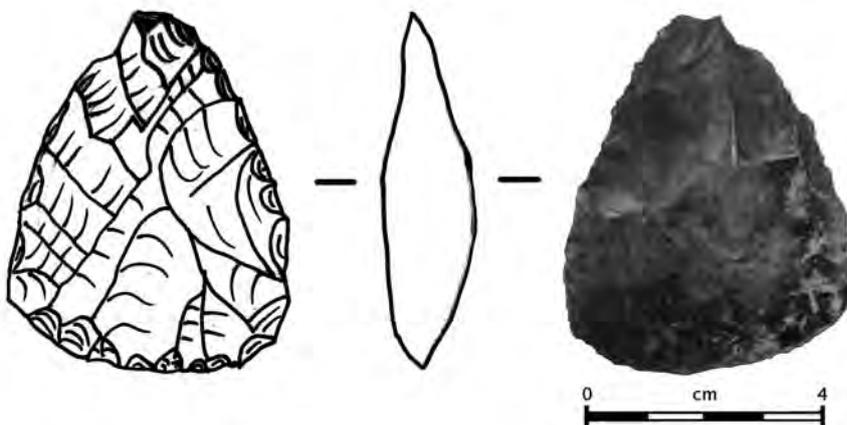
**Site 12**

<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham (Lime Tree Avenue development)	<b>Grid Ref:</b>	SK 861001
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone		
<b>Aspect:</b>	145m OD, Uppingham plateau		
<b>Water source:</b>	Issue/pond		
<b>Method:</b>	A watching brief by Elaine Jones in 1988		
<b>References:</b>	SMR; Anne Graf LMARS Identification M9469 of 7th January 1988 (R69)		

No Palaeolithic or Early Mesolithic pieces, but a ‘definite Mesolithic-Early Neolithic element of blades, blade cores, and blade-like flakes, of about 1/3 total...’, the remainder being Neolithic-Bronze Age.

**Site 13**

<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham (the old Leicester Road - west side)	<b>Grid Ref:</b>	SK 855002
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone		
<b>Aspect:</b>	155m OD, Uppingham plateau edge over Beaumont Chase		
<b>Water source:</b>	Springs along Beaumont Chase edge and on the Uppingham plateau		
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2004-05 (see Fig. 23)		
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2007a		



A fourth potentially important site was noted when a Lower or Middle Palaeolithic bifacial hand-axe, accompanied by five other possible Palaeolithic pieces, was collected during the fieldwalking survey, about 160m from the edge of Beaumont Chase. A possible Upper Palaeolithic fragment, plus Mesolithic, Early Neolithic and later flint material, was also retained.

Fig. 18. Drawing and photo of the Palaeolithic hand-axe (author).

<b>Site 14</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham (Gower Lodge on Spring Back Way)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 863996
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone junction with the underlying Upper Lias Clay	
<b>Aspect:</b>	140m OD, south-facing, mid-slope	
<b>Water source:</b>	Old town well, spring and stream	
<b>Method:</b>	Gardening in 1982	
<b>References:</b>	SMR; Jones, E, unpublished report	
		<p>No Late Upper Palaeolithic-Early Mesolithic pieces were seen but a Mesolithic core tablet and a burin, plus Early Neolithic and later material, were identified from the 260 pieces found.</p> <p><i>Fig. 19. An early twentieth century photograph shows the flint location by the 'Cinder Track' off Spring Back Way.</i></p>

	
<p><i>Fig. 20. Sites 15, 16 and 17 at King's Hill, Beaumont Chase 13 (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947).</i></p>	

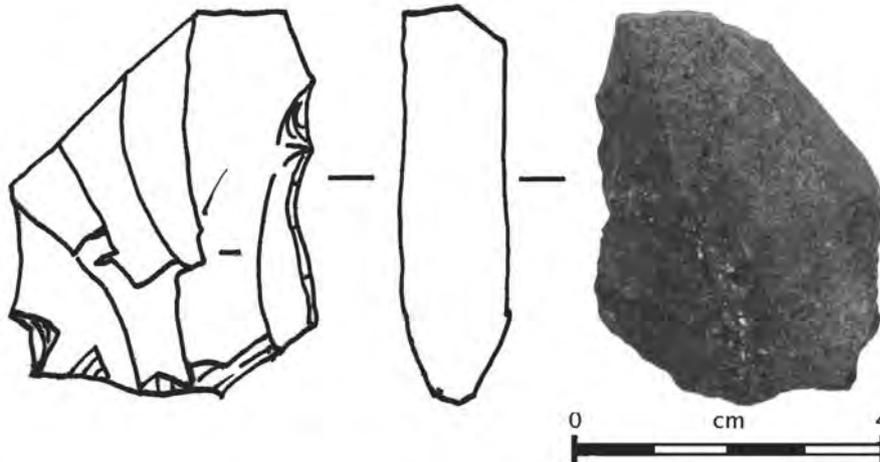
<b>Site 15</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham ('Long Field' by Beaumont Chase)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SP 8485900
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay on Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	160m OD, west edge of Uppingham plateau overlooking Beaumont Chase and the Eye Brook	
<b>Water source:</b>	The spring line	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking survey by RLHRS Archaeological Team	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2007b & c	
<p>No Palaeolithic or Early Mesolithic pieces were found, but 50 Mesolithic / Early Neolithic flints were in clusters suggesting some form of 'transient activity'.</p>		



Fig. 21. A general view over Beaumont Chase (photo: author).

<b>Site 16</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Beaumont Chase / Stoke Dry / Uppingham	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SP 848986
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay over Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	160m OD, Uppingham plateau overlooking Beaumont Chase and the Eye Brook	
<b>Water source:</b>	Spring line	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by RLHRS Archaeological Team	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2007c; Pickering & Hartley 1985	
One Early Mesolithic blade core reworked to a Neolithic / Early Bronze Age flake was amongst 40 worked flints dating from the Mesolithic and later periods – a continuation of activity from Site 15.		

<b>Site 17</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Beaumont Chase ('King's Hill Field')	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SP 845985
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone and Upper Lias Clay	
<b>Aspect:</b>	100-145m OD, mid-slope facing west over the Eye Brook	
<b>Water source:</b>	Spring line and tributary of the Eye Brook	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by RLHRS Archaeological Team	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2007d	



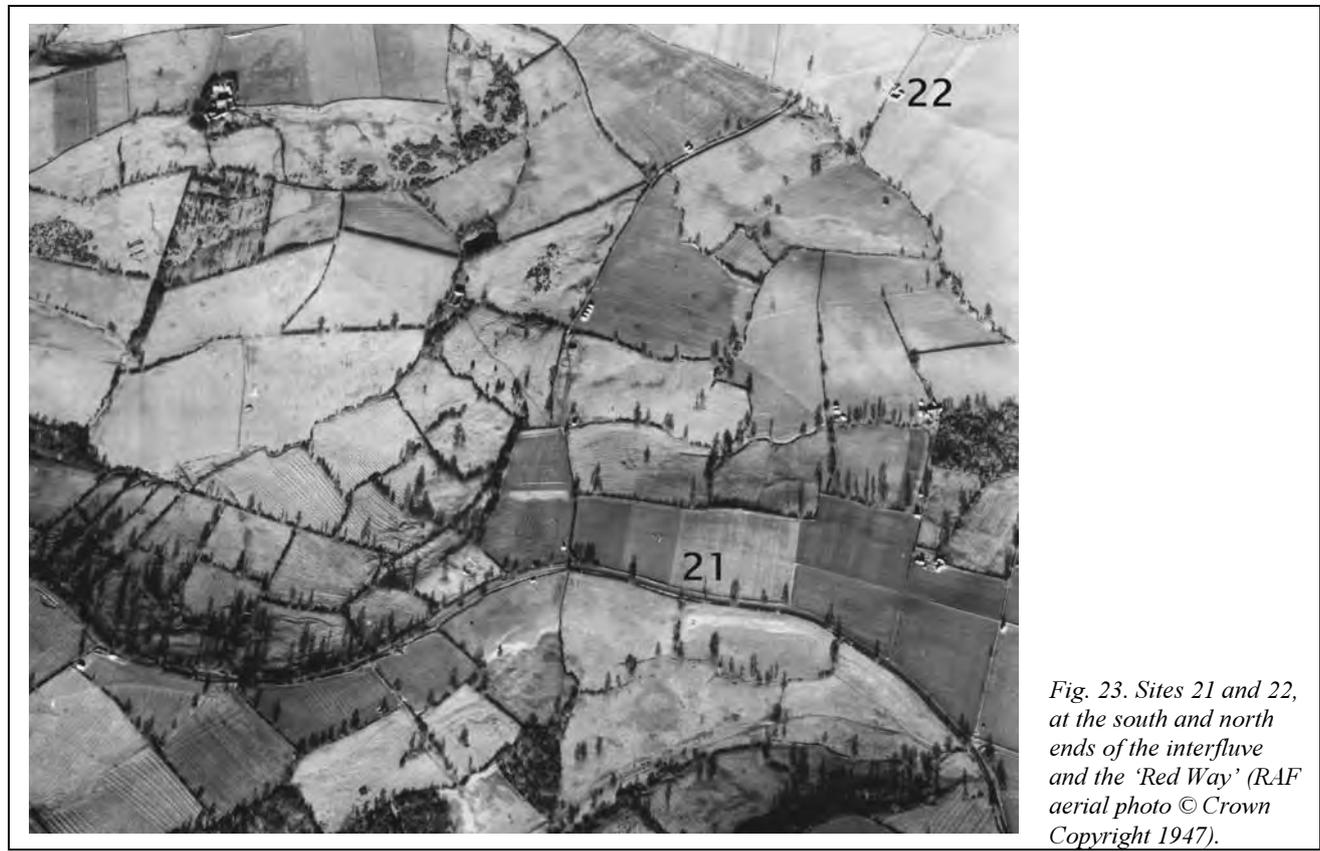
Tools in stone, as well as Mesolithic / Early Neolithic flint and later material, were collected from around the ironstone/clay junction and the path of the old King's Hill road. The stone tools have yet to be dated.

Fig. 22. Drawing and photo of a stone scraper, made of rhyolite probably from the Mount Sorrel area of Charnwood.

<b>Site 18</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Beaumont Chase	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SP 840985
<b>Geology:</b>	A shelf of Marlstone Rock Bed sandwiched between the Upper and Middle Lias clays	
<b>Aspect:</b>	80-100m OD, Bottom of slope by the Eye Brook	
<b>Water source:</b>	Eye Brook	
<b>Method:</b>	A 'walk-over' by RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2007	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2007e	
The negative evidence – no Palaeolithic or Mesolithic pieces were seen; only Neolithic and Early Bronze Age flints were found on the Marlstone shelf with none on the clays.		

<b>Site 19</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Uppingham ('Redgate' and Lyddington 'Brand')	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SP 8799
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay on Northampton Sand Ironstone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	145m OD, north-south path	
<b>Water source:</b>	Streams	
<b>Method:</b>	'Chance' finds from along the path	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2007f; ongoing R63 & R64	
A Palaeolithic? flake was retrieved from car park extension works at the Uppingham Community College. Mesolithic / Early Neolithic and later flint is being found by the footpath.		

<b>Site 20</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	North Luffenham (Morcott Spinney ridge-way)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 927025
<b>Geology:</b>	Lower Lincolnshire Limestone	
<b>Aspect:</b>	85-95m OD, slope facing north-east	
<b>Water source:</b>	Near confluence of River Chater and 'Thornham-Thursley Brook'	
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in 2005	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 2006a & b	
Two ?Palaeolithic flints and a ?Palaeolithic metaquartzite stone core as well as 36 Mesolithic (including a triangular microlith), Early Neolithic and over two hundred later flint pieces were collected.		



*Fig. 23. Sites 21 and 22, at the south and north ends of the interfluvial and the 'Red Way' (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947).*



Fig. 24. Fieldwalkers on Site 13, on the plateau west of the old Leicester Road, Uppingham (photo: author).

Site 21	
<b>Parish:</b>	Ayston (Wardley Hill) <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 846011
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone
<b>Aspect:</b>	160m OD, high point on the Uppingham plateau, by the old 'Red Way' Boulder Clay interfluvial land bridge to Ridlington
<b>Water source:</b>	Springs
<b>Method:</b>	Watch on the A47 trunk road realignment in the 1980s
<b>References:</b>	SMR MLE5019 identification by Anne Graf
A dense scatter of Mesolithic flint implements and knapping debris was spread over about 100m of the new road alignment.	

Site 22	
<b>Parish:</b>	Ridlington (east of Lee's Barn) <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 848023
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone
<b>Aspect:</b>	150m OD, mid-slope facing south, by the 'Red Way'
<b>Water source:</b>	East-flowing headwaters of the 'Thursley Brook'
<b>Method:</b>	Wing to Whatborough water pipeline excavation and field survey by ULAS in 1996
<b>References:</b>	Cooper 2002
Stratified late Mesolithic material excavated from a pit along the pipeline easement; other unstratified Mesolithic pieces were found around Lee's Barn.	

Site 23	
<b>Parish:</b>	Ridlington (south of Park Farm Cottages) <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 836023
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay and Northampton Sand Ironstone
<b>Aspect:</b>	165-175m OD, ridge-way on the Uppingham plateau interfluvial
<b>Water source:</b>	Springs
<b>Method:</b>	Wing to Whatborough water pipeline excavation and field survey by ULAS in 1996
<b>References:</b>	Cooper 2002
Mesolithic material was found. Cooper discerned nine areas along the pipeline but noted that 'Early Neolithic material appeared to be absent from the study transect' with a relative lack of type-fossils although Early Bronze Age and later pieces were present.	

Site 24	
<b>Parish:</b>	Leighfield <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 824026
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay on Northampton Sand Ironstone
<b>Aspect:</b>	170m OD, pipeline (Field 34) on the south side of the ridge-way
<b>Water source:</b>	Springs north down to the Chater and south Eye Brook tributaries
<b>Method:</b>	Wing to Whatborough water pipeline excavation and field survey by ULAS in 1996
<b>References:</b>	Cooper 2002
One Palaeolithic blade core (+ later material).	

<b>Site 25</b>	
<b>Parish:</b>	Leighfield <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 813032
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay on Upper Lias Clay (Northampton Sand Ironstone possible)
<b>Aspect:</b>	180m OD, (Field 27)
<b>Water source:</b>	Issues to the north
<b>Method:</b>	Wing to Whatborough water pipe line excavation and field survey by ULAS in 1996
<b>References:</b>	Cooper 2002
One Late Palaeolithic core pre-form that is possibly contemporary with the Launde super-site (Site 2).	

<b>Site 26</b>	
<b>Parish:</b>	Launde, Leicestershire (south of Park Wood Farm) <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 803032
<b>Geology:</b>	Glacial sands and gravels on Northampton Sand Ironstone
<b>Aspect:</b>	180m OD, (Fields 23 & 24)
<b>Water source:</b>	Well
<b>Method:</b>	Wing to Whatborough water pipe line excavation and field survey by ULAS in 1996
<b>References:</b>	Cooper 2002
Mesolithic flint.	

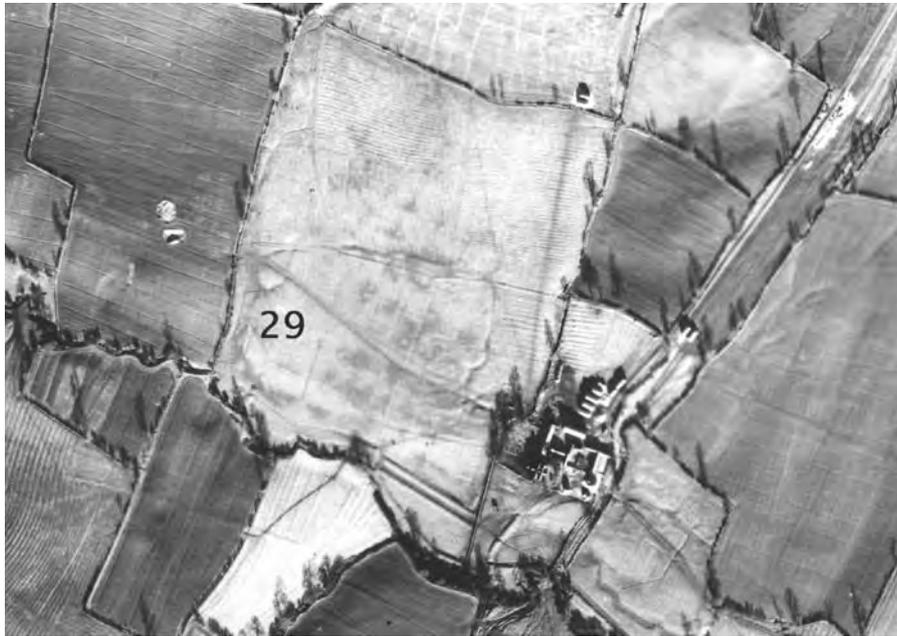
<b>Site 27</b>	
<b>Parish:</b>	Whatborough Hill, Leicestershire <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 768058
<b>Geology:</b>	Northampton Sand Ironstone
<b>Aspect:</b>	200-225m OD, south-facing hill slope (Field 1)
<b>Water source:</b>	Head of the River Chater
<b>Method:</b>	Wing to Whatborough water pipe line excavation and field survey by ULAS in 1996
<b>References:</b>	Cooper 2002
An Upper Palaeolithic core tablet and possible contemporary debitage, plus Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age pieces recovered. Whatborough Hill is the most westerly outcrop of Northampton Sand in this region and stands high in a sea of Upper Lias Clay on the interfluvium, with outstanding views over the north-flowing Soar valley and the headwaters of the easterly flowing Chater and Eye Brook.	



*Fig. 25. The water pipe-line works approaching Whatborough Hill in April 1996 (photo: author).*

<b>Site 28</b>	
<b>Parish:</b>	Leighfield (south east of Leigh Lodge) <b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 835035
<b>Geology:</b>	Glacial sands and gravels on Marlstone Rock Bed/Upper Lias Clay
<b>Aspect:</b>	105m OD, south side of the Chater valley near a confluence with a tributary stream
<b>Water source:</b>	River Chater
<b>Method:</b>	Fieldwalking by R F Hartley in the 1980s
<b>References:</b>	SMR
A scatter of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic flint with Later Neolithic / Early Bronze Age pieces was found in the valley.	

<b>Site 29</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Leighfield (south of Swintley Lodge)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 822043
<b>Geology:</b>	Marlstone Rock Bed	
<b>Aspect:</b>	120m OD, path along the north side of the Chater valley	
<b>Water source:</b>	River Chater	
<b>Method:</b>	Chance find by the writer	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, 1994	



A Mesolithic / Neolithic end scraper and a blade core along with over 40 other flint pieces were collected near the path.

Fig. 26. The RAF aerial photographs taken in January 1947 indicate soil marks of an enclosure in the area (RAF aerial photo © Crown Copyright 1947).

<b>Site 30</b>		
<b>Parish:</b>	Launde (Launde Park Wood – north side)	<b>Grid Ref:</b> SK 804040
<b>Geology:</b>	Boulder Clay on Upper Lias Clay and Marlstone Rock Bed	
<b>Aspect:</b>	c160m OD,	
<b>Water source:</b>	R Chater and tributaries	
<b>Method:</b>	Chance finds in the woodlands	
<b>References:</b>	Jones, E, unpublished R23	
One Upper Palaeolithic / Early Mesolithic long thin blade and two other Mesolithic blades found by chance in the woods.		

### Acknowledgements

Many of the findspots and sites described in this paper are the result of years of fieldwalking by the amateur Archaeological Team of the RLHRS. Team members who participated were: Jane Ainsworth, Kathleen Angel, David Carlin, Richard Cooper, Sue Davidson, Kate Don, Rosemary Eaton, Hilary Eyre, Harry and Jill Finch, Jo Holroyd, Rob Hutchins, Clive Jones, Jasmine Knew, Jenny McConnell, Jenny Naylor, Sheila Sleath, Hugh Stiles, and Wendy Walden.

Developer-funded excavation and survey of major sites of national importance like Launde and Glaston have been conducted by the University of Leicester's

Archaeological Services and have been published fully in their papers elsewhere.

I need to thank all those farmers and landowners for giving us permission to walk over their land and their crops during the winter months and making this survey possible in the first instance.

Expert identification of the finds was, of course, essential. Over the years Patrick Clay and Lynden Cooper of ULAS, Anne Graf and Richard Knox, Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services, and Robert Middleton have provided us with their identifications. However, much still remains to be done.

### Abbreviations

Arch Rep Unpublished report by RLHRS Archaeological Team, with report number  
 bc Uncalibrated radiocarbon date BC  
 BP Before the present [nominally 1950]  
 OD Height above Ordnance Datum

RLHRS Rutland Local History and Record Society  
 SMR Sites and Monuments Record for Rutland, maintained by Leicestershire County Council's Heritage Services, Room 500, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester  
 ULAS University of Leicester Archaeological Services

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# Rutland History and Archaeology in 2006

Edited by T H MCK CLOUGH

The Editor is grateful to all those who have provided information and reports for this section.

The following abbreviations are used:

APS	Archaeological Project Services, The Old School, Cameron Street, Heckington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 9RW	RCM	Rutland County Museum
NA	Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2 Bolton House, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN3 8BE	RLHRS	Rutland Local History & Record Society
		RR	<i>Rutland Record</i>
		ULAS	University of Leicester Archaeological Services, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH

## I – Archaeological Fieldwork during 2006

Short reports, arranged in alphabetical order by parish

### **Beaumont Chase and Uppingham** (SP 848986)

Quantities of undated iron tap slag indicating the presence of a furnace site were found. The slag probably relates to the stone pits cut into the Northampton Sand Ironstone in the adjacent pasture. This fieldwalking survey by the RLHRS Archaeological Team in December 2006 also recovered a few sherds of ‘interesting’ pottery.

The finds relate to aerial photographs of a ‘sub-rectangular enclosure’ and also an ‘egg-shaped enclosure’ recorded in *Past Worlds in a Landscape* by James Pickering and Robert F Hartley (Leicestershire Museums (1985) 62-3 (7)). A site report has yet to be compiled (RLHRS R62).

*Elaine Jones*

### **Barrowden, Tippings Lane** (SK 94730012)

A watching brief was undertaken by staff of APS for Mr R Jones in the historic village core, close to known medieval remains. A medieval pit containing numerous dog bones, probably an animal burial, was revealed. This was sealed beneath deposits of probable late medieval or early post-medieval date that had been laid down to create a terrace on the natural slope. Cut into these terrace deposits was an undated but probably post-medieval pit. Overlying this pit were subsoil and topsoil deposits of 18th-20th century date. Archive: RCM 2007.41.

*Gary Taylor*

### **Belton-in-Rutland, Old Baptist Chapel** (SK 81720151)

ULAS was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Tempest to undertake a photographic survey of the Old Baptist Chapel. Planning permission has been granted to convert the Chapel to residential use. The Chapel was erected in 1842 (Tomalin 2002, 70). It consists of a single-storey rectangular Chapel house of red brick with a hipped roof of apparently Welsh slate.

Tomalin, P. The returns of the Rutland registration districts to the 1851 Census of Religious Worship, *Rutland Record* 22 (2002) 51-86.

*Gerwyn Richards*

### **Bisbrooke, Village Farm** (SP 88569955)

Proposals for redevelopment in the centre of Bisbrooke were examined by a programme of desk-based study and

building survey by staff of APS for C T Breakspeare, Chartered Architect. The desk-based research indicated that the site was in the medieval core of the village and in proximity to prehistoric remains. Place-name evidence indicated that there was a brick or tile kiln at the site, and a rabbit warren adjacent, no later than the 18th century. Building survey revealed an 18th century stone-built threshing barn incorporated into 19th century and later farm structures. Three sides of the barn survived and there was evidence it had been shortened in the 19th century and the opposed threshing doors substantially infilled. Archive: RCM 2007.9.

*Katie Murphy*

### **Cottesmore, Church of St Nicholas** (SK 90241361)

An archaeological watching brief was carried out by NA during the groundworks for the installation of a toilet for the disabled in the tower of the church. A single inhumation burial of probable medieval date was seen during the excavation of a manhole; no other features were observed.

*Tim Upson-Smith*

### **Essendine, Bourne Road** (TF 04741267)

Development close to the historic core of Essendine was monitored by staff of APS for Mr & Mrs Delve. A pit was revealed beneath the subsoil and although undated is probably ancient. Artefacts of 19th-20th century date were recovered. Archive: RCM 2007.28.

*Paul Cope-Faulkner*

### **Greetham, Greetham Quarry** (SK 930149)

Excavations were undertaken by Cambridge Archaeological Unit on behalf of M Dickerson Ltd in advance of the first phase extension to the quarry. A residual assemblage of Neolithic and Bronze Age flint preceded a narrow swathe of evidence for settlement beginning in the latter part of the Early Iron Age, with a second phase extending through the Middle Iron Age. The first-phase settlement comprised two round houses and an isolated four-post structure. The houses were framed by enclosure ditches to the E and W which bisected the development area, creating a narrow corridor. One of the houses produced a

group of Early Iron Age pottery, a rubbing stone and a bone weaving comb. The second phase of settlement involved the re-cutting of the western enclosure ditch and the construction of a small trapezoidal enclosure on the eastern side, around which the Middle Iron Age settlement focused. A number of pits associated with the enclosure produced deposits of finds including Scored Ware pottery, a complete rotary quern, triangular loom-weights and iron objects.

*Matthew Brudenell*

**Ketton, Bull Lane** (SK 98200466)

R Hall of APS carried out a watching brief and building recording, for Boss Stone Masonry Ltd, during development close to the medieval heart of Ketton. The site is occupied by a listed late 17th to early 18th century cottage. The watching brief did not reveal any archaeological remains. However, the building survey provided a record of the 17th-18th century building and showed it to comprise three principal phases, the latter two both of the 19th century. The original mullioned windows survived in the lower front elevation, and blocked doors and windows were also recorded. Archive: RCM 2007.33.

*Paul Cope-Faulkner*

**Ketton, The Green** (SK 97940437)

Construction close to the medieval core of Ketton was monitored for the Richard Oakley Partnership by B Martin of APS. However, the only remains revealed were of 19th-20th century date and included a posthole, wall and drainage culvert. Artefacts of 18th-20th century date were retrieved. Archive: RCM 2007.36.

*Paul Cope-Faulkner*

**Ketton, Stamford Lane, Fishponds** (SK 985051)

Archaeological investigation was undertaken by NA on land at Fishponds, Stamford Lane. A small number of features were uncovered, including undated linear features and a section of curving ditch with fills containing four flints of broadly Neolithic to early Bronze Age date (two flakes, a blade and a possible core), and a few medieval pottery sherds dated to the 12th to mid-13th centuries. Archive: RCM 2006.7.

*Nathan Flavell*

**Manton, Dairy Farm, Lyndon Road** (SK 882047)

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by ULAS on behalf of McCrombie Smith Architects in advance of the proposed construction of one dwelling with garage. Two evaluation trenches were excavated which revealed well-preserved Late Saxon and medieval features of varied use. These included Late Saxon quarry pits, presumably for building materials, sealed by an early medieval layer, an early medieval furrow, and structural evidence in the form of a wall footing and postholes, with further pitting. This site, when discussed with a previous ULAS excavation immediately to the N, highlights the continuities of land use and probable Late Saxon origin of the core of the current village of Manton. Archive: RCM 2006.1.

*John Tate*

**Oakham, Gaol Street, Knight's Yard** (SK 85960870)

T Bradley-Lovekin of APS carried out a watching brief

for Rutland Planning, during development on the southern edge of the historic core of Oakham. Two medieval pits containing pottery of mid 12th century date were revealed. Additionally, a ditch and pit, both post-medieval, were identified and contained slag and iron objects indicating a smithy in the area. Archive: RCM 2007.16.

*Gary Taylor*

**Oakham, Oakham Bypass** (SK 84671033–SK 86740745)

Investigations along the line of the proposed bypass around the N and E sides of Oakham were supervised by V Mellor of APS for Alfred McAlpine Capital Projects Ltd on behalf of Rutland County Council. The route crossed the previously known cropmark of a prehistoric multiple ditch boundary to the SE of the town. The excavations examined this triple-ditched boundary and recovered pottery dating between the Neolithic and Late Bronze Age periods, including Peterborough Ware, Beaker pottery and Collared Urns. A possible Beaker period date for construction of the boundary is suggested, with the earlier ceramics perhaps derived from disturbed sites nearby. Infilling of the ditches appears to have occurred no earlier than the Late Bronze Age. Between the ditches a circular pit containing a crouched inhumation of an adult male was revealed, and radiocarbon-dated to the Middle Iron Age, 301± 35 BC (Wk-20879).

The boundary appears to have had an extended period of use, with parts re-cut in the Roman period, and a Roman ditch was identified linking to, but not crossing, the system. A double pit alignment was also revealed and yielded prehistoric pottery including a few Beaker sherds, possible Collared Urn, and a single piece of early Iron Age ceramic. Analysis is on-going. The archive will be deposited with RCM, accession number 2007.15.

*Victoria Mellor*

**Pickworth Wood** (SK 49793150)

NA was commissioned by the Forestry Commission to carry out a measured earthwork survey in the western part of Pickworth Wood. The principal feature recorded was a rectangular ditched enclosure approximately 70m square, with an internal bank. There is no available dating evidence, but it could either be the survival of an Iron Age or Roman settlement enclosure or a small ditched enclosure of medieval date. The earthworks have been partly disturbed by later gullies that are related to woodland rides and drainage. Archive: RCM 2006.2.

*Carol Simmonds*

**Seaton, Church Farm** (SP 90359825)

ULAS were commissioned by Stoneleigh Planning to undertake a photographic building survey at Church Farm prior to conversion. Archive: RCM 2006.8.

*Gavin Speed*

**Uppingham, Old Leicester Road** (SK 855002)

A fieldwalking survey by the RLHRS Archaeological Team on the Old Leicester Road yielded a flint hand-axe, possibly of Palaeolithic age [see above, p261, site 13 – Ed]. The field report has yet to be written but little other evidence of past activity was noticed (RLHRS R60).

*Elaine Jones*

**Uppingham** (SP 84859900)

A large muddy field with very little in it, yet saved by splendid views overlooking Beaumont Chase, was field-walked by the RLHRS Archaeological Team [see above, p262, site 15 – *Ed*]. The collection has yet to be scrutinised for any archaeological finds (RLHRS R61).

*Elaine Jones*

*For Uppingham, see also Beaumont Chase, above*

**Whissendine, 5 Melton Road** (SK 82511432)

A small-scale evaluation was undertaken for Mr C Underwood by ULAS. The purpose of the work was to excavate two evaluation trenches in advance of construction of a new bungalow. The site is located within the historic settlement core of Whissendine village and within an area of archaeological potential. In view of this the proposed building works were seen as likely to uncover and disturb any surviving archaeological deposits and features. Two trenches, one 6.5m and the other 15m long, were excavated down to the natural substrate of pale grey brown silty clay through approximately 0.4m of topsoil and subsoil. Two N to S linear features were observed along with a potential pit and a single posthole.

Sherds of late 5th or early 6th century Saxon and 11th or 12th century Saxo-Norman pottery were recovered from these features. The finds represent more evidence of early Saxon activity in the locality and the early origins of Whissendine village. Archive: RCM 2006.4.

*Andy Hyam*

**Negative watching briefs in 2006**

**Barrowden:** 27 The Hay, Wakerley Road (SP 950002), ULAS

**Barrowden:** Redhill Lodge, Seaton Road (SK 927993), ULAS

**Edith Weston:** Weston Road (SK 924054), APS

**Empingham:** Beckworth Grove (SK 951089), APS

**Empingham:** Loves Lane (SK 95260881), APS

**Glaston:** Coppice Paddock, Coppice Farm (SK 89580071), ULAS

**Greetham:** 26 Church Lane (SK 904983), ULAS

**Market Overton:** Main Street (SK 88931624), APS

**Ridlington:** Ridlington Park Farm (SK 833019), ULAS

**Stoke Dry:** Curtis House (SP 854967), Benchmark Archaeology

**Uppingham:** Ayston Road (SK 86560053), ULAS

**II – Other Reports for 2006****Lincolnshire Archives**

Contact information:

Lincolnshire Archives, St Rumbold Street, Lincoln, LN2 5AB.

Tel: (01522) 525158 (search room appointments and enquiries); (01522) 526204 (other enquiries).

Fax: (01522) 530047.

Website: [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/archives).

E-mail: [lincolnshire\\_archive@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:lincolnshire_archive@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

Opening times: Mon: (Mar-Oct) 1pm-7pm, (Nov-Feb) 11am-5pm; Tues-Fri: 9am-5pm; Sat: 9am-4pm. Closed on UK public holidays, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Appointments for microfiche viewers and study tables are necessary to ensure space in the search room.

The following Rutland archives were accessioned into the Ancaster Collection by Lincolnshire Archives during 2006:

*Records relating to Empingham (13 ANC 6/1/1).*

Empingham, Rutland, Poor Rate Book, 1 Nov 1854-7 May 1860

*Records relating to Normanton Park (3 ANC 15).*

1/3 Statement of account re Mr Burcham in account with Thomas Forsyth Esq, 1804, relating to rents and Land Tax for property in Connisby and Cherry Willingham. Enclosed is a bundle of c32 documents dating from 1734-55, relating to the purchase by Sir John Heathcote from Henry Broughton of fee farm rents in the Boston area. The bundle includes copy abstracts of title to the rents in 1672 and correspondence and legal opinion concerning the right of Henry Broughton to raise a mortgage on fee farm rents on property in Lincolnshire, 1734.

1/3 Bundle of receipts for coal bought for Normanton Park from Luffenham, Oakham and Ketton Stations, 5 Jan-13 July 1850, 29-30 July, 10 Oct, 16 Sep-28 Dec 1853 (45 items).

1/3 Statement of account re Mr Rice's cash account [concerning business in Boston?], 26 May-9 Aug 1852; includes 4 letters from Mr Rice to Sir Gilbert Heathcote re cheques received, 6 July 1852-26 Aug 1853.

1/3 Statement of Duncan McLaren's account with Lord Aveland endorsed with note that it had been settled, 23

July 1872.

1/3 Invoice for wine and spirits bought by Lionel Heathcote from James Campbell, 21 Jan 1873.

1/3 Receipt for payment of bricklaying work by James Horsley, 30 Sep 1874; receipt re income tax paid by Lionel Heathcote, 21 Dec 1874.

1/3 Statement of account re the sale of the Normanton Brewing Plant at Stamford, 19 Oct 1896.

1/4/1 Employee records: Correspondence between Lord Aveland and Sir Percy Cunningham and Lord Zetland re their respective employment of Snr Martignoles as a cook, June 1860 (4 items).

1/5/1 Correspondence between Sir John Heathcote and his London agent Samuel Seddon re estate matters at Normanton Park, 1770s (c50 items).

1/5/2 Estate correspondence concerning the valuation of timber, Dec 1865, and settlement of an account, 1838.

1/5/3 Bundle of correspondence concerning both estate and personal matters, 1852-55; also includes 3 receipts for goods for the Grimsthorpe estate, 1899 (c60 items).

1/5/4 Papers relating to a dispute over shooting rights in Morcraey [Morkery] Woods nr Castle Bytham between Lord Aveland and Robert Heathcote and correspondence re the proposed sale by Robert Heathcote of his part of the wood to Lord Aveland, 1864-66 (c50 items).

*Adrian Wilkinson, Archivist*

## Northamptonshire Record Office

Contact information:  
Northamptonshire Record Office, Wootton Hall Park,  
Northampton, NN4 8BQ.  
Tel: (01604) 762129. Fax: (01604) 767562.  
Website: [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/community/record+office](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/community/record+office).

E-mail: [archivist@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:archivist@northamptonshire.gov.uk).  
Opening times: Mon: 10.30am-4.45pm; Tues, Wed: 9am-4.45pm; Thurs: 9am-7.45pm; Fri: 9am-4.15pm; Sat: two mornings a month, 9am-12.15pm. Contact the office to confirm Saturday opening dates.

No new Rutland material reported for 2006.

## Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland

Contact information:  
Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland, Long  
Street, Wigston Magna, Leicester, LE18 2AH.  
Tel: (0116) 257 1080. Fax: (0116) 257 1120.

Website: [www.leics.gov.uk/index/community/museums/record\\_office](http://www.leics.gov.uk/index/community/museums/record_office). E-mail: [recordoffice@leics.gov.uk](mailto:recordoffice@leics.gov.uk).  
Opening times: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9.15am-5pm; Wed:  
9.15am-7.30pm; Fri: 9.15am-4.45pm, Sat: 9.15am-12.15pm.

### Rutland archive deposits during 2006-07

There is a distinctly parochial flavour to this year's archive accessions relating to Rutland, with over half either from parish churches or parish councils. While none are of great antiquity, the deposits from Manton and Seaton date from the earliest years of parish councils, and all are revealing of ordinary parish life. The other deposits are an eclectic mix of deeds and records of local institutions including nonconformist churches, hospitals, charities and sports clubs, plus some interesting personal papers.

- DE7022 Morcott with South Luffenham Parish: Deed of institution and memorandum of reading in of the Rev J H Green, 1965.
- DE7024 Leicestershire and Rutland deeds: Deeds to properties in Leicester, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray and Oakham, 1946-82.
- DE7039 Manton Parish Council: Minutes, 1894-1985; receipts and payments, 1895-1980; and correspondence, 1913-83.
- DE7042 Caldecott Village Hall: Caldecott Village Hall Committee minutes, 1944-76; Caldecott Village Fête Committee minutes, 1957-69; deeds to property in Caldecott, including the Black Horse Inn, 1790-1947.
- DE7049 Uppingham Parish (additional): Copy photograph of choir, c1933; observations on organ, c2005; annual Church Meeting, Vestry Minutes and associated reports, 2004-05.
- DE7051 Uppingham Parish (additional): Papers of Miss Margaret Jennings and P A Snodin, as churchwardens, 1980-2006.
- DE7054 Belton-in-Rutland Parish Council: Deeds to cemetery, school and play-group papers, plans and correspondence re road scheme, and financial papers, etc., 1952-2003.
- DE7091 Seaton Parish: Visitors' book, 1932-70, and correspondence re organ and bells, 1933-57.
- DE7092 Seaton Parish Council: Financial statements, 1896-1925 and 1956-75; correspondence and associated papers re sewerage, 1961-81; and notice re allotment rents with plan of allotments etc, 1982-93.
- DE7100 James Meadows of Brooke: diaries and personal papers: Diaries, 1937-2000; Soldiers' Service and pay book (RASC) 1940-45; medals and identity disks, notes and press cuttings etc, 1990s-2000.
- DE7121 Uppingham Parish (additional): Inventory and insurance valuation, 1969-1980s; papers re faculties,

2001-04; balance sheet, 1985; mortgage of glebe cottage, 1970; etc.

- DE7129 Rutland Memorial Hospital: Records 1920-1990s.
- DE7139 Oakham Methodist Church: File of correspondence, newspaper cuttings, photographs, etc regarding the rebuilding of Oakham Methodist Church, 1993-99.
- DE7167 Orlando Green Charity, Belton: Minute Book, 1919-2006.
- DE7186 Lyddington: Deeds and manorial records of admissions, surrenders, etc, 1744-1834.
- DE7196 Arnold Goodliffe memoirs: 'The Story of my Life: memoir by Arnold Goodliffe together with a few historical particulars of my family'. Goodliffe describes his ancestry at Lambley Lodge, Belton; the lives and characters of his parents and siblings; his own experiences in business as a provision merchant; and his memories of politics and non-conformist religion in Nottingham. Also recollections of trips conducted by Thomas Cook and J M Cook to Ireland, etc. c1890.
- DE7212 Brooke Parish: Faculties for a plaque commemorating the birth of Prince William, 1982, and to replace chairs, 2006.
- DE7215 Old Crocks Oakham Charity Football Cup: Minutes and secretary's records, 1925-97.

### Cataloguing and conservation

The successful launch of the Record Office's on-line catalogue on 3rd April 2006 followed considerable efforts in 2005 and the first quarter of 2006. Growing numbers of researchers are now having their first taste of Rutland research through <http://record-office-catalogue.leics.gov.uk/Dserve/> where they can consult archival catalogues from the comfort of their own home. In the six months September 2006 – March 2007 the catalogue recorded 17,173 visits. Visits to the Record Office's general web pages are recorded separately and showed 54,890 for the full year April 2006 – March 2007.

By far the most challenging item presented for archive conservation this year was a lease of a parcel of land in Glaston dated 1738 (DE2575/103). The crumpled and severely rotted gelatinous parchment was carefully relaxed and painstakingly teased out, to reveal its contents for the first time in many years.

From the Exton archive the Chipping Camden Borough Charter of 1602/3, hung with the great seal of James I, was repaired and photographed for display by Chipping Camden Council. The remaining items that have

received attention during this period were:

DE 585	Finch MSS (DG7/1/406): stock book c1814
DE 3854/1	Empingham Enclosure Award c1795
DE 3854/2	Normanton Enclosure Award c1799
DE 2574/8	Greetham banns of marriage 1823-70
E/LB/10R/1	Burley school log book 1909-45
E/R/13R/1	Cottesmore school admissions register 1880-1953.

In addition to considerable wear and tear through heavy use the Greetham banns and Cottesmore admissions register had suffered the attentions of woodworm and carpet beetle.

Local Studies support work for Rutland continued, including stock acquisition, provision of bibliographical information, newspaper scanning and liaison with Rutland Libraries staff. 544 items of all kinds specifically relating to Rutland were acquired for the Record Office library. In addition a large quantity of newscuttings was donated by a resident of Uppingham. Work on the NEWSPLAN and *Stamford Mercury* local newspaper microfilming projects continues. The Local Studies Librarian visited Oakham Library to advise on care of the map collection.

#### **Partnership work with and for Rutland**

In connection with work on the agricultural displays a volunteer from Rutland County Museum trawled through relevant Record Office photographic files. As a result, copies of a number of historic photographs of working horses and agricultural machinery were supplied to the Museum.

In the course of research for 'The Long Road to Freedom', the Record Office's exhibition marking the Bicentenary of the Act abolishing British involvement in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, archives of the Hotchkin family of Rutland, particularly relating to their plantations in Jamaica, were discovered at Birmingham City Archives. After some negotiation copies and permission to use them in the exhibition were obtained. The exhibition was scheduled for display at Oakham Library in November and December 2007.

### **Rutland County Museums and Record Service**

Contact information:

Rutland County Museum, Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HW.

Tel: (01572) 758440. Fax: (01572) 758445.

#### **Rutland County Museum**

The Museum was virtually closed at the start of the year as work on the new store at the back of the Riding School continued. Rooms were re-opened gradually, culminating in the completion of a new exhibition, the Farming Year, which opened in the Courtyard in August. The focus of activity then moved to the Museum Garden, which was landscaped during the autumn, thanks to the support of the Friends of Rutland County Museum and Oakham Castle and Oakham in Bloom.

The collections move took up much of the summer and works to convert the old store into offices started as soon as the last objects were moved out. The Store in the Riding School is a much more efficient space and has the

Several members of the Record Office staff have offered support to the Langham History Group's ongoing project, including transcription of the manor court book and assistance with reading and interpreting wills.

Although not strictly part of the joint arrangement, Record Office staff continue to give talks on local history topics and family history workshops, or offer visits to the Record Office to Rutland groups. During the year we spoke to five groups meeting in Rutland plus one which visited the Record Office.

A volunteer from Rutland has been working on various collections at the Record Office over a number of months as practical experience towards her coursework for the Dundee University archives qualification.

#### **Standards and approvals**

The Record Office is required to meet national standards of collection management and access, including:

- accession, documentation and cataloguing of both archives and local studies materials to national and international standards;
- care and conservation of the collections (including storage conforming to British Standard BS 5454);
- approval by The National Archives (TNA) and other authorising bodies for the holding of Public Records and other controlled archives.

Changes have been made in TNA's procedure for approval of Places of Deposit, involving a greater degree of self-assessment. Like most other local authority archives nationally the Record Office completed an extended self-assessment questionnaire as part of a nationwide pilot. The eventual scoring gave the Office '2 stars' (out of a possible 3) with an overall score of 65% (as against an average for county record offices of 64%, and of all UK archive services responding of 55%). The year also saw a long-delayed on-site inspection by TNA staff which reinforced the broad conclusions of the self-assessment, identifying similar strengths and areas for attention.

*Carl Harrison, County Archivist*

Website: [www.rutnet.co.uk/rcc/rutlandmuseums](http://www.rutnet.co.uk/rcc/rutlandmuseums).

E-mail: [museum@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:museum@rutland.gov.uk).

Opening times: Mon-Sat: 10.30am-5pm; Sun: 2pm-4pm.

added advantage of making the reserve collections visible to the public.

The Museum's family activities programme was able to restart in time for the October break and now operates during every school holiday.

#### **Oakham Castle**

The meeting room in the former Number 1 Court has been further improved by the addition of a picture-hanging system, funded by Arts 4 Rutland and the Friends of Rutland County Museum and Oakham Castle. This was inaugurated with a new annual summer exhibition, Art at the Castle, which was also supported by the Rutland Decorative and Fine Arts Society.

### **Acquisitions**

The Museum accepted a number of interesting donations during the year, including a collection of early aerial photographs, photographs of the Royal Visit to Oakham in 1964, and a collection of material associated with the

former Baptist chapel in Barrowden. A group of 18th and 19th century legal documents relating to the Manor of Lyddington were passed on to the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland [DE7186].

*Simon Davies, Museum Service Manager*

### **Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust**

Contact information:

Honorary Secretary: now Mrs K Raitt, 1 Gretton Road, Lyddington, Rutland, LE15 9LP

Registered Charity No 211068

Give As You Earn Reg No 000101080

Inland Revenue Identification No NAK 60 JG

The Trust is heavily dependent for funds on the success of the Cycle Ride, now named the Ride and Stride. Along with many other county Historic Churches Trusts, the Rutland Trust wants to emphasise the pleasures of walking between churches as well as the popular joys and challenges of two wheels. Participants can tick off all the churches and chapels in a town or village, or check the map to find footpaths across country between villages, and see rural Rutland from a different angle. Stewards in churches are of course lynch pins: they may not move far, but are vital, not only in signing forms but also in their welcome to cyclists and walkers and in the provision of simple refreshments. Half of the money raised goes back to the church or chapel named by the participant, and half to the Trust. The Davenport Cup is awarded to the cyclist who reaches the most places of worship within Rutland, and certificates are awarded to cyclists who reach the most places, including those over the county boundary, and to outstanding walkers. The 2007 Ride and Stride was scheduled for 8th September. Details of the ride can be found on [www.rutlandrideandstride.org.uk](http://www.rutlandrideandstride.org.uk).

and St Peter & St Paul, Exton, for an unexpected extra problem with roof work. This amounted to a total of £20,500. At least six churches were intending to apply for help in the coming months.

The Trust said farewell this year to Geoffrey Turner, for fifteen years a Trustee with special responsibility for places of worship in SE Rutland, and a Ride enthusiast. He is succeeded by Stephen Harris, who already has much experience in organising the Ride in his locality. Linda Worrall, Honorary Secretary for 21 years, also stood down in May 2007, to be succeeded by Kay Raitt.

The Trust gave or promised help to seven churches in 2006-07: St Mary the Virgin, Essendine, towards roofing; St Andrew, Stoke Dry, for ceiling repairs in the Digby Chapel; St Peter & St Paul, Preston, for lighting; St Mary, Ashwell, for churchyard wall repairs; St Edmund, Eggleton, for a structural report; St Peter, Tickencote, for heating;

Changes of many kinds seem to be all around, so it is even more important that those things shown to be of value throughout the generations are not overlooked or lost. Most of Rutland's churches are many hundreds of years old, valued as places of public worship, as constant witnesses to the Faith by their very presence in the landscape, and as remarkable, beautiful and unique constructions. By belonging in a special way to their town or village, they can strongly contribute to a happy sense of identity, peace and continuity.

The Trust values greatly the assistance from Rutlanders and others who support its work, and hopes that many more will want to do so. In turn, the Trust is committed to helping to keep Rutland's churches and churches in good repair long into the future.

*Linda Worrall, lately Honorary Secretary*

### **Rutland Local History & Record Society**

Once again it is the privilege of the Chairman of the Society to report on a year of immense activity, achievement and promise, testimony to the energy, enthusiasm and (unpaid) professionalism on the part of so many.

whose manufacture was so lovingly described.

Either on its own, or in conjunction with the Friends of the Rutland County Museum and Oakham Castle, the Society has staged a number of outstanding lectures involving not only a distinguished range of visiting speakers but also the Society's own members. Highlights have included the Bryan Matthews lecture, in which Professor Christopher Dyer expertly explored village origins, and Dr Philip Lindley's exposition on medieval sculpture, which on a foul night drew an enthusiastic audience to Oakham Castle. Our own members contributed excellently to the talks programme. It was particularly pleasing after his recent illness to greet once again Professor Alan Rogers, who demonstrated his expertise on medieval Stamford with his discussion of the remarkable career of William Browne. Our webmaster, Mike Frisby, contributed an excellent talk on Langham brewery, made all the more remarkable because he himself eschews the consumption of the product

The Society's major publication in 2006-07 was the Honorary Treasurer's *Common Right and Private Interest: Rutland's Common Fields and their Enclosure*. Two issues of *Rutland Record*, 25 (*Rutland in Print*) and 26, were published, thereby ensuring that publication caught up with its schedule. Thanks are once again due to Tim Clough, our long-serving Honorary Editor, for his sterling work. *Rutland Record*, of course, depends on the quality and range of its contributions. Members should not be daunted by the challenge of getting themselves into print.

By far the largest venture which the Society has ever undertaken, the Heritage of Rutland Water Project, is approaching completion. Financed by a substantial grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, this has involved a vast amount of work, co-ordinated by Robert Ovens, in archival and photographic research, the recording of data and the conduct of numerous interviews. The scope of this undertaking – the finished volume will contain over 600 pages, a huge editorial challenge – has perhaps inevitably resulted in a slippage in the original publishing schedule.

Part of the project's *raison d'être* is widening community involvement. In this context it is particularly pleasing to report the huge level of interest generated by the Society's village visit to Empingham in September. The lectures, and the photographs and other visual evidence, also exhibited at the Rutland County Museum, provided a very tasty *hors d'oeuvre*. We eagerly await the main course.

The Society also had a number of other successful activities. In April Alan Curtis led a privileged visit for members to Quenby Hall. Led by Kate Don, the Archaeological Group continues to brave the elements for their regular fieldwalking activities. The Historic Environment Group, under the auspices of David Carlin and Chris Wilson, monitors planning applications in Rutland in order to alert the local authority in the case of insensitive building or rebuilding, an increasing challenge in view of the ever-expanding level of building in Rutland. A more positive aspect of the built environment was the high quality of entries for the George Phillips Award, won this year by the Uppingham School Music Centre.

Particularly through the Library Group, convened by Auriol Thomson, the Society continues to work closely with the staff of the Rutland County Museum. For the second successive year building work in the museum has dragged on seemingly interminably. This has necessarily limited the availability of the Society's services to members and the wider public.

The Society has continued to benefit from the wise counsel of its officers. Ian Ryder continues to ensure that the finances remain in a healthy condition, even when allowing not only for the scale of the Society's current activities but also for the improvements in its equipment. Jill Kimber, as Correspondence Secretary, has risen to the difficult task of succeeding Sue Howlett. Ian Canadine as Publicity Officer and Mike Frisby as Webmaster have happily contributed their expertise. Robert Ovens, our Vice-Chairman, continues his stakhanovite approach to the Society's activities, producing the Society's newsletter and leading our annual walk, as well as guiding the Heritage of Rutland Water Project to its successful conclusion. All other members of the committee have played their part in ensuring the continued health of the Society.

On a sad note, it is with regret that the Society acknowledges the passing in July 2006, as a result of a road accident, of Olive Adams, honorary member of the Society. More recently, we were sad to learn of the death of George Boyle, former president of the Rutland Record Society.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all those who have contributed so much time, enthusiasm and expertise to ensure the continued good health of our Society. *Multum in Parvo* indeed.

*Michael Tillbrook, Chairman*

### **Archaeological Activities**

In February 2006 Kate Don was elected an affiliate member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. Kate continued to exhibit the Romano-British Town at Thistleton, in July at Market Overton as part of their 'Feast Weekend' activities and at Jewry Wall Museum, Leicester, as part of 'National Archaeology Week' events.

In the same month members of the fieldwalking group enjoyed a summer reunion at Lyveden New Bield where

the National Trust Manager, Mark Bradshaw, gave us a brilliant tour of Tresham's gardens and gazebos, organised by Elaine Jones. They also took part in Leicestershire Museums Archaeological Fieldwork Group trip to Knaptoft, Welford, Harrington and Rothwell.

In October, in her role as volunteer worker at Rutland County Museum, Kate helped to stage a day about the Romans for children from Edith Weston Primary School, and survived to tell the tale!

In November Elaine and Clive Jones, Jo Little and Kate attended a very informative meeting of the Council for British Archaeology at Wing. It was particularly interesting to hear a report of the findings from the excavations along the route of the Oakham bypass [see summary by Victoria Mellor, page 270 – *Ed*].

As always the group is most grateful to the farmers and landowners who generously allow work to take place on their land, to Leicestershire's Heritage Services for their support and encouragement and to the stalwart band of fieldworkers who turn out in all weathers to further our understanding of the archaeology of Rutland.

*Kate Don & Elaine Jones*

### **Olive Adams**

Olive Adams and her husband Fred were founding members of the Rutland Field Research Group for Archaeology & History which was formed in 1971, prompted by the impending development of Rutland Water. Fred became Chairman of the newly-formed Group, which instigated survey and excavations at the deserted medieval village site of Nether Hambleton. These excavations were run on the now comparatively rare traditionally English system of amateur volunteers. Olive was Fred's 'right arm' and, with him, played a major role in the RFRG's excavations, first at Nether Hambleton and later at Whitwell. To her lot fell the job of finds washer and keeper, but Olive was much more than this. The Group held regular meetings at members' homes, checking through and numbering finds as well as planning its next moves, and somehow those at Colsterworth were always full houses. Olive's pavlovas were to die for and every year she would create monumental masterpieces to accompany Fred's home-made strawberry wine, applauded as the highlights of our annual summer picnics!

Olive and Fred also found the time to become active members of the Society's field survey team. The results of their active field-walking between 1984 and 1997 are recorded in Elaine Jones's recent publication *The Oakham Parish Field Walking Survey – archaeology on the ploughland of Rutland* (2007).

Olive was a welcoming, generous, supportive, and Christian woman, endearing herself to all who had the pleasure of knowing her, whether through the RFRG, as neighbours, or formerly as school colleagues or pupils. When the Group eventually merged with the RLHRS in 1993, Olive and Fred were deservedly elected Honorary Members of the enlarged Society, and continued to participate in its events and meetings. The news of Olive's death in July 2006 was received with great sadness, and the Society extended its sincere condolences to Fred and all their family.

*Tim Clough & Elaine Jones*

### III – Rutland Bibliography 2006

A bibliography of recent books and pamphlets relating to Rutland, compiled by Emily Barwell

- Andrews, B, *Stamford and surroundings* (Images of England series, Tempus 2006, £12.99) [Rutland author] \*
- Ball, Jane P, *Wax and flowers* (Arthur H Stockwell 2006, £3.99) [Rutland author]
- Bray, Jean, *The mysterious Captain Brocklehurst: General Gordon's unknown aide* (Reardon Publishing 2006, £9.99) \*
- Doughty, L, *Stone cradle* (Simon & Schuster 2006, £12.99) [Oakham author]
- Driver, L & Whitehorne, S, *The lost villages of England* (New Holland 2006, £24.99) [includes Martinsthorpe]
- Fray, Rob, *Where to watch birds in the East Midlands*, (Christopher Helm 2006, £16.99)
- Geoff Hamilton: a gardening legend* (Morton's Media Group 2006, £6.99)
- Hamilton, Nick, *The Barnsdale handy gardener* (Alpine Press 2006, £14.99)
- Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust nature reserves guide* (Wildlife Trusts 2006, £2.00)
- Maunder, Brian, *Every face tells a story: a commemorative memoir of Barleythorpe Hall Residential Home for the Elderly, Rutland* (Bunyan Press 2006, £19.95)
- Nowell, J, *A day above Rutland* (Zodiac 2006, £14.99)
- Oliver, Alan, *Capturing light with watercolour* (DVD, A Oliver 2006, £20.00) [Rutland author]
- Robinson, J, *St Mary's Church, Ashwell: graveyard survey* (Quoin Print Company, Oakham, rev ed 2006, £3.00)
- Rollings, Peter, *The south arcade of Wing Church, Rutland* (P K Rollings 2006, price not shown)
- Ryder, Ian E, *Common right & private interest: Rutland's common fields & their enclosure* (Rutland Local History & Record Society, Occasional Publication No 8, 2006, £7.50)
- Siddons, David, *Uppingham: secret gem of ancient Rutland: an introduction to the town, a potted history and a short guided tour* (6th ed, Forest Books 2006, £2.00)
- Stamford Shakespeare Company, *Tolethorpe histories* (Stamford Shakespeare Company 2007, £3.95)
- Traylen, A R, *Ancestral houses of Rutland* ('In Rutland' series vol 18, Spiegl Press 2006, £14.50)
- Waites, Bryan, *Discovering Rutland epitaphs* (Multum in Parvo Press 2006, £5.99) \*
- Williams, Joan, *Sister Dominique* (Daily Mail 2006, £5.00)

\* – Reviewed in RLHRS Newsletter, April 2007

# RUTLAND LOCAL HISTORY & RECORD SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 700273

## The Society's publications, with their main contents, are currently available as follows:

- Rutland Record 1* (£1.00 post free)  
Emergence of Rutland; Medieval hunting grounds; Rutland field names; Illiteracy in 19th century Rutland
- Rutland Record 2* (£1.00 post free)  
Archdeacon Johnson; Thomas Barker's weather records; Rutland Agricultural Society; Rutland farms in 1871
- Rutland Record 6* (£1.50, members £1.00)  
Transitional architecture in Rutland; Family of Rutland stonemasons; Restoration of Exton church
- Rutland Record 7* (£1.50, members £1.00)  
Rutland place-names; Rutland Domesday; Lords and peasants in medieval Rutland; Shakespeare in Rutland
- Rutland Record 12* (£2.00, members £1.50)  
Deer parks; Preston records; Thring at Uppingham; Jeremiah Whittaker; Joseph Matkin; Cinemas in Rutland
- Rutland Record 16* (£2.00, members £1.50)  
Iron smelting; Saxon archaeology; Stilton cheese; Oakham in 1871; Rutland Hotel, Wanganui
- Rutland Record 17* (£2.00, members £1.50)  
Byrch's charity; Maj-Gen Robt Overton; 50-52 High St, Uppingham; White Hart, Uppingham
- Rutland Record 18* (£2.00, members £1.50)  
Earthworks at Belton-in-Rutland; Peter de Neville; Oakham gallows; Buckingham's house at Burley
- Rutland Record 19* (£2.00, members £1.50)  
Anne Barker; Exton and Noel family; 14th century Rutland bacon; Emigrants to Australia
- Rutland Record 20* (£2.50, members £2.00)  
Rutland castles; Medieval site at Barrowden; Mompesson and Rutland inns; George Phillips
- Rutland Record 21* (£2.50, members £2.00)  
Mary Barker letters; Anton Kammel, musician; Uppingham School and Borth, 1875-77
- Rutland Record 22* (£3.50, members £3.00)  
Religious Census 1851 (pt 1); Exton churchyard
- Rutland Record 23* (£3.50, members £3.00)  
Tinwell Roman coins; Ridlington Park; Lord Ranksborough; *Notitia Parochialis* 1705; annual reports
- Rutland Record 24* (£3.50, members £3.00)  
Medieval wool trade; Ketton quarries; Religious Census 1851 (pt 2); annual reports
- Rutland Record 25 - Rutland in Print: a bibliography of England's smallest county* (£3.50, members £3.00) Compiled by J D Bennett: full bibliography to 2005, with subject index and index of publishers
- Rutland Record 26* (£3.50, members £3.00)  
Rutland and Gunpowder Plot; Uppingham's typhoid outbreak; Rutlanders in 1851 Census; annual reports
- Index of Rutland Record 1-10*, compiled by John Field (1994) (£2.50, members £1.50)

### The following issues are out of print:

*Rutland Record* 3-5, 8 (Who was Who in Rutland), 9, 10 (Burley-on-the-Hill), 11, 13-15; please enquire for details of contents and availability of photocopies

### Rutland Record Series

1. *Tudor Rutland: The County Community under Henry VIII*, ed Julian Cornwall (1980). The Military Survey of 1522 & the Lay Subsidy of 1524, with introduction (£3.00, members £2.00)

2. *The Weather Journals of a Rutland Squire*, ed John Kington (1988). Thomas Barker's 18th century weather, farming and countryside records, with introduction (now £5.00, members £3.50)
3. *Stained Glass in Rutland Churches*, by Paul Sharpling (1997). Complete survey and gazetteer; introduction; lists of glaziers, subjects, dedicatees, donors, heraldry (now £5.00, members £3.50)
4. *Time in Rutland: a history and gazetteer of the bells, scratch dials, sundials and clocks of Rutland*, by Robert Ovens & Sheila Sleath (2002)(now £10.00, members £7.50)
5. *The Heritage of Rutland Water*, ed Robert Ovens & Sheila Sleath (2007). History, archaeology, people, buildings, landscape, geology, natural history of Rutland Water area; reservoir construction; sailing, fishing, birdwatching, flora and fauna (£20.00, members £18.00)

### Occasional Publications

1. *Domesday Book in Rutland: the dramatis personae*, by Prince Yuri Galitzine (1986)(OP)
2. *The Oakham Survey 1305*, ed Allen Chinnery (1988). Medieval survey: population, occupations, topography, customs, and personal/place-name evidence (£3.50, members £2.50)
3. *The Rutland Hearth Tax 1665*, ed Jill Bourn & Amanda Goode (1991). Population and payment information, with introduction (£3.50, members £2.50)
4. *The History of Gilson's Hospital, Morcott*, by David Parkin (1995). The charity, its almshouse, trustees, beneficiaries, and farm at Screddington, Lincs; foundation deed, Gilson's will (£3.50, members £2.50)
5. *Lyndon, Rutland*, by Charles Mayhew (1999). Guide to the village and church (£2.50, members £2.00)
6. *The History of the Hospital of St John the Evangelist & St Anne in Okeham*, by David Parkin (2000). The 600-year old charity: history, chapel, trustees and beneficiaries (£3.50, members £2.50)
7. *The 1712 Land Tax Assessments and the 1710 Poll Book for Rutland*, ed T H McK Clough (2005). Introduction, commentary, transcripts, indexes (£5.95, members £4.95)
8. *Common Right and Private Interest: Rutland's Common Fields and their Enclosure*, by Ian E Ryder (2006). Detailed account of how Rutland's enclosures evolved, with historical background, case studies, gazetteer and indexes (£7.50, members £6.00)

### Postage and packing

*Rutland Record, Index, Occasional Publications* 4, 5, 6: 75p one issue + 50p each extra issue, maximum £5.00; *Occasional Publications* 2, 3, 7, 8, and *Stained Glass*: £1.00 each; *Tudor Rutland, Weather Journals*: £1.50 each; *Time in Rutland*: £6.00; *Heritage of Rutland Water* £8.50. Overseas charged at cost – please enquire for details: payment in sterling only.

All orders for publications, with payment in sterling including postage as shown above, and trade enquiries should be sent to: The Honorary Editor, RLHRS, c/o Rutland County Museum, Catmose Street, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HW, England. E-mail: book.orders@rutlandhistory.org.

Membership enquiries should be sent to the Honorary Membership Secretary at the same address.

# *Rutland Record 27*

*Journal of the Rutland Local History & Record Society*



Rutland passes muster: aspects of the Militia

Railways in Rutland

The Last Hunters and Gatherers of the Uppingham Plateau

Rutland History and Archaeology in 2006