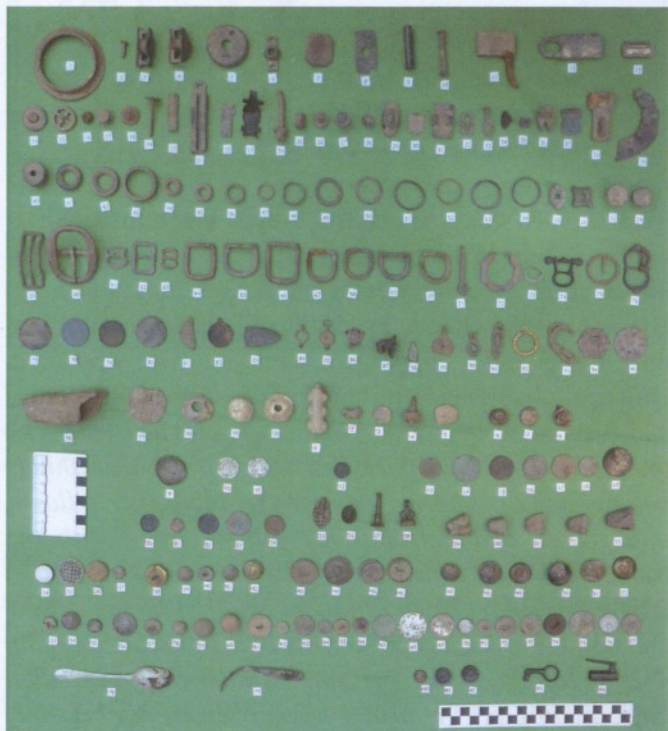


penalty increased to 10d. Interestingly, Isaac Johnson's maps show that the 21-acre area of mudflats adjacent to Hache's marsh pasture were subsequently incorporated in the estate.

Hache seems to be an old Suffolk name: Adam del Hache occurs in the 1221 Book of Ely; Henry Hache in the 1230 Suffolk Pipe rolls; and the medieval place-name 'Hatchelie' survives today as 'Hatchely Barn' – no doubt named after an unknown ancestor of the Butley family. As for the name of the house, Wardes was likely to be the surname of a previous freeholder, or of a copyholder having the necessary security of tenure and capital to invest in building a proper house as opposed to a simple cottage. The evidence is scrappy. In 1576 a Ward copyholder does occur in the manorial rolls – Robert Warde. He had died and his copy holds were surrendered, including a close called Prior's Fenn, a drove way and land once held by John Culpho. Before that, in 1526 when Butley Priory owned that manor, a Robert Warde (perhaps the father) is mentioned as tenant of a pasture. In 1381 Reginald Creting surrendered his copyhold 'formerly held by Ada Warde'. None of this helps very much except to demonstrate that the Wardes had been an established family with copyhold property in Butley. A Hollesley branch were leading sheep farmers in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, as is shown by the 1488 will of John Warde who had two sons.



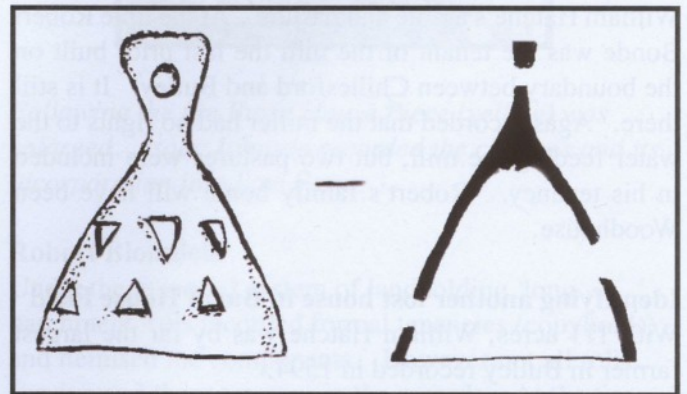
6. David Boast's finds in Burnt House Field span two millennia.

### Metal Detecting

A Georgian silver teaspoon was recovered from the topsoil by David Boast during fieldwalking on Burnt House field with the permission of Sir Edward Greenwell. The glossy black deposit which preserved

the surface before cleaning characterises contact with burnt material. Unlike other detectorists, David has discarded none of the non-ferrous metalwork and keeps his findspots separate. This fact enormously increases their archaeological value and enables an assemblage from a single field to be studied, in conjunction with documentary evidence, for clues to past land use and ownership. His finds from Capel Green enabled me to unfold the story of the lost hamlet and its children in a previous *Bulletin*.

David's array of 184 items from burnt House Field date between the Roman Period and the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The sole (185<sup>th</sup>) object, attributable to the Early Medieval Period was a little copper-alloy falconry bell, its weight cleverly reduced by means of twelve triangular perforations. It was found in the same field by another responsible detectorist, the late Alan Calver. The bell hints at sport rather than everyday activity on the higher ground.



7. Early Medieval bell, no. 185. Height 3mm. PASF-349CD7

### Sporting Finds

Very much later, Butley was to become a magnet for sportsmen. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the former priory gatehouse was converted into a shooting lodge by landowner Archibald Hamilton and his wealthy brother-in-law. Another lodge was purpose-built near the Oyster Inn. David Boast's stray finds of crested buttons worn by retainers identify the family names of gentry who visited here for shoots in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. They included the Hallidays of Henstead, John Revett of Ash and the Kerdistons of Henham.

After his house burnt down, Robert Blomfield retained his rented land but had surrendered his copyhold tenancy for a fee. Buying him out provided Archibald with an opportunity to rationalise boundaries. He enlarged the field and added it to Low Corner Farm. A few years later, in 1802, he was forced to sell the Butley Abbey estate to Peter Isaac Thellusson in order to fund a dowry for his daughter. Not long afterwards, one of the new owner's hounds lost, on Burnt Field, its collar engraved with Thellusson's name and Abbey address.