



GOSBERTON RISEGATE

July 7th 2026



INTRODUCTION

Gosberton Risegate is one half of the conjoined linear settlements Gosberton Clough that with run east to west. The villages are separated by a bridge over the Risegate Eau' the village is mirrored at the north by the parallel 'Siltside'. In 1872 Risegate was described as a hamlet of Gosberton, and partly in the parish of Surfleet containing Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist chapels. Nearby is the site of Cressy Hall, a three-storey brick house, originally a moated medieval manor house rebuilt in 1695 but sadly burnt down. The present house dates to 1794. On Risegate road, 500 yards are the remnants of the red brick four-stage tower of the 19th-century Risegate four sailed corn mill built in 1824 and heightened in 1840.

The village hall was originally a free school founded in 1681 by Robert Marjoram to serve local inhabitants of Risegate, "who endowed it with just over 13 acres of land, rented out for £46 yearly, this to pay for a schoolmaster to teach poor children of "Rysgate". The site fell into disrepair in 1872. The current building was erected in 1876 and remained a school until it became the current village hall in the early 1950s.

In 1872 Occupations listed at the time included sixteen farmers and a market gardener, a miller, a blacksmith, a wheelwright, a harness maker, two shopkeepers, one of whom was also a draper, and the other a flour dealer. There were public house licensed victuallers of the 'Duke of York', the 'Old Crane', 'The Ship' and the 'Five Bells'. The landlord of the 'Five Bells' was also a potato dealer, and that of 'The ship' was also a shopkeeper and a baker. The Black Horse Inn, built later in 1886 also reflected its rural Fenland character with agricultural roots and proximity to nature. Like most of the Lincolnshire fenland villages and towns the main economy is still based on agriculture, in the past commercial activities relied heavily on fishing, particularly eels and to a lesser extent wild fowling, woad and flax was also grown as well as the cutting of reeds for thatching and mud and stud walls. It may be also be possible that nearby there was a small salt industry from the Celtic occupation and until the medieval period. Early transport would have been by rivers (Risegate Eau) and timber causeways to the nearby river Welland which in turn gave access more lucrative markets. Until major drainage took place during the 17th century cattle, sheep and geese used drove roads until major infrastructure took place in the 18th century.

There is no confirmed archaeological evidence found relating to the field detected although arial crop marks indicate some form of human intervention. The field was lightly undulated possibly indicating ancient roddons or perhaps where islands once were as this area many years ago was tidal salt marsh with "islands" of higher ground drained for crops or cattle. This changed when major drainage took place in the 17th century. Like most of the Lincolnshire fenland villages and towns the main economy is still based on agriculture, in the past commercial activities relied heavily on fishing, particularly eels and to a lesser extent wild fowling, woad and flax was also grown as well as the cutting of reeds for thatching and mud and stud walls.

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ARTEFACTS

Artefacts recovered ranged from Roman occupation to modern day with the majority being manufactured from a copper alloy

Many artefacts were unfortunately corroded, broken or plough damaged. Items manufactured from Lead were in abundance but nothing of historic interest apart from a few musket balls of different calibre and some bag seals. Miscellaneous brass or copper or copper alloy working horse harness fittings mostly in the form of buckles were recovered but again most being broken or plough damaged. A variety of buttons were also found, most ranging from Georgian "Dandy" type, four-hole trouser button and the brass military of World War two period. A prolific amount of 303 and .22 Bullets found possibly indicates limited arial and/or military action of some sort.

Many other miscellaneous items have not been included due to excessive corrosion or damage making them non-identifiable. A few random copper alloy objects are yet to be identified and dated. My apologies for the poor quality of the illustrations which may lead to possible errors in identification but for various reasons it was not possible to take "studio" quality photographs at the event.



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Items in brackets [abc] denote assumption, not fact.

Footnotes marked thus [1]

	ITEM	ERA
1	Copper alloy decorative strap mount.	Saxon/early medieval
2	Copper alloy decorative strap mount.	Saxon/early medieval
3	Copper alloy decorative strap mount.	Saxon/early medieval
4	Copper alloy purse bar fragment.	Medieval
5	Copper alloy girdle purse suspension loop. [1]	Medieval
6	Copper alloy "spectacle" buckle.	Medieval
7	Copper alloy "spectacle" buckle.	Medieval
8	Copper alloy buckle fragment.	Medieval
9	Copper alloy purse bar fragment.	Medieval
10	Copper alloy purse bar fragment.	Medieval
11	Copper alloy purse bar fragment.	Medieval
12	Copper alloy purse bar fragment?	Medieval
13	Copper alloy pot or cauldron leg. [2]	1500-1720
14	Copper alloy pot or cauldron leg. [2]	1500-1720
15	Copper alloy buckle tang.	Medieval
16	Copper alloy buckle tang.	Medieval
17	Copper alloy decorative "rosette" strap mount.	Medieval
18	Copper alloy gilded decorative strap mount.	Medieval
19	Copper alloy decorative "rosette" strap mount.	Medieval
20	Copper alloy conical fluted strap mount.	Medieval
21	Lead cylinder, (gaming <i>piece or trade weight</i>)	Roman-early medieval
22	Cast lead item, use not known.	Roman-early medieval
23	Cast copper alloy decorative fragment.	Late medieval
24	Cast copper alloy decorative fragment.	Late medieval
25	Wrought copper alloy latch keep	Late medieval
26	Cast copper alloy decorative fragment.	Late medieval
27	Lead musket ball	18th century
28	"Tombac" nipple button [3]	18th century
29	"Tombac" button with rosette pattern [3]	18th century
30	Copper alloy boot button	Victorian
31	Copper alloy hinge fragment.	19th/20th century
32	White metal with green glass insert. [4]	19th/20th century
33	Silver metal brooch with insert missing.	Victorian
34	Brass livery button with Sheep motif	19th/20th century
35	Copper alloy buckle with pin.	Medieval

Footnotes

[1] The girdle purse is a leather, bag-shaped container with metal frames and suspension features by which they are suspended from the girdle or belt. The loop which suspends the leather bag purse could be made of iron, tin-plated iron, brass, silver or gold, part of the purse. In later centuries, other materials were used for the purse, mainly textile.

[2] The cast bronze cooking pots made in England in the period c. 1500–1720 are of three main types. First, the cauldron – a three-legged vessel with lug handles that could be either suspended above the hearth or stood in the embers. Second, the posnet – essentially a small cauldron with a horizontal handle like a modern saucepan, but with three legs, designed specifically to stand on the hearth among the embers. Third, the skillet is clearly recognizable as the direct forerunner of the modern saucepan, but like the cauldron and posnet is supported on three legs to allow it to stand on the hearth. By 1600 the skillet had largely superseded the posnet as the preferred small to medium-sized cooking vessel.



[3] “Tombac” buttons proliferation. Tombac is an alloy of copper and enough zinc to give it a silvery finish. The reverse central attachment loop is generally convex with a soldered on. Tombac buttons had particular use other than for the waist coats, hats, breeches, coats, etc, many had sophisticated machine engraved designs.



are also found in American name for buttons made up of copper with a silvery finish. The reverse central attachment loop were purely functional had no typical fastening for clothing, many had sophisticated machine engraved designs.

[4] Usage not known but could possibly be reflector unit from the railway or farm machinery or a machine start button indicator,

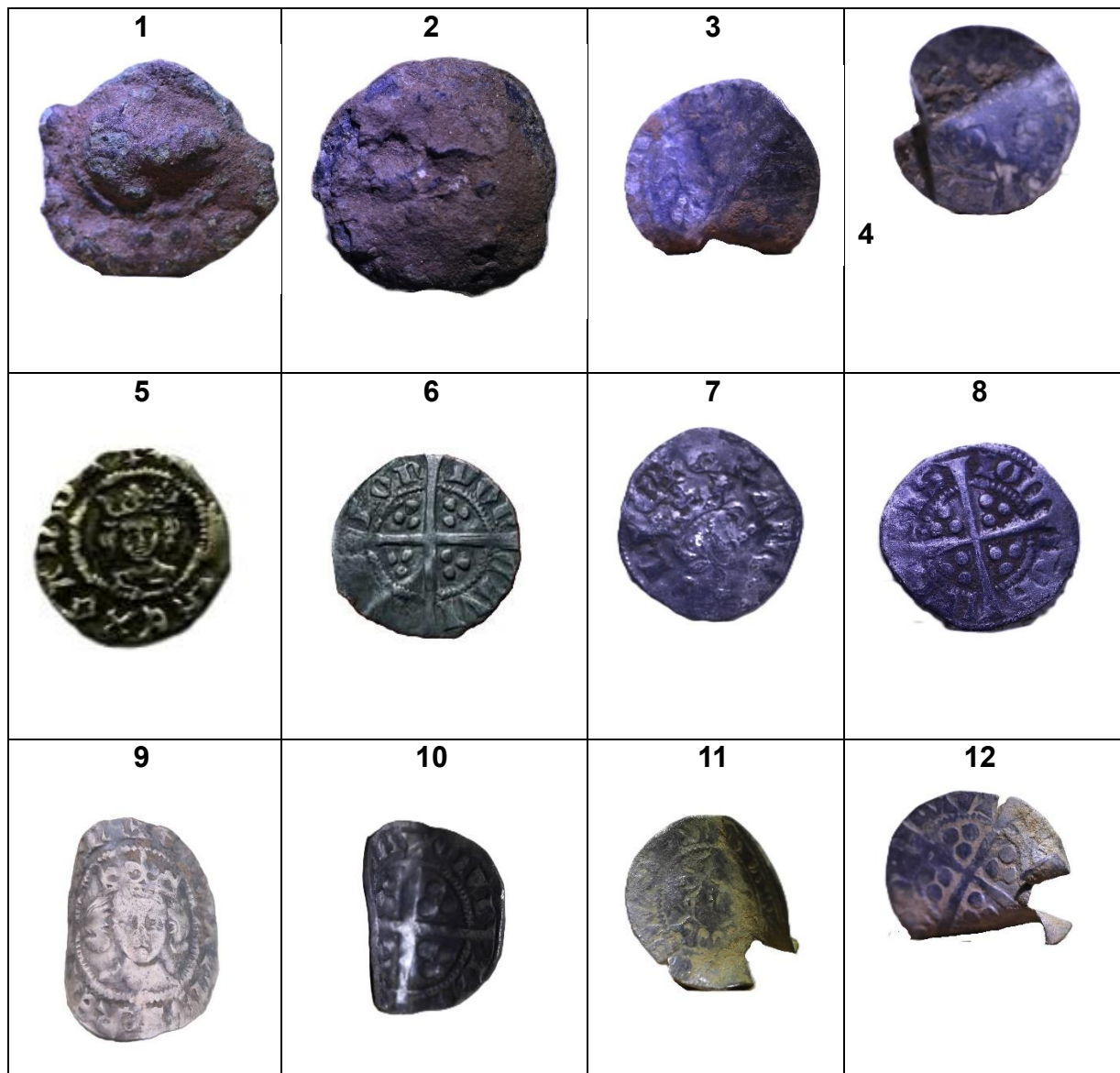


COINAGE

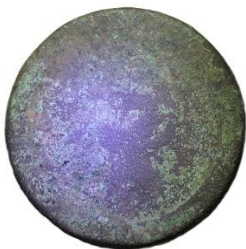
Coinage recovered from this site have been dated from Roman up to and including current decimal issues. Medieval silver hammered coinage dating from between 1200 to 1600 includes cut halves (Ha'penny) and quarters (Fourthing later farthing) Due to the similarity of hammered silver coins, plough damage and the common practice of clipping edges makes exact dating difficult.

Copper coins additionally suffer from corrosion caused by age and use of agricultural chemicals. the pictures only show some of the coins found and are in no specific order and not attributed to any one person. Where possible Monarchs, dates and both obverse and reverse images have been included.

The photographs do not illustrate all coins found as any image would lack sufficient definition to be identified.



13 	14 	15 	16 
17 	18 	19 	20 
21 	22 	23 	24 
25 	26 	27 	28 
29 	30 	31 	32 

33 	34 	35 	36 
37 	38 	39 	40 
41 	42 	43 	44 
45 	46 	47 	48 
49 	50 	51 	52 

Coins not dated for reasons of expediency are marked thus?

Unidentified monarchs are marked thus #

Footnotes marked thus [1]

	<i>DENOMINATION (if known)</i>	<i>SIDE</i>	<i>MONARCH</i>	<i>DATE</i>
1	Roman bronze	Obverse	#	2nd century
2	Roman bronze	Reverse	#	2nd century
3	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
4	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
5	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
6	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
7	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
8	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
9	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
10	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
11	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
12	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
13	Hammered silver farthing	Obverse	#	1000-1485
14	Hammered silver farthing	Reverse	#	1000-1485
15	Hammered silver farthing	Obverse	#	1000-1485
16	Hammered silver farthing	Reverse	#	1000-1485
17	Hammered silver farthing	Obverse	#	1000-1485
18	Hammered silver farthing	Reverse	#	1000-1485
19	Hammered silver farthing	Obverse	#	1000-1485
20	Hammered silver farthing	Reverse	#	1000-1485
21	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
22	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
23	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
24	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
25	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
26	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
27	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
28	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
29	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
30	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
31	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485

32	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
33	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
34	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
35	Hammered silver broken penny	Obverse	#	1000-1485
36	Hammered silver broken penny	Reverse	#	1000-1485
37	Venetian soldini [1]	Obverse	Loredan Loredan	1501-1521
38	Venetian soldini [1]	Reverse	Loredan Loredan	1501-1521
39	Hammered silver half groat	Obverse	Elizabeth 1st	1558-1603
40	Hammered silver half groat	Reverse	Elizabeth 1st	1558-1603
41	Copper "cartwheel" penny	Obverse	George 3rd	1797
42	Copper "cartwheel" penny	Reverse	George 3rd	1797
43	Copper penny	Obverse	George 3rd	1760-1820
44	Copper penny	Reverse	George 3rd	1760-1820
45	Copper penny	Obverse	Edward 7th	1903
46	Copper penny	Reverse	Edward 7th	1903
47	Copper penny	Obverse	George 5th	1912
48	Copper penny	Reverse	George 5th	1912
49	Copper penny	Obverse	George 5th	1920
50	Copper penny	Reverse	George 5th	1920

[1] From the late 14th to the 16th century, small silver coins known as 'galley halfpennies' circulated widely, but illegally, in England. They were, in fact, Italian soldini, principally those struck for the city-state of Venice under the authority of the ruling doge. They were brought to England by 'galley men' trading wine and other goods, and their name may derive from Galley Quay in Thames Street, London, which was reputedly the centre for their distribution. A large majority of the soldini found in England are those of Michele Steno and Leonardo Loredan.

Coins too corroded or damaged are identifiable but not listed above.

2 nd century Roman bronze	4
Early Georgian (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd) copper pennies, half pennies and farthings.	16
Victorian copper pennies, half pennies and farthings	8
. Edwardian copper pennies, half pennies and farthings.	0
Later Georgian copper pennies, half pennies and farthings	23
Decimal or foreign currency	4

JETTONS, TOKENS, BAG SEALS & TALLIES ETC.

Jettons are not strictly coinage but items minted for use in merchants' calculations. Sums were carried out using counting boards or cloths which bore a chequered pattern or lines. Jettons were set on the lines/squares, each line/square having a value in Roman numerals, and moved around the board/cloth to perform addition or subtraction. Trade tokens usually consist of "coins" manufactured from a copper alloy and relate to specific merchants; some are also a form of alms for the poor houses.

Field tallies are usually very basic and often made out of lead which may have been incorrectly identified as gaming pieces. Out of date or very worn copper coinage was often over stamped or etched for use as field tallies. Deliberately distorted silver coins are assumed to be love tokens, not often found using copper coins.

Lead bag, bale and cloth seals are small lead discs that were crimped onto bags or bales of merchandise to identify textiles, as well as parcels and bales of trade goods. Lead seals such as cloth seals and bale seals were widely used in Europe between the 13th and 19th centuries as a means of identification and as a component of regulation and quality control. The obverse would typically display a city's arms, and the reverse would record data such as the length or width of fabric or the weight of a parcel.



1	Obverse	Trade token- merchant not known
2	Reverse	Trade token- merchant not known
3	Obverse	Trade token- Boston (Overseer of the poor)
4	Reverse	Trade token-- Boston (Overseer of the poor)

5	Obverse	Nurenborg Jetton-Hans Krauwinkel
6	Reverse	Nurenborg Jetton-Hans Krauwinkel
7	Obverse	Love token- George 3rd sixpence?
8	Reverse	Love token- George 3rd sixpence?

COLLECTIONS

Photographs of multiple assorted recovered items as submitted by members, some individual items may be pictured elsewhere.





RUBBISH

All metallic items of no historic interest, aluminium drinks cans, foil pie dishes rusty iron and plastic or glass broken bottles will be placed in the receptacles provided and disposed of in an approved manner.



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