

SURFLEET

Gubboles Lane- 7th June 2026



Discovering Britain's history one field at a time

Below: Old Post Mill Surfleet, property of the Noble family demolished in 1912.



INTRODUCTION

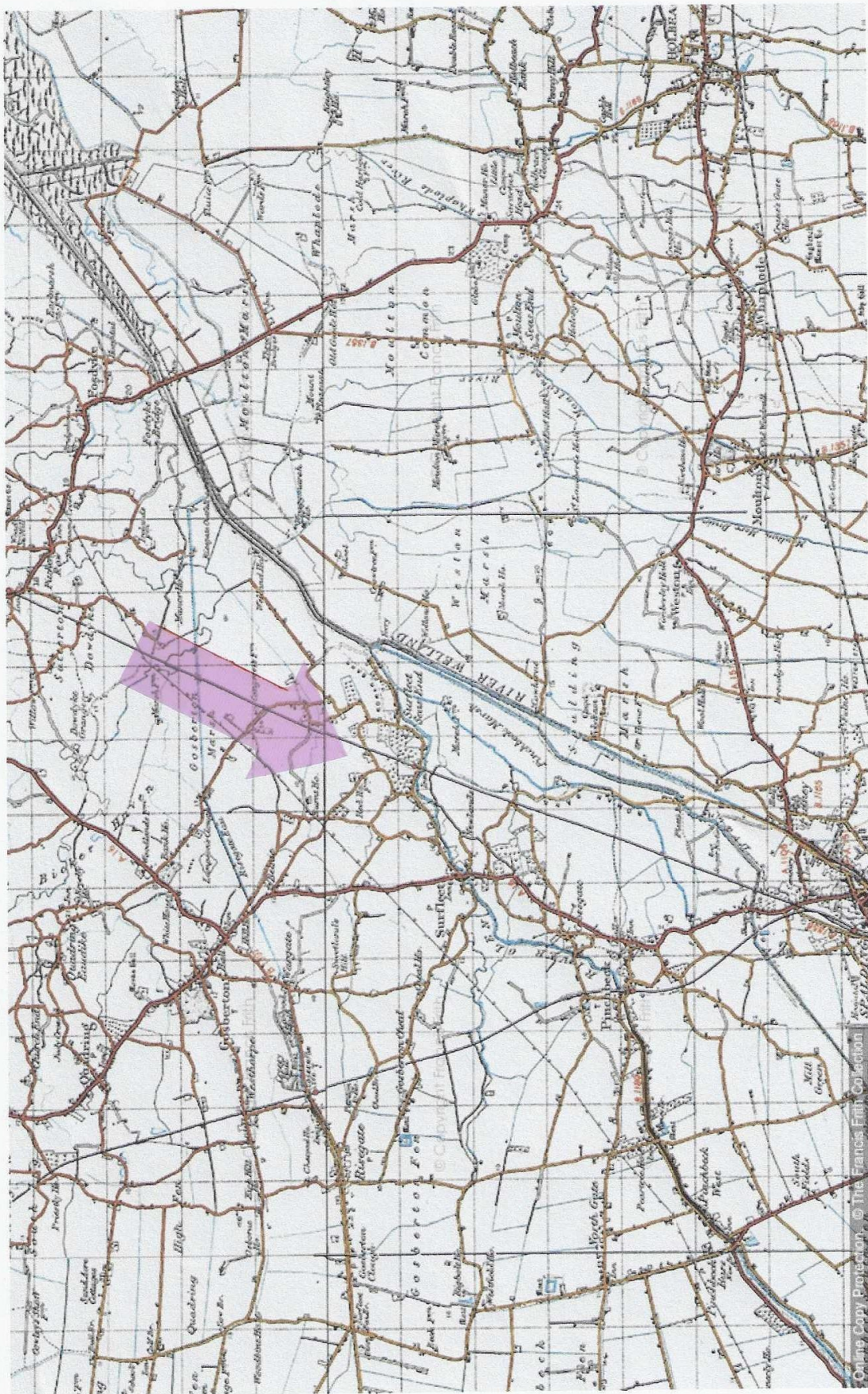
There is no definitive record of when Surfleet was founded, however it is assumed that like most of the fenland "Townland" villages to be of Anglo-Saxon origin. The first real evidence of the existence of Surfleet appears in the Domesday Book recorded as sūr flēot, meaning sour stream. This area of Lincolnshire many years ago was once tidal salt marsh with "islands" of higher ground being drained for crops and cattle meadow, with "Townlands" getting developed on these higher and drier levels. The Fenlands early income would have been gained from the sale of fish, predominately eels, wild fowl, salt, peat for fuel, reeds would have been cut for building materials, thatching and woad grown for dye. Early transport would have been by river and timber causeways to the nearby tidal river Glen which had a small port used until the 20th century which would have been utilised for the transport of to the commercial markets situated on higher ground Spalding, Swineshead and Boston. Until major drainage took place during the 17th century cattle, sheep and geese also used drove roads until major infrastructure took place in the 18th century. The 15th century church of Saint Laurence has a tower leaning nearly two meters and in the graveyard is a stone in memory of Samuel Stockton murdered by a farmer call Hooten who was tried and executed then hung in a gibbet near to the location of the crime.

The enclosed lists are made up of coins and artefacts recovered from the field as indicated on the attached map. The field detected was comprised of Fenland Silt over boulder clay and were flat, boundaries were dykes, drainage ditches and hedges. It is assumed that any signs of previous field division have been obscured by modern farming trends although some may be visible in arial crop marks. The finds were recovered randomly from all over the field with no apparent heavy concentration at any one point, the depth of the finds varied from surface to approximately ten inches.

There was no definite age-related pattern to the finds as they varied from the Roman occupation through the medieval era to current plethora of aluminium drinks can fragments. Archaeological information shows the presence of two Roman salt pans but nothing to indicate settlement. Lack of surface finds such as building debris and pottery suggest no early human habitable construction.







1946

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 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 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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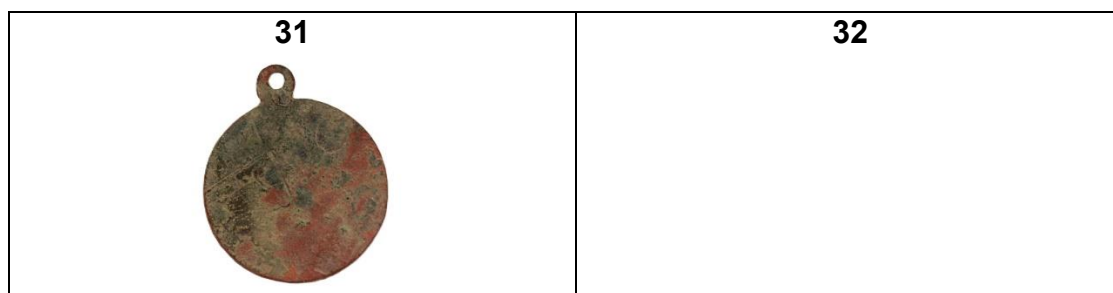


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Items in brackets [abc]/ denote assumption, not fact.

Footnotes marked thus **[1]**

1	Roman lead stylus.
2	Roman/Saxon copper alloy strap end.
3	Saxon copper alloy pin head.
4	Roman/Saxon copper alloy strap end.
5	Saxon copper alloy strap end.
6	Saxon copper alloy strap end.
7	Medieval copper alloy strap stiffener.
8	Medieval copper alloy buckle frame.
9	Medieval copper alloy buckle frame.
10	Medieval copper alloy strap mount.
11	Medieval copper alloy "Kings Head" strap mount.
12	Medieval copper alloy strap mount.
13	Medieval copper alloy purse bar fragment.
14	Medieval copper alloy item, purpose not known.
15	Medieval lead weight with heraldic design.
16	Medieval copper alloy buckle fragment.
17	Medieval copper alloy rein guide.
18	Medieval copper alloy casket key.
19	Early Medieval copper alloy "Beehive" thimble.
20	Late Medieval copper thimble.
21	Medieval copper alloy buckle fragment.
22	Medieval copper alloy aiglet. (lace end).
23	Medieval copper alloy personal seal
24	Medieval copper alloy personal seal
25	Medieval lead Papal Bullae
26	Gilded patterned mount, age not known.
27	Lead Georgian/Victorian petticoat or curtain weight.
28	Late 19 th century brass gas tap.
29	Royal Artillery cap badge
30	19 th /20 th century meter box key.
31	Brass dog tag.

Footnotes

The following items were recovered from this field by one of our members prior to this event





1A	Lead Papal bullae
2A	Lead Papal bullae
3A	Lead Papal bullae
4A	Lead Papal bullae
5A	Lead Papal bullae
6A	Lead Papal bullae
7A	Lead Papal bullae
8A	Lead Papal bullae
9A	Lead Papal bullae
10A	Lead Papal bullae
11A	Lead Vessica seal-Elinor of Aquitaine
12A	Saxon copper alloy patterned disc brooch



From the 12th century a papal bulla was an official papal document with a lead seal traditionally affixed to such documents. The name is derived from the lead seal with the heads of the apostles Peter and Paul on one side and the incumbent pope's name on the other. As a form of communication bulla were originally issued by the pope for many kinds of communication of a public nature. The 13th century brought about a change when they were used for solemn or state communication. The fabric of the manuscript began with use of papyrus but later changed into a basic parchment

Eleanor of Aquitaine was a 12th-century duchess of Aquitaine and queen consort of both France and England, wielding unprecedented political influence. As wife to Louis VII, she joined the Second Crusade before their annulment in 1152. She then married Henry II of England, bore future kings Richard I and John, patronized troubadours, ruled as regent, and shaped European politics and culture until her death in 1204.

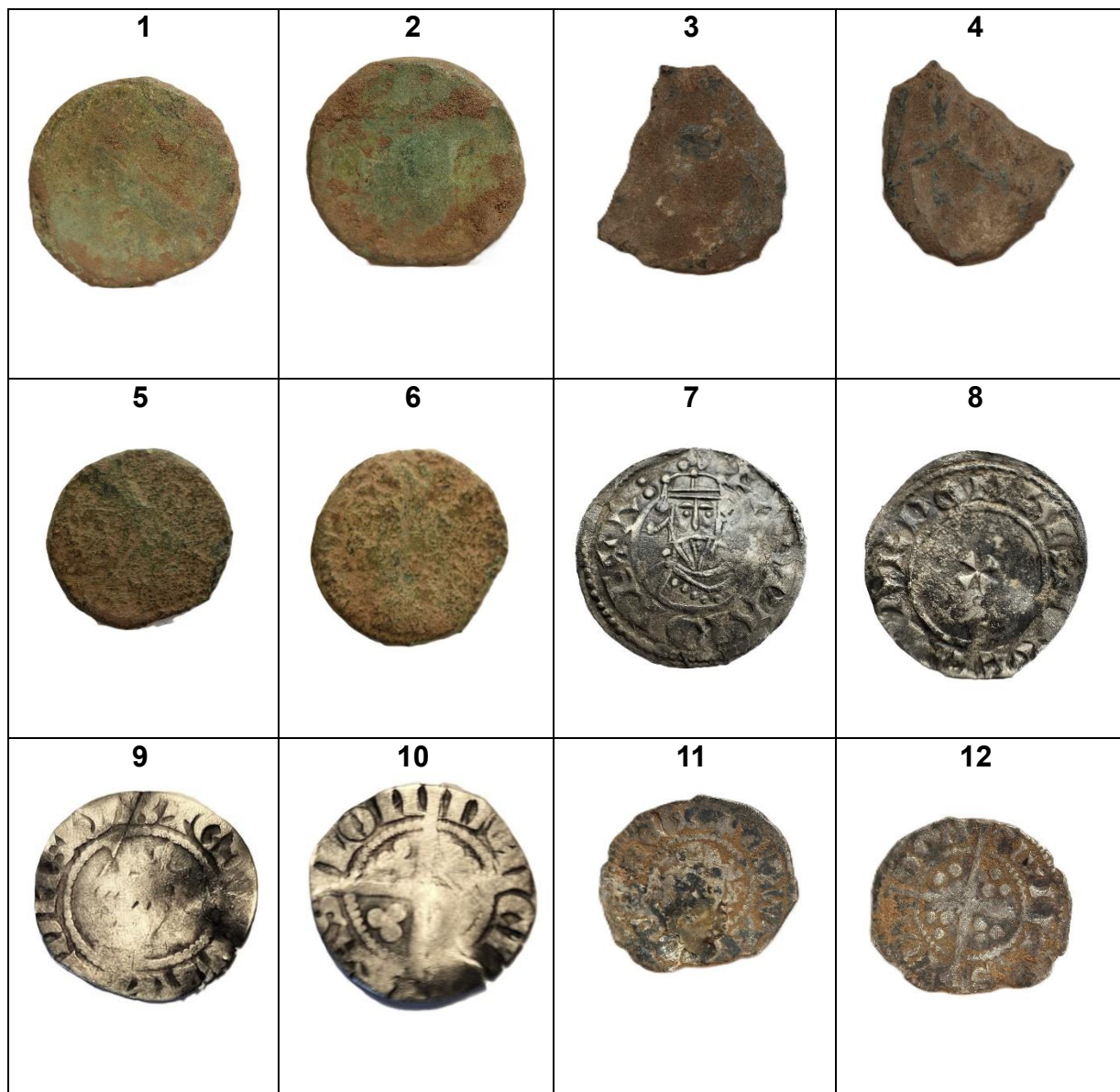


COINAGE

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 #

Damaged coins marked (D)

	<i>DENOMINATION (if known)</i>	<i>SIDE</i>	<i>MONARCH</i>	<i>DATE</i>
1	Roman bronze	Obverse	#	2 nd century
2	Roman bronze	Reverse	#	2 nd century
3	Roman bronze	Obverse	#	2 nd century
4	Roman bronze	Reverse	#	2 nd century
5	Roman bronze	Obverse	#	2 nd century
6	Roman bronze	Reverse	#	2 nd century
7	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	Edward the Confessor	1042-1066
8	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	Edward the Confessor	1042-1066
9	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
10	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
11	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
12	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
13	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
14	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
15	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
16	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
17	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
18	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
19	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
20	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
21	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
22	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
23	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
24	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600

25	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
26	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
27	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
28	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
29	Hammered silver penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
30	Hammered silver penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
31	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
32	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
33	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
34	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
35	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
36	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
37	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
38	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
39	Hammered silver cut half penny	Obverse	#	1200-1600
40	Hammered silver cut half penny	Reverse	#	1200-1600
41	Hammered silver cut quarter	Obverse	#	1200-1600
42	Hammered silver cut quarter	Reverse	#	1200-1600
43	Hammered silver cut quarter	Obverse	#	1200-1600
44	Hammered silver cut quarter	Reverse	#	1200-1600
45	Hammered silver cut quarter	Obverse	#	1200-1600
46	Hammered silver cut quarter	Reverse	#	1200-1600
47	Hammered silver cut quarter	Obverse	#	1200-1600
48	Hammered silver cut quarter	Reverse	#	1200-1600
49	Copper penny	Obverse	Victoria	1901
50	Copper penny	Reverse	Victoria	1901
51	Copper penny	Obverse	Victoria	1837-1901
52	Copper penny	Reverse	Victoria	1837-1901
53	Copper penny	Obverse	Victoria	1837-1901
54	Copper penny	Reverse	Victoria	1837-1901
55	Silver sixpence	Obverse	George 6th	1945
56	Silver sixpence	Reverse	George 6th	1945

POTTERY AND OTHER SURFACE FINDS

The majority of recovered pottery shards and other surface finds have been dated where possible but there may be errors, a more in-depth analysis would give a more specific timeline.

1 Middle Iron Age 300-200 BC 	2 Middle Iron Age 300-200 BC 
3 Roman domestic ware 1st /2nd century 	4 Roman domestic ware 1st /2nd century 
5 Roman greyware 1st/2nd century 	6 Late Saxon Stamford ware 850-1150 

7
Mid Medieval green glazed ware



8
German salt glazed stoneware, 1459 onwards



9
Cistercian ware 1475-1700



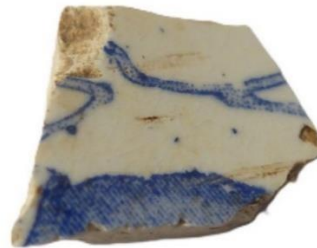
10
Black glazed earthenware, 17th century onward



11
Staffordshire manganese ware 1640-1750



12
Oriental hand painted domestic ware 1600-1800



13
Domestic creamware 1740-1880



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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.



COMBAT STRESS
FOR VETERANS' MENTAL HEALTH



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