



# Newsheet of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

THE N.A.S. AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HERITAGE

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Members who receive Current Archaeology may have noticed a piece on page 151 of issue no. 136 concerning closer links between this society and Northamptonshire Heritage, the newly devolved curatorial section of the old county archaeological unit. Towards the end of last year the society was contacted by Northamptonshire Heritage with a view to establishing a network of amateur archaeologists across the whole of the county. It was suggested that they could help to monitor aspects of development in their own localities and pass on news of any unexpected discoveries. The N.A.S. committee has responded positively to these suggestions and we will report on how this scheme is to be developed in future newsletters.

### **EXCAVATIONS**

Northamptonshire Archaeology is currently working on a Medieval site at Woolmonger Street in Northampton, preliminary results of which will be in Mike Shaw's forthcoming talk to the Society. Later this year, members of this society are planning a number of small research excavations to examine the Roman roads, furnaces and quarries in the area around Fineshade.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

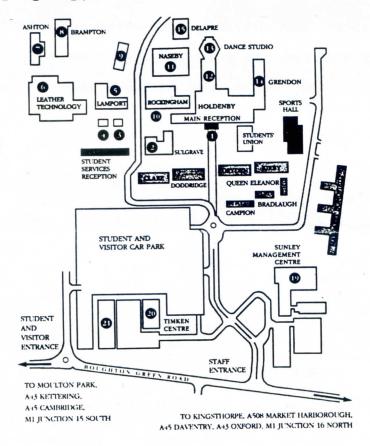
Wednesday February 16th. 8pm. From Northamptonshire Thatch to Frobisher's Peas.

John Letts from the Pitt-Rivers Museum in Oxford will be giving a talk on his work as an Archaeobotanist. In Northamptonshire, he has collected samples of Medieval plant remains preserved within thatched roofs. As a result of this he has been called as an expert witness in a recent planning dispute over what actually constitutes a traditional thatched roof. In the past 12 months he has also worked in Turkey and at a Viking settlement in Newfoundland. From there he took part in a hazardous expedition to Canadian Arctic in search of the frozen food store of Martin Frobisher, an Elizabethan explorer.

Wednesday March 16th. 8pm. Recent Discoveries in Northampton.

Mike Shaw from Northamptonshire Archaeology will be giving a round up of the recent work that has been carried out by the Unit within Northampton. This will include the latest results from the excavations Woolmonger Street which are currently in progress.

Both Lectures will take place at Nene College, Moulton Park Campus in Room 13 of the Naseby Building (Number 11 on the accompanying map).



## UPPER NENE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

On Friday 25th of February, Dr Graeme Guilbert, of the Trent and Peak Archaeological Trust will be speaking on the Excavation of Grey Ditch: a Dark Age earthwork in Derbyshire.

On Friday 25th of March, Ros Tyrell, a member of UNAG, will be speaking on the Piddington Villa wall plaster.

Both of these talks will be in the Countryside Centre in Northampton and will commence at 7.45 p.m.

Work is proceeding on the conversion of the former chapel and the woodworm has hopefully been eradicated. The next task is to strip the rendering from the exterior of the building. Anyone with spare time on Sunday 13th February, who could help with the would be most welcome. Please contact either Roy or Liz on 0604 870312 or Ed Baginski on 0933 318211, for further details.

#### MID NENE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

On Friday 25th March, David Greenhalgh will be giving a talk on the Trials and Tribulations of a Medieval Moneyer. This will include the chance to try your hand at making coins using the traditional methods with hammers and dies. This is at 8 p.m. in the Palmer Block in Oundle. Contact Gill Johnson for details on 0832 273798.