

The Brookfield Dig / Finds

What they are, what they mean and
what SWs might do with the story



Professor Carenza Lewis (University of Lincoln)

What are they?

Thrymsa from Gloucestershire (c.AD 645-60)



← SF-7E19AB : Roman coin

SF-7E25EE : Roman coin →

[Log in](#) | [Register](#)

[Search database](#)

[All artefacts & coins](#)

[Hoard search](#)

[All images](#)

[More searches](#)

[Statistics](#)

[Cite record](#) [Embed record](#) [Print](#)

COIN

Unique ID: GLO-7E1E69

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

An early medieval gold shilling (also known as a 'thrymsa') of the Witmen Group (Sutherland IV, group iii). The mint is unknown but is probably in south-east England. Date: mid 7th century, c. 645-60.

Ref: Sutherland 1948, nos. 73-74 (pl. IV nos. 16-17).

Notes:

This coin is on display in Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery

Find of note status

This is a find of note and has been designated: Regional importance

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Acquired by a museum - not a Treasure case

Chronology



Rights Holder: Bristol City Council

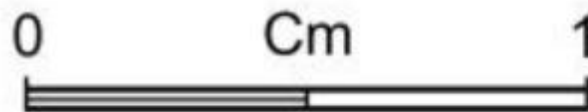
CC License:

Thrymsa from Gloucestershire (c.AD 645-60)



Rights Holder: Bristol City Council
CC License: 

Sceat from Monmouthshire (c. AD 690-710)

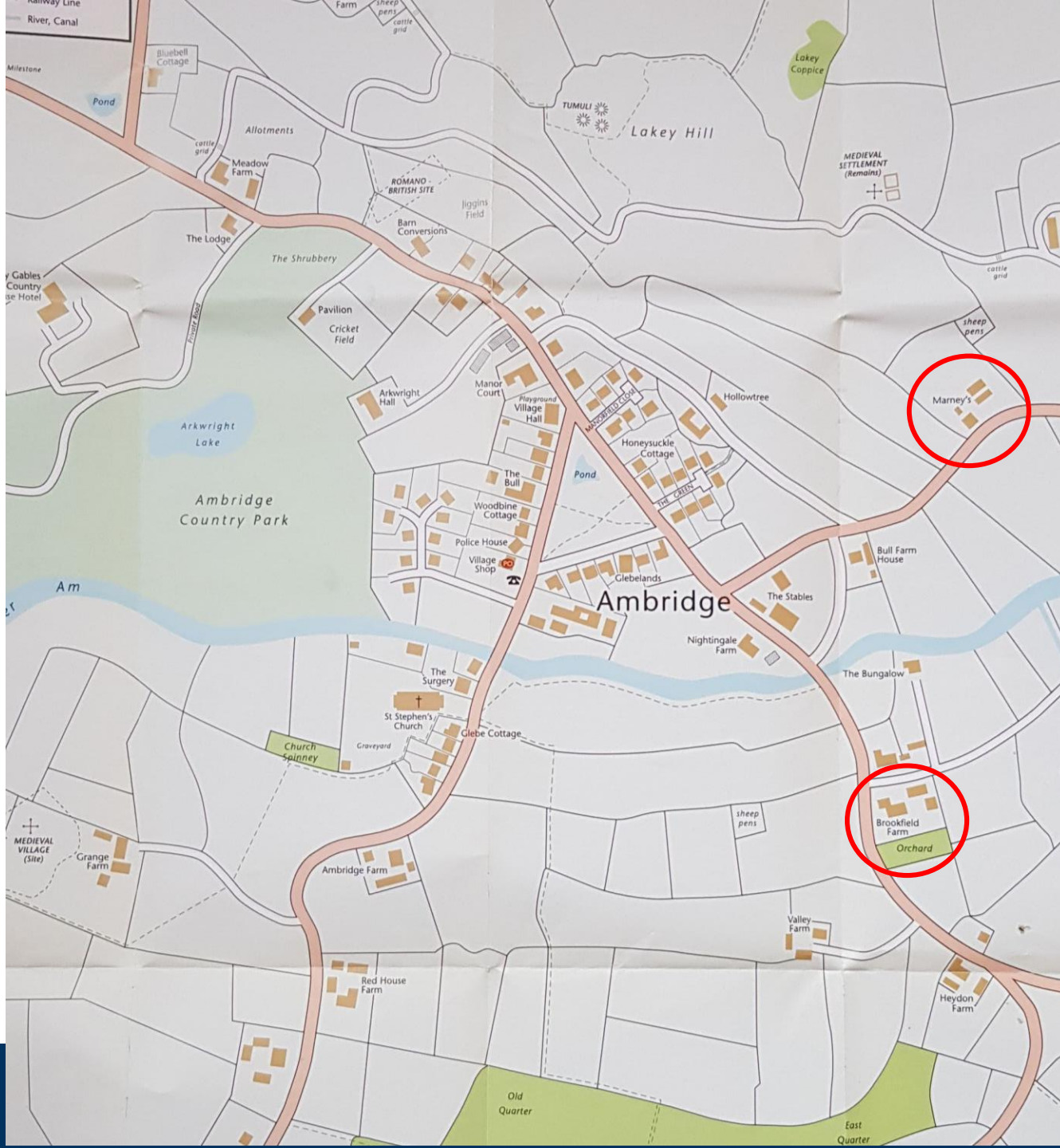


Rights Holder: Mark Lodwick

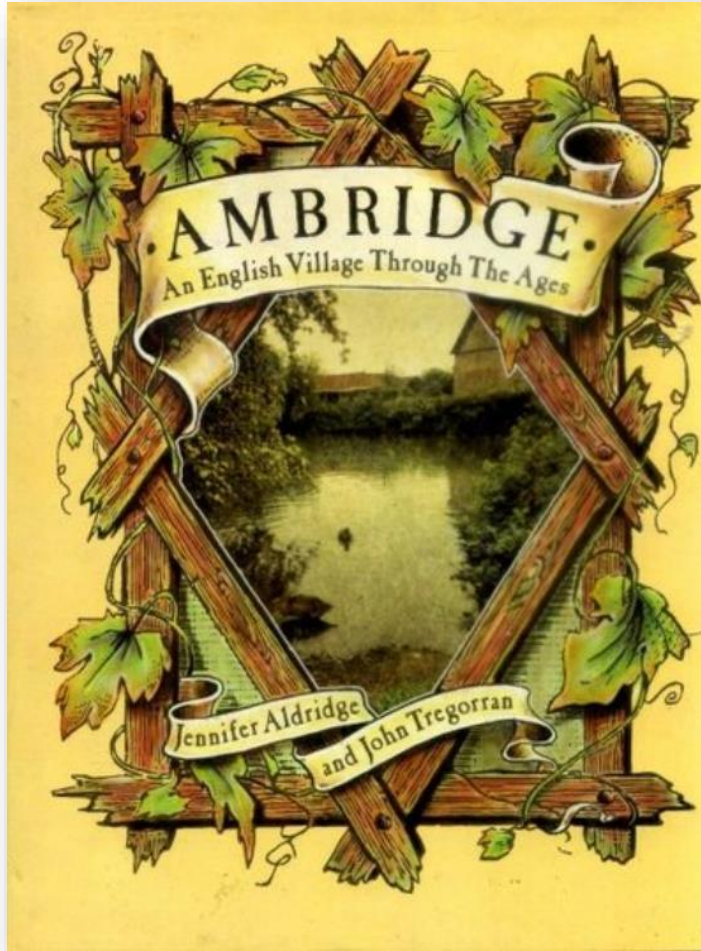
CC License: 



Where are they?



What do we know about Marneys' history?



- Nothing in Domesday Book or A&T's place name discussion
- Only mention is 1557 will of 'Thomas Marney of Ambridge' - who had two daughters and left most of his goods / livestock to his brother John (A&T 1982, 53, 56)
- We can presume the Ambridge Marney family name died out with Thomas' death
- We can infer the Marney family originally took their name from the place where they lived...

So what about that place name?

Key to English Place-Names

Go

Marton

Refs

'Pool farm/settlement' or perhaps, 'boundary farm/settlement'. The DB hundred takes its name from Marton. It was superceded by the ship soke of Knightlow (see entry) in the 12th century. In Marton parish there was a place called Spelestowe,

Elements and their meanings

- **mere** (Old English) A pond, a pool, a lake
- **mære** (Old English) A boundary, a border (in place names) the balk of a ploughland.
- **tūn** (Old English) An enclosure; a farmstead, an estate.

Manea

Refs

Possibly, 'common island'.

Elements and their meanings

- **mæne** (Old English) Common; common
- **ēg** (Anglian) An island. In ancient settlements most frequently refers to dry ground surrounded by marsh. Also used of islands in modern English. OE names: well-watered land.

Manningham

Refs

Probably, 'homestead/village connected with Maegen'.

Elements and their meanings

- **pers.n.** (Old English) **pers.n.** Personal name
- **-ing-** (Old English) Connective particle, linking a first element to a final element.
- **hām** (Old English) A village, a village community, a manor, an estate, a homestead.

So what about that place name?

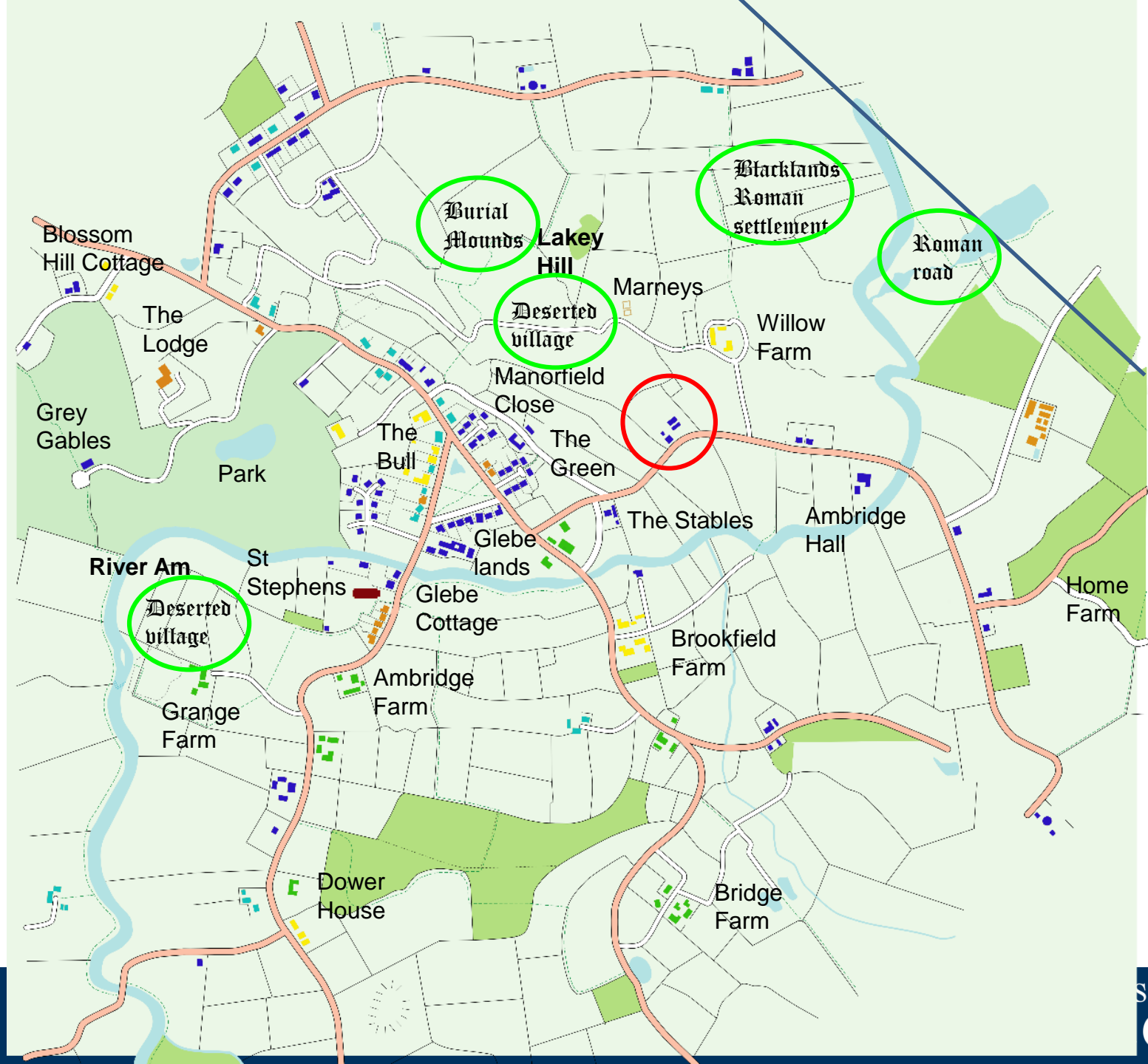
- After the end of the Roman period, there was a kingdom called Magonsæte approximating to modern Herefordshire with its capital at Kenchester just west of Hereford.
- Only three Magonsæte rulers are known: [Merewalh](#) who died in 685 and was succeeded by his sons [Merchhelm](#) and [Mildfrith](#), whose dates are not known.
- Nothing further was recorded about the kingdom or its rulers. It was probably absorbed into Mercia early in the eighth century

A Biographical Dictionary of Dark Age Britain by Ann Williams, Alfred P. Smyth and D. P. Kirby (Seaby 1991)

- So the name Marneys could have originated as “Merewalh’s settlement on dry ground surrounded by water”
- Those Magonsæte rulers’ dates are the same as the coins!!



And its archaeology?



And its archaeology?

Dig the Archers:
What community archaeology
can achieve in places like
Ambridge

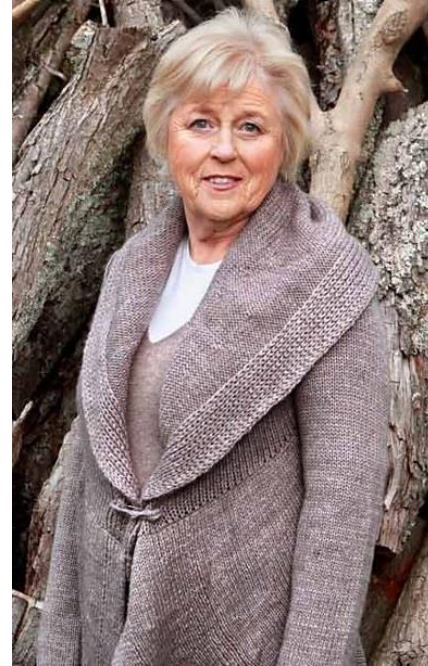


Professor Carenza Lewis (University of Lincoln)
Clemency Cooper (British Museum)

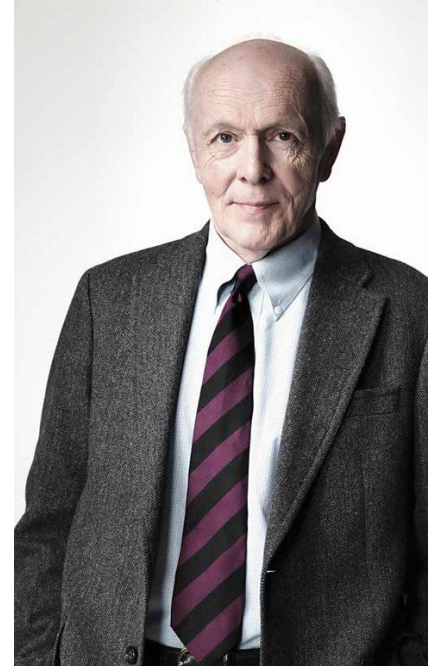
Ben Archer



Jennifer Aldridge



Jim Lloyd



Carol Tregorran



Lynda Snell



Ambridge test pit sites

- Base – Village hall (flooding Hindringham); The Bull; St Stephen's
 - Accommodation – Ambridge Hall (Snell's)
1. Jennifer and Brian Aldridge (Home Farm)
 2. Linda Snell (Ambridge Hall) (too far)
 3. Jim Lloyd (Greenacres)
 4. Kenton and Jolene Archer (The Bull)
 5. Ruth and David Archer (Brookfield Farm)
 6. Susan and Neil Carter (Ambridge View)
 7. Eddie and Clarrie Grundy (Grange Farm (owner Caroline Bone and Oliver Sterling))
 8. Richard Lock (Keeper's Cottage (owner Hazel Woolley))
 9. Peggy Woolley (The Lodge)
 10. Adam Macey & Ian Craig (Honeysuckle Cottage)
 11. Tony & Pat Archer (Bridge Farm)
 12. Carol Tregorran (Glebe Cottage)
 13. Richard and Sabrina Thwaite (Grange Spinney)
 14. Cathy Perks (April Cottage)
 15. Roy Tucker (Willow Farm? Roy owns Willow Cottage (now let to silents)
 16. Pit on the Green? (Parish Council)

17. Shula Hebden-Lloyd and Alistair Lloyd (the Stables)
18. Bert Fry (Brookfield Farm Bungalow)
19. Hollowtree
20. Alan and Usha Franks (The Vicarage)
21. Caroline Bone and Oliver Sterling (Grey Gables)
22. Lillian Bellamy (The Dower House)
23. Chris and Alice Carter (Home Farm cottage) (too far out)
24. Pip Archer (Rickyard Cottage)
25. Helen and Rob Titchener (Blossom Hill Cottage)
26. Ed and Emma Grundy (No 1 The Green (owned Will Grundy))
27. Will and Nick Grundy (Greenwood Cottage)
28. Village Shop (Hazel Wooley Owner)
29. Kate Archer (Home Farm holiday let)
30. Fallon Rogers and Harrison Burns (Woodbine Cottage, owned by Christine Barford)
31. Village Hall
32. Cricket field
33. Marneys (part of Brookfield)
34. Churchyard

35. Manorfield Close (old people's homes.
36. Sawyers Farm (industrial units)
37. Heydon Farm
38. Valley Farm
39. Jean Harvey (Bull Farm House)
40. Nightingale Farm
41. Overton Farm
42. Green Farm
43. Red House Farm
44. Ambridge Farm (formerly rented by Mike and Betty Tucker)
45. Manor Court
46. Glebelands (Derek and Pat Fletcher, Mr and Mrs Patterson)
47. Grange Spinney (Noakes; Mrs Palmer; the Hendricks, the Robinsons, the McWilliamses, the Thompsons and Barry Simmonds
48. Bluebell Cottage
49. Meadow Farm
50. Un-named Close west of shop
51. Others on the Green

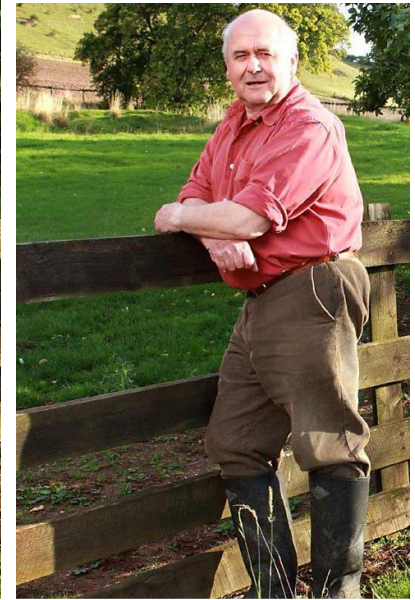
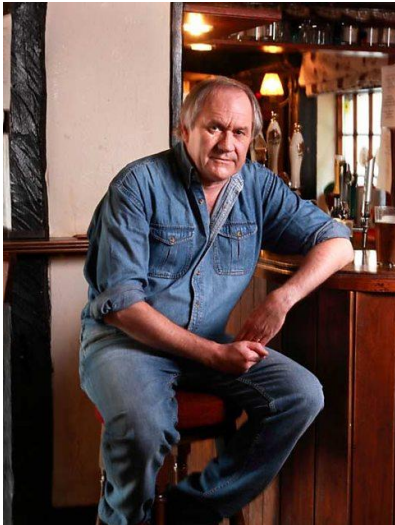


Finds!

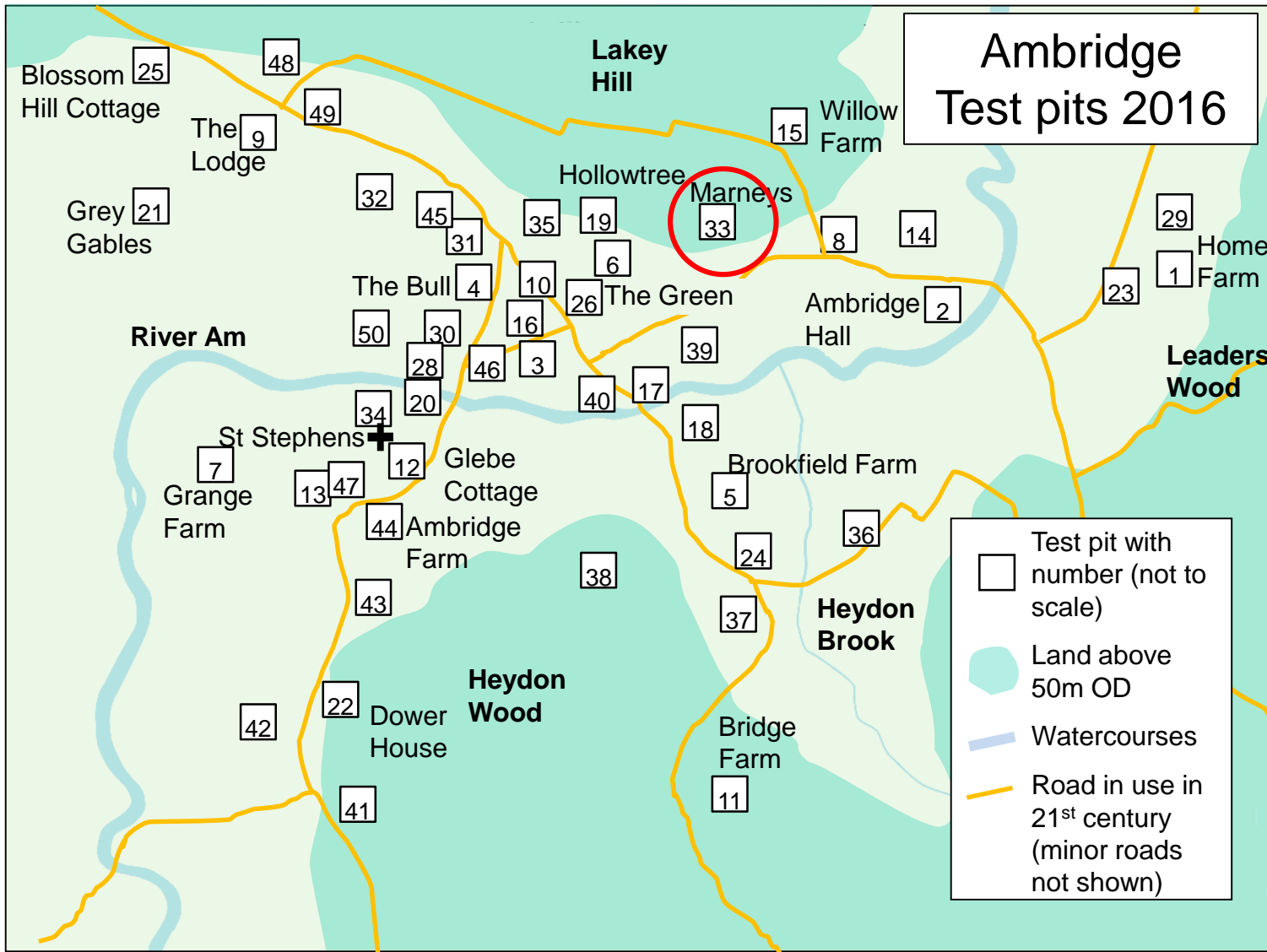


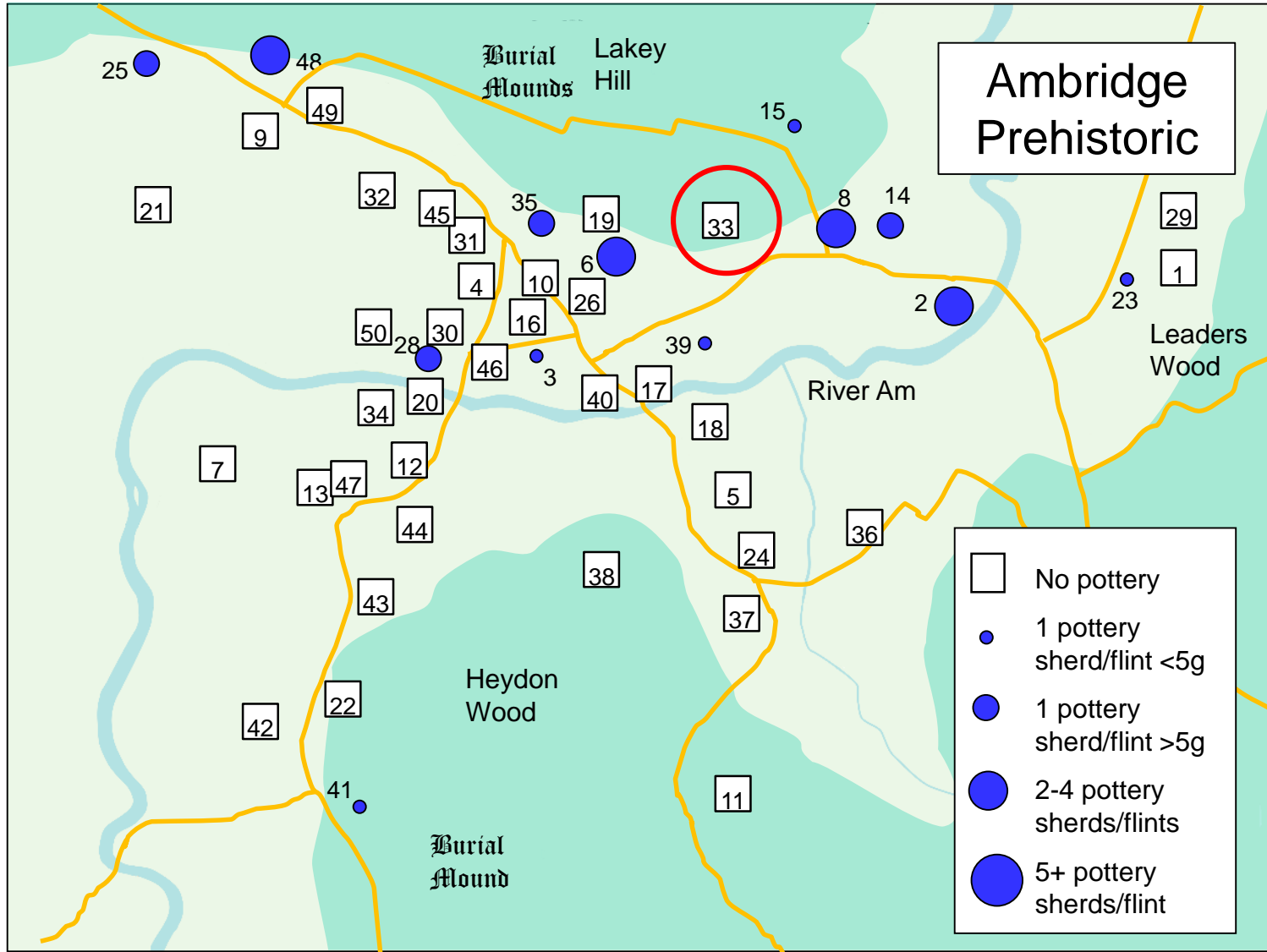
Grange Farm – Eddie and Clarrie Grundy

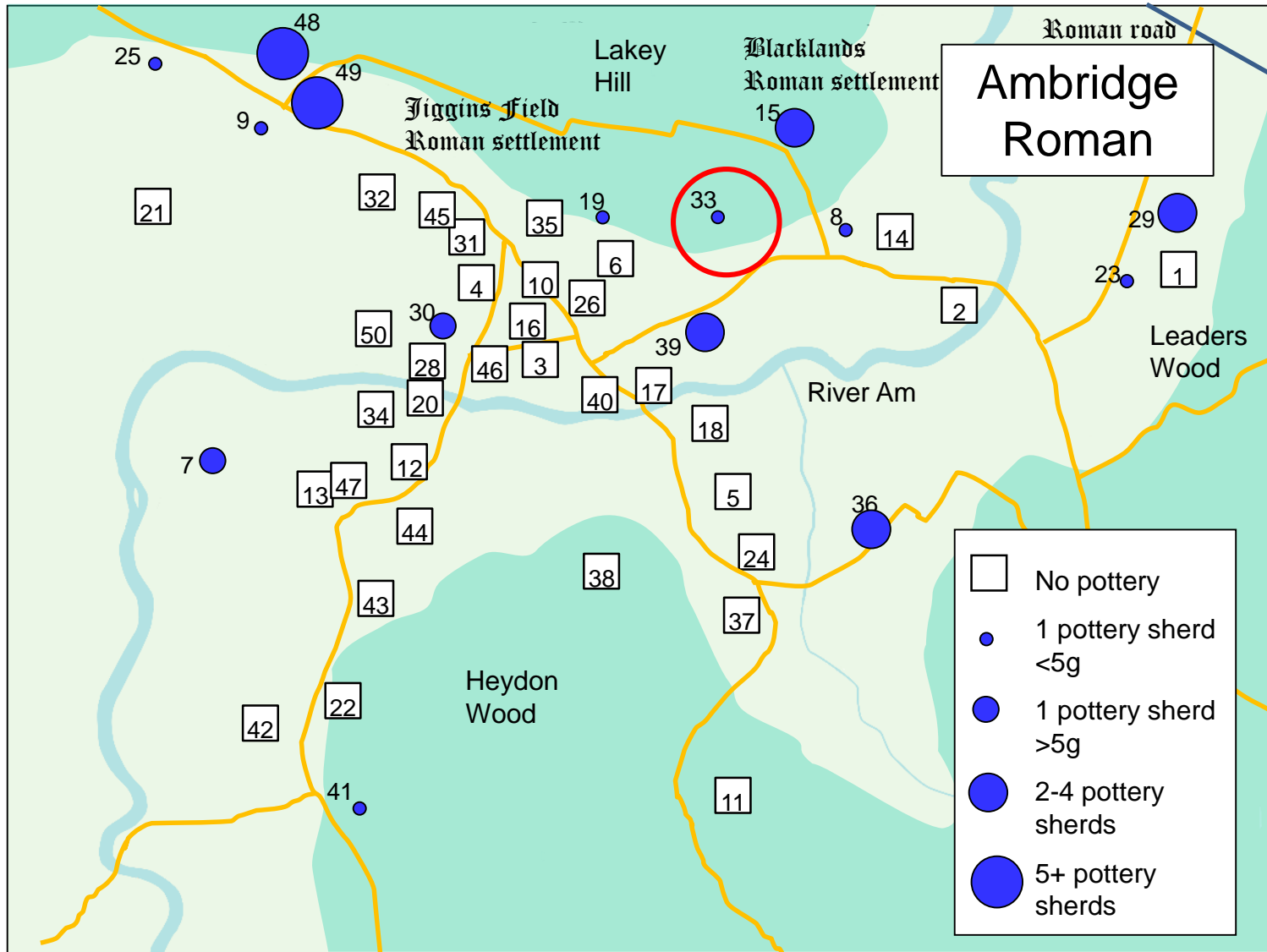
Ambridge View – Neil and Susan Carter

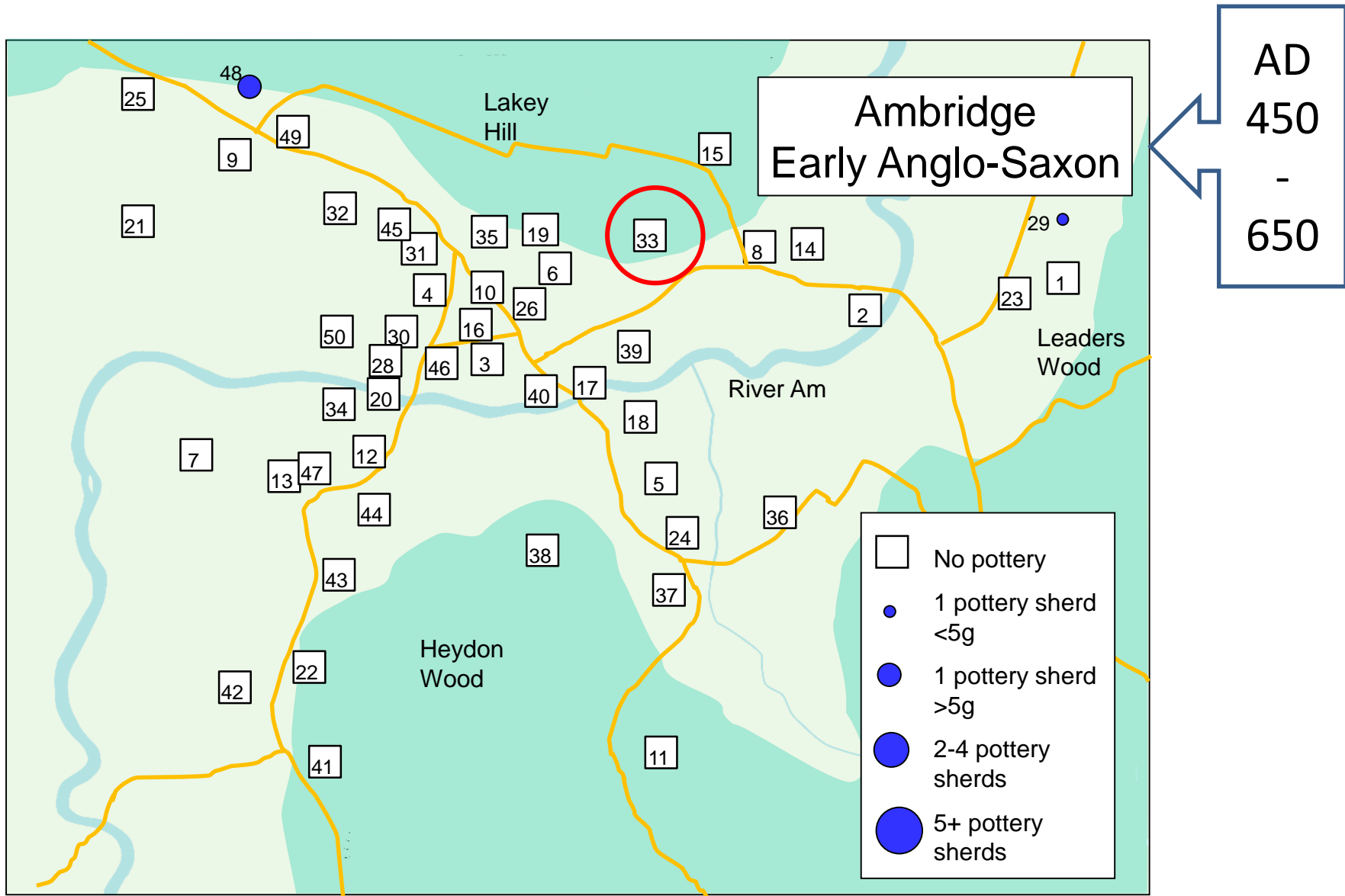


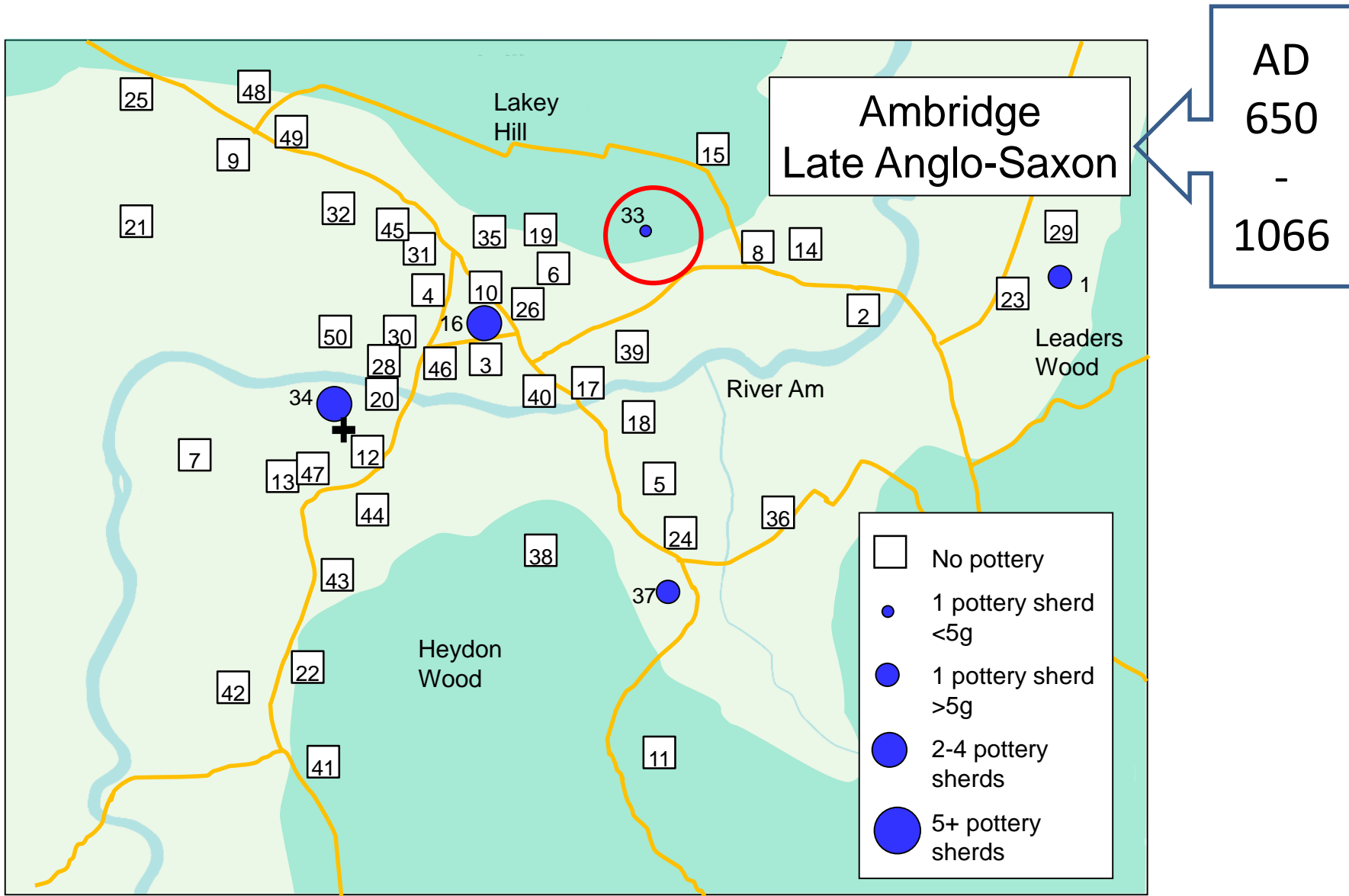
Ambridge Test pits 2016

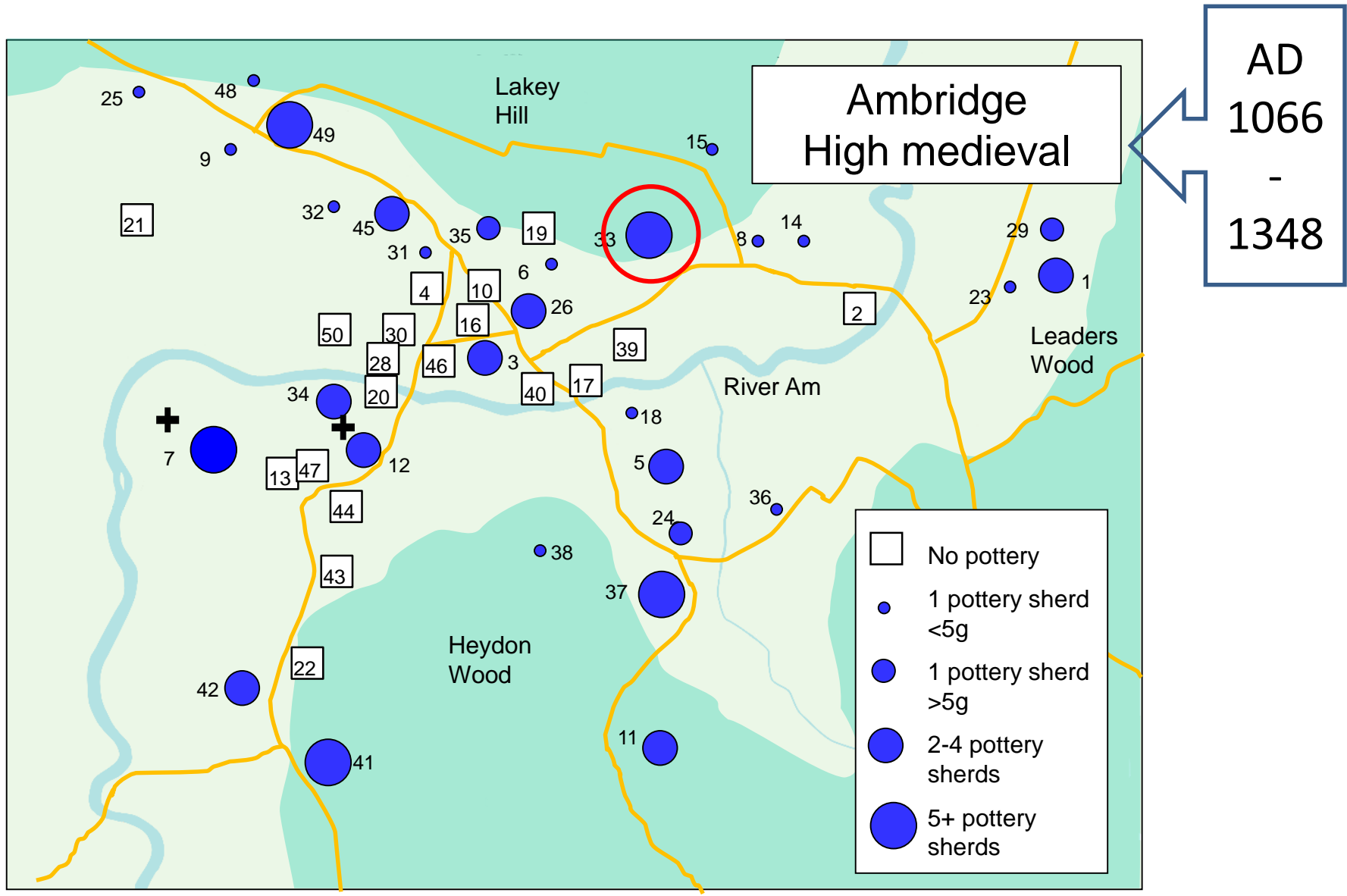


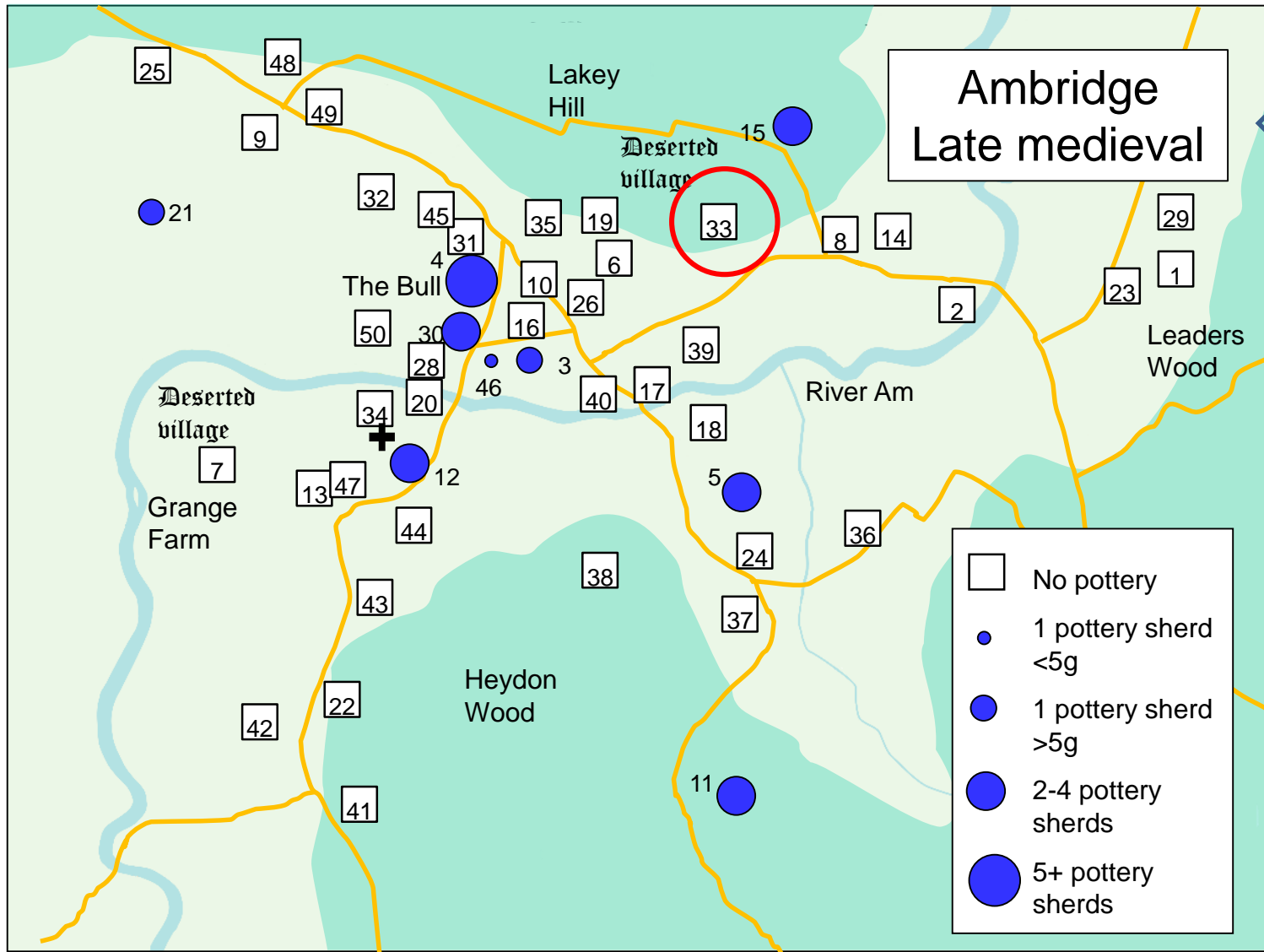


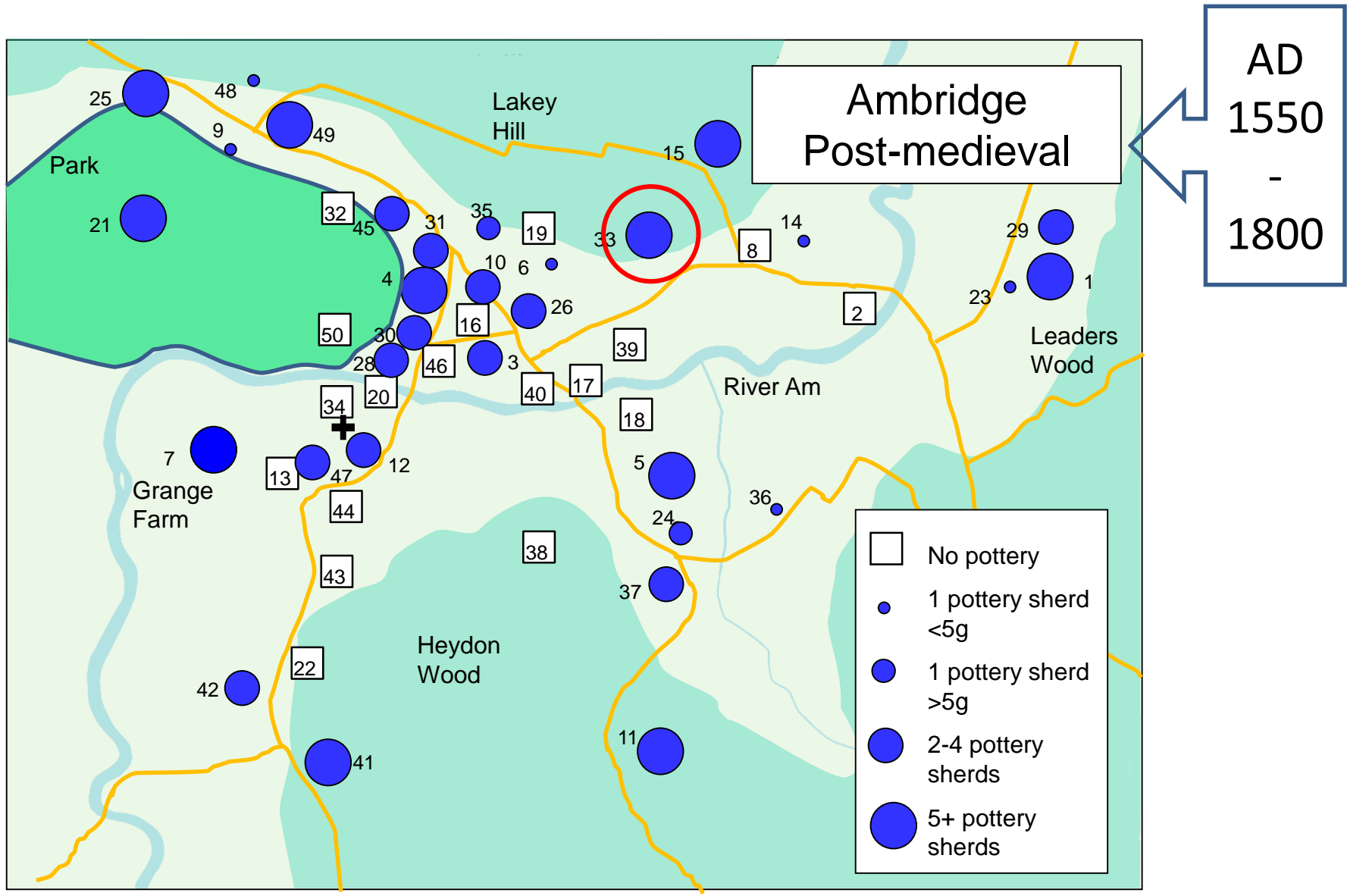


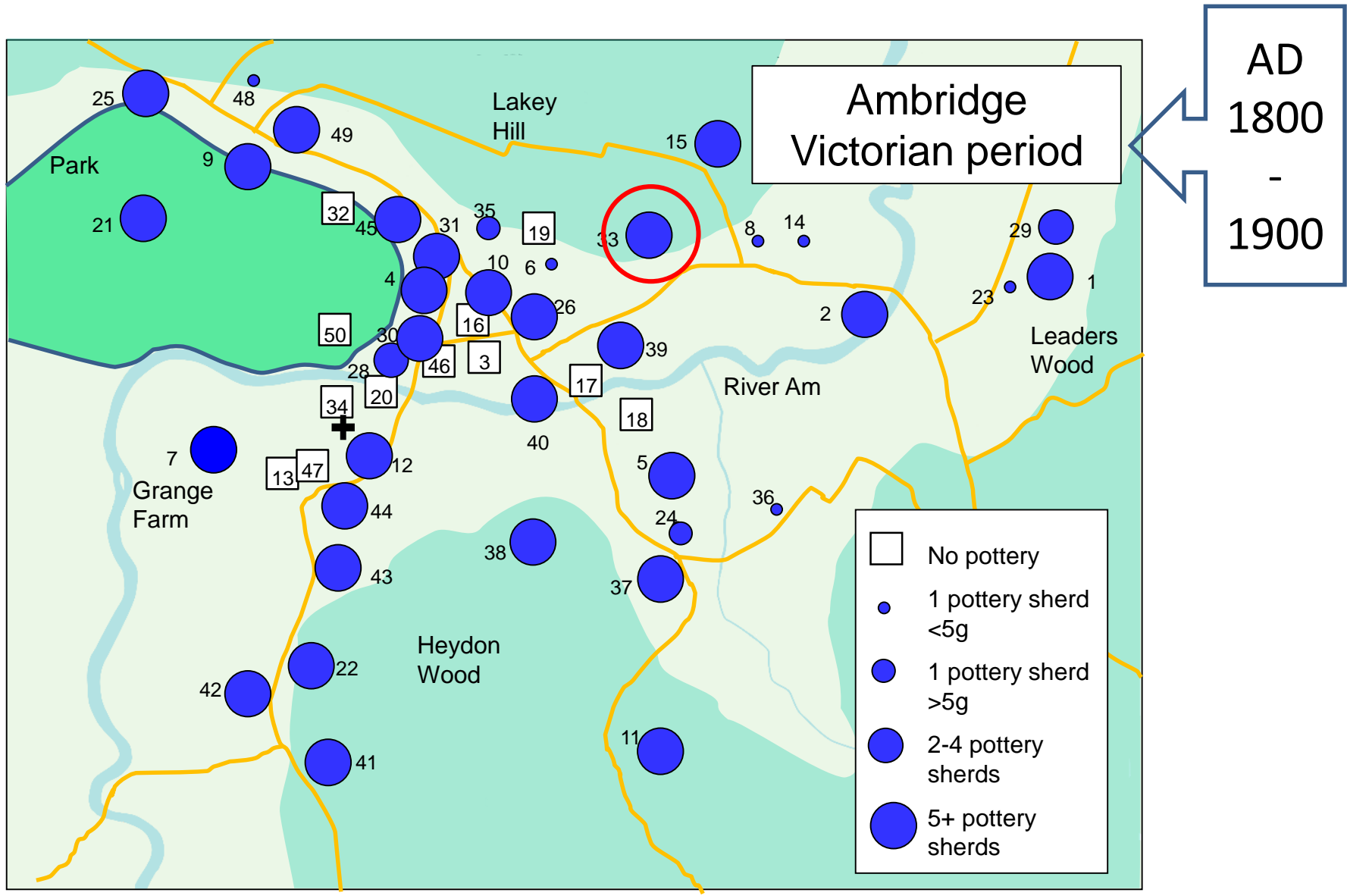












The Brookfield Dig - Finds What they mean?

← → ↻ staffordshirehoard.org.uk




STAFFORDSHIRE
HOARD



The Brookfield Dig - Finds What they mean?



The Brookfield Dig - Finds

What should they have done?

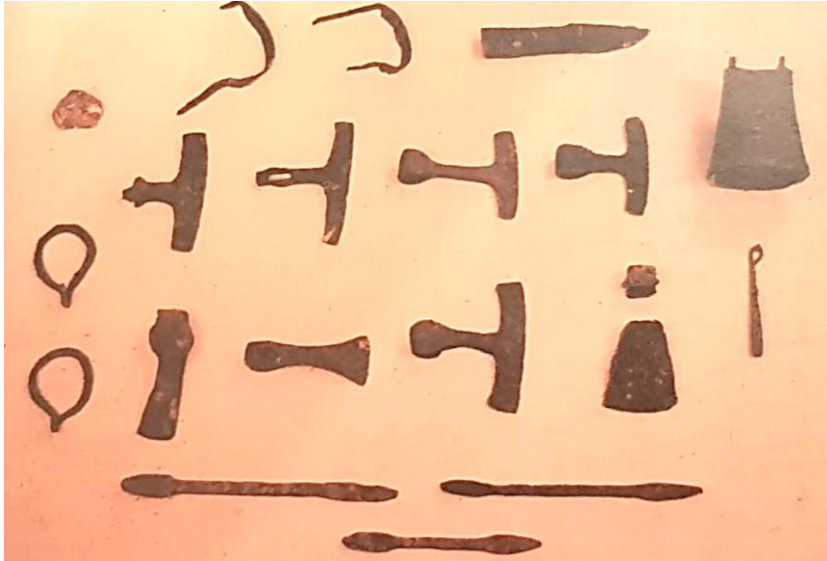


The Brookfield Dig - Finds

What might be there?



The Ambridge hoard???



The Brookfield Dig - Finds

Where could the story go?

Portable Antiquities

University archaeology courses

Fieldwalking

Numismatics

Nighthawking

Community dig

Over several years

New characters in and out

What they'd find

Who'd organise

Who'd take credit

The new Xmas panto!



