Ancient History at the University of Leicester, following the demise of the council-owned archaeology unit (the 'LAU'). Since 1995, ULAS has grown from three staff members to nearly 50 today and, as the co-founding directors Richard Buckley and Patrick Clay recently retired, this publication is a fitting tribute to their foresight and commitment.

In terms of format, the book works chronologically by period (e.g. Palaeolithic, Iron Age, Roman, Post-Medieval, etc.) and provides a series of short 'signposting' summaries on key sites and themes (36 in all). Some of the most significant summaries include, of course, the discovery of the remains of Richard III – the King under the car park – a project which combined research, commercial archaeology and public engagement in exemplary fashion. But other nationally or internationally significant sites are also included, such as a Palaeolithic hunting site at Bradgate Park, a Neolithic causewayed enclosure at Husbands Bosworth and a unique Iron-Age bark shield from Enderby. Later summaries detail the intensive exploration of Roman Leicester, and the discovery of the Civil War defences around the town. Although ULAS do undertake work beyond Leicester and Leicestershire, this book is restricted to this city and county, where their discoveries have made the most significant research contribution.

For readers of this journal, key site summaries include, for the Anglo-Saxon (AD 410–1066) period, fifth- to sixth-century buildings cut through collapsed Roman walls in Leicester, which provide fascinating evidence for continued occupation in the town, and a largely unbounded rural settlement with halls and sunken-featured buildings at Eye Kettleby in the Wreake Valley. Early medieval re-use of prehistoric monuments for burials at Cossington and Rothley is also considered. For the medieval period (1066–1485) a range of investigations within the historic core of Leicester are summarised, including on merchants' houses, evidence for industries such as tanning and brewing, and the rediscovery of three lost parish churches and their cemeteries during the Highcross redevelopment in the 2000s. This section is testament to the importance of good development control, systematic investigation and funded publication of archaeological sites in urban centres as part of the planning process. In rural Leicestershire, important investigations of medieval sites include those at Leicester Abbey, a preserved Saxo-Norman bridge at Hemington Quarry and community excavations at Oakham Castle.

There is much to recommend in this book and the well-illustrated presentation of the sites is a fine valorisation of the work of ULAS. It will not satisfy the specialist in search of site-specific details, but there is at least a *Further Reading* section provided for those who want to delve further. For this reviewer, this publication really highlights the important benefits (from local knowledge through to civic engagement and research/teaching benefit) that a regionally focussed archaeological organisation, operating within a University can bring. As such, in an age of increasingly fragmented professional archaeology, the 'ULAS case-study' should be considered as both an exemplar and a challenge to the commercial sector, proving that different models of archaeological practice are possible.

GARETH DAVIES
York Archaeological Trust
47 Aldwark
York YO1 7BX

Whaddon and the Longs. A West Wiltshire History. By Pamela M. Slocombe. 16 × 24 cm. x + 610 pp, 108 colour and b&w pls and figs. Gloucester: The Hobnob Press, 2020. ISBN 978-1-906978-98-3. Price: £25.00 pb.

The fortunes of Whaddon, a hamlet of Hilperton situated in western Wiltshire between Melksham and Trowbridge, rose and fell with those of the cloth industry. This book charts the growth of a small medieval farming community, its expansion to include small-scale cloth producers and a resident lord, contraction in the seventeenth century and a return to an agricultural base. It is an enormous and detailed history of a very small parish by a local history researcher determined to explore every avenue and delve into every document.

Whaddon and the Longs is divided into three sections: first, a short introduction and summary of medieval evidence from Domesday Book, archaeological reports, published calendars and the *Victoria County History;* there follows a history of the Long family, manorial lords from the mid-sixteenth century, whose correspondence is at times entertaining and brings colour to their biographies; finally, a description of the village, farms, fields and inhabitants is compiled from detailed examination of the archives. Each section is heavily – although sometimes imprecisely – referenced.

Without medieval manorial accounts or court rolls those looking for evidence of changes in the fifteenth-century cloth industry will turn elsewhere. The site of the fifteenth-century village is known only by house platforms and scattered pottery. From the sixteenth-century piecemeal Tudor enclosures, the newly built manor house and field names receive as much attention as the documents allow. The changes in use of the mill demonstrate the shifting economic base of the settlement: a corn mill in 1086, it was a fulling mill by 1307 and in the fifteenth century at the centre of a dense concentration of fulling mills on Semington Brook; in the seventeenth century it was converted back to a corn mill and also used for malt; it was still serviceable in 1911 it was used in the twentieth century as a kennel. The story ends with a description of the mill as it stands today: a two-and-a-half storey stone tower with a hipped roof and slot for an undershot wheel.

The strength of this book is the tremendous amount of research that underpins the narrative: almost every possible archival resource has been checked, both at county and national archives, and combined with a detailed knowledge of the landscape and standing buildings. At times the archival knowledge is not supported by literature-based critical analysis and some conclusions are more credible than others. However, this does not detract from this book's value to researchers in west Wiltshire and east Somerset who will surely mine its contents for their own comparisons.

Good-quality production, illustrations and a comprehensive index have been achieved at a reasonable price. Since, in 1953, the *Victoria County History* devoted just four pages to Whaddon, here Pamela Slocombe demonstrates that there is a much bigger story to tell.

MARK FORREST
22 Dugdale Road
Dorchester

The Templar Estates in Lincolnshire, 1185–1565. Agriculture and Economy. By J. Michael Jefferson. 16 × 24 cm. xii + 349 pp, 30 b&w figs. Woodbridge: The Boydell Press, 2020. ISBN 978-1-78327-557-1. Price: £70.00 hb.

The Knights Templar and Lincolnshire are inextricable, not just because the former held so much land in that county (*c*. 10,000 acres in the fourteenth century, it seems), but also because, in 2006, Lincoln Cathedral played a starring role in the *Da Vinci Code* film. Consequently, for many years afterwards (and perhaps still today?), cathedral guides were briefed about Lincolnshire's historical Templars, distinguishing them from the *papier-mâché* version offered to visitors in the chapter-house. Those guides would have valued Michael Jefferson's new book, even if they might have found its dedication to the nitty-gritty of economic history somewhat challenging.

Jefferson's volume is a valuable contribution to both topics – to the Templars and to medieval Lincolnshire. It is a single-minded exploration of the economic and political significance of four documents: the Inquest of 1185; the Accounts of 1308–13; the Report of 1338; and the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535. Out of these remains are woven a satisfying account of Templar (and former Templar) estates in the county. Comparison between the four documents permits telling contributions to current debates about, for example, the extent to which Templar lands were sequestered by the Crown after the Order's arrest in 1308, rather than handed over to the Hospitallers, as the Pope decreed they should be in 1312.

Readers of *Medieval Settlement Research* will particularly appreciate this close analysis of the 1308–13 accounts, which generates highly informative detail on the management of large agricultural estates. Building on the discussion of agricultural practice in Helen Nicholson's *The Everyday Life of the Templars. The Knights Templar at Home* (Fonthill, 2017), and – particularly – on Eileen Gooder's exemplary 2002 report ('South Witham and the Templars', in P. Mayes, *Excavations at a Templar Preceptory. South Witham, Lincolnshire 1965–67*. London, SMA Monograph 19, 80–95), Jefferson reveals a wealth of agricultural detail. The Lincolnshire Templar sheep-breeding operation was efficiently centralised, for example. They were early-adopters of legumes as a rotational crop; early-adopters of wheat cultivation as opposed to rye; and early-adopters of draught-horses for ploughing. Consequently, these (still unpublished) accounts can now take their place alongside some of eastern England's other monastic manorial accounts, such as those from Wellingborough or Peterborough's various Lincolnshire manors, as significant sources for the detail of medieval agriculture and husbandry (For Wellingborough: F.M. Page (ed.), *Wellingborough Manorial Accounts, AD 1258–1323*, Northamptonshire Record Society 8. Northampton, 1936; for Lincs., see W.T. Mellows, 'The Estates of the Monastery of Peterborough in the County of Lincoln' (two parts), *The Lincolnshire Historian* 3 & 4, 1949 & 1950, 101–14 & 128–66).

Lincolnshire, of course, also contains the most completely explored (and most expertly analysed) of all Templar sites – at South Witham – and Jefferson is appropriately circumspect about the site, perhaps because Gooder's study of its documentation is so comprehensive. But other aspects of monastic archaeology are handled with less assurance: there is no reference, for example, to the study of monastic landscape-management by, or the archaeology of, granges of Barlings Abbey a few miles from Eagle (P. Everson & D.A. Stocker, *Custodians of Continuity. The Premonstratensian Abbey at Barlings and the Landscape of Ritual*. Lincolnshire Archaeology and Heritage Series 11. Heckington, 2011). Nor, indeed, is reference made to the previous published investigation of that Preceptory's estates either (T. Hugo, *The History of Eagle… A Commandery of the Knights Hospitallers* … London, 1876). Also, it's not entirely clear that Jefferson fully understands how different Lincolnshire's fourteenth-century topography was from today. He is frequently puzzled, for example, by the relative lack of accounts for pasture, when we know that the Lincolnshire Templars' flock was huge. The missing element, of course, is common land. Until the eighteenth century the uplands of both Kesteven and Lindsey were dominated by enormous sheep-walks ('fine champion country, much like Salisbury Plaine', said Celia Fiennes in 1697). The Templars held extensive common grazing rights, but these rights are not accounted separately. Surely this is Jefferson's 'missing' pasture, presumably explaining the discrepancy that worries him so profoundly? This 'missing' common pasture might also have consequences, perhaps, for his more general conclusions, because it could affect thinking about the sequestration of Templar property after 1308.

However, this 'missing' upland common-grazing should not detract from the value of this book as a whole: both the discussion and the useful, extensive, appendices represent truly valuable contributions to our understanding, both of Lincolnshire's medieval agriculture and of the history the Knights Templar.

DAVID STOCKER
IMS
University of Leeds

Cressing Temple. A Templar and Hospitaller Manor in Essex and its Buildings. (2nd Revised and Enlarged Edition). Edited by D. D. Andrews. 21 × 30 cm. iii + 195 pp, 215 colour and b&w pls and figs, 8 tables. Ipswich: Essex County Council (1993) & Essex Historic Buildings Group, 2020. ISBN 9780953094639. Price: £13.50 pb.