HOXNE HERITAGE WALK

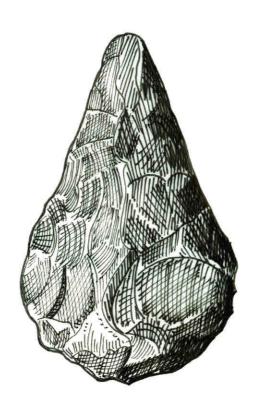
2. The Interglacial Lake.

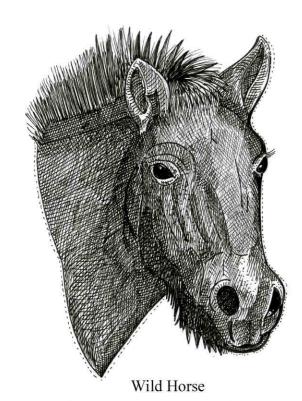
John Frere [1740-1807] JP.



John Frere was a landowner and antiquary, who resided at Roydon Hall, Norfolk. He was privately educated before going to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

In 1797 Frere published a letter relating to the flint weapons discovered at Hoxne. This was later published in the pamphlet Archaeologia in 1800, with engravings of a stone axe.





The Hoxnian Interglacial lake site is situated on high ground above the valley of the River Dove, which is the main tributary of the River Waveney. This silted up lake dates roughly to 425,000 - 375,000 years ago and was particularly rich in flora and fauna. Trees included Oak, Yew, Hazel, Alder and Hornbeam.

Mammals included Water Vole, Fallow Deer, Red Deer, Roe Deer, Elk, Beaver, Auroch, Wild Horse, Lion, Bear, Rhinoceros, Wolf, Elephant and Wild Boar.

In 1971 a team of archaeologists was assembled by the University of Chicago to excavate the site at Hoxne and work continued with five summer excavations ending in 1978. John Wymer [1928-2006], the eminent British archaeologist, Ronald Singer [1924-2006] the South African anthropologist and Bruce Gladfelter, the geographer, were all deeply involved with the Hoxne excavations.

One special visitor to the excavations was Claudia Alta [Lady Bird] Johnson [1912-2007], the wife of Lyndon B Johnson, President of the United States from 1963-1969. Claudia was on the board of trustees for the National Geographic Society.

