

West Runton Geology Walks Doggerland

Beyond the shores of North Norfolk there lies a submerged landscape that was the home to hundreds of generations of our forebears. It has not disappeared but merely been submerged. Until recently, we had only the vaguest of ideas what lay beneath the waves. But a research project at the University of Birmingham is rediscovering a lost world and revealing one of the richest Mesolithic landscapes in Europe, that has survived virtually untouched for thousands of years.

Doggerland, as it was dubbed by Professor Bryony Coles, was a vast area containing low wetlands, rivers, estuaries, and hills, which at their maximum extended from northern England to Denmark and separated from Norway by only a deep trench close to the Scandinavian coast (see map).

*Gaffney, Vincent; Thomson, Kenneth and Fitch, Simon :
2008 : Mapping Doggerland. The Mesolithic Landscapes of the
Southern North Sea : Archaeopress : : 131pp*



Maglemosian (Mesolithic) style antler harpoon point discovered 50 km off Norfolk coast. Radiocarbon dated to 9790 BC. Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service
NWHCM : 1932.39



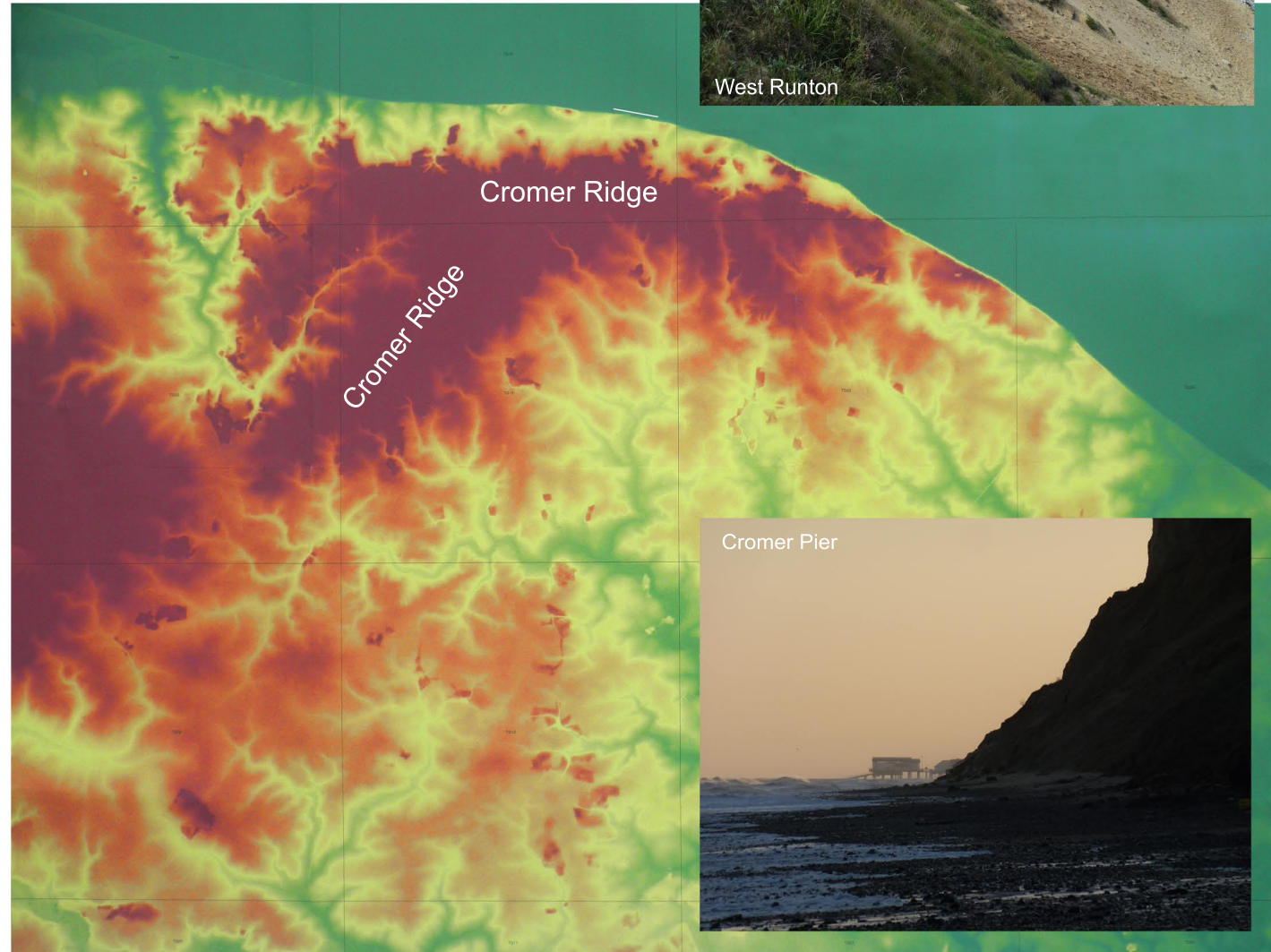
West Runton SSSI

This beach is a site of special scientific interest and is protected by law. The coast protection works are incomplete and designed to maintain the exposure in the cliffs.

The strata in the cliffs provide evidence for past environments - from the sub-tropical Cretaceous to the ice deserts of the Pleistocene. The record preserved in the rocks is interpreted by geologists who study the nature of the sediments, structures and fossils.



West Runton



Cromer Pier

See the Geology Fieldguide to North Norfolk at www.norfolk.org.uk © Martin Warren 2012. Also, visit the Poppyland Brewery, 46 West St., Cromer