

SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
AND HISTORY
BUSINESS AND ACTIVITIES
2016

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RULES OF THE SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

1. The Society shall be called the 'Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History'.
2. The objects of the Institute shall be for the advancement of the education of the public:
 - a. To collect and publish information on the archaeology and history of the county of Suffolk,
 - b. To oppose and prevent, as far as may be practicable, any injuries with which ancient monuments of every description within the county of Suffolk may from time to time be threatened and to collect accurate drawings, plans and descriptions thereof.
 - c. To promote interest in local archaeological and historical matters.
3. The Institute shall consist of Ordinary and Honorary Members.
4. The subscriptions to be paid by Ordinary Members, and such other categories of membership of the Institute as may be prescribed by the Council, shall be at the rates determined from time to time by the Council. Every member shall be considered to belong to the Institute until he or she withdraws from it by notice to the General Secretary in writing, or is more than twelve months in arrears with his subscriptions, in which case he or she shall be deemed to have resigned.
5. Each member shall be entitled to free admission to the General Meetings of the Institute; he or she shall also be entitled to receive a copy of the *Proceedings* and Newsletters of the Institute. Members shall be entitled to attend excursions and to bring not more than two friends, except where otherwise notified, on payment of whatever fees may be decided by the Council from time to time.
6. Honorary Members shall pay no subscription and shall not be entitled to vote, but they shall receive a copy of the Proceedings and Newsletters of the Institute and shall be entitled to all other privileges of membership. Honorary Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting only.
7. The Officers of the Institute shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, a Chairman, a General Secretary, an Assistant General Secretary, a Financial Secretary, an Excursions Secretary, a Membership Secretary, a Field Group Secretary, a Website Secretary, such additional secretaries as may from time to time be required, and an Editor, who shall, if necessary, be assisted by an Editorial Committee made up of the officers and any persons co-opted by them. The President and Chairman shall remain in office for a term of four years, and may be re-elected for a second term only. The General Secretary, Financial Secretary and Editor shall remain in office until removed by an Annual or Special General Meeting or until they resign. The other officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for the ensuing year. Nominations of new candidates for office must reach the General Secretary at least two weeks before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
8. There shall be an independent examiner, elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for the ensuing year.
9. The general management of the affairs and property of the Institute shall be vested in the Council, consisting of the officers, three nominated members representing the Suffolk Archaeological Service, the Suffolk Record Office, and University Campus Suffolk, and up to twelve members elected from the general body of the subscribers. The ordinary members of the Council shall be elected to serve for four years, being then ineligible for re-election for a year. No officer or member who has been absent from all the Council meetings during the previous year shall be eligible for re-election, and, in the case of members who are mid-term, shall be removed from the Council, at the next Annual General Meeting, with the proviso that the Council may waive this where special circumstances have prevented an officer's or member's attendance.

10. The Council shall decide from time to time what officers, and how many members, there should be, on the understanding that the Council shall not exercise this power to remove any officer or member, without their agreement, before the expiry of their term.
11. The Council shall meet to transact the ordinary business of the Institute. They shall have power to appoint committees, which shall enjoy such powers as shall be delegated to them, recommend Honorary Members for election at the Annual General Meeting, supply vacancies which may occur during the year in their own body or among the officers, and make arrangements for excursions and other meetings. They shall also annually prepare a report and a statement of accounts for submission to the Annual General Meeting. At each meeting of the Council six members shall be a quorum.
12. A Grants Committee shall consider requests for funding. A Conference Committee shall seek to organise at least one conference each year which shall be the annual Wheeler conference.
13. The Annual General Meeting shall be held if possible before the end of April. At each Annual General Meeting twelve Ordinary Members of the Institute shall be a quorum.
14. A Special General Meeting, apart from and in addition to an Annual General Meeting, may be called at any time on the demand of the President, or of the Chairman, or of the Council, or of not less than five Ordinary Members of the Institute, who shall signify their demand to the General Secretary in writing. At least one week's notice of such meeting shall be given to all members of the Institute, together with a statement of the proposed agenda. At each special General Meeting twelve Ordinary Members of the Institute shall be a quorum.
15. At all meetings, both of the Institute and of the Council, and of any committee thereof, the Chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to his own vote.
16. Copyright in all papers accepted for publication in the Proceedings shall belong jointly to the Institute and the author, on the understanding that the Institute may publish the paper in both hard and electronic copy and on the internet, and that the author shall not publish the paper in any other academic journal without the written consent of the Institute. The decision of the Editorial Committee, on whether or not to accept a paper for publication, shall be final.
17. Should any dispute or difference arise concerning the interpretation of the foregoing rules the decision of the Chairman for the time being shall be final.
18. No alteration shall be made in these rules by way of addition, deletion or otherwise except at a General Meeting and after at least one week's previous notice of such proposed alteration has been sent to every member of the Institute. No such addition, deletion or other change shall be made to any rule which would have the effect of causing the Institute to lose its status as a charitable institution.
19. The Institute may not distribute income or property to its members, save that this shall not prevent the payment of a modest honorarium, approved in each case by the Council, to a member who gives a lecture or conducts an excursion on behalf of the Institute.
20. If the Institute is wound up or dissolved its assets shall be distributed to another charitable organisation and not to the Institute's members.

EXCURSIONS 2016

Report and notes on some findings

23 April. Edward Martin and Philip Aitkens

Columbine Hall, Stowupland (Combined with Wheeler Conference, for which see below).

Columbine Hall, its name and its landscape (Report by Edward Martin with additions by Philip Aitkens). Columbine Hall is now rightly regarded as one of the cultural icons of Suffolk; its beautiful moated hall adorns the back cover of the new Pevsner guide to West Suffolk and its fine gardens feature in numerous magazines and in a new book on gardens in East Anglia.¹ For a day devoted to place-names, it has a name with a deeper historical meaning than is immediately apparent. Despite the beauty of its gardens, it is not the colourful columbine flower that is being commemorated here but a family of medieval barons from Columbières in Normandy. And, being Suffolk, the history behind the name is both rich and complicated, not least because the name Stowupland also has a hidden history.

The Suffolk section of Domesday Book starts with the king's manor of *Tornai*, a name that now only lives on as a hamlet of Stowupland called Thorney Green. *Tornai* also had a market and a church, which in a few places in Domesday Book is referred to as being at *Stou*, and it is as Stowmarket that *Tornai* is now better known. The 'thorn island' of the name can now be seen to be the raised area of Stowmarket, crowned by its parish church, that lies to the W of the River Gipping. *Stou* would seem to have been used in the specialised sense of 'a holy place', a usage more common in the West Country where it is frequently allied to a saint's name (eg. Davidstow and Marystow) but which also occurs in Suffolk, as at Felixstowe. Stowmarket appears as *Stowe Sancte Marie* and *Stowe Sancti Petri* (after its two churches) in 1254 and as *Stowmarye* in 1474.

Stowmarket is now a relatively modest parish of 999 acres, but its chapelries and dependencies once included Stowupland, Old Newton and Gipping, giving it some 7379 acres. A large royal manor at the heart of Suffolk, and on the main highway across it, could not fail to be significant and there can be little doubt that Stowmarket's importance has been greatly underestimated. But its disintegration was already in progress by the time of Domesday Book, which records that several parts of *Tornai* were in the hands of the king's barons – men such as Roger of Poitou, Roger of Auberville, Hervey of Bourges and Hugh de Montfort, the lord of nearby Haughley. The disintegration was increased by King Henry I who gave the church, its lands and the market to the abbey of St Osyth in Essex – this became the manor of Abbot's Hall in Stowmarket. King Henry also gave an estate in Thorney to Richard de Lucy, Justiciar of England. Richard then gave part of it to the abbey of Lesnes in Kent, which became the manor of Thorney Lesnes; the remainder he subinfeudated to Ralf Brito, a royal administrator. Brito's estate passed by inheritance in the 13th century to the Amundeville family and became known as (A)Mundeville's manor, or, more simply, Thorney Hall. Thorney Hall lay to the E of the River Gipping and survived until the 19th century, when it was demolished for a malthouse near Stowmarket station.

Thorney included a large green on the high clay plateau to the east of the Gipping. It is first recorded as *Thorneyty* c. 1402–10, the *-ty* part being a term for a common pasture that is much more characteristic of south Suffolk, and this is the only known example of it N of the River Gipping.² By 1602 it was *Thorney Greene*. Beyond this was a linear hamlet with broad grassy strips flanking the road. This is named as *Saxton* in 1364, as *Saxton hamalate Thorne in parochie de Stowemarket* in 1456, and as *Saxstonstrete* in 1508.³ It is now known as

Saxham Street. In 1568 these two are referred to as *Thorney and Saxton Hamlet otherwise called Stowe Uplonde*.⁴ The collective term is first recorded in 1524 as *Stow Uplande and the Upland of Stow*.⁵ An ‘upland’ can mean a raised area of land or a rural area as distinct from an urban one – both explanations could apply to Stowupland.

In 1086 a sub-tenant of Hugh de Montfort’s part of the royal manor of *Tornai* was Roger de Candos, from Candos in Normandy. Roger’s great-granddaughter and heiress married Philip de Columbariis of Nether Stowey in Somerset (living 1156, dead by 1187). It was his family that came from Columbières (ie ‘dovecotes’) in Normandy and their holding became known as the manor of Thorney Columbiers. This baronial family remained in ownership until 1317, but before then they had subinfeudated it to the Hotot family, who were in occupation by 1242/3. They were also probably of Norman descent, taking their surname from Hotot-en-Auge in Normandy. Due to their occupancy, the manor was sometimes called *Thorney Hotots* (1423) or *Thorney Hotot* (1476).⁶

The Hotots were responsible for constructing the moat that surrounds Columbine Hall and for much of the existing building. As first revealed at the time of the 1992 Excursion, the long wing bordering the W arm of the moat is a gatehouse range of c. 1400, originally accessed by a wooden bridge (now gone) across this, the widest part of the moat.⁷ The timber-framed upper storey rests on a wall, of mortared flint with brick additions, that rises out of the water of the moat (Fig. 52). This wall also supports an attached N wing, which shows a notable increase in construction quality over the gatehouse range. Fragments of the flint wall continue beyond the existing house, indicating that it was once significantly larger. We can surmise that a lost great hall and other accommodation stood behind the gatehouse range (Fig. 53). The flint wall provides stability for the moat-edge position of the building, the inspiration being moated castles such as Wingfield. The upper storey has close-studded walls with distinctive ogee-shaped wind-braces. The roof has a simple system of coupled-rafter trusses, being of a narrow span. There is no moulding of any kind to the timber framing within the house and decoration may have been confined to the now-lost great hall, which in 1400 would have been of aisled or raised-aisled form. The two sides of the jettied upper storey are supported at the NW corner by a post with an expanded head, sometimes called a ‘dragon-post’ (corrupted from ‘diagonal’). This head has a suite of perpendicular-type mouldings, which by 1500 would have incorporated much more embellishment – crenellation, or even carved figures.

The builder is likely to have been Robert Hotot, who was a prominent justice of the peace in Suffolk 1381–99 and also the steward of the queen’s East Anglian estates by 1389. He was dead by 1402, being succeeded by his son John. The last John Hotot died in 1503 and Columbine Hall passed to his daughter Anne, the wife of James Tyrell, a younger son of Sir James Tyrell of Gipping, the henchman of King Richard III. Anne’s son, John Tyrell, got into debt and mortgaged *Columbyne* in 1557 to Thomas Standbridge, Citizen and Girdler of London.⁸ Tyrell died shortly afterwards and described himself in his will as of *Columburye in Thorney hamlett unto Stowmarket*, but this may be a transcriber’s error as elsewhere in the will he mentions his house called *Columbers*.⁹ Standbridge foreclosed on the mortgage and sold the property in 1559 to John Gardiner, then of Brantham but originally from London.¹⁰ As Diarmaid MacCulloch has recounted, the Tyrells believed that they had been robbed of their inheritance and did their best to rouse opposition to this upstart outsider.¹¹ Despite their hostility, Gardiner remained in ownership until his death c. 1595/6, in which time he seems to have made alterations to the house, inserting a chimney and adding a double-storeyed porch and a small chapel at the E end of the N range. Dying childless, Gardiner ensured that the Tyrells would not reclaim the property by granting it, subject to his wife’s life interest, to Sir Robert Carey, a younger son of Lord Hunsdon, Queen Elizabeth’s first-cousin.

Carey was in possession by 1602 and may have lived there for a short time, being described



FIG. 52 – Columbine Hall showing the range of c. 1400. The blocked-up original entrance can be seen towards the middle (photo: Edward Martin).

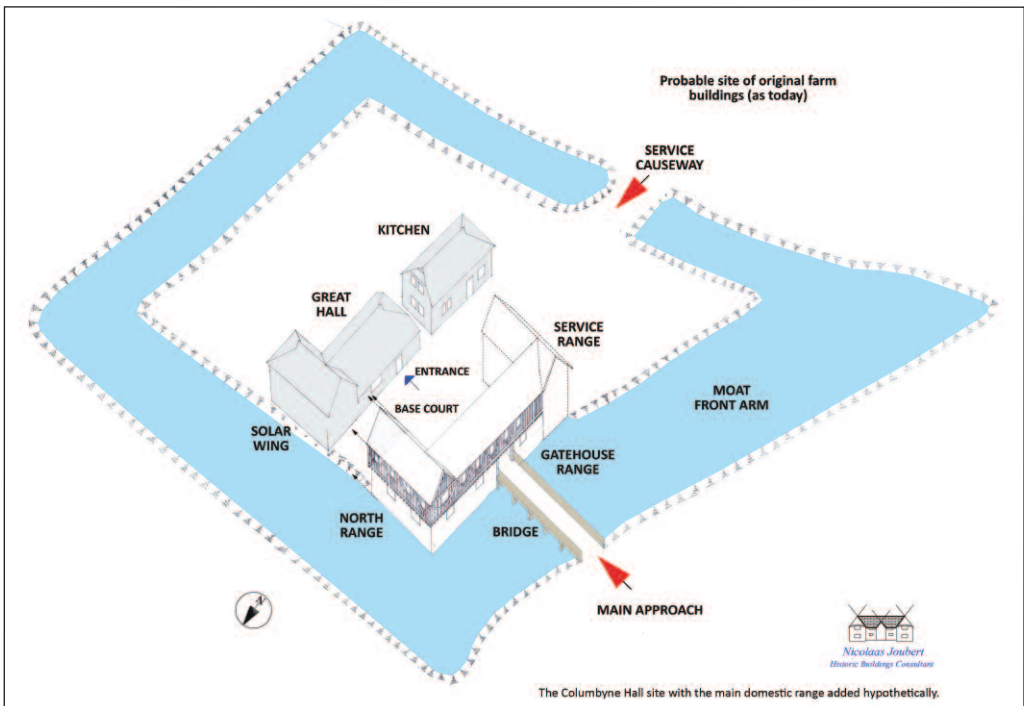


FIG. 53 – Hypothetical reconstruction of Columbine Hall and its moat in the late Middle Ages (© Philip Aitkens and Nic Joubert).

as ‘of Stowmarket’ in 1605.¹² But he had higher aims than the life of a country gentleman (he eventually rose to be earl of Monmouth) and *Collobine Hall alias Thorney Columbers* was first leased out to Giles Keble, a local farmer, and then sold in 1609 to Sir John Poley.¹³ A younger son of Edmund Poley of Badley Hall, Sir John had served as a soldier in Ireland and in Spain. In his will of 1634 he mentions his manor of *Cullumbine Hall alias Thorney Cullumbers* and gives to his John his ‘guilt Cales Bedsted which I brought out of Spaine the purchase of my sword and the silke quilt coverlet for the same guilt bedsted which I wrought with my owne hands for a covering for it And the bed blancketts and furniture thereto belonging to the end he may remember I was not idle in peace’. Sir John was also probably responsible for the plaster ceiling with cherubs in the chapel and some decorative woodwork elsewhere in the house. John, the son, died childless in 1666 and ownership of Columbine passed to the senior branch of the family at Badley, who leased the property out until they sold it in 1735 to Ambrose Crowley of Barking Hall and Greenwich in Kent. In 1741 he commissioned William Collier of Eton to produce a large map of his Suffolk estates (this now hangs in the Hall). Interestingly, this map shows the bridge across the W arm of the moat to the gatehouse as still existing (with the area outside labelled ‘The Walk’), as well as the current access route across the S arm. By the time of the 1772 estate map by Joseph Pennington the bridge had disappeared.¹⁴

The Hall remained as a tenanted farm until its sale by the Ashburnham Estate in 1914. On 26 March 1844 one of its barns was burnt down as an incendiary protest, and on 25 June 1844 a second incendiary fire burnt a large timber barn and lean-to. On 27 July 1844 Samuel Jacob, shepherd to John Boby the tenant, was found guilty of setting the fires to the barn and was sentenced to transportation. Around this time the last major addition was made to the farmhouse in the form of an E wing with decorative brickwork.

The current owners, Hew Stevenson and Leslie Geddes-Brown, bought the property in 1993 and have both restored the house and developed the magnificent gardens. The Institute is very grateful to them for hosting the 2016 visit.

*2 June. Rosemary Hoppitt, John Rainer, and Clive Paine
Saxmundham church and Kelsale Park.*

Kelsale Park (Report by Rosemary Hoppitt). The first indications of a park at Kelsale are recorded at the turn of the 12th and 13th centuries and concern an exchange of land between Roger Bigod (II), earl of Norfolk, and nearby Sibton Abbey. Roger granted the abbey 21 acres and 1 rood of land in *Wrabton* and 1 acre and 1 rood in Kelsale, in exchange for 21 acres and 1 rood of the abbey’s demesne land that he, Roger, had enclosed into his park of Kelsale¹⁵. This indicates that the park already existed at this date, and suggests that he may have been extending the enclosed area.

At the time of Domesday (1086) the manor of Kelsale was held by Roger Bigod (I) in demesne. Its value had risen since 1066, and it boasted a market ‘by the King’s gift’.¹⁶ Kelsale lay geographically central to Bigod’s east Suffolk landholding, and it would appear that he was investing in the manor, perhaps to establish it as his baronial *caput* in the county (this at a time before Framlingham was held in demesne). Although the park is not mentioned in Domesday, it is highly likely that it was established around that time as part of the development of this important manor.

The park has a continuous history through to the 17th century, when disparking (the creation of fields and change of land use to agriculture) took place; this is recorded on a map drawn up in 1616, which shows the area of the former park broken up into fields.¹⁷ The map shows a curiously shaped park, which appears to have consisted of two separate lobes and was divided by the Fromus valley; the park extended across the boundary between Kelsale and

Yoxford to the N, and across the Kelsale and *Wrabton/Sibton* boundary in the W. The eastern boundary on the map coincides with the line of the modern A12 road running N to Yoxford, interrupted by a re-entrant (land occupied by Laurel House Farm) up the Fromus valley as far as a fishpond dam at Mere Meadow. At the NW end of the park there is an extension into *Wrabton* in the form of Coe (formerly Cowhaugh) Wood (Fig. 54).¹⁸

At the meeting point of the two lobes lay the moated Kelsale Lodge, which most probably occupies the site of an original park lodge; it lies at a high point, and in particular overlooks what would have been a large mere, now drained. The position of the former mere relative to the lodge site parallels the juxtaposition of Framlingham Castle and Earl Soham Lodge to their respective meres, and it may be that we are seeing a deliberate pattern of landscape manipulation here. Adjacent to the lodge on the map are a dovecote and other buildings. One of these still stands, a brick-built barn dating from the 16th century; high up on the walls are small terracotta diamond-shaped plaques containing the image of a rampant lion, which may represent the arms of William Honing, Clerk of the Privy Council and owner in 1549 (Fig. 55).¹⁹

Following the initial reference of *c.* 1200, the park features in a whole range of documents typical of medieval and later parks. In 1268, an account roll records the roofing of a kennel and the mending of palings round the park. In addition, salt was bought for salting the venison, and four 'irons' for the gate in the park cost 6d.²⁰ In the inquisition post mortem of Roger Bigod (III) in 1270, the park is recorded as being worth one mark, and within the park was a fishpond (*vivarium*) the fishing of which was worth 2s.²¹ In 1283, Kelsale was listed as one of thirteen parks of the earl of Norfolk (Roger Bigod IV) in Norfolk and Suffolk which were broken into 'during his absence on the King's service in Wales'.²² In 1293 manorial accounts record the erection of 300 perches of new park palings at a cost of 57s.²³ It may be that this refers to an extension to the park, possibly the northern lobe, and the length of new pales is not wildly out if it were being newly fenced. In 1306 the park was described as being two leagues in circuit and 'with deer'. The two leagues would make the park about five miles round, which would approximate to the boundary of the park on the 1616 map. The manor also continued to record the 'fishery of a fishpond worth 2 shillings'.²⁴ The fishpond undoubtedly is a reference to the mere; when it was drained is not clear, however the 1616 map refers to the field behind the dam as Mere Meadow, thus any draining must have occurred before then.

In 1327, when Hugh Aynoth was the parker, Roger de Hales, (father-in-law of Thomas Brotherton, duke of Norfolk) hunted on two occasions in the park.²⁵ The same account records that John Wylkin was keeper of the pond, and lists timber felled in the park, including oak, chestnut, hornbeam, ash and crabtree; income was also derived from the agistment (rental of grazing) of cattle in the park. Robert Wafre is also named in this account as selling wood and taking money for agistment; this may be the same Robert Wafre who was keeper of the Saxtead parks and in the Framlingham parks.²⁶ The accounts of 1356–57 record references to repairs to the lodge. Names of other park keepers continued to be recorded, for example Thomas Stoke was granted the office of parker in 1385.²⁷ In 1483 the then keeper at Kelsale, Browne, was paid by John Howard, duke of Norfolk 'for bryngyng of a doo' on 22 December, presumably for a seasonal feast.²⁸ John Martyndale was granted the keepership for life in 1485.²⁹

In the 16th century hunting was still occurring in the park; in 1519 'diverse persons' came and hunted, and in the same year drainage was being undertaken to 'save' the pasture in the park.³⁰ The boggy nature of the Park meadow is implied as rushes were being cut there; hay was being made in the meadow and stored in the barn for sustaining the 'wild animals' (i.e. deer) and the cattle in the park.

Following the attainder of Thomas, duke of Norfolk, in 1549 the park was granted out; the



FIG. 54 – Oblique aerial view across the former park at Kelsale looking up the Fromus valley to the north west. Kelsale Lodge Farm, in the middle distance to the right, probably marks the site of the former park lodge. The wooded hedge-lines in the centre of the photograph mark the site of a large fishpond dam. Coe Wood is seen in the distance, top left (*photo: C. Hoppitt*).



FIG. 55 – The late sixteenth-century barn at Kelsale, with inset of terracotta plaque. The plaques can be seen either side of the doorway above the buttresses (*photos: R. Hoppitt, J. Rainer*).

grant included references to the lodge and the pond. The grant also gave a further indication that the northern lobe of the park was an extension, as it was referred to as Yoxford End. The same grant also refers to land that was purchased from Sibton Abbey to extend the park – a reference almost certainly to the land exchanged by Bigod in the charter of c. 1200.³¹

The first document that locates the park securely in the landscape is Saxton's map of 1575, which shows it lying to the NW of Kelsale village and straddling the hundred boundary towards Yoxford.

In 1580 the park was rented out for £40 10s, and this seems to mark the point at which its journey to disparkment begins, for this was followed in 1611 by the sale of the park to John and Richard Wakeman, and five years later by the survey and 1616 map entitled the 'late disparked park of Kelsale' covering some 500 acres.³² It was surveyed and mapped again in 1638.³³

As with many other parks, despite disparkment, Kelsale Park maintained its identity as a landholding. A series of leases and mortgages still referred to the property as 'all that park or inclosed ground known by the name of the park of Kelsale', and there are even references to rights of freeboard long after its disparkment.³⁴

In the 18th century the area of the park was split into separate units.³⁵ Kelsale Lodge Farm, then in the ownership of Sir John Blois, was surveyed and mapped by Isaac Johnson in 1786. The farm consisted of the northern lobe (Yoxford End), the lodge and the area to the immediate W of the lodge, a total of 283 acres. This rough draft, drawn up before the final mapping, shows the lodge with adjacent barn and other buildings, and Johnson gives us a little drawing of the lodge itself, now a symmetrical Georgian residence, but still surrounded by the medieval moat.³⁶ The present Kelsale Lodge continues to show elements of that building, but the moat has since been filled in.

In 1919 the Kelsale properties, then a part of the Cockfield Hall estate of Sir Ralph Blois, were sold. The components, Kelsale Lodge, Park Gate Farm, Laurel House Farm and Coe Wood together probably comprised the total of the original park, amounting then to 552 acres.³⁷

The earthwork remains; the dam, former mere and associated features (Report by John Rainer). Crossing the Fromus valley below the site of the lodge is a large earthwork, identified by Norman Scarfe as a park bank and now interpreted as a fishpond dam. Immediately upstream from the earthwork lies Mere Meadow, which was formerly occupied by part of a very large fishpond (Fig. 56). Today, much of the pond dam remains as a 200m-long



FIG. 56 – Mere meadow, looking south (downstream) towards the dam, which extends across the valley (photo: J. Rainer).

earthwork, nearly 4m high at its centre. The dam has the remains of its spillway next to its SW end. Beyond the spillway, a 5m deep channel marks the point where the dam, or rather the hillside it once abutted, catastrophically failed. The date of this failure is unknown, but the pond had gone by 1616. Mere Meadow upstream of the dam still has clear signs of the engineering operations that took place to re-establish the river course and drain the remaining water after the dam failed. On the N side of the valley, below the Lodge, two ponds have been cut into the hillside at the same level as that of the water that would have filled the main pond. Both have a channel cut through their banks; it is possible that they were stewponds that shared a common water supply with their larger companion. Lidar modelling shows that the main pond would have been some 550m long (Fig. 57).

The remains of a second dam or retaining bank at the upper end of the pond are visible in Lidar imagery. The bank's former presence is consistent with Norman Scarfe's account of being told by a farmer that a second earthwork, similar to the main dam, had been removed between the Lodge and Coe Wood.³⁸ Lidar also indicates that an intact bank at that point would have been 2.5m high. The extent of water that it would have held back is a striking fit with the local topography and indicates that at one time there may have been two stepped ponds. Short sections of the pond bank are visible close to both ends of the main earthwork, but elsewhere they have been ploughed out. Both the main earthwork and its demolished counterpart have landscape features nearby which may have been the source of material for their construction. One intriguing outcome of the main pond's extent is that it would have prevented direct access to the SW part of the park from the lodge. However, the dam top could have provided a route into the heart of the park. The dam's original top profile is not known but even today it provides a broad path, kept intact by a web of tree roots (Fig. 58).³⁹

Metal detection has revealed that the dam's earthwork was used as a Victorian firing range. The bullets found were used for a particular, short-lived army rifle (infamous for its role in the Sepoy Mutiny in India, due to the belief that the rifle's cartridges were greased with animal fat). Post 1867, these rifles were given to local militia groups and their use at Kelsale requires more research.



FIG. 58 – The top of the fishpond dam looking north-east (*photo: J. Rainer*).

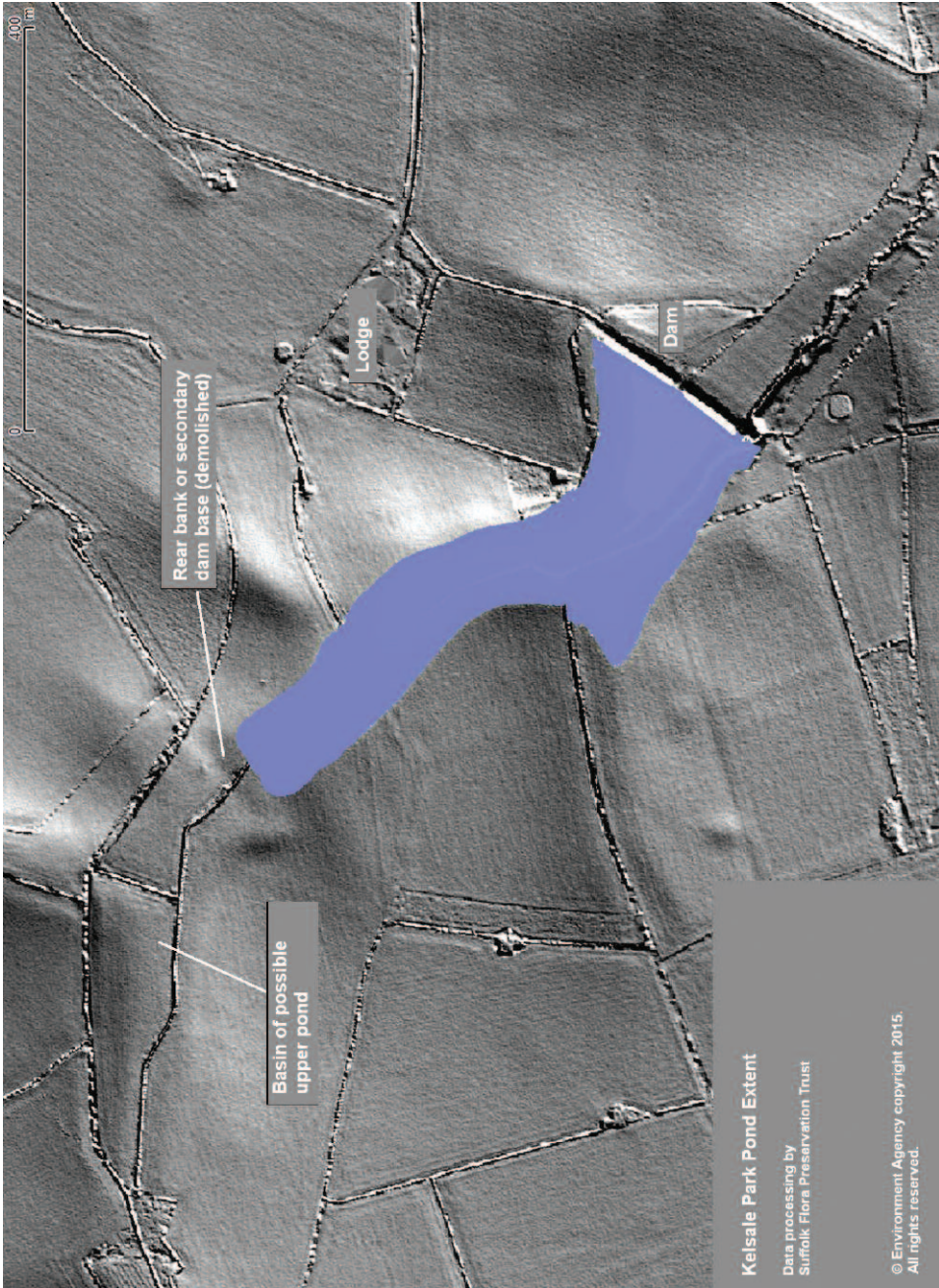


FIG. 57 – Lidar image of the fishpond dam and the Fromus valley with overlay of the suggested extent of the mere (*photo: J. Rainer*).

Saxmundham church (Report deferred until next year).

22 June. Tony Redman and Margaret Hartley (Report by Tony Redman)

Livermere, church and park; Ampton, church and village

Great Livermere, St Peter's Church (by kind permission of Revd Phillip Garbett and churchwardens). W tower possibly early 14th-century, with diagonal buttresses, a weather-boarded top and pyramid roof reformed 1906 (Fig. 59). A ring of six bells by Lester and Pack 1762. An aisle-less reed-thatched nave, a rendered and pantiled S porch with battlemented parapets, and an open timber roof of three bays, arch-braced, and a 13th-century S doorway into the nave. Chancel rendered, red plain-tiled and knapped flint-faced slate-covered N vestry, 19th-century. Blocked N doorway probably 17th-century. The chancel has single-light low-side window to S and a large lancet window to the N. On the S side, a plain 13th-century priest's door, one blocked 13th-century lancet window, and a three-light window with intersecting tracery. The 19th-century three-light E window, restored 1966, is in decorated style similar to the nave windows and has a blocked foliated circular window in a square surround above.

Tower ladder, inscribed 1651. Large oak double doors to base of tower with baroque mouldings and carving, thought to be French in origin and salvaged from the Hall demolished in 1923. Inside the nave remains of medieval wall-paintings on the N and S walls, royal arms for Queen Victoria carved in high relief over the N door, and an elaborate canopied and traceried niche in the N wall which once housed the image of Our Lady of Pity. Oak benches installed 1883 retaining six Jacobean benches with fleur-de-lys bench ends and a fine three-decker pulpit with raised fielded panels and acanthus foliage *c.* 1700. An octagonal, late 14th-century font has traceried panels on a plain base. A piscina at the E end of the S wall, with cusped ogee head and a tiny niche beside it formerly dedicated to The Blessed Virgin, with a wall painting alongside



FIG. 59 – Great Livermere Church (photo: Edward Martin).

depicting at least two female figures. 15th-century rood screen divides nave and chancel, and equally fine early 18th-century three-sided altar rails with twisted balusters. Tractarian-style choir with opposing stalls formed of early 17th-century benches, one with 'WM 1601' carved on the end, and a high-backed settle incorporating a 15th-century poppy-head bench end, and a 17th-century memorial ledger slab to members of the Claxton family.

Identical tracery to all four nave windows suggesting a single period of incorporation. Like other churches on the edge of the Brecks, the exterior walls of nave and chancel are rendered in an iron-rich sandy lime mortar. Within the nave, a memorial repositioned from Little Livermere church in 1948 to members of the Coke family, owners of the manor of Little Livermere (alias Murelles) from the mid 17th century.

Arundel Coke, barrister son of the Richard mentioned the memorial, lost his savings in the South Sea Bubble trading disaster in 1702. Edward Crisp, his brother-in-law made his fortune in the same event and agreed to make his fortune over to Arundel's wife on his death. Coke grew impatient and hired John Woodburne to murder Crisp in the Great Churchyard in Bury St Edmunds on Christmas Eve 1721. Woodburne was drunk and missed. The botched attempt resulted in Coke slitting the nose of Crisp, which led to Coke's conviction for maiming with intent to kill. Handling his own defence, he pleaded to be hung after dark so as not to offend the 'country folk', and he was hung at first light on Angel Hill on 31 March 1722. His butler took his body. As a felon he could not be buried on consecrated ground. Oral history suggested he might have been buried quietly in the churchyard at Little Livermere, a fact possibly substantiated by the disturbing of a body half under the line of the churchyard wall in 1966 by the late Robin Denis-Jones, then tenant of Park Farm adjacent to the church.

The antiquarian Montague Rhodes James, sometime provost of Eton and of Kings College, Cambridge, and inventor of the English ghost story, was son of the parish priest, Revd Henry James. M.R. James set many of his chilling tales in Livermere Park and is commemorated in the chancel.

Adjacent to the porch, two grave stones both listed grade 2, the first to William Sakins: 'Here lieth ye body of William Sakins, he died ye 28 of March 1689. He was forkner [falconer] to King Charles ye 1st, King Charles ye 2nd and King James ye 2nd. Aged 78 years.' And next to this, his son Edmund Sakins. The inscription reads: 'Here lieth the body of Edmuns Sakins son of William Sakins and Margaret his wife who departed this life the 14th day of September 1682'.

Livermere Park. Three manors occupied the land covered by Livermere Park. In Great Livermere, the manors of Uphall and Brome Hall occupied the lands largely to the S of the mere surrounded by open fields, while the land to the N of the mere in Little Livermere and up towards Rymer Barns (possibly the *Rye mere* in 17th-century deeds, where seven parishes converge), was owned by the manor of Myrelles or Murelles. Thomas Lee of Kensington, Middlesex, purchased the Livermere Parva estate from Edward Crisp and William Cooke, executors to Richard Coke's estate, in 1709 for the sum of £6725, allowing Arundel Coke and his family to live there for life. After Arundel Coke's death it was sold to Nathaniel Lee and on his death in 1724 it passed it to his nephew Baptist Lee. The manors of Uphall and Brome Hall, meanwhile, were owned by Sir John Poley of Boxted, vested from the Claxton family. He sold them to Baptist Lee in 1724. Lee, already a successful businessman, set about consolidating the land and extending the park, aided by the proceeds from a lottery win of £30,000 in 1733. Peter Tillemans was engaged to paint the house in oils in 1733. Land swaps and purchases between 1724 and 1748 show that a significant parcel of land was established, including the purchase of at least thirteen substantial tenements in Little Livermere. The village of Little Livermere was cleared by 1734, the road pattern altered and the park enclosed with a wicket fence and ditch. The livings of Great and Little Livermere were consolidated by

1736. Eight new tenements were constructed beyond the edge of the park (The Barracks) by 1750. William Kent was employed in the late 1740s to advise on landscaping, resulting in the digging of a water channel known as 'The Cut' by 1751, when Nathaniel Lee Acton, who inherited the combined estates from his uncle, exchanged 43 acres of land and water 'within the park' with his neighbour James Calthorpe. Arthur Young, on his Six Weeks Tour of 1769, reported that 'The two owners with a harmony very unusual have made a noble serpentine river through both parks and have built a large handsome bridge across it at their joint expense.' Lee Acton employed Humphrey Repton to report on the improvement of the park in 1791, and his 'Red Book' shows recommendations to improve the vistas with small copses close by the house, and to improve the longer view. He recommended improvements to the two churches visible from the Hall: St Peter's, within the park, was to have its tower heightened, whilst he recommended that St Peter's, Great Livermere, should have a spire:

The addition of a spire seems to me to be a very essential because it makes an original distinction betwixt this church and the other which is very ill effected by one of those modern lanterns which bring a kind of Grecian cupola, which is totally incongruous with a gothic tower.

The church of Little Livermere was deconsecrated in 1948, but only became formally a ruin in 2013 (Fig. 60).

As for the village, Repton proposed concealing it with tree belts:

The general perfection of landscape gardening consists in a concealment of those operations of art by which nature is embellished, but where buildings are introduced, art declares herself openly and should therefore be very cautious to have no reason for blushing at her interference.

Livermere Hall. A small manor house with five bedrooms and a similar number of entertaining rooms existed at the beginning of the 18th century. Thomas Lee had it extended with two wings and a northern approach with offices and stables at the northern ends of the wings. Repton, whilst stating that he left architectural matters to architects, felt compelled to comment:

I feel it is my duty to declare that the outside appearance has been very much neglected and disfigured and affords an instance of the difference betwixt a country carpenters ideas and those of an architect. The later only considers its parts, the former ... the whole.

By 1797 the De Carle family, stonemasons of Bury St Edmunds, had added Ketton stone colonnades, and Samuel Wyatt had remodelled the house and clad the exterior in gault 'mathematical tiles'. He added ten extra bedrooms and servants' accommodation. The transformation was shown by an unknown artist's oil painting made after 1797 (Fig. 61). Glasshouses and ancillary accommodation were added during the 19th century but, like many country estates, Livermere struggled after the WW1 due to the lack of staff, and high costs. The De Saumarez family put the estate up for auction in 1919 and sold it to Sir Pearce Lacy, who already owned Ampton. Preferring the more modern accommodation at Ampton Hall, reconstructed after a disastrous fire in 1885, he consolidated the estates and demolished Livermere Hall in 1923. The footprint of the Hall is barely visible in the tree line. The park was returned to full agricultural use by 1936.

Ampton Village. A perambulation across the park to the village of Ampton allowed an appreciation of Repton's work, the Livermere Hall site and gardens, and the former Ampton Hall gardens with inscription over the garden entrance *ET VOLUPTATI PLURIMUM ET*



FIG. 60 – Little Livermere Church (*photo: Edward Martin*).



FIG. 61 – Oil painting of Livermere Hall, English school *c.* 1800 – this passed by descent to the De Saumarez family and was sold at the Shrubland Hall sale in 2009 (*by courtesy of Christopher Hawkins*).



FIG. 62 – Ampton: the almshouses (*photo: Edward Martin*).

SALUTI [supplying both health and pleasure]. A nucleated village, with some outlying settlements to the N which are effectively the displaced tenements of Little Livermere. James Calthorpe enclosed the village green to improve the house setting in the late 17th century and endowed a school in 1692. His wife Dorothy Calthorpe endowed almshouses in 1693 (Fig. 62).

St Peter's, Ampton (by kind permission of the Revd Phillip Garbett, and churchwardens). Grade 1 listed small parish church with aisles, nave, chancel, W tower and S porch, all mainly 14th-century. Chantry chapel on N wall endowed by wealthy wool factor John Cocket, 1479. He both traded wool and had substantial flocks of his own and invested in land and buildings in Ampton and Livermere in the mid 15th century. He left substantial sums to improve the roads between Bury, Lavenham and Long Melford. Church reordered 1848 by Samuel Sanders Teulon, and restored 1888/9 by Balfour and Turner, who may have added the N vestry. War memorial to Bernard, son of Revd William Wickham. Revd Wickham was the first man to successfully use flash photography in a coal mine. Ampton Hall was a Red Cross hospital in WW1 and grateful occupants repainted the chancel ceiling. Church refurbished 2016.

Ampton Hall. Now in private ownership. Rebuilt 1885. Successively the seat of the Calthorpe, Grafton and Lacy families. At one time, home to Robert Fitzroy (Grafton), commander of HMS *Beagle* and colleague of Charles Darwin. Fitzroy studied barometric pressure and established its effect on weather, enabling the development of weather forecasting. He lived at Ampton between commissions, but fell into debt and took his own life in London in 1865.

8 July, James Bettley, Rosemary Hoppitt and John Norris
Orwell Park School and Nacton Duck Decoy

Orwell Park (by kind permission of the headmaster of Orwell Park School). (Report by James Bettley). From about the middle of the 18th century, the River Orwell was no longer just a means of access to Ipswich; it became a setting of picturesque beauty for those fortunate enough to own property along its shores. Thus we have Broke Hall, Nacton, where a 16th-century house was rebuilt in 1773–75; and on the S side of the river, Wherstead Park and Woolverstone Hall, rebuilt in 1776 and 1792–94 respectively.⁴⁰ One thing these houses have in common is that they were designed to enjoy views of the river, something that the builders of earlier houses would not have particularly cared about. Orwell Park seems to have been the first of these – it was completed by 1764 – and its builder, Francis Vernon, was, as we shall see, a man of taste.

The story of Orwell Park really begins in 1725, when Francis's uncle, Edward Vernon, purchased a property in Nacton, probably once part of St Peter's Manor, Ipswich.⁴¹ At this time Vernon was combining a successful naval career with a less successful one as a member of parliament; from 1722 to 1734 he represented Penryn, Cornwall, and in the latter year failed to win Ipswich. He was briefly member for Portsmouth in 1741, and then for Ipswich from 1741 until his death in 1757.⁴² His greatest naval successes, which made him a rich man, were during the War of Jenkins' Ear in 1739, when Vernon – promoted vice-admiral of the blue that year – captured the Spanish possession of Porto Bello, and was thus indirectly responsible for Portobello becoming a fashionable name for roads and houses, not to mention 'Admiral Vernon' pubs.⁴³

Exactly what Vernon's property in Nacton amounted to is not clear, except that he built himself 'a neat Mansion House'; perhaps there was previously no house on the site at all.⁴⁴ His nephew Francis inherited in 1757; Admiral Vernon's wife had died earlier that year, and their three children had all died also. He and his wife are buried at Nacton, where there is a relatively modest monument in the church; a much more elaborate one, by J.M. Rysbrack, is in Westminster Abbey, erected by Francis Vernon in 1763.⁴⁵ Francis succeeded his uncle as MP for Ipswich, 1761–68, and in 1762 was created baron Orwell of Newry, Co. Down; in 1776 he was promoted to viscount Orwell, and in 1777 became the earl of Shipbrook.⁴⁶ At home in Nacton, he rebuilt his uncle's house, 'and inclosed it within a Pale; which Inclosure he hath called from the beautiful River on which it stands, *Orwell Park*.'⁴⁷ We know what the new house looked like, as it is recorded in a number of prints and watercolours that are broadly consistent (Fig. 63); unfortunately we do not know who designed it.⁴⁸ It was a substantial three-storey red brick house, seven bays wide, with a three-bay pediment on the entrance front and a three-bay, two-storey portico on the S front towards the river. Either side of this portico, on the ground floor, were large tripartite windows. There was a small single-storey extension to the left (perhaps no more than a bay window) and another of one and a half storeys to the right. Surviving internal features of Vernon's house include plasterwork in the entrance hall, the staircase (also with good plasterwork), and the fine chimneypiece in the dining room. Between the house and the river lay the park, as it does now. It is likely there were pleasure gardens near the house; Francis Vernon subscribed to Thomas Wright's *Six Original Designs of Arbours* (1755), so was clearly interested in such matters.

Francis Vernon died in 1783, and his titles with him, preceded by three sons who all died young. His nephew, John Vernon, inherited Orwell Park and subsequently exchanged it for Wherstead Place with Sir Robert Harland, who had married his sister Arethusa.⁴⁹ The Harlands enlarged the house, rebuilt the offices and, in the words of the Revd Thomas Mills who visited in 1817, 'made it more convenient as it is comfortable'.⁵⁰ They also expanded the park: six hectares were added in 1815 and another ten between 1818 and 1826. Two road



FIG. 63 – A late 18th-century view of Orwell Park from the river (*the late John Blatchly*).



FIG. 64 – Decoy Cottage (*photo: R. Hoppitt*).

closures further increased the house's seclusion.⁵¹ As well as work to the main house, Sir Robert and Lady Harland built the *cottage orné* now known as Yachtsman's Cottage on the river shore, and the equally picturesque Decoy Cottage, originally divided in two (Fig. 64). It is almost certain that these were designed by an architect called Thomas James Rickard, as they are very similar to designs published (under the more exotic-sounding name T.J. Ricauti) in his books *Rural Architecture*, 1840, and *Sketches for Rustic Work including Bridges, Park and Garden Buildings, Seats and Furniture*, 1842. The latter is dedicated to Sir Robert, whom he describes as 'my first patron', and he offers 'respectful thanks for the encouragement I have had from yourself and Lady Harland'. He was then 'a young man just commencing my professional career', but died in 1842 at the age of 24.⁵² Arethusa, who lived until 1860, was the last of the Vernons; Sir Robert died in 1848, and shortly before doing so sold Orwell Park to Colonel George Tomline. By then the estate amounted to 3608 acres; it sold for £102,500.⁵³

The story of Colonel Tomline has been told in fascinating detail by David Allen; suffice it to say that he used his considerable wealth to enlarge and remodel the house, employing first William Burn, between about 1852 and 1862, and then Burn's nephew and successor John Macvicar Anderson, 1871–73. Between 1848 and 1855 he built up an estate of almost 20,000 acres, including most of Walton and much of what is now Felixstowe, and founded the Felixstowe Railway and Pier Company.⁵⁴

The first phase of alterations to the house, by William Burn, involved the addition of stone quoins and finials and, on the entrance front, a stone porch that continues as a single-storey colonnade in front of the building, infilled in stone to the left (where it forms an enlargement of the dining room) and brick to the right (behind which is a corridor leading to the picture gallery). On the garden front Burn removed the portico and created a very much more elaborate façade (Fig. 65). The windows were given stone surrounds with Jacobean



FIG. 65 – The garden front as remodelled by William Burn, with the Picture Gallery on the left (photo: Edward Martin).



FIG. 66 – The Observatory, added by Colonel Tomline, designed by John Macvicar Anderson with civil engineer Wilfred Airy (photo: Edward Martin).

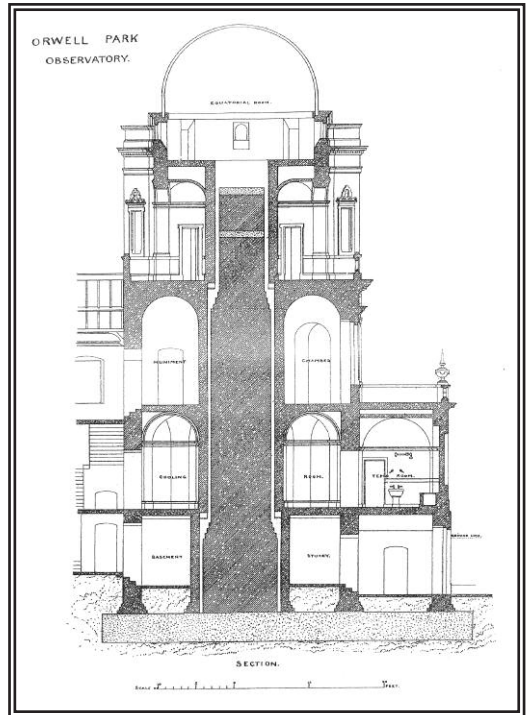


FIG. 67 – Cross-section drawing of the Observatory by John Macvicar Anderson, showing the equatorial chamber (top), muniment room, and Turkish bath (RIBA Transactions, 1874).

ornamentation, and there is a stone parapet with a raised centre for an attic window and two shallow niches. To left and right are single-storey blocks with canted bays facing S. The block on the left was a top-lit picture gallery, extended in 1862 by the addition of a smoking room and conservatory. The conservatory's internal walls are entirely covered with patterned glazed Minton tiles. The service wing to the NE was built in 1853, probably linking to existing stables, and later extended.

Anderson's S wing builds on Burns' single-storey block on the E side of the main house and continues in the same style, making a new symmetrical two-storey wing of seven bays, including three two-storey canted bays. It provided, amongst other things, a new principal staircase and ground-floor bedroom and dressing room (with bath) for Tomline. At the far end of this wing an octagonal observatory connected to the house, built in conjunction with Wilfred Airy, a civil engineer and son of the Astronomer Royal, Sir George Biddell Airy (Fig. 66). It is 72ft high, of four stages, with copper-clad dome; the third stage is set back behind a balustrade and buttressed by giant scrolls. At the core of the tower, to eliminate the risk of vibration that would disturb astronomical observation, is a solid brick pier, 10ft in diameter at the base reducing in stages to 8ft and 6ft, on a foundation of concrete 4ft thick (Fig. 67). Tomline also required a Turkish bath, which was accommodated on the ground floor, heated by a stove in the basement, and on the first floor was a muniment room. The second floor served as a belvedere, with the equatorial chamber, under its copper-clad dome, on the top floor. The refracting telescope entered service in 1874 and remains in use. On the N side are

two smaller octagonal turrets, one containing the stairs and the other, on the top floor, a chamber for a transit telescope.⁵⁵

East of the house, beyond the old stable yard, is a four-storey clock tower of 1859, like the house of red brick with stone dressings, its style somewhere between Jacobean and Baroque. It doubles as a water tower; there is a second water tower, built later, W of the house. S of the house, but not aligned with it, is a stone gateway with flanking balustrading and steps; it may relate to a now-vanished tower that predated Tomline's ownership, and was perhaps used by Admiral Vernon to observe passing ships. Undoubtedly part of the pre-Tomline house, and perhaps of the same date as Francis Vernon's, is the former orangery or camellia house that stands W of the house facing SE. It has a row of five large windows with semicircular heads, separated by Ionic pilasters, and was converted and extended by Hoopers Architects, 2000–1, as the headmaster's house. In front of the house, at the entrance from the village to the NE, is a fine set of wrought-iron gates. Another entrance, with lodge, brick wall and stone piers, stands to the N of the church.

A very good picture of the house and its surroundings at the completion of Tomline's improvements is provided by an article published in the *Gardener's Chronicle* in 1876. This describes, amongst other things, how the conservatory was lit at night with 'gas sunlights' between the ceiling and the outer roof, the centre part of the ceiling being glazed with thick ground glass; 'lighted in this way the plants are not at all injured by the gas, and the room is rendered as attractive and enjoyable by night as by day'. The picture gallery was lit in the same way, 'the gas being lighted when wanted by means of electricity, so that no noise or confusion takes place overhead by lighting or extinguishing the same; and in case of fire a fine steam fire-engine has lately been added to the establishment.' The drive from the N entrance wound through ornamental grounds planted with conifers, limes and elms, to an avenue of araucarias and *pinus insignis* planted alternately. On the garden side a gravel walk led to a flower garden and rosery at the E end of the house. The garden was separated from the park by a deep ha-ha, enclosing a lawn about seven acres in extent. The four-acre walled kitchen garden was on the NE side of the lane that leads to Broke Hall; it was divided into four compartments 'in the usual way', and included all that one would expect by way of vineries and plant houses. At the W end of the house was a shrubbery walk, which was 'gradually allowed to merge more into the wild character, till it enters the park at the far end leading to the boat-house, thus forming nearly a mile of delightfully shady walk or drive.'⁵⁶ OS maps also show oyster beds down on the shore.

After Tomline's death in 1889 the estate was inherited by a cousin, E.G. Pretyman, whose son G.M.T. Pretyman sold the house in 1937 to the preparatory school that still occupies it. The deer park was split in two, part becoming playing fields, the remainder the setting for the new Orwell Park House, designed by architects Nicholas & Dixon-Spain.⁵⁷

Nacton Duck Decoy (by kind permission of the Orwell Park Estate). (*Report by Rosemary Hoppitt*). We were welcomed at the Nacton Duck Decoy by John Norris, the decoyman at Nacton since the 1980s, who led the party around the ponds and explained how the decoy functioned.⁵⁸

Three artificial ponds lie in a deep tributary valley of the Nacton Brook, which then flows into Levington creek. The first and lowest is the original pond, about 15ft deep. It is retained by a large embankment and was established as a mill pond. It is shown on a map of 1618, when a new mill was constructed by Sir Richard Broke of Broke Hall (Cowhall or Cowhaugh) manor. The middle pond, which is only about 2–3ft deep, has four pipes curving away from each corner, in 'skate's egg' form. The upper pond, the smallest of the three, had one pipe and was used for catching teal. This has now largely silted up.



FIG. 68 – One of the pipes, with netting and hurdles
(photo: R. Hoppitt).

The middle and upper ponds were worked as duck decoys in the winter months. The ducks would gather on the pond and they were encouraged down the netted pipes, first by tame ducks which were fed with grain, and then further enticed by a trained decoy dog (which resembled a fox) which the ducks mobbed (Fig. 68). Once in the pipe and under the netting the ducks then moved further down the narrowing net to be trapped in a tunnel (or trammel) net; at the end of the net they were killed by the decoyman, by wringing their necks.

Today, the pipes still have their iron hoops in place, but the original tarred hemp netting has mainly gone, and has been replaced by sheep netting. Some of the hurdles, which are staggered along the length of the pipe, still remain. They enabled the decoy dog to hide and reappear to entice the ducks to chase after him, and so move down the pipe. They were also used to enable the decoyman to observe the ducks while remaining hidden as they flew into the pipes. The method of working the decoy was demonstrated on site by viewing a video of Tom Baker, former Nacton decoyman.⁵⁹

On each side of the valley above the decoy pond and overlooking the two southern pipes is a small hexagonal gazebo used as a hide from which the ducks could be observed. Alongside the pond is a bank and ditch which allowed the decoyman to walk along side of the ponds without being seen by the ducks.

On the S side of the lower pond is the dead and seed house, a small two-storey brick building with a grain loft accessed by an external timber stair (Fig. 69). On the ground floor, one room was fitted out with shelving used for storing the dead ducks before dispatch to market. The other room, the seed house, was used for bagging grain used to feed and attract the ducks. It was let through from the upper storey when needed.

Records for the decoy show that between 1895 and 1969 some 2000 ducks a year were taken from the decoy, amounting to 195,199 in all. They were a mixture of mainly mallard, teal, widgeon and pintail. The largest totals were in the 1920s, averaging about 2500 a year. The ducks were used both locally in the house, but the majority were sent to market in London, dispatched from Orwell railway station (now no longer extant) just to the N alongside the main Ipswich–Felixstowe road.

A pair of semi-detached cottages (now Decoy Cottage) was built by Sir Robert and Lady Harland, probably in the 1830s, SW of the lowest pond (see Fig. 64, above).

14 September. Clive Paine

Barton Mills and Worlington churches (Report deferred until next year).



FIG. 69 – John Norris (pointing) explaining the function of the dead house (photo: R. Hoppitt).

NOTES

- 1 Bettley and Pevsner 2015; Segall 2017, 18–23.
- 2 SROI, HA1/CC2/1/3; *Thorney tye* 1446: SROI, HA1/CC1/8.
- 3 SROI, HA1/CC2/1/3; will of Robert Grene, SROB, IC500/2/9/183; SROI, FB221/L3/1/1.
- 4 Hervey 1909, 240.
- 5 Hervey 1910, 317–18.
- 6 SROI, HA1/CC1/8 and HA1/CC2/1/5.
- 7 Martin, Easton and Aitkens 1993, 107–9.
- 8 SROI, HA1/CA/2/9.
- 9 TNA, PROB 11/40/73.
- 10 SROI, HA1/CA/2/14.
- 11 MacCulloch 1986, 109–10.
- 12 SROI, HA1/CC1/14; SROB, FL520/11/27/5.
- 13 SROI, HA1/C/A/2/34 and HA1/C/A/6/3.
- 14 SROI, HA1/HB4/1.
- 15 Brown 1987, 22 No. 493, dated 1189x1217. *Wrabton*, a lost vill, lay between Kelsale and Sibton, now within Sibton parish.
- 16 *LDB*, 330v. Two manors TRE; together they consisted of six carucates of land and their value had increased from (TRE) £8 combined, to £32 combined in 1086.
- 17 SROI, JA2/7/2: copy of map of Kelsale park 1616.
- 18 Rainer 2015, 9.
- 19 Suggestion by Edward Martin. The Honing arms are: Quarterly, gules and vert, a lion rampant argent. CPR Edward VI vol. III 1549–1551 pt viii, 61.
- 20 TNA, SC6/1000/8, Kelsale account roll 52–53 Henry III.
- 21 *CIPM* vol. I. No 744. The park is not mentioned in the calendared entry, but in the original extent: TNA, C132/38.

- 22 *CPR* Edward I vol. II 1281–1292, 73; Bigod was in Conway on 9 July, and in the second week of July ‘headed home’: Morris 2005, 200 and 127.
- 23 TNA, SC6/1000/17: Kelsale account roll, 21 Edward I.
- 24 *CIPM* vol. IV No. 434.
- 25 SROI, HD 1538/278/1.
- 26 SROI, HD 1538/279/1.
- 27 *CPR* Rich II vol. II 1381–1385, 450.
- 28 Crawford 1992, 331.
- 29 Privy Seal, 1 Henry VII no 54; *CPR* pt i 12 (24), quoted in Copinger 1909, 56.
- 30 Arundel Castle, Arundel Archives, A1611.
- 31 *CPR* Edward VI vol. III 1549–1551 pt viii, 61 and pt ix, 69.
- 32 SROI, JA2/7/2 copy of map of Kelsale park 1616.
- 33 SROI, JA2/7/3 copy of map of Kelsale park 1638.
- 34 SROI, HA30: 50/22/1–20. Freeboard (or purlieu) was the strip of land around the exterior of a park to allow access to the boundary for maintenance, and within which escaping deer were still considered within the bounds of the park.
- 35 SROI, HA30: 312/445 Indenture 1739.
- 36 SROI, HD11: 475/348.
- 37 SROI, HD78: 2671. Laurel House Farm had been separately surveyed and mapped in 1745: SROI, FL550/3/73.
- 38 Scarfe 1972, 171–72.
- 39 For more information, please see: www.suffolkflora.org
- 40 Gould 2015.
- 41 Cromwell 1818, II, 28; *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol.*, 37 (1989), 82.
<http://www.oasi.org.uk/OPO/Vernons/Vernons.php>, accessed 28 Dec. 2016, states that ‘the earliest reference to Vernon living at Nacton dates from 1727’, but gives no further detail.
- 42 <http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1715-1754/member/vernon-edward-1684-1757>, accessed 23 Dec. 2016.
- 43 <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/28237?docPos=2>, accessed 23 Dec. 2016.
- 44 Kirby 1735, 130.
- 45 <http://www.westminster-abbey.org/our-history/people/edward-vernon>, accessed 23 Dec. 2016.
- 46 <http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1754-1790/member/vernon-francis-1715-83>, accessed 23 Dec. 2016.
- 47 Kirby 1764, 79.
- 48 Engraving by T. Higham for Cromwell 1818; survey drawing by William Burn at Orwell Park.
- 49 Cromwell 1818, II, 28. John Vernon was a minor in 1783; Francis Vernon’s monument in Nacton Church was erected by James Gladell Vernon, his testamentary heir and one of his executors (will proved 7 Nov. 1783, TNA, PROB 11/1110/88). White 1844, 126, states that John Vernon’s ‘heiress carried [his estates] into marriage to their present owner, Sir Robert Harland’, but this seems to be an error.
- 50 Rev. Thomas Mills, *Kalendarium*, 18 Jan. 1817 (MS in the possession of Christopher Hawkins).
- 51 Williamson 2000, 115.
- 52 Scarfe 1976, 136; Colvin 2008, 860–61.
- 53 Allen 2005, 94.
- 54 Allen 2005, 79–102.
- 55 Architects’ drawings at Orwell Park and in British Architectural Library, RIBA, London; Anderson 1874.
- 56 *Gardener’s Chronicle*, 6 (1876), 198–99, 205, 229–30.
- 57 Scarfe 1976, 136.
- 58 For further information, see: Payne-Gallwey 1886; Heaton 2001; also <http://www.tollers.com/decoy.htm>, which is the website of the Nacton decoy.
- 59 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDSr_EIcjFk

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Abbreviations

LDB	Little Domesday Book.
CPR	Calendar Patent Rolls
CIPM	Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem
SROI	Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich branch
TNA	The National Archives
TRE	<i>Tempore Regi Edwardi</i> [in the time of King Edward]

