

HELMING LEGET, ROYAL SERVANT, AND A POSSIBLE DESIGNED LANDSCAPE AT POND HALL, HADLEIGH

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INTRODUCTION

IN 1360–61 HELMING LEGET purchased the manor of Pond Hall in Hadleigh, Suffolk, which had demesne lands extending into the neighbouring parishes of Raydon, Hintlesham, Aldham and Layham.¹ Over the next ten years he planned various features to enrich the setting of his house, which lay 2½ miles east of the town of Hadleigh, by obtaining licences to impark and to crenellate (embattle) the mansion itself.² Except for the site of the present hall, to the casual passer-by there would appear to be very little to indicate these activities. This article presents evidence to suggest that Leget and subsequent landholders created a designed landscape with a combination of new buildings, facilities, water features and a landscape for hunting in accordance with their status and with the fashion of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries (Fig. 87).

From 1086 until the beginning of the seventeenth century there were some 130 deer parks recorded in Suffolk. Such parks were privately enclosed areas incorporating a mixture of land uses, primarily woodland and grazing, designed as a suitable habitat for deer, which provided

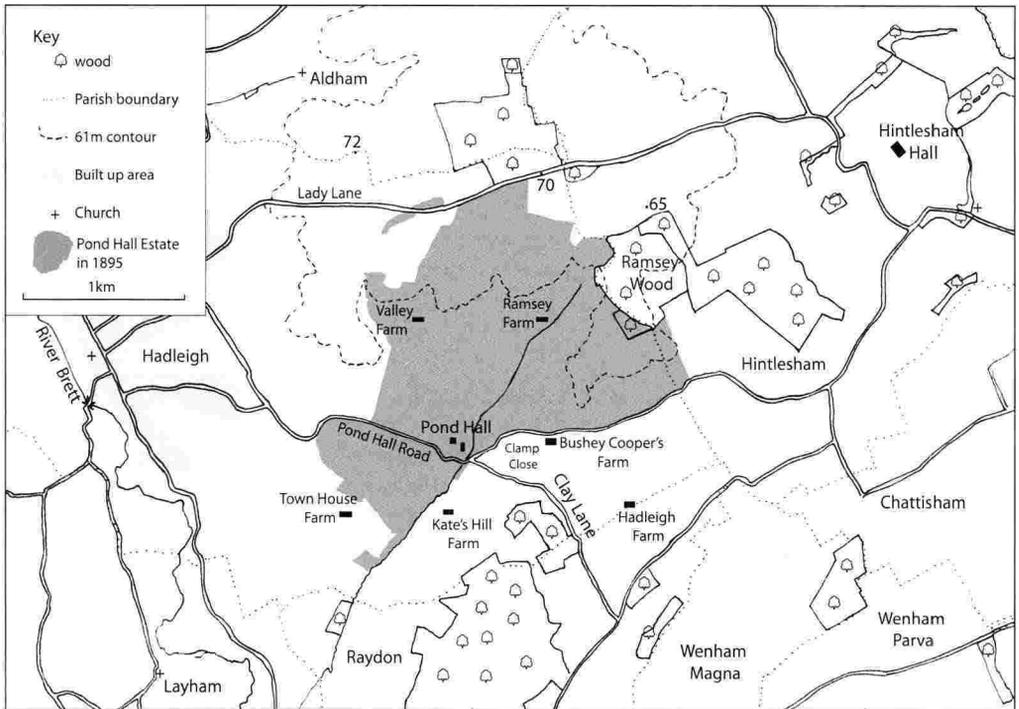


FIG. 87 – Location map of Pond Hall, Hadleigh, and places mentioned in the text.

an important source of meat as well as sport. In areas of royal forest, parks had to be licensed by the Crown, but outside its metes and bounds, as in Suffolk, this was not necessary. A park was usually enclosed with paling fencing or a hedge on top of an earthen bank, which sometimes had an internal ditch to give added height to the barrier; at various points this was punctuated with entrance gates. Within, there was generally a lodge, often moated, providing a residence for the park keeper or, where the park was distant from the manorial centre, a place that hunting parties could use as a base for resting, dining and lodging overnight. Parks varied in size but were usually about 200 acres, although some were much larger: for example Hundon Great Park, Suffolk, was over 600 acres. The distribution of parks in Suffolk was largely associated with the claylands and they were generally located on the edges of parishes on the high clayland watersheds.³

Only in the largest of parks could deer have been hunted on horseback with hounds (*par force de chiens*).⁴ Elsewhere, deer could be released from the park and hunted across open country. In smaller parks, hounds were used to drive deer past huntsmen who were located at points within the park with bows and arrows at the ready. In some parks this was more formalised through the use of an enclosed deer course, down which hounds drove the deer and brought them down as they approached the end of the course.⁵ Whilst parties of the nobility would hunt in parks, it is clear that park keepers also culled deer to order, and venison was provided for the lord's table and distributed as gifts to local landholders, ecclesiastics and townships.⁶

Medieval parks have been studied in detail for some years: much early work focussed upon compiling gazetteers, locating parks in the landscape, and providing a narrative of their history and landscape development.⁷ More recently, research has illuminated their role as status symbols – in a society that viewed the hunt and its associated ritual as an essential mark of nobility – and the wider context of the creation of aesthetic landscapes. This involved the manipulation of components within the landscape – buildings, their layout and approaches, water features, gardens and parks – to produce grand designs that would be pleasing to the eye but would also impress and communicate messages about status and power to visitors experiencing them.⁸ Suffolk examples include Framlingham, where the Bigods' 600-acre park extended away northward from the thirteenth-century castle.⁹ A similar juxtaposition of features is evident at Kelsale, where Roger Bigod was already extending his park at the end of the twelfth century.¹⁰ At Wingfield there was a park and a castle, fortified by Michael de la Pole in the late fourteenth century; the castle has been described as 'more notable for its visual impressiveness than military effectiveness'.¹¹ Huntingfield, also held by de la Pole, has suggestions of landscaping that involved a substantial house built around courtyards, with water features and attached park.¹² A similar combination of features occurs at Mettingham, but without the explicit inclusion of a park.¹³

Recent work by Stephen Miles on the significance of parks and hunting in relation to social status has suggested that 'one of the most significant barriers to a clearer understanding of the social role of parks is that the sociological context of park making remains only superficially explored ... The people behind parks – those [who] actually had them created – clearly ought to be close to the heart of any attempt to understand [them]'. He states that there are 'clear common themes in the careers of substantial numbers of known park-makers: rising social standing, wider improvements to the expansion of family estates; and emulation ... In the fourteenth century many park licensees were knights who had served Edward III ... and made large profits in France'.¹⁴ The career of Helming Leget admirably supplies a detailed example of such a sociological context.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE MANOR OF POND HALL

The lost hamlet of *Lafham* within the parish of Hadleigh would seem to be the origin of the manor of Pond Hall. Domesday Book (1086) has four separate entries for *Lafham*; the holdings ranged from 4 acres farmed by a sokeman to 2 carucates held by 26 freemen under the jurisdiction of St Edmund.¹⁵ A century later, tenants with locative and topographical surnames *de Lafham* and *del Pond* were recorded,¹⁶ while in 1327 Hadleigh taxpayers included William Cokerel, Nicholas atte Pond, Florence de Aldham, William Bobyl and John de Lafham, all of whom held lands in *Lafham*.¹⁷ Also listed was William Giffard of Stoke-by-Nayland who, in the following year, obtained a grant of free warren on his demesne in Hadleigh.¹⁸ This grant, which allowed Giffard to hunt small game, would indicate that he was conducting his holding at *Lafham* as a manor. During the 1330s, through exchange and purchase, Giffard consolidated his hold upon the land here,¹⁹ so much so that in 1340 he obtained a further grant of free warren.²⁰ After this period the hamlet of *Lafham* seems to disappear from the historical record, as Giffard's estate was referred to as Pond Hall, although the former name was retained by some holdings within the manor.²¹ On his death, Giffard's daughter Cecily, widow of William Cokerel and wife to Richard Kyslingbury of London, inherited and sold in 1360–61 to Helming Leget.²²

The youngest of three sons of Robert Leget, whose family was based at Havering in Essex,²³ Helming Leget does not seem to have inherited any family property, but acquired his wealth through marriage and the various services he performed for Edward III. Helming married Margery Malawyn whose first husband, Nicholas Mocking, had died in 1360 owning real estate in and around London and in Hadleigh and Hintlesham in Suffolk, of which Margery received one third as her dower rights.²⁴ It is not known whether Helming was already married to Margery when, in 1360–61, he purchased lands in Hadleigh, Raydon, Hintlesham, Aldham and Layham from Richard Kyslingbury and Cecily his wife,²⁵ or whether he added the estate to his wife's holding here after their marriage (Fig. 88).²⁶

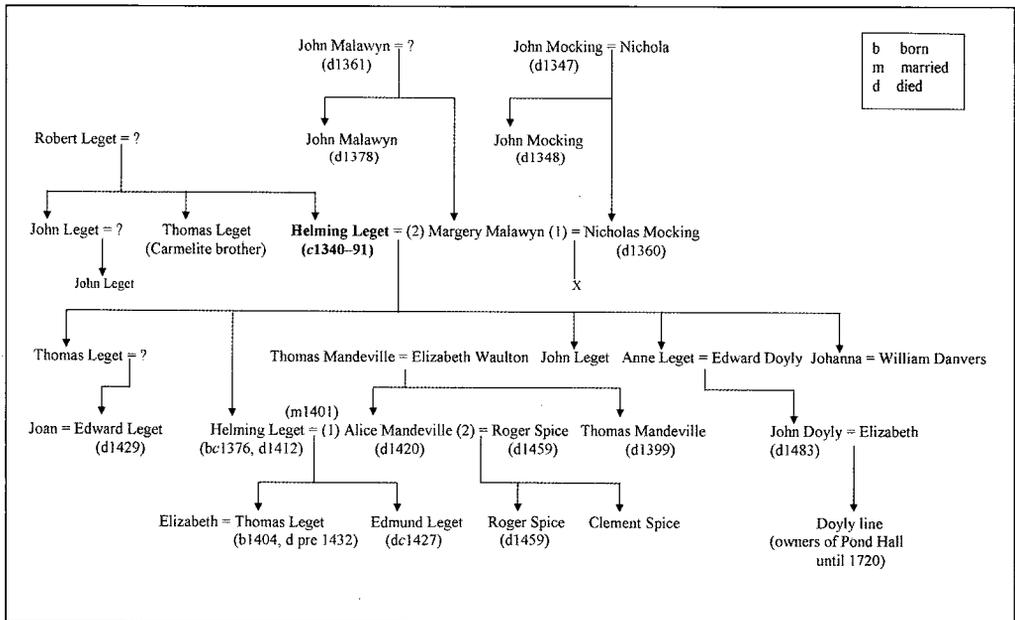


FIG. 88 – Helming Leget's family tree (compiled by Sue Andrews).

THE CAREER OF HELMING LEGET²⁷

It was not until 1359 that Helming Leget was first mentioned specifically as an esquire of the royal household.²⁸ The previous three years had seen him receive royal largesse typical of the valuable grants made to men of such status: three presentations to churches by way of his wardships; a corrody from Ramsey Abbey; and a life annuity of 10 marks (£6 13s 4d).²⁹ These grants would indicate that he was already an esquire but it is not clear how he rose to this position.³⁰ The following year, he was described as king's serjeant and had his annuity increased to 20 marks; further wardships were to come, from which Leget and his wife Margery were to benefit financially.³¹

In return for good services, esquires were granted sinecures. In 1361 Leget became 'keeper of the smaller piece of the seal for recognisance of debts' within the City of London. He held this office for life, although he chose to assign the work to a deputy rather than discharge the role himself.³² Leget was styled 'receiver of the king's chamber' in 1364, a position of great trust as it was his business to accept monetary payments in gold, in silver or in jewels on behalf of the Crown, which were recorded on the patent rolls.³³ For example, £760 was paid by John de Chichester, goldsmith of London, late master of the king's money at the Tower of London and at Canterbury. One of the largest amounts Leget received was just over £1750 from the king's son John, duke of Lancaster and the archdeacon of Lincoln.³⁴ Leget was also in contact with many members of the royal household, as they made applications for their expenses that appear regularly on the exchequer rolls: in 1370 Leget made payment of £100 to the keeper of the king's wardrobe.³⁵ In return for his services, Leget continued to receive various grants: for example in 1366 he was excused duty payable when he imported wine from Aquitaine on board his ship *La Katerine Haverlond* of Ipswich.³⁶ Leget owned other ships and on at least two occasions they were requisitioned by the king. In 1371 his *Sainte Marie Cogg* of London was ordered to take passage under its master and ninety mariners from London, Kent, Sussex, Essex and Suffolk, with the authority to arrest those acting against the king's orders. Further in 1373, Helming's 'new galley' was to be manned by sixteen Spanish sailors appointed by the king to sail on his service.³⁷

As well as routine services within the household, esquires and serjeants received special assignments, whereby many were sent on the king's business overseas as well as at home. In 1359–60, after a campaign at Rheims in France, Leget shipped horses on their return to England; ten years later, he was involved in military action abroad when he received expenses for his men-at-arms and archers.³⁸ When serving as a commissioner in 1366, Leget came into contact with men of great standing. In London, he sat with the steward of the king's household, the lord mayor and the chief baron of the exchequer over the matter of debts of foreign merchants. In 1371 he was present along with the bishop of Exeter, earls of Arundel and Hereford and others when the bishop of Winchester resigned his position as chancellor and handed the great seal over to them.³⁹ In Wiltshire, when investigating undisclosed lands of John Malawyn (his father-in-law) at an inquisition *post mortem*, his fellow commissioners were the sheriff and escheator of that county.⁴⁰

In February 1369, after 'gratuitous service long rendered to the king', Leget was granted the constablership of Windsor Castle. Six months later, Edward III acknowledged Leget's term as 'receiver of his chamber and keeper of the keys of the coffers of his jewels and moneys' and, having found that he had 'faithfully answered on all receipts and issues', pardoned and released him of all debts and accounts.⁴¹ That same year, Leget was involved in a land deal in the city of London, purchasing shops in Bow Lane.⁴² He described himself as 'of London' in 1375, when he stood as a character witness for the under-constable of the Tower of London, who was pardoned after a charge of murder.⁴³

The class and status of constables at Windsor varied over the centuries. During the eleventh and twelfth centuries they were among the most powerful men in the realm; the next 200 years saw lesser men in office but still with considerable stature, many recruited from the king's household as Leget had been. The fifteenth century saw peers and close members of their families in this role. The constable was ultimately responsible for the castle's safekeeping and acted as military commander of its small garrison of men-at-arms and archers. His duties included the castle's management as a royal residence, as a storehouse for royal armour and as a prison. Further, he was responsible for the maintenance of the castle's fabric and of other royal properties in the area such as manor houses and hunting lodges; he also acted as collector on the royal demesne and, when required, as royal representative. Deputies were appointed, making it unnecessary for the constable to exercise all duties in person or remain in continuous residence, although private accommodation was permanently available for the occasions when his presence was required. Clerical staff were also provided to keep account of stores and equipment and the payment of castle, forest and park staff; they also dealt with correspondence and collected rents and kept court on local royal manors that the constable had in his gift to farm. Outlay on visits made by the king and his court was not the constable's responsibility, but he was accountable for expenditure upon special guests, the chaplain and prisoners. Although his personal allowance while in the king's service at Windsor varied from year to year, every component of his office brought Leget income, the accounts being enrolled on the pipe rolls that showed receipts and expenditure, allowances and amounts paid to the Exchequer.⁴⁴

To establish Windsor as his principal residence, in 1350, Edward III had initiated a considerable rebuilding programme that was completed just as Leget became constable. This scheme included enclosing land to create 'the little park under the castle' as a landscape setting for the new apartments.⁴⁵ For the first time, on Leget's appointment in 1369, the title of constable also incorporated 'the offices or bailiwicks within the new park of Wyndesore and the parks of Wychemere, Guldeford and Kenyngton and the keeping of the manor of Kenyngton'.⁴⁶ Leget's duties included compensating owners of land and of rent-charges, such as the abbot of Reading, who had lost income by this imparkment.⁴⁷

Leget's final office came in 1375 when he became coroner and clerk to the market of the king's household. As the appointment concentrated upon his 'taking the accustomed wages and fees' rather than the actual deployment of the office, this was probably another sinecure.⁴⁸ In August 1377, seven weeks after the accession of Richard II, Leget was replaced as constable. This was not necessarily a reflection upon his stewardship but common practice for a new regime to appoint its own officials. As outgoing constable, Leget delivered 'the castle, armour, stock, victuals and other necessaries' for which he had held responsibility to the new incumbent. The following year, his annuity of 20 marks as esquire was confirmed.⁴⁹ In 1382, a Helming Leget held a position as justice of the peace in Suffolk.⁵⁰

LATER HISTORY OF THE MANOR AND ESTATE

On his death, about 1391, Leget appears to have been living in London.⁵¹ He was succeeded by his son Thomas, who supposedly released his rights to the manor of Pond Hall to his sister Anne on her marriage to Edward Doily (Fig. 88).⁵² About 1400, an extent of the manor of Pond Hall was drawn up. As well as entries for various lands, there are references to Newhallemede, suggestive of a newly erected building, and also to a house (*mansio*), a grange, dairy, garden and dovecote.⁵³ However, on the death of Edward Leget in 1429, his nephew Thomas Leget – grandson of Helming Leget by his son Helming – quitclaimed the manor of 'Pondeshalle' to Robert Clopton, citizen and draper of London, who might have been acting

as trustee for the Doylys (Fig. 88).⁵⁴ By 1438 Sir William Wolf held the lordship, possibly as a lessee as he paid 60 shillings for arable land called Seyntmariefeld to the prior of Canterbury, manorial lord of Hadleigh, and 14 shillings to the abbot of Bury St Edmunds for pastures called Conyngerefeld and Mikelfeld. The occupier of Pond Hall at this time was John Belsham of Hadleigh, who brought about a malicious charge of treason against Wolf in the king's presence and was outlawed for murder and the death of a king's constable.⁵⁵

In 1466, John Doyly, son of Edward, obtained a licence from the archbishop of Canterbury for a family chapel at his house called Pond Hall,⁵⁶ an indication that the Doylys were in residence. John was buried at St John's chapel in Hadleigh parish church, which continued to be a family mausoleum until the 1630s.⁵⁷ The next two generations were also seated here, with Sir Henry, Hadleigh's leading Catholic and justice of the peace, acting as chairman of the town's ruling elite for thirty years.⁵⁸ On his death in 1564, his son Henry, who served both Suffolk and Norfolk as sheriff, removed the family seat to Norfolk, having married the heir to manors at Shotesham.⁵⁹ The Doylys continued to farm at Pond Hall, although by 1644 two parts of the demesne, Cades (or Kates) Hill and Clamps (or Coopers), were let to tenants and were eventually sold as freehold farms sometime between 1803 and 1838.⁶⁰ From 1695 Doyly properties in both Suffolk and Norfolk were heavily mortgaged, and the majority of their real estate was sold in 1720 to the mortgagee, Edmund Cork, mercer of Norwich.⁶¹ In 1730 Grace, dowager countess of Dysart, purchased the manors of Pond Hall, Cosford and Toppesfield Hall from Richard Berney, Cork's son-in-law and executor.⁶² For its lordship, the manor of Pond Hall continued to pay an annual fee of £3 to the manor of Hadleigh Hall.⁶³ The property remained as part of the Helmingham Hall portfolio and on its sale in 1895 was broken up, the majority of land becoming part of the Felix Cobbold Trust in 1910.⁶⁴

POND HALL: THE HOUSE, ITS SITE AND SITUATION

The house at Pond Hall lies at the point where the Hintlesham to Hadleigh road – formerly the main route into Hadleigh from the east – crosses the valley of a brook that flows south-west to join the River Brett at Layham. Until the early years of the nineteenth century, the Pond Hall estate extended for nearly 1000 acres (400 hectares) on both sides of the road. Beyond the house, the estate stretched to the north as far as Lady Lane. To the east, it straddled the valley and, where the land initially rises steeply to about 60m and then levels off to form a plateau, it continued for 2km to just beyond the Hadleigh–Hintlesham boundary. South of Pond Hall Road, a smaller part of the estate originally extended from the boundary with Town House Farm in the west to Hadleigh Farm in the east (Fig. 87).⁶⁵

Although dated sixteenth or seventeenth-century when given a Grade II listing in 1950,⁶⁶ the house at Pond Hall is a high quality oak timber-frame of one build erected in the period 1460 to 1520. Its nine bays are aligned north to south, with the over-sailing upper storey on the west front forming a continuous jetty. At present, the south wall is rendered and it is therefore not possible to judge whether the original building extended further at this point. In the late eighteenth century the southern end was extended on the east in red brick; maps of the early nineteenth century indicate an extension on the northern end, which is no longer extant,⁶⁷ while a large lean-to conservatory was added in 1984 along the length of the eastern side. The whole building is roofed with red clay tiles (Fig. 89).

Door framing brackets for a very substantial opening can be found in the third bay from the north, indicating the site of the principal access that, at one time, had an external porch. However, there is no matching opening on the rear wall, as would be expected: any such opening was probably lost during later alterations. The existence of externally blocked window openings and evidence for internal folding shutters suggest a near-continuous



FIG. 89 – The west front of the house taken in 1997, showing the nine bays of single-build. At least two blocked windows are visible in bays 2 and 4 from the northern end. The brick-built Georgian extension can be seen behind the southern gable-end. Note the break of slope on the right of the house, marking the location of the southern arm of the former moat (*photo: R. Hoppitt*).

fenestration along the upper storey on the western side. Internally at the rear, in the fourth bay on the first floor, an original door head indicates that access was *via* an external stair turret which no longer exists. Although differentiation in room status would be expected, bold basic chamfering to ceiling joints is maintained throughout the ground floor, thus giving no indication of a principal chamber. The main dating feature of the building is its undecorated diminutive crown-post roof with carpenter's numbering marks the length of the central collar that confirm this as the original construction. At a later date, the collar purlin has been cut in order to allow the insertion, from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries, of central chimney stacks with chimneys appearing through the ridge.⁶⁸

POND HALL PARK AND EVIDENCE OF A DESIGNED LANDSCAPE

The existence of a park at Pond Hall first comes to light nine years after Helming Leget's purchase of the manor when, in 1369, he obtained a licence to impark 300 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 189 acres of pasture and 139 acres of wood in Hadleigh.⁶⁹ The park continued under the ownership of the Doylys and was listed with a number of other Suffolk parks about 1560.⁷⁰ It was still in existence in 1638 when the manor of Pond Hall, its 'great park', coppice, woods and lands passed to the next Doyly heir.⁷¹ Disparking – the conversion of an enclosed private park into ordinary enclosed fields – may have taken place by 1721, when the route of the annual Hadleigh Rogationtide perambulation of the parish bounds was recorded. It was here, along the boundary with Hintlesham, that the participants passed through much woodland and 'another field of Pond Hall, part of the Long Park', which suggests land in closes.⁷² It is likely that disparking had occurred when the Doylys reduced and then ended their interest in the property in 1720, when both the estate and manorial title were sold.⁷³

A number of documents point to the park's location. The earliest information comes from five wills made between 1490 and 1551 by Hadleigh clothiers, whose testamentary gifts for

municipal betterment aimed at securing some improvement to the state of the road between Ipswich and Hadleigh. They indicated that the ‘sloughs by Pond Hall park pale’ were a constant aggravation and, no doubt, adversely impacted upon the transport of goods.⁷⁴ These references place a park pale close to Pond Hall Road. Saxton’s map of Suffolk (1575) shows a park north-east of Pond Hall, and it is assumed that this is Pond Hall Park.⁷⁵

Further supporting evidence comes from later field names and field boundaries (Fig. 90). A map drawn up by Isaac Johnson in 1803 shows five fields with ‘park’ names in this area. One

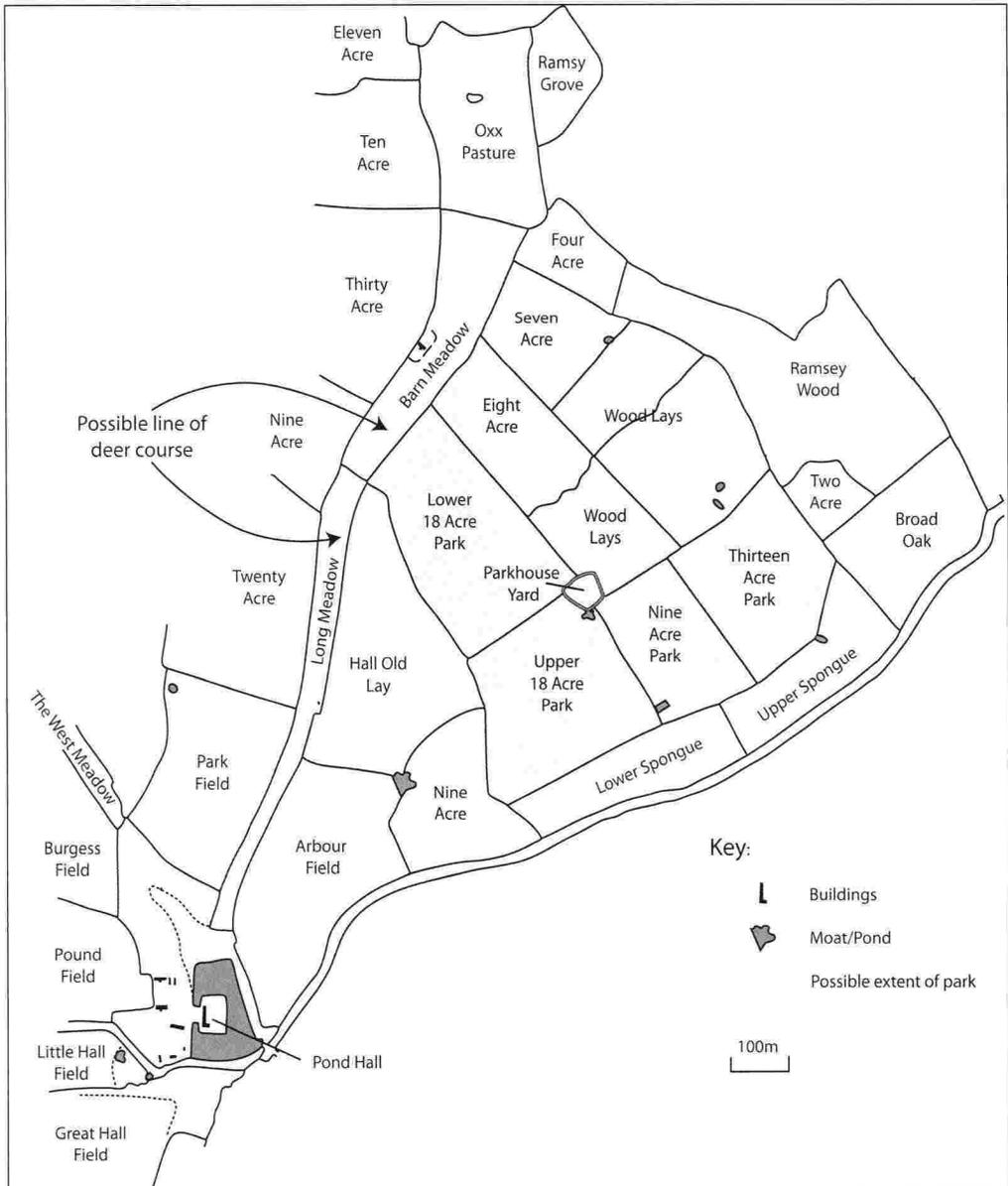


FIG. 90 – Pond Hall land in the early 19th century, showing the suggested location and original extent of the park of Helming Leget, and the line of the putative deer course (redrawn from two manuscript maps by Isaac Johnson, c. 1803, SROI, HD11:475/1928 and 1931).

of these, Parkhouse Yard, covers about half an acre (0.2 hectares) and is enclosed by a narrow trapezoidal moat with a pond on its southern corner. Three fields are also named as Wood Lays and another Broad Oak, implying former woodland. Further west down-slope are two fields, Park Field – a form of field name commonly associated with land abutting former parks – and Arbour Field, which may also relate to the park and together may suggest that it extended towards the house.⁷⁶ Thus the evidence indicates that the park was located to the north-east of Pond Hall on the high flat land close to the parish boundary, a typical location for Suffolk parks.

On the 1803 map, field boundaries enclose a rectangle that amounts to about 110 acres (44.5 hectares), within which the internal divisions are discordant with respect to those outside: this may represent a former single enclosure coincident with the extent of the fourteenth-century park.⁷⁷ (The whole 648 acres stated in the 1369 licence need not have been included in the imparking process.) The field boundaries within this area could have resulted from the process of disparking when the area was broken up into smaller units, probably in the late seventeenth or early eighteenth centuries for pasture.⁷⁸ Most of the boundaries are straight but there are two sinuous boundaries that could represent older divisions. Almost central within this rectangle lies the moated site of Parkhouse Yard (Fig. 91), which was most likely the site of a keeper's lodge;⁷⁹ such a high central location is a characteristic of lodge sites at other parks.⁸⁰



FIG. 91 – Parkhouse Yard looking south-east towards the interior of the former moated site, which was probably the site of a park lodge (*photo: R. Hoppitt*).

However, there is evidence that suggests the park was more extensive than this. A map of Hintlesham of 1595 shows an area named ‘Pondhalle parke’ abutting on the Hadleigh parish boundary to the south-west, the enclosed fields of Hintlesham to the north-east, the road to the south and Ramsey Wood to the north. This indicates that the park extended across the Hadleigh–Hintlesham parish boundary.⁸¹ This coincides with the point at which the perambulation of Hadleigh’s bounds refers to ‘another field of Pond Hall, part of the Long

Park'.⁸² This extension of the Pond Hall property across the parish boundary was still extant in the early nineteenth century and is indicated on an 1803 estate map (Figs 87 and 90).⁸³

In 1638, when the manor of Pond Hall passed to the next Doyly heir, there was mention of its 'great park', and it is possible that an earlier, smaller, park had been extended by the Doylys.⁸⁴ The naming of fields abutting the parish boundary as 'part of the Long Park' might represent such a later extension of the park beyond the original rectangle.⁸⁵ To the south-east, the boundary between Upper and Lower Spongue and the three fields with park names might represent the earlier outer edge of the park, with Spongue fields forming a zone of freeboard outside the pale or an area of clear ground between the park boundary and the road – an 'anti-ambush zone' – as required by statute.⁸⁶ However, the sixteenth-century wills (referring to the sloughs by Pond Hall park pale) together with the 1595 map suggest that the park extended up to the road, which may mean that this land along the roadside could also have been incorporated into the 'great park' after its initial enclosure.⁸⁷ Similarly, the park may have extended to include Arbour Field to the south-west.

On the ground there is little evidence of park boundaries or features, other than remains of the moat around Parkhouse Yard, which is now reduced to a pair of narrow ditches no wider than 3m and with a maximum depth of 2m. During the First World War this area was used by the Royal Flying Corps as one of its first aerodromes, and commercial flights continued until 1931; any recognisable surface features then remaining had been removed when the ground was levelled.⁸⁸

In 1371, two years after the licence to impark, Helming Leget obtained a licence to crenellate 'his mansion of Pond Hall'. It is reasonable to assume that this lay where the current house is located. However, there is no evidence of the results of such crenellation here, as there is at Wingfield, Mettingham or Huntingfield, and the current house postdates the licence by at least a century. During building work carried out some fifteen or more years ago in the area immediately to the north-west of the house, it is said that pieces of stonework were found, which may be indicative of an earlier building.⁸⁹

Imparkment and crenellation point to a process of aggrandising property as a means of demonstrating or reinforcing the social standing and 'aristocratic credentials' of the individual and his family. It was not necessarily about creating a defensive structure but about chivalric imagery, emulation and display.⁹⁰ Along with this process went landscaping to show off the building and its setting to best effect, which included the creation of features involving water, gardens and the re-alignment of roads. Were these part of the 'package' at Pond Hall and is there supporting evidence in the landscape?

Pond Hall appears to take its name from the local topography; early surnames *del Pond* and *atte Pond*, its location in the valley bottom, and the sixteenth-century references to the 'sloughs' of Pond Hall, all suggest that this was a distinctly watery place.⁹¹ The 1400 extent confirms the existence of the house at La Pond and an 'Oldepond', together with other buildings including a dovecote.⁹² Today, there is a duck pond to the west of the entrance to the house, and a large ornamental pond, created in the 1980s, in the garden alongside the road. However, it is clear from a second Johnson estate map of 1803 that Pond Hall was formerly almost surrounded by a substantial moat. Trapezoidal in plan, on three sides it was extremely broad, varying from 20 to 60m in width, and abutted on to the road on its southern side (Fig. 92).⁹³ There is no indication of a water feed but it must have been from the brook which comes down from the meadow to the north. The moat would have been created by damming the brook with the large bank that forms a causeway which carries the Hintlesham to Hadleigh road. The outfall is shown coming from a small embayment on the south-east corner at the highest point, which would ensure that the maximum depth of water would be maintained in the moat. The watercourse then appears to run across the road forming a ford; there is no

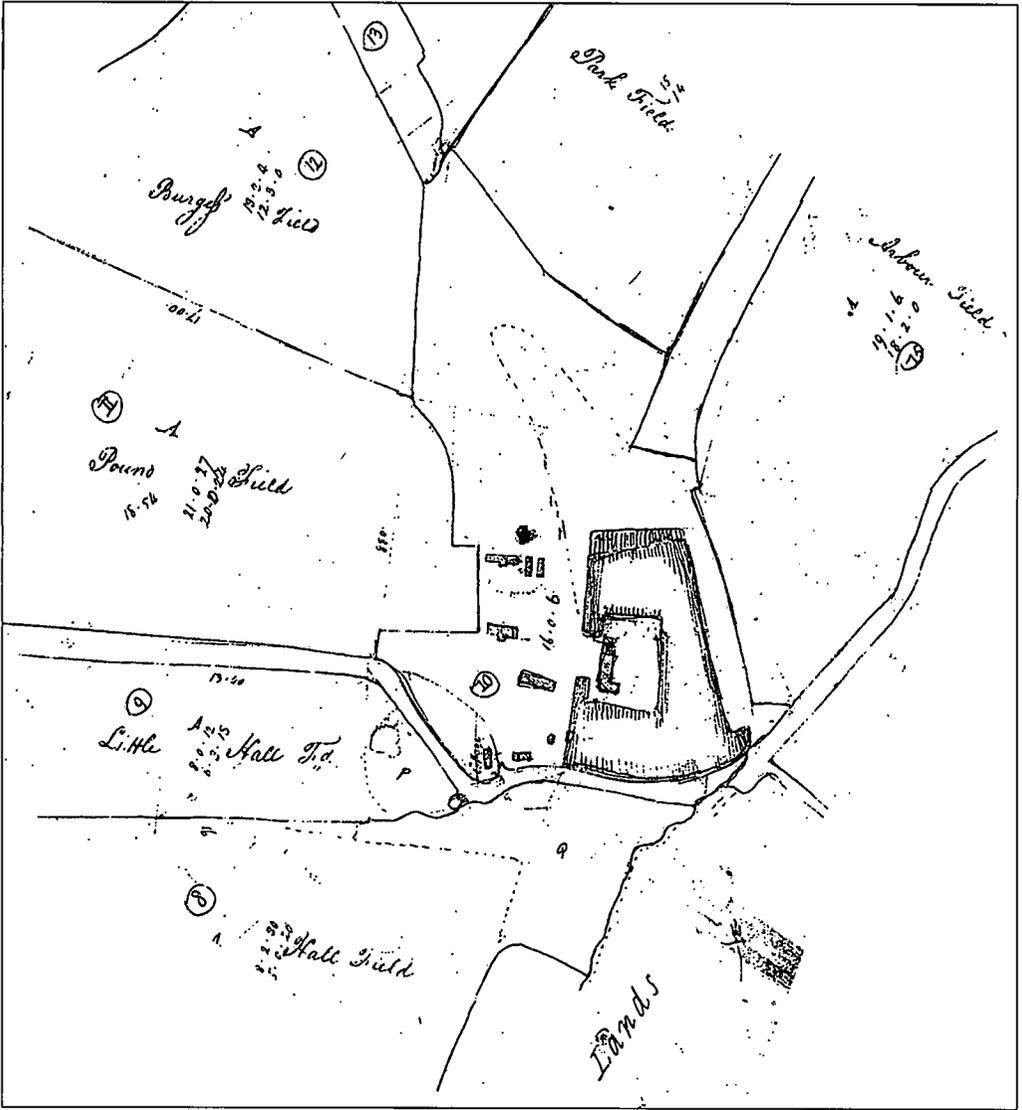
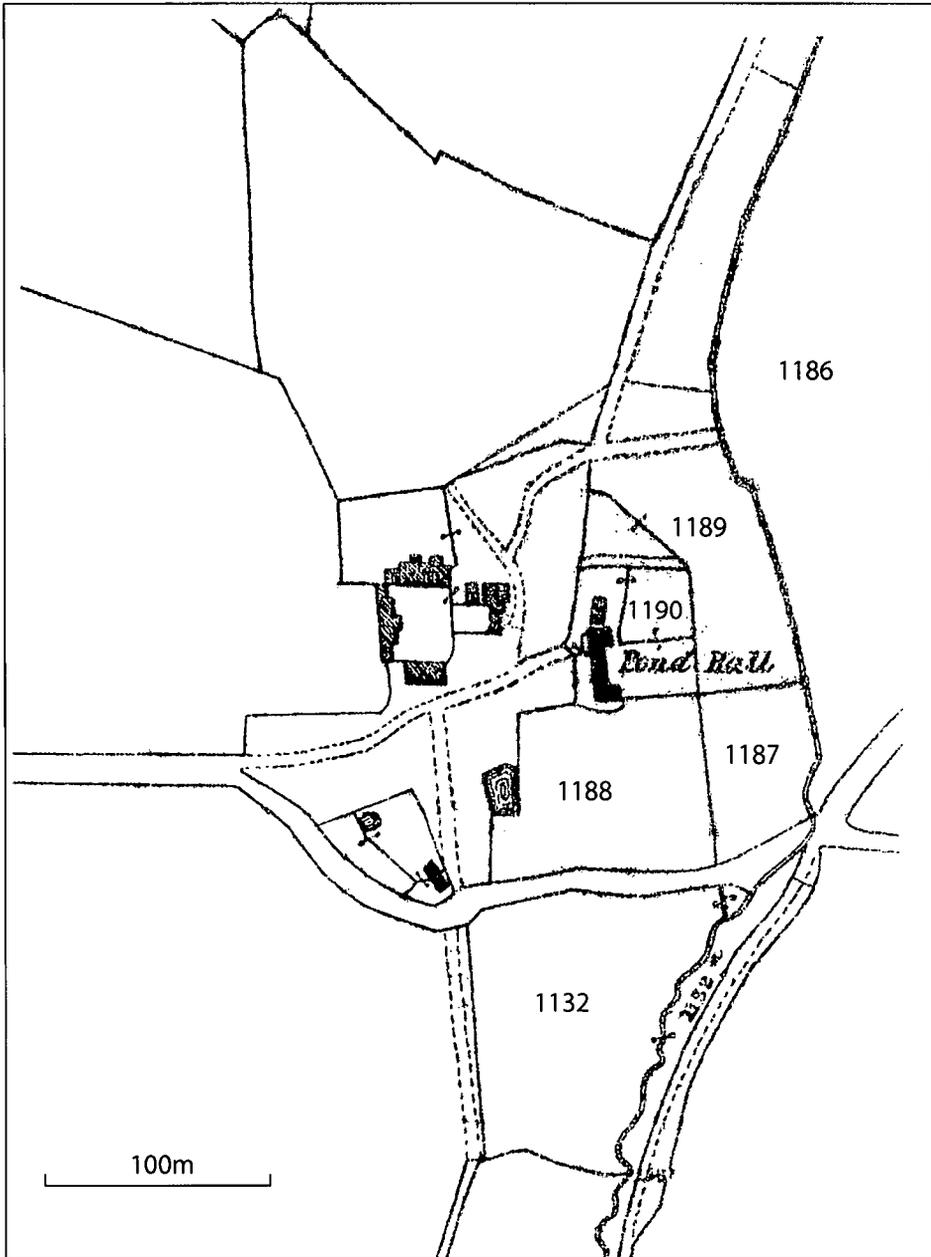


FIG. 92 – Detail from Isaac Johnson’s map of 1803 showing Pond Hall and the farm buildings, including the position of the 15th-century brick-built barn (the long building in the northernmost group of farm buildings to the west of the moat). The extensive moat surrounding the house is no longer extant.

The Georgian extension on the back of the house is shown clearly on the plan (by permission of the Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich, ref. HD11:475/1928).

indication of a bridge. The tithe map of 1839 (Fig. 93) shows the brook taking the same route; however, by this time the moat had been drained and the brook must have been culverted, as it is today.⁹⁴ On the western side, where the near-encircling moat formed two comparatively short and narrow arms, there was a broad entrance causeway about 30m wide immediately in front of the house. The rectangular ‘island’ was about 65m north to south and 50m east to west with the house situated in a position that effectively blocked the causeway entrance. The whole moat complex measured about 140m north to south and about 100m east to west and would have been a most impressive landscaping feature.⁹⁵



Field numbers and names: Tithe map 1839	Equivalent Field numbers and names: Estate map 1895
1132 Dairy Meadow	597 Dairy Meadow
1186 Arbor Field	611 Arbour Field
1187 Orchard	602 Orchard
1188 Moat	601 Moat meadow
1189 Little meadow	678 Back Moat
1190 Pond Hall gardens etc.	612 House, grounds, buildings

FIG. 93 – Pond Hall from the Hadleigh tithe map of 1839 (HA, 080/11). Compare the layout and buildings with that of the Johnson map in Fig. 92.

MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1934.



DESTRUCTIVE FARM FIRE NEAR HADLEIGH: The buildings of Pond Hall Farm after the fierce fire of Saturday afternoon, in which twenty-one head of cattle were burned to death. One range of buildings was saved by the timely use of pails of water, but the rest of the buildings, together with machinery and four stacks, was destroyed. (E.A.D.T. photo.)

FIG. 94 – The brick barn from the south following the fire in 1934. Note the large entrance arches, which may have been to accommodate high-loaded wagons, the wall slits and steeply pitched gable; the present gable has been rebuilt at a shallower angle (by permission of the Suffolk Record Office, Bury St Edmunds, ref. HD526/59/5).

The second map of 1803 shows a cottage close to what appears to be the entrance to the property from the road. In addition, to its north, there are a number of farm buildings (Fig. 92). Indeed, an undated plan, contemporary with the 1803 maps and probably also drawn by Johnson, shows proposed new buildings and alterations to existing ones that create a stock yard and associated barns, neat-houses and cart-sheds.⁹⁶ An inspection of the brickwork in the current buildings occupying this area suggests that the most northerly of the group is a brick-built barn constructed with slit-type ventilation and large openings on its north and south sides for access. It dates from the last quarter of the fifteenth or the first decade of the sixteenth centuries and is identifiable as the more northerly of the two ‘old barns’ on the plan of the outbuildings.⁹⁷ Associated with the barn is a wall with some evidence of capping, possibly of a similar date.⁹⁸ Although this is not shown on the main Pond Hall map, it is drawn and identified as ‘old wall’ on the undated plan, implying that it was not a building but part of a low-walled enclosure, possibly a stock-yard.⁹⁹ In 1934, a fierce fire at Pond Hall destroyed live and dead stock in the farmyard, together with most of the buildings. However, brickwork of the medieval barn and ‘old wall’ survived (Figs 94 and 95).¹⁰⁰ These early bricks may have been made across the road in the field that was referred to as Clamp Close in 1644 (Fig. 87).¹⁰¹ With the adjacent Clay Lane indicating a possible source of raw material, bricks could have been hand-made here as the field name suggests. The firing process would have taken over a



FIG. 95 – The brick barn: interior of the north wall showing early brickwork and one of the slit openings (photo: R. Hoppitt).

week and would produce bricks of variable quality, as exemplified in the brickwork in the farmyard.¹⁰²

By the time of the tithe survey in 1839 there was no evidence of the moated feature, which suggests that it had been drained (Fig. 93). However, the renaming of the field to the south of the house as ‘Moat’ indicates a memory of it.¹⁰³ On the ground, its former position and extent can be observed. On the south side of the house, there is a clear break of slope some 10m from the house, which would coincide with the edge of the moat on Johnson’s map. Where the moat had been, the low-lying area has been recently excavated further to

create the present large ornamental pond. From the eastern side of the house, the ground is level for about 25–30m, when there is a break of slope again, approximating to the distance at which the edge of the moat is shown on the Isaac Johnson map. The moat varied between 30 and 50m in width here, with a small area of land between it and the field boundary to the east. When viewed from the house today, it is possible to see the edge of the moat as a break of slope in front of the boundary, again the distances agree with the Johnson survey. The site of the north arm is almost entirely overgrown and thus less accessible, but its low-lying boggy nature confirms it as part of this extensive moat. The two short arms of the moat on the western side can be traced on the ground as low areas to the north and south at the front of the house (Figs 89 and 92).

Pond Hall Road makes a broad sweep across the valley on the causeway-dam on the south side of Pond Hall and then forms a dog-leg up the hill to the west, which might be expected to reduce the gradient into and out of the valley. However, here the gradient is greater than if the route had continued straight on, suggesting a deliberate diversion and re-alignment of the road around the house and moat. As this crossing point of the valley seems to have been a problem, it is possible that the causeway was not only a solution to the sloughs near Pond Hall park pale but also a means of creating what must have been a stunning water feature. Perhaps this is identifiable as the *stagnum vocat La Pond* recorded in the extent of 1400 and may have incorporated the Oldepond already in the valley bottom (Fig. 96).¹⁰⁴

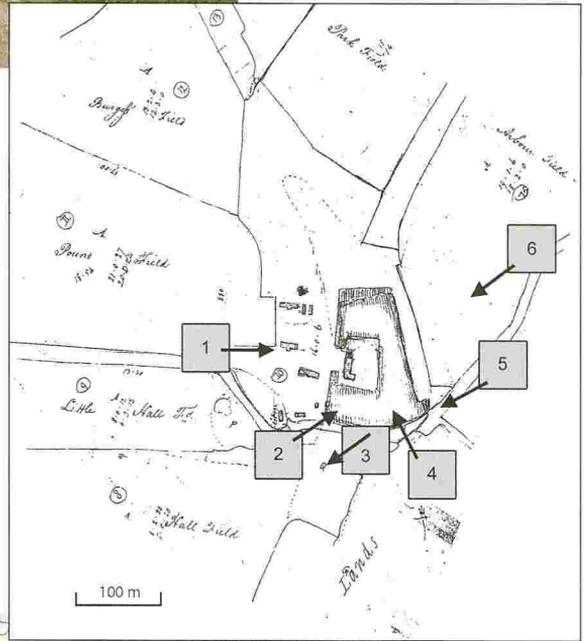
Beyond the evidence for the moat, it is possible to speculate about other components of this landscape. For example, the road diversion may also have effected a planned approach to the site. The visitor approaching from the east would have first passed by the park boundary and, on descending into the valley, the left turn in the road would give a view across the broad moat towards the house. Crossing the valley on the causeway-dam, there would be a view of the house again across the water, with the possibility for reflections adding to the aesthetics. An approach from the west left the road to drop downhill directly towards the house. This entrance route, which was in use in 1839, would have given, on coming over the brow of the hill, a surprise view of the impressively long range of the house and its moat, possibly entering through a base-court located to the west of the moat and present house. Alternatively, the route following the dog-leg from the west would have left the house hidden from view until

FIG. 96 – Possible relict topographical features of a designed landscape at Pond Hall (*photos: R. Hoppitt*).



1. Pond Hall – approach from the west

Right: Section of the Isaac Johnson map of 1803, showing location and direction from which the six photographs were taken



2. Pond Hall from the south looking across the present pond which occupies a part of the former moat





3. Field immediately to the south of the road/causeway, showing the berm on the west side, and bank at the field end



4. Orchard Field, site of the eastern arm of the former moat



5. The road/causeway from the east, site of former moat on the right, and the stream culvert under the road

Below: Possible arrangement of water features at Pond Hall based on map and topographical evidence (Google Earth image)



6. Pond Hall – approach from the east



the visitor turned the corner on to the causeway to approach the house from the south, again getting a view of the house within its moat (Fig. 96).

Across the moat on the eastern side, the land rises up towards the plateau and the area of the park. The field adjacent to the moat and overlooking the house is named on both of Johnson's maps and on the tithe survey as Arbour Field. This may be suggestive of a small treed garden-park of a type that formed one of the main types of garden during the medieval period. Its location on the hillside opposite the moated site may have been deliberately positioned to provide a place of leisure – a *pleasance* – that would have given a view of the house and moat (Figs 93 and 96).

There might have been more water features south of the road, as embanked boundaries across meadows there indicate that the brook may have been dammed to create a run of large lakes descending southwards away from Pond Hall. The top one, closest to the road, has a flat berm extending away from the hedge line on the western side. A footpath runs from opposite the entrance to Pond Hall south along the western side of the fields in the valley bottom (Fig. 93). Could this, in conjunction with the berm and lakes, have formed a further designed landscape of water features and promenades through which the Hintlesham to Hadleigh road would have passed over on the causeway-dam? (Fig. 96)

A further component of this landscape comprises the meadows that run from the high land close to the edge of Ramsey Wood in the north-east, along the valley south-west towards Pond Hall (Fig. 90). It is possible that these were used as a deer course or 'parrock', allowing deer kept in the park to be used for sport. It would have started in Barn Meadow and then run for some 1.2km downhill, narrowing in width from 150m to about 30m. This is very similar in dimensions and topography to the deer course identified by Christopher Taylor at Ravensdale Park in Derbyshire.¹⁰⁵ In Barn Meadow, there is a building, formerly half-timbered on a brick base, possibly of the early sixteenth century,¹⁰⁶ which might have served a purpose related to a course. At its southern end, the putative course runs between Park Field and Arbour Field, finishing where it meets the open space to the north of the moated site adjacent to Pound Field. The name Arbour Field might hark back to a standing of some sort that could have overlooked the 'finish' of the course, with Pound Field possibly relating to the impounding of deer at the end of the course.¹⁰⁷ On both sides of Long Meadow, there is a sharp break of slope that could have been enhanced with hedging, fencing or netting to form an effective barrier which would have prevented deer escaping from the course. In addition, the brook runs along the eastern side, potentially adding to the effectiveness of the barrier (Figs 90 and 97). If this feature is a deer course, then unlike the one at Ravensdale (which was located within the park) this lies on the periphery, either adjacent to the park itself or included within an extended 'great park'.¹⁰⁸

DISCUSSION

A designed landscape incorporating some or all of these elements could have been instigated by Helming Leget. His career gave him the opportunity to amass considerable income and capital through his appointments, allowances, sinecures, wardships and corrodies, his investments in land and property and his involvement in business and trade. Thus he had the means to implement such a scheme. His appointment in 1369 as constable of Windsor Castle coincided with the completion of what has been described as one of 'the most important secular building projects of the late Middle Ages' as Edward III constructed a magnificent new range of state apartments, including the creation of the 'Little Park'.¹⁰⁹ As keeper of the royal parks at Windsor, Wynchmere, Guildford and Kennington, Leget would have had close association with park management. Throughout this time, he would have been experiencing a lifestyle similar to those in the highest echelons of both the nobility and the business



FIG. 97 – Long meadow, looking north-east along the line of a possible deer course. The break of slope on the left and on the right could have been enhanced with fencing (*photo: S. Andrews*).

community and might thus have aspired to – and achieved – a landscape setting to enhance his own more modest country property. To realise this, firstly, he obtained a licence to impark – an unnecessary requirement for one whose real estate lay outside the royal forest – that might have been obtained to demonstrate his wealth and status. Secondly, perhaps in pursuit of further emulation of his social superiors, he planned to aggrandise his mansion through the licence to crenellate, which might have involved the creation of the large moat, the causeway-dam, possible road diversions, lakes to the south of the road, an arbour overlooking all from the east, and the possible deer course.

Deer courses would seem to be a development of the late fourteenth and fifteenth centuries and were unlikely to be later than the early seventeenth century; Helming Leget's ownership from 1361 to 1391 fits into the early part of this period.¹¹⁰ In Norden's survey of 1607, the Little Park at Windsor is depicted with a deer course and a standing from which to view the chase.¹¹¹ It has been suggested that these were 'almost certainly' created for Edward IV *c.* 1465, so may not have featured as part of the original plan at Windsor; however, the use of a deer course would have been familiar to Leget. Alternatively, a deer course at Pond Hall could have been a later creation of the Doylys, perhaps in association with the late fifteenth-century building activity and possible extension to the north, east and south creating the 'great park'.

The current house postdates the Leget ownership by at least 100 years. This suggests that any earlier, possibly crenellated, house may have been replaced in the mid fifteenth century – at the time, in 1466, when the Doylys obtained their licence for a chapel here. Why this replacement occurred can only be conjecture. During the period 1391 until *c.* 1440, when the property was not in owner-occupation but tenanted, neglect might have led to decay or an event such as a fire might have destroyed the fabric, both scenarios necessitating rebuilding; alternatively, an earlier crenellated house might never have been built. Johnson's map (1803) shows a long range that equates with that currently in existence, which neither rises sheer

from the moat nor is central to it, as might be expected, but is offset towards the west, taking a curious position across, and therefore blocking, the entrance to the 'island'. No ranges creating a courtyard of buildings are shown beyond the house. There might have been some expectation for embellishment of the southern gable end, perhaps in the style of Popples Farm at Brettenham, where the end of the house facing the road is designed to catch the eye.¹¹² This may suggest that the Pond Hall we see today, despite its exceptional length, is only a portion of an originally more extensive range of buildings. While the original appearance of the eastern side of the building is no longer extant, the present extensive front, with its nine bays of almost uninterrupted rows of windows, was intended to be seen from the western approach.

On the surface, Pond Hall is an unprepossessing site, the present appearance of which belies a fascinating history. The development of the park and possible associated landscaping was enabled by the rising fortunes of this king's esquire, Helming Leget, an entrepreneurial individual who made the most of the opportunities presented to him. Mixing in court circles might have led him to aspire to incorporate into his own property design elements that he saw elsewhere and thereby attain the symbols of high status, albeit with no title. Although further developed by the Doyly family, the site later degenerated, with the disparking and eventual draining of the impressive moat, to the point where today the house and surroundings barely warrant a turn of the head in a landscape so richly endowed with medieval structures.

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NOTES

- 1 Rye 1900, 222.
- 2 *CPR Edward III, vol. XIV*, 259; *CPR Edward III, vol. XV*, 54.
- 3 Hoppitt 1999, 66–67.
- 4 Park deer were usually fallow and/or red deer; the native roe deer were not kept in parks. For a comprehensive account of medieval hunting, see Almond 2003.
- 5 Taylor 2004, 37–57.
- 6 Ridgard 2009, 18–53. A rare set of park keeper's accounts from 1509–19 has survived for the duke of Norfolk's park at Framlingham in Suffolk. They graphically illustrate the variety of destinations of the deer, the special occasions for which they were given, the losses through poaching and disease as well as the processes of ordering and distribution by lord's warrant and steward's command. A section of this series of accounts is also published in Shirley 1867, 29–33.
- 7 Cantor 1983. There are many county and regional studies: examples include Neave 1991; Squires and Humphry 1986; Woodward 1982.
- 8 Coulson 1992, 51–107; Taylor 1998, 40; Everson 2003, 24–33; Mileson 2007, 11–26; Richardson 2007, 27–40; Mileson 2009, 82–115.
- 9 Plowman 2005, 43–49; Alexander 2007, 23–32.
- 10 Hoppitt 2007, 151.
- 11 Martin 1999, 58–59.
- 12 *CPR Richard II, vol. II*, 555. Both these locations were the subject of the same licence to impark and crenellate.
- 13 Martin 1990, 115–23.

- 14 Mileson 2009, 108 and 111.
- 15 Rumble 1986, land-holders 1.109, 14.110, 36.16 and 61.2.
- 16 Davis 1913, 59–60. *Lafham* entries are wrongly attributed to Lavenham.
- 17 Hervey 1906, 154–55; Rye 1900, 130, 143, 156 and 160; *CIPM vol. VI*, 225.
- 18 *CChR Edward III, vol. IV*, 95.
- 19 Copinger 1905–11, 3, 160, citing Bodleian Library, Oxford, Essex Charter 197; Rye 1900, 182 and 188.
- 20 *CChR Edward III, vol. IV*, 446.
- 21 For example, a croft called *Lafhamappleton*: SROI, GC16/1/1. William Giffard's consolidation of property may have led to the demise of *Lafham*; alternatively, it may be related to the loss of population during the Black Death in 1349. The first available account for the manor of Hadleigh around this time suggests that there was some significant impact on the manor there (pers. comm. Margaret Woods). The location of the hamlet is unknown but is likely to have been in the vicinity of Pond Hall.
- 22 Rye 1900, 222.
- 23 Metcalfe 1879, 591–93. The surname is variously spelt but for continuity, Leget will be used throughout. There is no suggestion that the family were manorial lords at this time. Morant 1768, 123; *CPR Henry IV, vol. II*, 288 and 291; *CPR Henry IV, vol. IV*, 294. It was not until the second half of the fifteenth century that a Thomas Leget was styled lord of the manor of Cockerells and Gubbins in Havering.
- 24 *CIPM Edward III, vol. XI*, 220–22. Margery held in dower property in Kent and a number of shop premises in Southwark (Surrey); in addition Helming Leget was assigned ten properties in London by the king and quit rents from two others, formerly held by Idonia Mocking deceased, sister of Nicholas Mocking, which together realised over £20 per annum. *CPR Edward III, vol. XIV*, 318 and 322; Deeds of Manor of Tottenham, final concord, 1363, LMA, ACC/1068/003. Margery later inherited other properties in 1378 on the death of her brother; *CPR Richard II, vol. I*, 546.
- 25 Rye 1900, 222. A Richard Kyslingbury (draper and mayor of London in 1350) owned substantial property in Bow Lane, London; he died in 1361 leaving a wife named Alice. He may have been Richard's father. Keene and Harding 1987, 213–17.
- 26 The purchased lands included one messuage, 70 acres of arable land and 15 of woodland that had formerly belonged to William de Lafham and were held by half a knight's fee of Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hertford and Essex: Copinger 1905–11, 3, 160 citing *IPM*, 16 Edward II, 21. This may have been lands that formed part of the lost hamlet of *Lafham*.
- 27 Following the career of Helming Leget has been problematic to some degree. There were certainly two Helming Legets, father and son. This article refers to Helming Leget senior who died about 1391. Their careers overlap and only in 1397 is Helming junior unequivocally described as Helming son of Helming Leget: LMA, ACC/1086/004 and 005. It has been further complicated by the suggestion in some references that a Helming Leget was keeper of the king's ships in 1338; however, these have been owing to a misreading of the regnal year 12 Edward III in error for 12 Henry IV: Tout 1911, 669.
- 28 Hulbert 1912, 223, citing Issues of the Exchequer. In 1359–60 he was involved in shipping horses back from France: Ayton 1994, 266.
- 29 *CPR Edward III, vol. X*, 408 and 462; *CCR Edward III, vol. X*, 543; *CPR Edward III, vol. XI*, 136. He continued to hold the Ramsey corrody until at least 1385 when he appears minded to give it up in favour of another: *CCR Richard II, vol. III*, 81.
- 30 Promising young men from the lower ranks were often selected to be educated within the household of a noble family or sponsored by them to attend grammar school or university. For example, Geoffrey Chaucer was a page in the household of Elizabeth de Burgh, daughter-in-law of Edward III: Coghill 1969, 11. It is likely that Helming's route into court circles would have been along these lines and certainly his subsequent career suggests he would have shown such promise.
- 31 *CPR Edward III, vol. XI*, 478; *CPR Edward III, vol. XII*, 379; *CPR Edward III, vol. XIII*, 112 and 255. In the licences to impark and crenellate, Helming Leget is referred to as *armiger* (a class below that of knight) and he refers to himself as such in his testament; TNA, PROB 11/1.
- 32 *CPR Edward III, vol. XII*, 41 and 45; *CPR Edward III, vol. XIV*, 334; *CPR Edward III, vol. XVI*, 384; *CCR Edward III, vol. XIV*, 207. According to the latter reference the seal had 'craftily been taken out of his [Helming's] possession' and he was ordering a replacement to be made by goldsmith Richard Arnold.
- 33 *CPR Edward III, vol. XII*, 186 and 440; *CPR Edward III, vol. XIII*, 194.
- 34 *CPR Edward III, vol. XIII*, 257; *CPR Edward III, vol. XIII*, 415.
- 35 Devon 1835, 205.
- 36 *CPR Edward III, vol. XIII*, 334.
- 37 *CPR Edward III, vol. XV*, 91; *CCR Edward III, vol. XIII*, 508.
- 38 Ayton 1994, 265–72; Devon 1835, 447.

- 39 CCR *Edward III*, vol. XIII, 287–88.
- 40 CIPM *Edward III*, vol. XI, 138; CPR *Edward III*, vol. XIII, 288–89 and 359.
- 41 CPR *Edward III*, vol. XIV, 214 and 297.
- 42 Keene and Harding 1987, 244–51. It is suggested that this may have been on behalf of Alice de Perrers, Edward III's mistress.
- 43 CPR *Edward III*, vol. XVI, 95.
- 44 Bond 1967, 225–49.
- 45 This was in addition to Windsor Great Park, the origin of which possibly lies in the Anglo-Saxon period: Richardson 2007, 24, 33 and 39.
- 46 CPR *Edward III*, vol. XIV, 214.
- 47 CPR *Edward III*, vol. XV, 273.
- 48 CPR *Edward III*, vol. XVI, 171.
- 49 CPR *Richard II*, vol. 1, 21 and 184.
- 50 CPR *Richard II*, vol. II, 254.
- 51 Helming Leget died sometime between 1391 (the date of his testament) and 1393, when his widow Margery remarried; TNA, PROB 11/1. The catalogue gives 1491 while the document itself is dated 1391. In his testament he refers to his tenement with appurtenances in Wodestreet in the parish of St Bartholomew. In 1394, Helming Leget was described as deceased: CCR *Richard II*, vol. V, 276.
- 52 Copinger 1905–11, 3, 160 and 169, citing BL, Add. Charters, 10571. The surname is variously spelt but for continuity, Doyly will be used throughout. The Doylys were a Norman baronial family granted extensive lands in Oxfordshire after the Conquest; a branch of the family held land in Suffolk at Wrentham.
- 53 Pond Hall manorial extent, c. 1400, SROI, GC16/1/1.
- 54 CCR *Henry VI*, vol. 1, 460–61. From this point the Leget family have nothing further to do with the manor and seem to have withdrawn their interests back to Essex and London; Metcalfe 1879, 591–93 (although note that Helming Leget junior and senior appear to have been conflated in the pedigree). The family are recorded at Hornchurch through into the seventeenth century: Challenor Smith 1896, 316–17. Although it has not been possible to make any firm links, it appears that Leget family members continued to be active in the city of London as merchants. For example, a John Leget is recorded as a leather-seller and his son Thomas, who had been apprenticed and admitted to the Company of Haberdashers, paid £5 to be admitted in 1416 to the Company of Goldsmiths, where he later served as warden six times between 1424 and 1448: Reddaway 1975, 75 and note 248. This may have been John Leget, son of Helming and thus Thomas would have been a grandson. There are frequent references in the Close Rolls to a Roger Leget and his wife Emma who held messuages with shops in Holborn: e.g. CCR *Edward III*, vol. XIV, 75. Helming Leget junior served as sheriff and escheator in the counties of Essex and Hertfordshire, represented Essex in parliament in 1406, and became keeper of the king's ships just before his death in 1412.
- 55 CIPM, vol. VIII, 24.
- 56 Blomefield 1739–75, 3, 347.
- 57 *Hadleigh Parish Magazine* (Dec. 1910); HA, 046/A/13. In his will of 1638 Edmund Doyly requested burial 'on the south side where my ancestors are interred': TNA, PROB 11/178. In 1721, large white indented floor-stones, where brass figures, inscription plates and coats-of-arms had formerly been attached, were recorded here: Wilkins Manuscript, 1721, HA, 100/A/01, 57–58.
- 58 MacCulloch 1986, Appendix I. Hadleigh Market Feoffment Book, 1534–1625, HA, 004/A/01, *passim*.
- 59 Blomefield 1739–75, 3, 347.
- 60 Abstract of title to estates in Hadleigh and Shotesham, 1644–1716, NRO, FEL106/10; Kates Hill, n.d. [1803], SROI, HD11:475/332. Later Kates Hill belonged to the trustees of Sir William Rush and Bushey Coopers to John Cripps: Hadleigh assessment, 1838, HA, 002/I/01.
- 61 NRO, FEL106/10; Bargain and sale of estates in Hadleigh and Shotesham, 1720, NRO, FEL106/3/1/2.
- 62 Bargain and sale of manors of Pond Hall, Toppesfield Hall and Cosford, 1730, NRO, FEL106/1/11. From 1398 and c. 1563 respectively, Cosford and Toppesfield, two of Hadleigh's other manors, were held alongside that of Pond Hall until 1847: Copinger 1905–11, 3, 161, 166 and 170, citing BL Charter 10571; Manors of Toppesfield Hall and Cosford Hall court book, 1827–1854, SROB, HA518/7/3.
- 63 Manor of Hadleigh Hall rentals, 1661 and 1748, SROB, E3/3/1.1 and 5.
- 64 Deeds of Ramsey Farm, 1910–69, in private ownership.
- 65 SROI, HD11:475/332; Farm, n.d., SROI, HD11:475/1928; Farm, 1803, SROI, HD11:475/1930; Pond Hall, 1803, SROI, HD11:475/1931.
- 66 Babergh District Council, 'Third list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest' (n.d., typescript), 90.

- 67 SROI, HD11:475/1931; SROB, T127A/1-2, also HA, 080/11.
- 68 John Bloomfield, Pond Hall (manuscript report 2008). Roger Kennell, Pond Hall (manuscript report 2008). In 1674 Pond Hall was taxed on eleven hearths: Hervey 1915, 128.
- 69 CPR *Edward III*, vol. XIV, 259. He had earlier, in 1364, obtained a grant of free warren which would have entitled him to hunt small game over his demesne lands: CChR 15 *Edward III* – 5 *Henry V*, vol. V, 188.
- 70 SROB, 49/5/31/36.
- 71 Blomefield 1739-75, 3, 348.
- 72 HA, 100/A/01, 251.
- 73 NRO, FEL106/3/1/2; NRO, FEL106/1/11.
- 74 TNA, PCC wills: Thomas Fulsnap, 1490, PROB 11/11/30; Thomas Brownsmith, 1515, PROB 11/18/16; John Walton, 1537, PROB 11/27/28; Thomas Debenham, 1537, PROB 11/27/30; and John Freeman, 1551, PROB11/34.
- 75 Christopher Saxton, Map of Suffolk, 1575, SROB, 612/43.
- 76 SROI, HD11:475/1931.
- 77 On Johnson's survey, the total acreage is 105a 3r 22p: SROI, HD11:475/1931; whilst the tithe map has 112a 3r 11p: SROB, T127A/1-2; also HA, 080/11. The boundaries vary very slightly.
- 78 Similar patterns can be observed at Kelsale (SROI, JA2/7/2) and Hundon (SROI, HD417/14) where maps show parks recently disparked in the early seventeenth century.
- 79 Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, Historic Environment Record, HAD 045/SF14017.
- 80 For example, at Hoxne Old Park, Hundon Great Park and St James Park, South Elmham.
- 81 Thomas Wright, Map of Hintlesham, 1595, SROI, HA167:3050/131.
- 82 HA, 100/A/01, 251.
- 83 SROI, HD11:475/1931.
- 84 Blomefield 1739-75, 3, 348.
- 85 HA, 100/A/01, 57-58.
- 86 Clause V of the Statute of Winchester (1285) states that park boundaries should be 200ft from the highway or a barrier should be created by wall, hedge or ditch that stopped evil-doers from crossing or returning over in order to commit an offence; Bagley and Rowley 1966, 161. Freeboard was a narrower strip of ground (about 15ft wide) outside a park boundary that enabled access for inspection and repair.
- 87 TNA, PROB11/34; SROI, HA167:3050/131.
- 88 Dewes 1959, 11; Elliott 1971, 148.
- 89 Pers. comm. from former owner, 1997. Both Place Farm and The Castle in Hadleigh have been identified erroneously with Pond Hall manor: Anon. 1901-3, 211-13.
- 90 Mileson 2007, 14-15.
- 91 Davis 1913, 59-60; Hervey 1906, 154-55; TNA, PROB 11/18/16.
- 92 'Oldepond' and 'Oldepond pasture'; SROI/1GC16/1/1. Dovecotes can also be seen as symbolic of status, being a prerogative of manorial lords: McCann 1998, 18.
- 93 SROI, HD11:475/1928.
- 94 SROB, T127A/1-2; also HA, 080/11.
- 95 These dimensions equate with other sites of similar date, form and status; for example, Wingfield Castle (de la Pole) occupies a trapezoidal island approximately 70 x 65m; at Mettingham (de Norwich) the island is approximately 68 x 100m; also at the later site at Baconsthorpe in Norfolk, the island is approximately 65 x 74m, with a large lake extending some 70m to the east.
- 96 Plan of Pond Hall outbuildings, n.d. [1803], HHA, T/Hel/29/6.
- 97 R. Kennell, Brickwork at Pond Hall Farm (manuscript report 2008).
- 98 R. Kennell, Brickwork at Pond Hall Farm (manuscript report 2008).
- 99 HHA, T/Hel/29/6.
- 100 'Destructive farm fire near Hadleigh', *East Anglian Daily Times*, 4 June 1934; SROB, HD526/S9/5.
- 101 NRO, FEL10/6/10.
- 102 Bricks were fired in a clamp created by stacking partly air-dried bricks into heaps that were surrounded by wood and enclosed by mud: Pankhurst 1999, 146.
- 103 SROB, T127A/1-2; also HA, 080/11.
- 104 SROI, GC16/1/1.
- 105 Taylor 2004, 37-57.
- 106 R. Kennell, pers. comm.
- 107 Taylor 2004, 44-47. Deer were not necessarily killed in deer coursing, as part of the sport involved betting on greyhounds.
- 108 The deer course or parrook at Hawstead (Suffolk) was in a similar peripheral location: Hoppitt 1992, 1,272.

- 109 Wilson 2002, 15.
 110 Taylor 2004, 47. Taylor suggests that deer coursing had gone out of fashion by the late seventeenth century with the development of horse-racing and fox-hunting.
 111 Richardson 2007, 39–40.
 112 Sandon 1977, 250–52.

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Abbreviations

BL	British Library
CChR	<i>Calendar of Charter Rolls</i>
CCR	<i>Calendar of Close Rolls</i>
CIM	<i>Calendar of Inquisitions Miscellaneous</i>
CIPM	<i>Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem</i>
CPR	<i>Calendar of Patent Rolls</i>
HA	Hadleigh Archive
HHA	Helmingham Hall Archive
LMA	London Metropolitan Archive
n.d.	no date
NRO	Norfolk Record Office
SROB	Suffolk Record Office Bury St Edmunds
SROI	Suffolk Record Office Ipswich
TNA	The National Archives