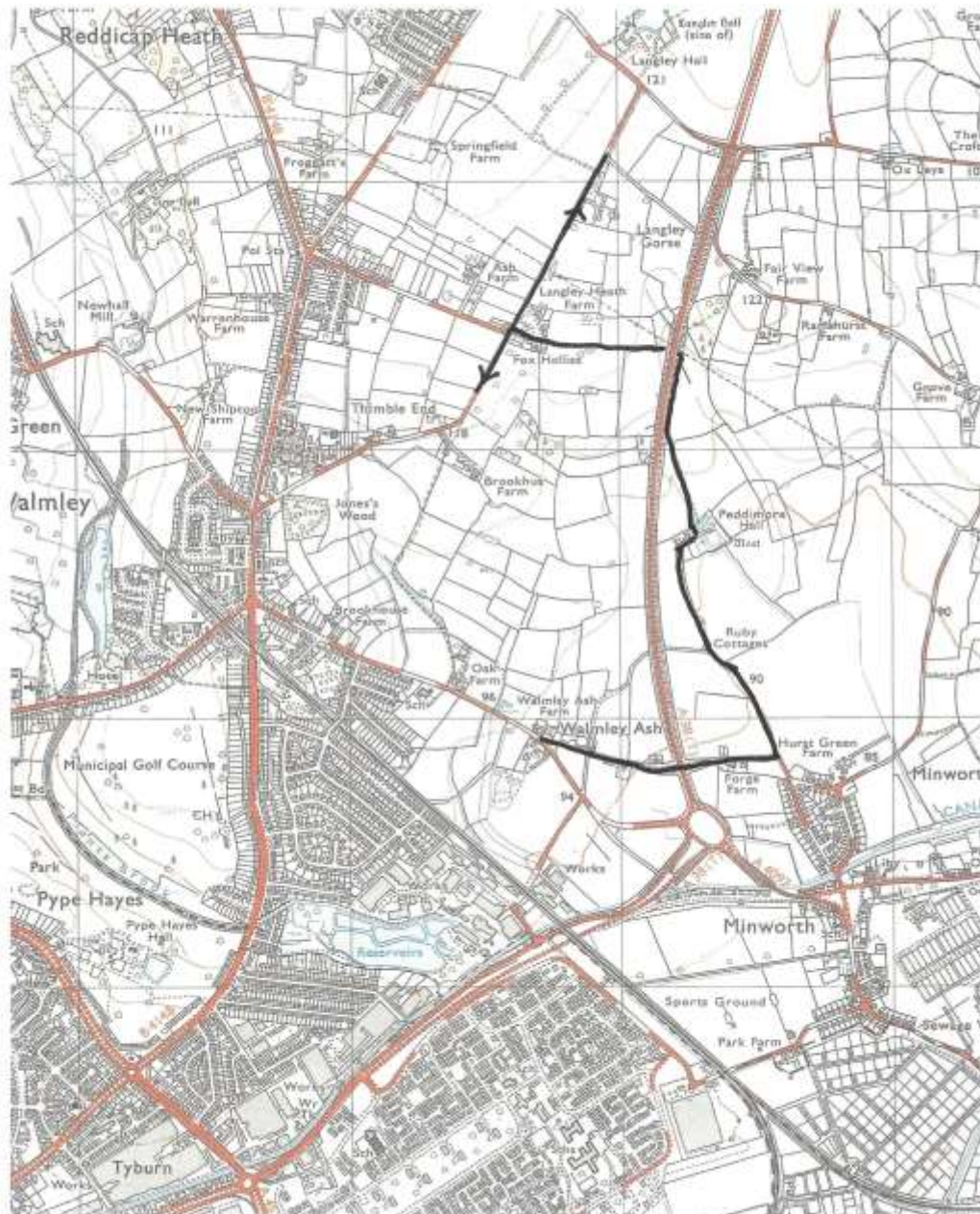


# PEDDIMORE GREEN BELT WALK 2016

Notes for a Field Meeting on 23rd July 2016 led by Mike Hodder, Member of Sutton Coldfield Local History Research Group, in the area of the Green Belt near Peddimore scheduled for housing and industrial development



Route of Walk

OS Map: Sutton Coldfield Sheet SP 09/19, 1976

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Forge Farm. Forge Farm is a designated heritage asset (listed building, grade II). It is mainly 18th century in date and is listed on this basis but it also includes a medieval cruck frame.

The cruck frame is a rare feature in Birmingham - other cruck-framed buildings in the city have been treering dated to the 15th century.

Peddimore Hall and related features.

The group of heritage assets include two designated heritage assets: Peddimore Hall medieval moat, land enclosed by it and fields containing ridge and furrow on each side of it (a scheduled monument), and the 17th-century Peddimore Hall (listed building, grade II). Former farm buildings are locally listed (grade B). There is a former estate boundary to the north, and cropmarks of unknown date in fields to the south.



Fox Covert earthwork. A bank and ditch boundary of unknown date in Fox Covert could be a medieval land boundary or could be a continuation of a field system to north of Bulls Lane which is probably prehistoric or Roman in date.

Cropmarks south of Summer House Plantation. Cropmarks show a small rectangular enclosure, with possibly another nearby. Both are likely to be prehistoric or Roman in date. Significance: Sites of this date and type are rare in Birmingham, and this site has not been affected by later development.

Fox Hollies and land to its south. Fox Hollies is a designated heritage asset (listed building grade II) that includes an 18th century building and two stretches of wall to its rear built of crucibles that were used to make steel at Penns Mill. Fox Hollies is set back from Fox Hollies Road, on the edge of what was unenclosed common land at the time it was built. Its setting includes a distinctive area of parkland to its south which contains earthworks consisting of the former edge of the common, and ridge and furrow indicating former cultivation.

Prehistoric and Roman finds and cropmarks east of Fox Hollies. The finds and cropmarks suggest the presence of archaeological remains of prehistoric and Roman date.

Ash Farm enclosed fields and droveway.

Ash Farm is marked on the Corn Rent Map of 1824-25. The western part of the group of enclosed fields is marked on the Corn Rent map and therefore predates 19th century enclosure. The remains of a droveway (a lane along which livestock were driven) run alongside these fields to former common land to their east. This land is occupied by the eastern group of fields, which were created by 19th century land enclosure. The droveway is on Natural England's SHINE database.

Langley Heath Farm.

Langley Heath Farm consists of 17th and 18th century buildings. The farmhouse is a designated heritage asset (listed building grade II) and the barns, whose roof has been dated to the 18th century, are locally listed grade A. Like Fox Hollies, it is set back from Fox Hollies Road, on the edge of what was unenclosed common land at the time it was built.



Fox Hollies Road.

The road was created when common land here was enclosed in the 19th century. There is a shelter belt on part of its east side.

Springfield Farm and enclosure.

The date of the building is unknown but it is marked on the Corn Rent map and the Yates' 18<sup>th</sup> century map. It lies in a distinctive land unit, possibly medieval in origin, with historic hedgerows on its northern and eastern sides. The Corn Rent map shows that the enclosure formerly extended further north. The enclosure is particularly visible from the higher ground to the north and east.

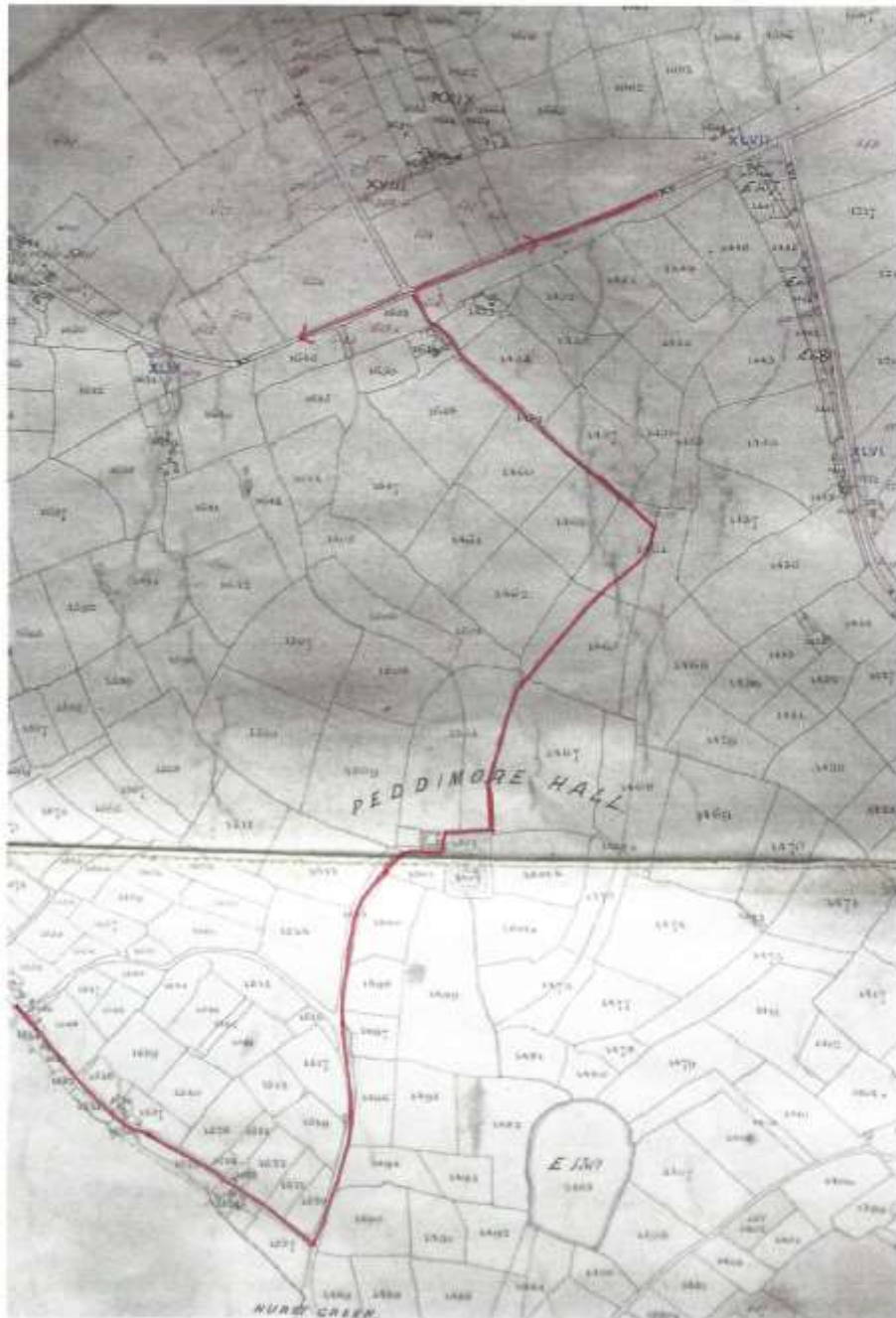
West of Fox Hollies Road.

There is a high potential for survival of archaeological remains.

Langley Gorse.

Langley Gorse is marked on the Corn Rent map of 1824-25 and like Fox Hollies and Langley Heath Farm, it is set back from Fox Hollies Road, on the edge of what was unenclosed common land at the time it was built.

Extract from the 1824 Corn Rent Map. The map was used by the Commissioner for Enclosure to mark areas that were then common, shaded pink, which were then divided into plots numbered in red ink. He set out new roads and footpaths marked with Roman numerals. It should be possible to follow the route of our walk on this map.



Corn Rent Map 1824 - pre-Enclosure

(Estimated route of walk)



1. Start of Walk from Car Park at B&M Store, Minworth



2. Cross over Sutton By-Pass



3. Forge Farm



4. Fields around Forge Farm



5. Road leading to Peddimore Hall



6. Group Members near Peddimore



7. Ridge & Furrow Field at Peddimore



8. Peddimore Hall and Outer Moat



9. Fox Hollies Road on the horizon



10. Fox Hollies Farm



11. The Crucibles wall.



12. Ash Farm and Droveway



13. View East of Fox Hollies



14. Langley Gorse, Fox Hollies Rd



15. End of Walk: Corner of Fox Hollies Road and Signal Hayes Road . Return to Car Park at B&M

See also on this website:

Links/Archaeology:-

[\*Peddimore Hall barns\*](#)

[\*Peddimore area\*](#)

[\*Peddimore Hall barns \(another\)\*](#)

[\*Langley Heath Farm\*](#)

Original Research

[\*Sutton Green Belt Archaeology Birmingham and Warwickshire Archaeological Society Transactions\*](#)

[\*Potters at Peddimore\*](#)

Collated/Photos by Janet Jordan, October 2020