Lea Ford Cottage – Throwback Thursday

Lea Ford Cottage originally stood just beyond Church Pool covert and overlooked a ford across the River Tame. In **August 1975** work began on dismantling the cottage, restoring & re-siting it. Skilled workers reconstructed the cottage, restoring oak timbers, infilling with wattle and daub. A thatched roof of long straw was tied to the battens below with bramble and the reconstruction

(**re-erected in 1977**) shows it just as it was **300 years ago** when it was known as Maggots Croft. Deeds showing the sale of the cottage together with barn &

garden to **Sir Charles Adderley in 1675** indicate that the cost was **£20.** Downstairs the cottage has a main room where the family would live, cook & eat meals, & an inner room which would have been used for storage. Upstairs were two bedrooms.

Then and Now (1980s and 2016)

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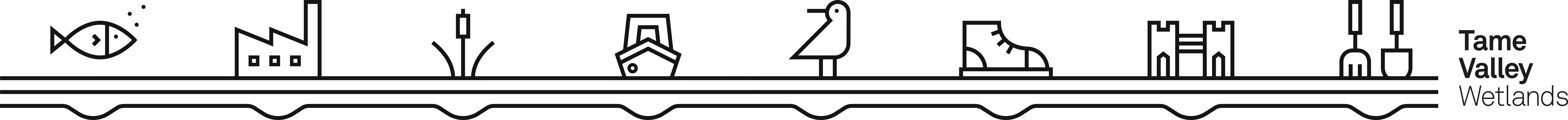
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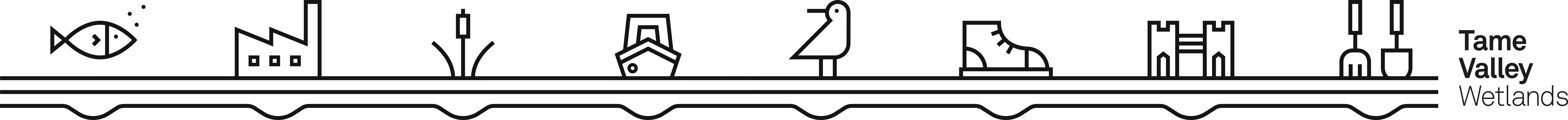
More Information

Lea Ford Cottage is typical of those built in Warwickshire in the 17th Century to house farm workers. Standing in a remote and isolated corner of the Hams Estate, it was inhabited until this century and was derelict. It has been restored and re-erected in the walled garden as a joint contribution to European heritage year by the city of Birmingham and the central electricity generating board. The cottage is now used by the Environmental Studies Centre as a museum and seminar room.

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New and old photos

1980s 2016





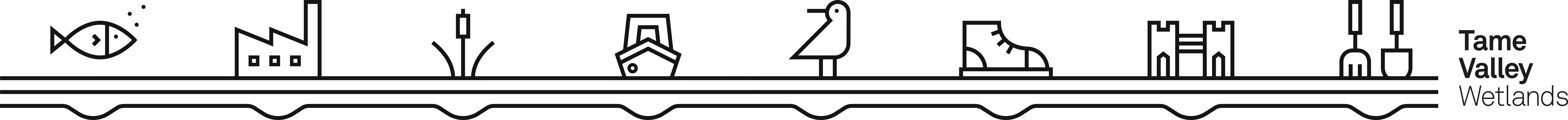
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Hand Made Model presented at Tame Valley Wetlands, Hams Hall Office.



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Reference: BBC History, Domesday. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/domesday/dblock/GB-420000-291000/page/8#> 12.05.16