Unregistered Park & Garden: Haughton Park

NCC/BDC Ref: UPG20

Date(s): Medieval, C16, C17, C18, C19, C20

Description & historic information:



16th century deer park with later landscaping carried out in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, although with Medieval features such as the motte and bailey castle (later reused as a decoy), the remains of St James Church (a Norman village church, later a private chapel, now derelict) and evidence for a deserted medieval village around the church (probably cleared c1509).

Earliest records indicate the de Houghton family owned the site in the mid-14th century, with the heiress Alice de Houghton marrying Sir Richard Stanhope (1300-1370). The Stanhope family owned Haughton for a considerable period. Edward Stanhope gained a licence in 1509 to 'empark' 240 acres at Haughton - St James' Church also became a private chapel to Haughton Hall at this timeⁱ, with the surrounding village possibly being cleared as part of the park creationⁱⁱ. The Duck Decoy (formed from an earlier motte & bailey) in the park is argued to be one of the oldest in England and is shown in a view of the park engraved and published by W. Kip in 1709.



1709 Map by W. Kip showing Haughton Park, with Decoy Remains of Haughton Chapel (bottom left), Chapel (centre right) and Hall (centre)

Sir William Holles purchased Haughton in 1541 but died in 1542. His second son, another Sir William, inherited Haughton and built the 'old hall' there in 1545. John Holles, the 4th Earl of Clare, was born in 1663 (the son of Gilbert Holles of Haughton Hall and Grace Pierrepont from Thoresby Hall) and went on to marry Margaret Cavendish, the daughter and heir of Henry Cavendish, 2nd Duke of Newcastle upon Tyne, of Welbeck. After their marriage they lived at Welbeck, and Haughton Hall was abandoned, but the park was maintained. A letter from the 4th Earl of Clare to his land steward at Haughton in 1709 requested that the springs were kept 'free from deer' and 'the sets planted in the decoy.' Because of his position as Lord Warden of Sherwood Forest and as owner of deer parks at Haughton and Welbeck, the 4th Earl of Clare (by then 3rd Duke of Newcastle upon Tyne)ⁱⁱⁱ, would have been experienced in keeping deer when he established the deer park at Clumber in 1709. Haughton Park was kept as a deer park and the lodge and pale was maintained. The park was later stocked with livestock and was farmed during the 18th century, with the growing of hops particularly prevalent (as with other Duke of Newcastle estates in Nottinghamshire in the late-18th century).



The 2^{nd} Duke of Newcastle-under-Lyne landscaped Haughton in 1776-7^{iv}, building new coach roads and two bridges (Wilderness and Cottage Close bridges) across the 'new river' - most of the isolated farms also date to this period. By the late 18^{th} century, the Hall was in disrepair and was demolished, although small parts of the hall survive as foundations for buildings at Haughton Hall Farm (see right). Further historic information on pre-20th century Haughton is given in Cornelius Brown's <u>A History of</u> Nottinghamshire, 1896.



1774 Chapman's Map of Nottinghamshire, showing Haughton Park prior to the Duke of Newcastle's landscaping works

In 1960, part of the Bevercotes end of the site was developed as a colliery, with a railway line cut through the park to connect the site with the line between Ollerton and High Marnham Power Station. The spoil tip of the colliery is a prominent feature in the present landscape.



Remains of Haughton Hall within a late-18th/early-19th century barn



1835 Sanderson's Map (Nottinghamshire County Council, 2003)

Features of significance:

Various listed buildings including remains of St James' Church (grade II* listed and Scheduled), Haughton Farmhouse and farm buildings (both grade II), Haughton Kennels Farm (grade II) and Haughton Park House and garden wall (grade II). Three Scheduled Ancient Monuments (Haughton Decoy, Haughton Chapel and Site of Haughton Hall). Various non-designated heritage assets including The Lodge, The Old School House, Haughton Park Farm, Haughton Park Cottages, Fishponds Cottage, Haughton Hall Farm (which contains the remains of the Old Hall), Haughton Hall Cottages and Decoy House. Various other landscape features such as driveways, bridges, tree plantations, specimen trees, ponds and wider parkland vistas. The Bevercotes Colliery spoil tip and railway are also of significance.

Listed Buildings:	Remains of St James Church (grade II*); Haughton Farmhouse (grade II); Farm Buildings at Haughton Farm (grade II); Haughton Kennels Farm (grade II); Haughton Park House & garden walls (grade II)
Scheduled Ancient Monuments:	Haughton Decoy Motte & Bailey Castle; Haughton Chapel (St James' Church); Site of Haughton Hall
Conservation Area:	n/a
Local Interest Buildings:	Decoy House; Haughton Hall Farm; Haughton Hall Cottages; Fishponds Cottage; Haughton Park Farm; Haughton Park Cottages; The Old School House; School Farm; The Lodge (The River House)



Additional information on this site may be found on the <u>Historic Environment Record</u> held and maintained by Nottinghamshire County Council.

References:

ⁱ W. E. Doubleday; *Notts villages: Haughton* (in *The Nottinghamshire Guardian*); May 1947.

ⁱⁱ Cornelius Brown; *A History of Nottinghamshire*; 1896.

" University of Nottingham website:

https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/collectionsindepth/family/newcastle/biographies/biographyofjohnholles,3rddukeofnewcastleupontyneand4thearlofclare(1662-1711).aspx

^{iv} Worksop Heritage Trail website: <u>http://www.worksopheritagetrail.org.uk/resources/clumber_history.pdf</u>