

## Unregistered Park & Garden:

### Hodsock Park

NCC/BDC Ref:

UPG25

#### Date(s):

Possible Roman & Medieval, C17, 1703, C18, C19, 1910

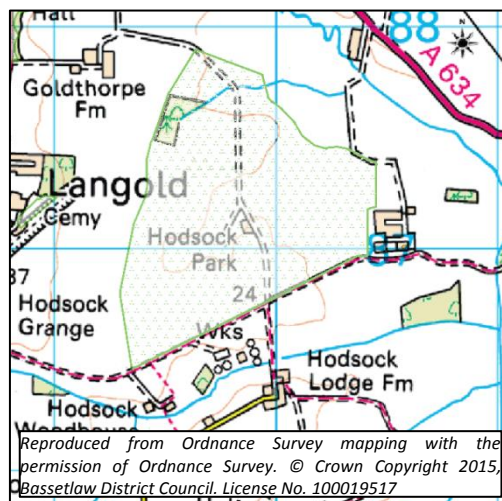
#### Description & historic information:

Hodsock Park comprises a large early-18<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse, set on a small area of higher ground, within modest landscaped grounds surrounded by associated farmland. The site appears to have been occupied for a considerable period, with evidence of Roman occupation in the vicinity. Local historians also suggest that the raised trackway to the west of the house (which runs in a south west to north east direction) is also of this period. Adjacent to the house are several natural springs (one of which feeds the pond to the east and one feeds a bath structure to the north west), so earlier occupation is probable. Hodsock Park may also have been the site of a house in the Medieval period, given the geography of the area around the house (being on a small segment of higher ground surrounded by boggy ground fed by springs). Fragments of Gothic stone tracery have also been found on the site, indicating earlier structures.

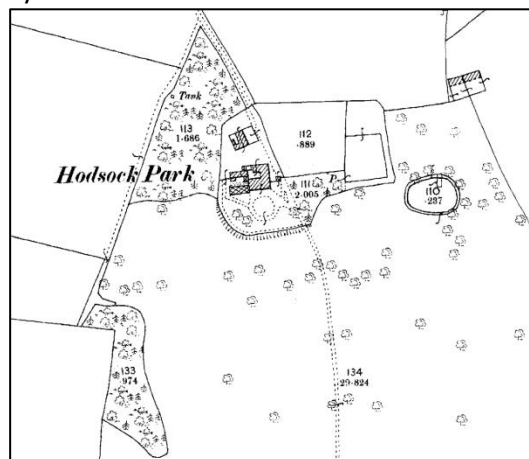
Over the 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries, the site was (in conjunction with neighbouring estates at Hermeston and Oldcotes), tenanted by several Catholic families. Hodsock Park was part of a wider estate purchased by William Mellish from Sir Gervase Clifton in 1765<sup>i</sup>. This part of the estate was eventually sold to the Shuttleworth family, who had been long-term tenants at Hodsock Park. This included John Joseph Shuttleworth<sup>ii</sup> in the 1850s/60s.

The present site comprises a large farmhouse, with ancillary outbuildings, a walled kitchen garden, a "ha-ha", an ornate iron gate and gate posts, groups of mature trees, individual specimen trees, a natural pond fed by a spring and an outdoor bath also fed by a spring.

The house itself appears to be early-18<sup>th</sup> century in date, with a carved fireplace within the house having the inscription "1703". The earliest map of the site, from 1768, shows the present farmhouse (to the left of the driveway), together with a series of outbuildings including stables and dovecote, with tree plantations, a large pond, orchard and gardens. Most of these outbuildings were demolished/replaced in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and an older part of the house on the rear (probably 17<sup>th</sup> century or earlier) was demolished in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.



1768 Map of Hodsock Park



1899 Ordnance Survey

The house, probably being a re-fronting of, or extension to, an earlier house, has a near-symmetrical façade, although with full-height canted bays added in c1910, either side of the central section that has a stone-coped pediment with finial above. The frontage also has timber glazing bar sashes throughout together with a half-glazed timber door within a 19<sup>th</sup> century porch.



*View of Hodsock Park from c1900 and present day.*

To the east of the house is a walled kitchen garden, dating to the late-18<sup>th</sup>/early-19<sup>th</sup> century, although adjacent to earlier walls (probably part of the gardens shown on the 1768 map). To the north is a series of outbuildings including an 18<sup>th</sup> century stone workshop and an early-19<sup>th</sup> century barn with later-19<sup>th</sup> century additions. Towards the front of the house, the centre of the site is enclosed by a ha-ha with stone wall, together with metal posts. At the front entrance is a large iron gate with similar iron posts. East of the house, adjacent to the kitchen garden, is a spring-fed pond. To the north west of the house is a further spring, although feeding a stone-lined water cistern with early-19<sup>th</sup> century outdoor bath attached (the adjacent field is called “Bath Close” on the 1768 map so it is likely a bath existed at this site in 1768).



*18<sup>th</sup> century wall and pier (left) and late-18<sup>th</sup>/early-19<sup>th</sup> century walled kitchen garden (right)*



*Ha-ha and iron gate to south of house*

To the south of the ha-ha is a larger area of open parkland, which originally stretched towards the roadway to the south (see 1840 map), although now is limited to the immediate confines of the house. The wider farmland is clearly defined on the 1768 map, produced for the owner of the site at the time, Mr Shuttleworth.

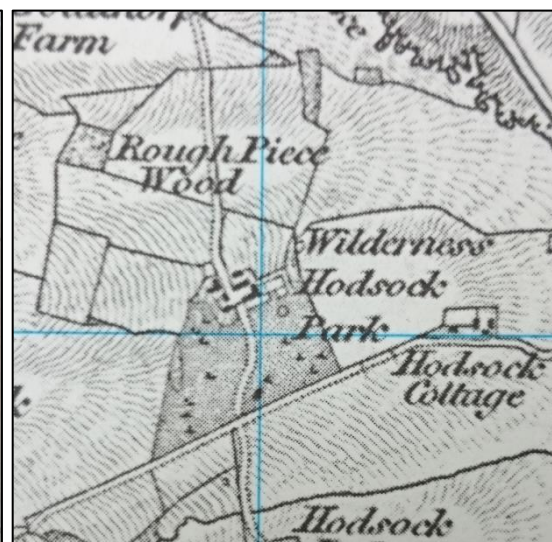




Aerial photograph of Hodsock Park, taken 2007 (source: Bassetlaw District Council)



1768 Map of Hodsock Park

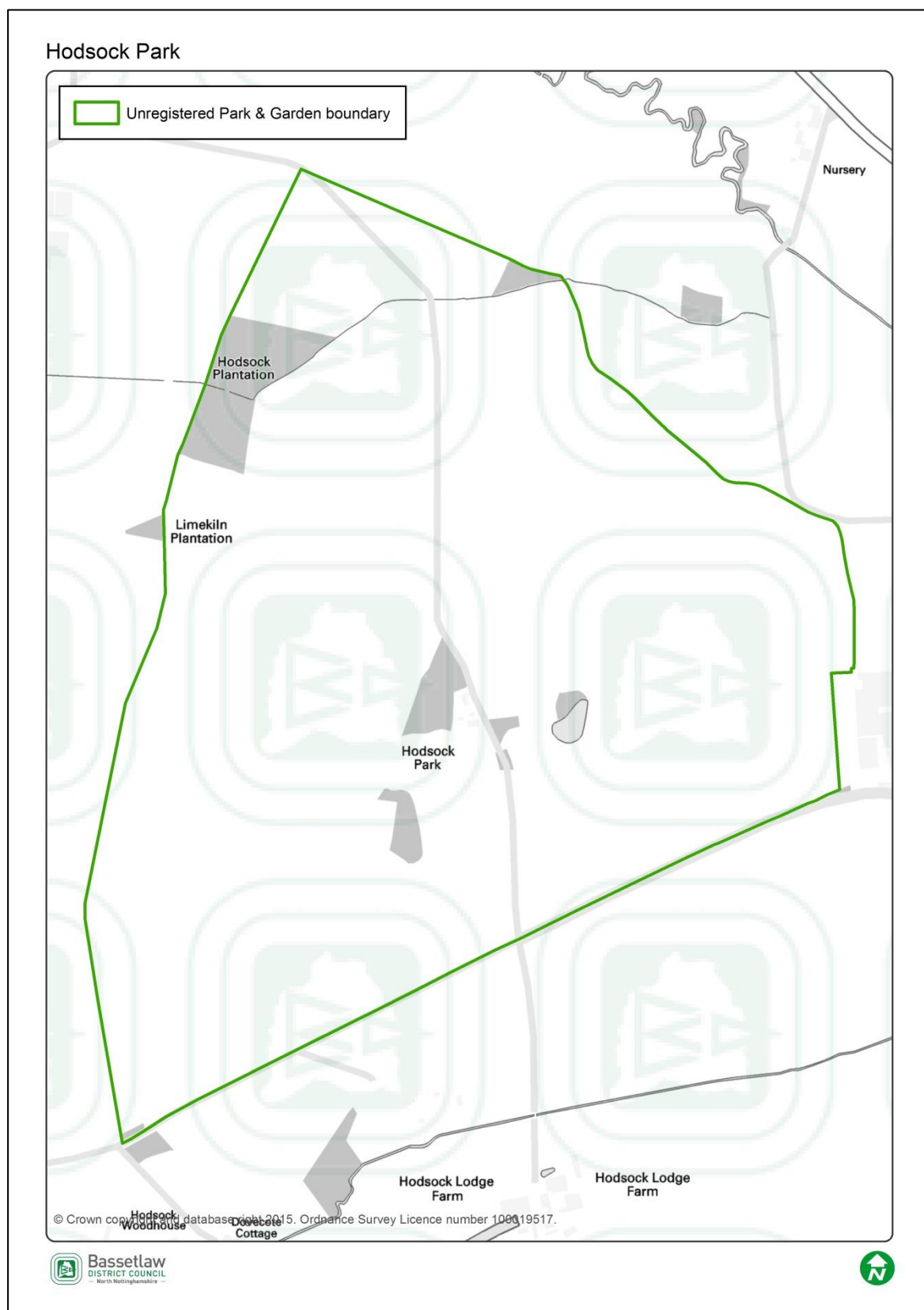


1840 Ordnance Survey showing extent of landscaping

### Features of significance:

Hodsock Park (grade II listed), together with curtilage buildings/structures including the walled kitchen garden, barn, workshop, ha-ha, entrance gateway, cistern and outdoor bath. Landscape features include various groups of trees, individual specimen trees and wider open space. Few significant landscape features survive outside of main garden areas.

<b>Listed Buildings:</b>	Hodsock Park (grade II) – the walled kitchen garden, barn, workshop, ha-ha and gateway are all within the curtilage)
<b>Scheduled Ancient Monuments:</b>	n/a
<b>Conservation Area:</b>	n/a
<b>Local Interest Buildings:</b>	n/a



## References:

<sup>i</sup> Reverend John Raine; *The History and Antiquities of the Parish of Blyth*; 1860.

<sup>ii</sup> *Nottinghamshire Guardian*; Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 1853.