

1541. One notable owner of the 17th century was Sir Gervase Clifton, 1st Baronet, who also built a hunting lodge at Carlton (to the west, later called Carlton Hall). Sir Gervase supported the Royalist cause in the English Civil War (1642-1651) and after the Parliamentarians won, a heavy fine was imposed on the Clifton family^v. The house at Hodsock afterwards steadily declined to the status of a farmhouse (it is called 'The Homestead' on the 1782 map).



South west façade of Gatehouse

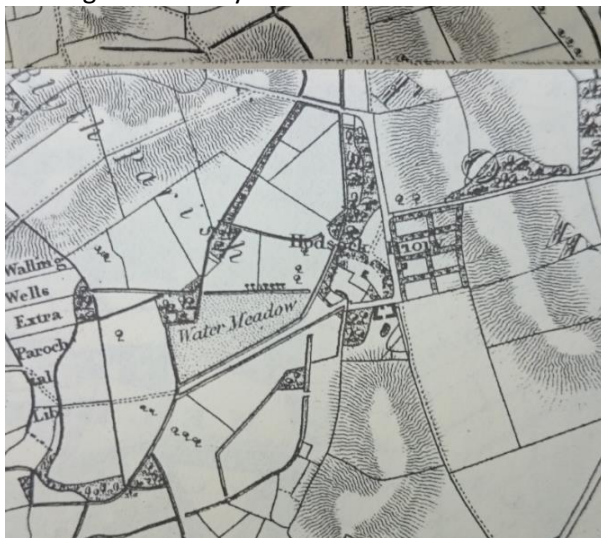
Hodsock was purchased by the Mellish family on 25th March 1765^{vi} – they also purchased the Carlton Hall estate around this time and had already purchased the Blyth estate some years earlier. The house is shown on the 1776 map, complete with moat, and given the name 'Great Hodsack'. In 1829-33, Anne Chambers (sister of Colonel Henry Francis Mellish) arranged for the reconstruction of the house, designed by Ambrose Poynter^{vii}. It was at this time that the house, previously known as Hodsock Hall, became known as Hodsock Priory^{viii} (a reflection of the Gothic revival style of the new building). The stables and formal gardens to the east of the house were also added during this period.



South west façade of Hodsock Priory

In 1873-6, Margaret Mellish had further alterations made to the house and wider estate, including Jacobean-style additions and façades to the house (designed by George Devey^{ix}), re-landscaping of the garden to the south west of the house and a walled kitchen garden added to the south of the moat. Changes were also made

to the layout and design of the wider park, including opening up the lawns, creating new vistas and altering the road layout to the north east of the house.



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



1886 Ordnance Survey

The gardens were maintained in the early-20th century by head gardener Arthur Ford^x. Much of the estate was then given over to food production during the Second World War.

Features of significance:

Hodsock Priory (grade II listed), Gatehouse and bridge (grade I listed), Priory Farm, stables, icehouse, walled kitchen garden, Hodsock Courtyard, remains of moat, landscaped gardens, lawns and vistas,

wooded plantations, tree belts/clumps, specimen trees, channelled watercourses, mill pond, foot bridges and formal driveways.



Landsaped vista to north of house



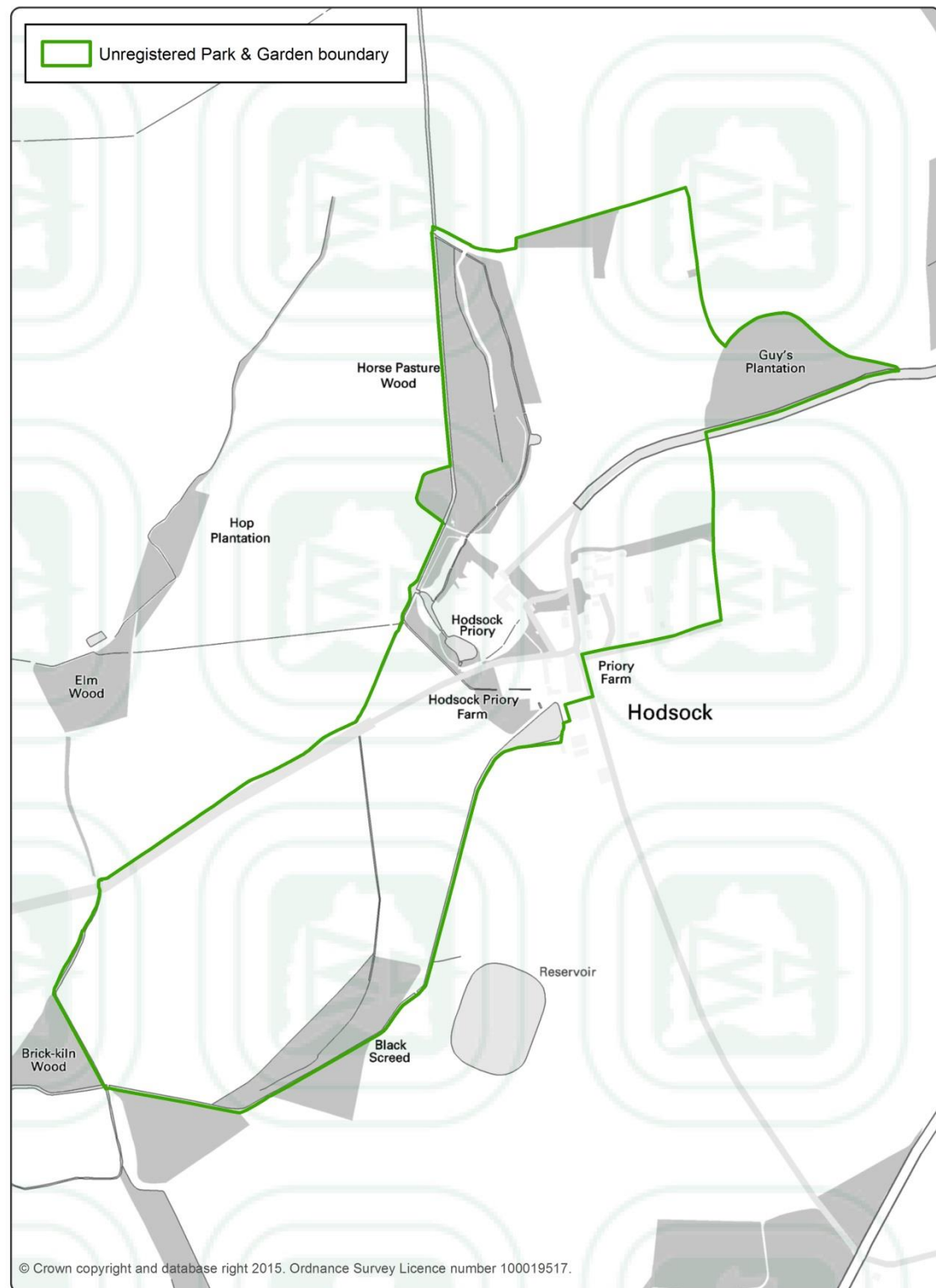
1870s Kitchen garden to south of house



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

Listed Buildings:	Hodsock Priory (grade II); Gatehouse and bridge (grade I)
Scheduled Ancient Monuments:	n/a
Conservation Area:	n/a
Local Interest Buildings:	Kitchen Garden Wall; Home Farm House; Priory Farm; 1 & 4 Priory Farm Cottages, The Stables

Hodsock Priory



References:

- ⁱ Robert Thoroton; *Thoroton's History of Nottinghamshire*: Volume 3; Republished With Large Additions By John Throsby; ed. John Throsby; Nottingham, 1796; p414-418.
- ⁱⁱ Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England – *Historic Building Report: Hodsock Priory Gatehouse & Bridge*; National Monuments Record Centre; July 1996.
- ⁱⁱⁱ HM. Colvin (ed.); *History of the King's Works*; 1963-1982; Volume 2; p962.
- ^{iv} Lucy Toulmin Smith (ed.); *The Itinerary of John Leland*; 1964; Volume 1; p89.
- ^v University of Nottingham website:
[https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/collectionsindepth/family/clifton/biographies/biographyofsirgervaseclifton,1stbaronet\(1587-1666\).aspx](https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/collectionsindepth/family/clifton/biographies/biographyofsirgervaseclifton,1stbaronet(1587-1666).aspx)
- ^{vi} Notts History website (Article on Hodsock): <http://www.nottshistory.org.uk/articles/hodsockpriory.htm>
- ^{vii} Howard Colvin; *A Bibliographical Dictionary of British Architects – 1600-1840*; 2nd ed.; 1978; p656-657
- ^{viii} *White's History, Directory and Gazetteer of the County of Nottingham*; 1884; p611.
- ^{ix} Jill Allibone; *George Devey*; 1991; p167.
- ^x Parks & Gardens UK website: <http://www.parksandgardens.org/places-and-people/site/6372?preview=1>