

Investigation Report		
Investigation Site	Pitstone Windmill and Gubblecote Canal	
Investigation Date	08.11.2019	
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Pitstone Windmill History.

It is thought to have been first built circa 1627 as this date is carved on part of the framework. This is the earliest date to be found on any windmill in the [British Isles](#). It should be remembered that such a structure would have had to have frequent repairs made to it, so it is quite possible the mill predates 1627. It was dendrochronologically dated in 2004 by Dr Martin Bridge of the Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory, when the oldest pieces in the buck were found to be from trees felled in winter 1595/96 and spring 1597. The 'new' crown tree was made from a tree felled in spring 1670, while the quarter bars of the trestle were from trees felled between 1824 and 1826, so like most mills it is a mix of old timbers variously recycled or hanging on from their original use.

For many hundreds of years [grain](#) grown in the two adjoining [villages](#) was ground at the mill into [flour](#). In 1874 the mill was bought by [Adelbert Wellington Brownlow Cust, 3rd Earl Brownlow](#) who owned the nearby [Ashridge Estate](#). He subsequently let it to a local farmer, who ran a successful milling business from the mill.

In 1902 the mill was seriously damaged during an enormous gale, damaging it beyond the price of economic repair. Around 1922 the derelict ruined mill was bought from the Ashridge Estate by a farmer whose land was close to the mill. In 1937 he donated it to the National Trust. However, it was not until 1963 that a band of volunteers began to carry out renovations at their own expense. The mill appeared in an episode of [The Champions](#) titled *The Invisible Man* which was filmed in 1967.^[2] In 1970, after an interlude of 68 years, the mill once again ground corn.

Paranormal Investigation begins.

This was the first time that LPS has investigated this location. The windmill is on open ground so making it that bit colder and open to the wind. The investigation began with an EMF sweep of the area which picked up nothing of note followed by a silent vigil during which members were sat around the outer wall of the windmill. During this session one member sensed energy on the seventh step only of the outdoor staircase and a sense of someone falling and another member had a strong sense of something being buried under the nearby ground.

Next the team conducted an Olivus three experiment which came up with some interesting results relating to the possible use of the land by the army at some point in the past and the possibly of a girl being buried somewhere nearby.

Use of a Rempod and a PSB11 did not show any results and the team moved onto the second investigation of the night at the nearby gubblecote canal.

Gubblecote Canal History

There is a strong ethos and approach to paranormal investigation at LPS that we should investigate areas that are not on the paranormal tourist map and not known to have paranormal history. Gubblecote has been investigated three times over the last eight years and each time produces activity that is always linked to the spirits of a couple who still argue

in death with each other. Unfortunately, the encroaching building of an estate nearby now threatens this once quiet and tranquil location.

Paranormal Investigation begins.

The investigation began with members spread out along this canal for a silent vigil. This produced some startling individual experiences for the investigators for example a dark shadow figure was seen coming along the path and then over the water itself. Another investigator heard the giggling of children coming from behind a bush behind him and when he investigated, he found no one was there.

The second part of the investigation involved re-enacting the last experiments from a previous investigation that LPS had undertaken at the bridge in previous years that produced results. This involved a female member of the team suing the olivus three on one side of the bridge and a night vision camcorder filming the experiment. One again like on previous occasions the same female spirit came forward however unlike last year there was no longer a sense of anger and aggression towards her former pattern in life who once again made himself known on the other side of the bridge. Maybe even in death arguments do need to be settled and love conquers all.

The bridge was also far busier with cars than in previous years with people oblivious to what was taking place beneath them. Some orbs were caught on photographs, but the explanation would most likely be that these are caused by moisture from the water in the canal.