

Investigation Report



Investigation Site Round House Brogborough

Investigation Date 20.04.2018

Report By Andrew Fazekas

Team Members Andy F, Fraser C, Vicki and Matt I.

Background

The monument includes a ringwork castle which is situated on a promontory on the north-east facing scarp of the Bedfordshire Greensand ridge and lies in the grounds of The Round House, a derelict 19th century building, Grade II Listed. Although considerably altered by the construction of the house and associated landscaping, the southern quadrant of the castle survives as a substantial earthwork and in the northern quadrant the line of the ramparts can be discerned as distinct scarps.

The monument has been identified as 'Rugemont Castle', stronghold of the Wahull family and their successors the de Greys. The ringwork is one of two castles in the parish; the other is a motte at the north end of Ridgmont village.

The Round House and its deep basements are totally excluded from the scheduling. The adjacent outbuildings and barns are also excluded along with the garden walls and fences and the metalled surface of the driveway but the ground beneath these features is included.

The 17th century Roundhouse was a stronghold during the Civil War and was owned by Colonel Okey, one of the regicides who signed the death warrant of Charles 1. He was later hung, drawn and quartered at Tyburn for his part in the death of the King.

During the 18th and 19th centuries the Roundhouse became a farmhouse from which the 250 acres of land surrounding the house were worked. The land was mainly clay and was primarily used for beef and milking cattle.

In the early 1900s the Hudson Bay Company took over the house and farm and used the farm to teach youngsters Canadian farming methods. After the Second World War the house was used as a hostel for immigrant workers employed in the brickworks.

During the 1980s it became derelict and in June 1983 it was put up for sale by the owners The Hanson Trust and was bought by a local businessman. In August 1993 the listed building was gutted by fire. By 1998, years of neglect had resulted in the collapse of the main chimneystack and east wall and by 1998 the west wall had also collapsed and by 2003 the house was in ruins with only two walls standing.

The last time LPS visited this location was 2nd March 2012 and the reports from that night can be found on the LPS website. Paranormal activity that has been linked to this site by other paranormal groups includes poltergeist activity of things being thrown. However LPS was not being able to find any historical reference to this activity taking place prior to this investigation to substantiate those claims.



Pictured above the Roundhouse in 1960 and as it stands today.

Investigation

21.00 Farm buildings

Upon entry to the location coming up a lane and just passing the former farm buildings the team were hit by a very strong scent of fruit coming out of nowhere. Since this scent was not all over the area as it would have been if it was plantation the team were unable to identify the source

21.25 Roundhouse

The room was full of overgrown vegetation and the roof was in a state of disrepair. The team also discovered two pigeons in the roof of the building and a small mouse in one corner of the room the team were in. Whilst inside the building in one of the rooms, the team heard something small like a stone hitting the ground which emitted a loud bang. The source of this was not identified and whilst it would be easy to simply state this is proof of poltergeist activity. The truth is given the state of the building that we simply do not know.

Matt and Vicky reports that on setting up the above SLS Camera, immediately there was a figure to the rear door placed externally in our opinion, to welcome us in as he was stood clear of the door with hands waving.

On entering the site, initially there was no activity, then a stickman figure appeared from the adjoining doorway and disappeared through it as quickly as he appeared.

Several minutes later, approximately 22.40 hrs an initial stickman appeared to be clinging to a tree which had formed inside the room, joined by another a couple of minutes later. The figures appeared and disappeared several times throughout the SLS Camera Session but only in the trees sometimes together, and other times singularly.

We feel that despite the lack of evidence available on other systems that were set up in place to monitor data, the SLS Camera (Stickman) proved successful in producing clear figures that in our opinion at points were operating together, in particular in the tree.

Conclusion

It is hard to evidence any poltergeist activity given the state of the building and wildlife living in them. The SLS Camera certainly did provide evidence of spirits but all other equipment including thermal and infrared and sound equipment came up with nothing.