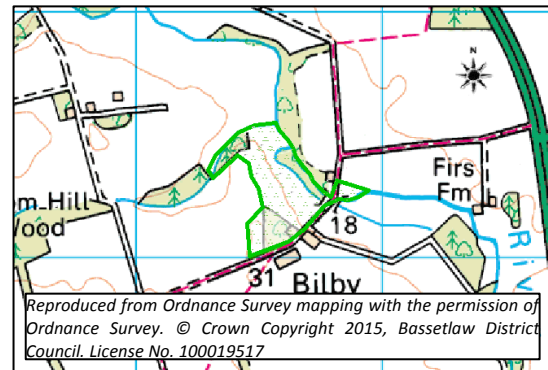


Unregistered Park & Garden:
Bilby Hall

NCC/BDC Ref:
UPG03

Date(s):
Late-C18/early-C19, Mid-C19



Description & historic information:

Former site of Bilby Hall, later converted to kennels, demolished mid-20th century, now comprises woodland area, pair of cottages, section of lawn and former lake.

Bilby Hall was a modest manor house located close to the River Ryton, located between the estates of Osberton & Scofton (to the south west), Hodsock (to the west), Ranby (to the east) and Blyth (to the north). The estate was purchased by Morgan Vane Esq in 1748 from William Levinz (of Grove). The present layout of the park was laid out in the late-18th century for Vane. He was later succeeded by his son, also called Morganⁱ. The property then passed to Morgan Jnr's third wife, Catherine Brooks, who had married John Dore (of Reading).



1774 Chapman's Map of Nottinghamshire (source: Nottinghamshire County Council, 2003).

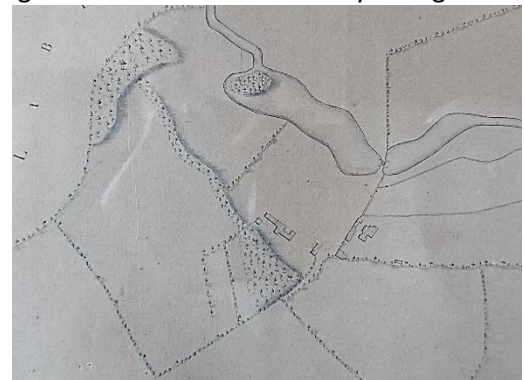


1782 Map of Part of the Parish of Blyth ([Map Sp7] Manuscripts and Special Collections, University of Nottingham).

The late-18th century park layout included a large lawn in front (east) of the house with a lake (formed by damming a section of the River Ryton). Behind the house was a section of woodland, with further area of woodland to the north west connected by a narrow tree belt. The 1798 map, produced for John Dore, shows this layout and also provides an illustration of Bilby Hall at the time. The building had distinctive 16th/17th century elements, together with later 18th century changes.



View of Bilby Hall, on 1798 Map of an Estate at Bilby Belonging to John Dore Esq (source: private archive).



1798 Map of an Estate at Bilby Belonging to John Dore Esq (source: private archive).

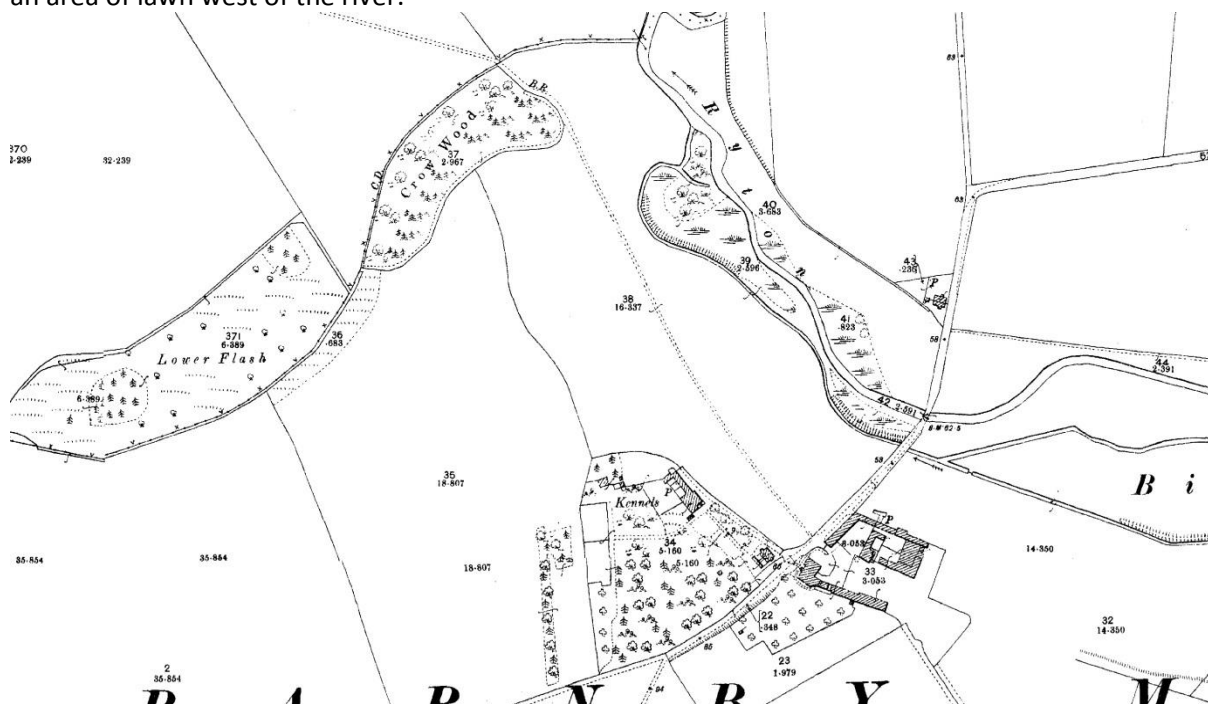
The trustees of the Brooks/Dore marriage settlement sold Bilby, in 1801, to Francis Ferrand Foljambe Esq. for £21,000. He lived at Bilby Hall for a short time whilst making additions and alterations to Osberton Hall. F.F. Foljambe Esq is described as "of Bilby Hall" in his return as M.P. for Higham Ferrers in 1801, 1802, and 1806. Shortly after, he moved to Osberton and the widow of his eldest son (who had died 14th January 1805), who found the family home of Aldwark Hall too large for her, came to Bilby Hall with her young family, and occupied it until her eldest son came of age in 1821. Bilby then passed into the possession of the Osberton estates.



1835 Sanderson's Map (Nottinghamshire County Council, 2003). 1840 Ordnance Survey map (source: Worksop Library).

During the mid-19th century, the lake at Bilby had silted up and eventually the dam was removed. The house was partially demolished, with the remaining portion converted by the Foljambe family into keepers' cottages and kennels. Thoroton in 1901 records: "The old stables were being converted into cottages by Mr. Foljambe in the late-19th century. There is an old oak with great spread of branches on Bilby lawn, and some fine cedars in the old pleasure groundⁱⁱⁱ".

Although the hall/kennels were demolished, the cottages survive, with the adjacent wooded area (comprising the original garden, with later planting and self-set trees), the wooded plantation 'Crow Wood', an elevated platform (partly marking the position of former hall), the former lake banks and an area of lawn west of the river.



1899 Ordnance Survey map.

In the later-19th century, the bridge over the river was altered from that seen in the 1798 drawing, with the ornate iron balustrade replaced with a simpler stone parapet.



Bridge over River Ryton.



View into site from south west.



Pair of cottages.



Lawn to front of former house – the bank of the former lake is still visible as an earthwork (centre).

Features of significance:

Pair of cottages, wooded areas, elevated platform, grassed area, former lake, section of River Ryton.



Aerial photograph of Bilby Hall, taken 2007 (source: Bassetlaw District Council).

Listed Buildings:	n/a
Scheduled Ancient Monuments:	n/a
Conservation Area:	n/a
Local Interest Buildings:	Bilby Farm Cottages; Bridge over River Ryton

Bilby Hall



© Crown copyright and database right 2016. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019517.



References:

ⁱ Lord Hawkesbury; *Notes on Osberton, Scofton, Rayton, Bilby, Hodsock, Fleecethorpe etc. Transactions of the Thorton Society, Volume 5; 1901.*

ⁱⁱ Lord Hawkesbury; *Notes on Osberton, Scofton, Rayton, Bilby, Hodsock, Fleecethorpe etc. Transactions of the Thorton Society, Volume 5; 1901.*