

The Myths of Dinton Castle.

Since the recent sale of Dinton Castle much has been written of this 'Folly'. I was born in Dinton and lived there very happily but moved to Stone when I married 21 years later. During my childhood I and other children from Dinton often played in the castle especially during the long summer school holidays and the thought that the castle was haunted would have horrified us. This ghost has only just been made known to us after all these years. If this had truly been a legend we would have been told about it by our ancestors. I have traced mine back in Dinton to before the castle was built! It is also suggested on one web site that the ghost is of Simon Mayne the executioner of King Charles I, which is of course not true.

The story that there was or is an underground passage from the castle to Dinton Hall is news to us all and I am quite sure that we would have known about this long ago had it been true. There also seems to be no evidence at all that some servants/staff of Dinton Hall resided in the castle. The 'Folly' was only built to house a fossil collection and being a folly I was always told that the building work was never completely finished as a roof was never put on. If there are any signs of fires having being lit, these were probably done by the children who played there!

In the Bucks Free Press dated the 21st April 1882 there is an article regarding John Bigg the Dinton Hermit and Simon Mayne, magistrate, member of parliament for Aylesbury and friend of Oliver Cromwell. Some of it is purely legendary and it may not be true but legends always make a good story! This article is well worth reading and can be seen at the Centre for Bucks. Studies in Walton Street, Aylesbury.



G.S.Weedon.