



Local Ghost Stories

Source: *The County Book: Buckinghamshire*, pp252-253 by Alison Uttley, published in 1950

“ A short distance away is lower Hogshaw Farm, which is marked Fulbrook Farm on the map now the village has gone, This good farm, with its haystacks and corn ricks all within old red brick walls all lichen and mossy, is the remnant of the once populous village. The font from Hogshaw Church, is said to be there. The poppy heads from the stalls of the church are at Doddershall manor house on the staircase.

The site of the village is close to the farmhouse, in a meadow called Ram Close. It is traditionally haunted and the ghosts of the dead can be seen by certain people. There is a duck-pond on the field which always has ducks on it according to an old tale. This is one of those odd little legends of bird-hauntings, either wild or tame ducks are there.

We went through this by the grassy track, along Steart Lane and it joins Deadman's Lane.

A countryman told us legends of this place, authentic tales handed down to him by old relations and villagers. His uncle worked for some years at Crandon Farm, and he saw strange happenings in the Hogshaw district. A bright light shone before him, several yards ahead, one pitch-black morning when never a star was out. This occurred in a field known as Dick Tarn. He saw this light on seven different occasions. Others had seen it and they referred to it as the “Old Man with the Lantern” for the light had the clarity and flooding of lantern-light. Nobody was there, nor was any source of light found.

This tale of lantern-light is akin to ghost tales in the north and it has nothing to do with will-o'-the-wisp, which is jack o' the lantern moving, and darting over marshy lands, a natural phenomenon of marsh gas.”

If you'd like to read more about the abandoned medieval village at Hogshaw/Fulbrook read Chapter 26 of *The North Marston Story* available from The Shop, North Marston. The history of the deserted village also figures prominently in one of the History Club's films (*Handlebar Histories: Carters Lane*) which you can see on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN8Pesm1BuE>