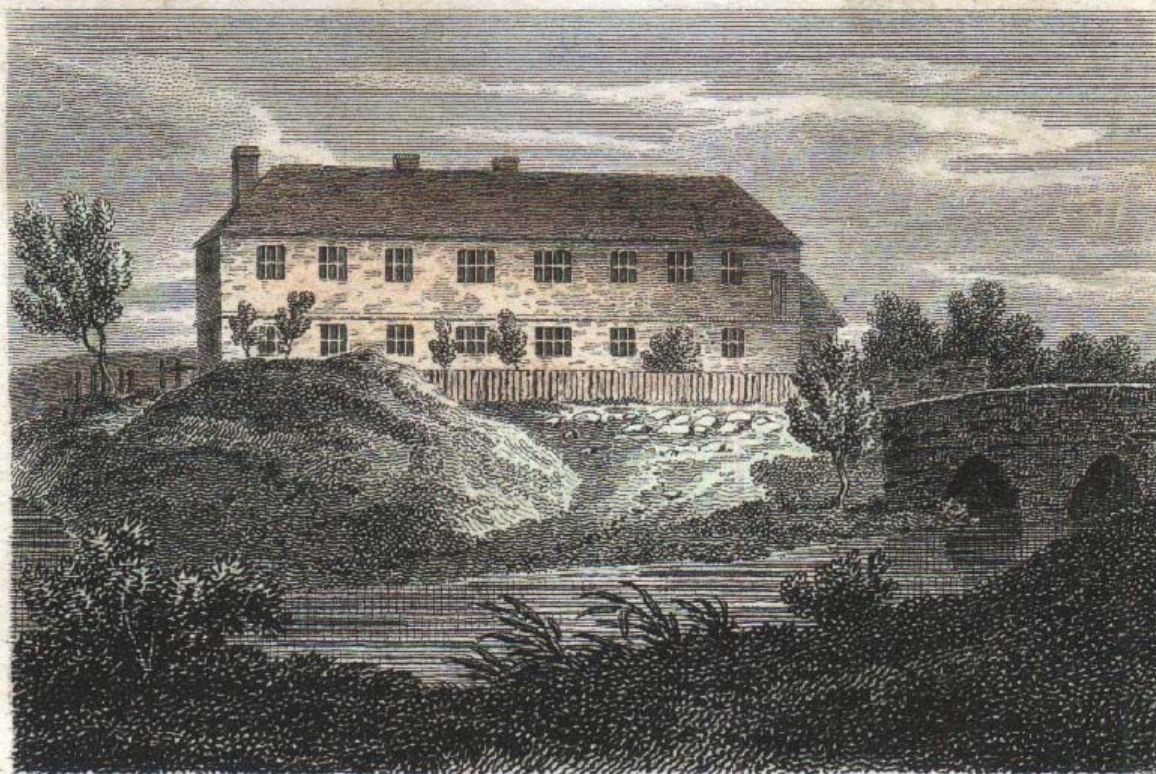




Drawn & Engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet.

Bletsoe, Bedfordshire.

Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St. March 1810.

Engraving of Bletsoe Castle, by J Storer, aquatint 1810

'Drawn & engraved by J. Storer for the Antiquarian & Topographical Cabinet' 'Published for the Proprietors by W. Clarke, New Bond St. & J. Carpenter, Old Bond St, March 10, 1810'. Comparing this picture with that of 1800 by Peers (BARO X254-88-67), the building has clearly changed: it consists of only two storeys; the Dutch gables which gave the appearance of an extra storey, have gone; the roof is hipped; and the chimneys have been rebuilt. However, the window and door openings remain as before. The most likely cause of remodelling on such a scale is a major fire, which would have destroyed the upper storeys. With the building becoming a farmhouse once the St John family had decamped to Melchbourne, there was obviously no need for such a grand house, and they may have taken the opportunity of rebuilding on a more practical scale. The artist has taken some romantic license with the moat.

EB13 (Colin Deas)



Bletsoe Castle, c1905 Picture Postcard by Blake & Edgar, at the time when the Campion family occupied the house
EB44 (*Bedfordshire Archives X396-99*).



Bletsoe Castle, from the south-east c1907

EB62 ? *Frank Sweetland*



Bletsoe Castle, c1907
EB61 (*Richard Campion*)



Bletsoe Castle, bridge, & driveway, c1909

Showing the original approach to the house via the bridge over the moat. Photographed by Frank Sweetland.

EB78 (*Richard Campion*) Imprint: F.Sweetland. Bedford. Postmark: 1915



Bletsoe Castle, c1914
EB101 (*RichardCampion*)