

# *The Ghosts of Nottingham and Nottingham castle*



# History of Nottinham

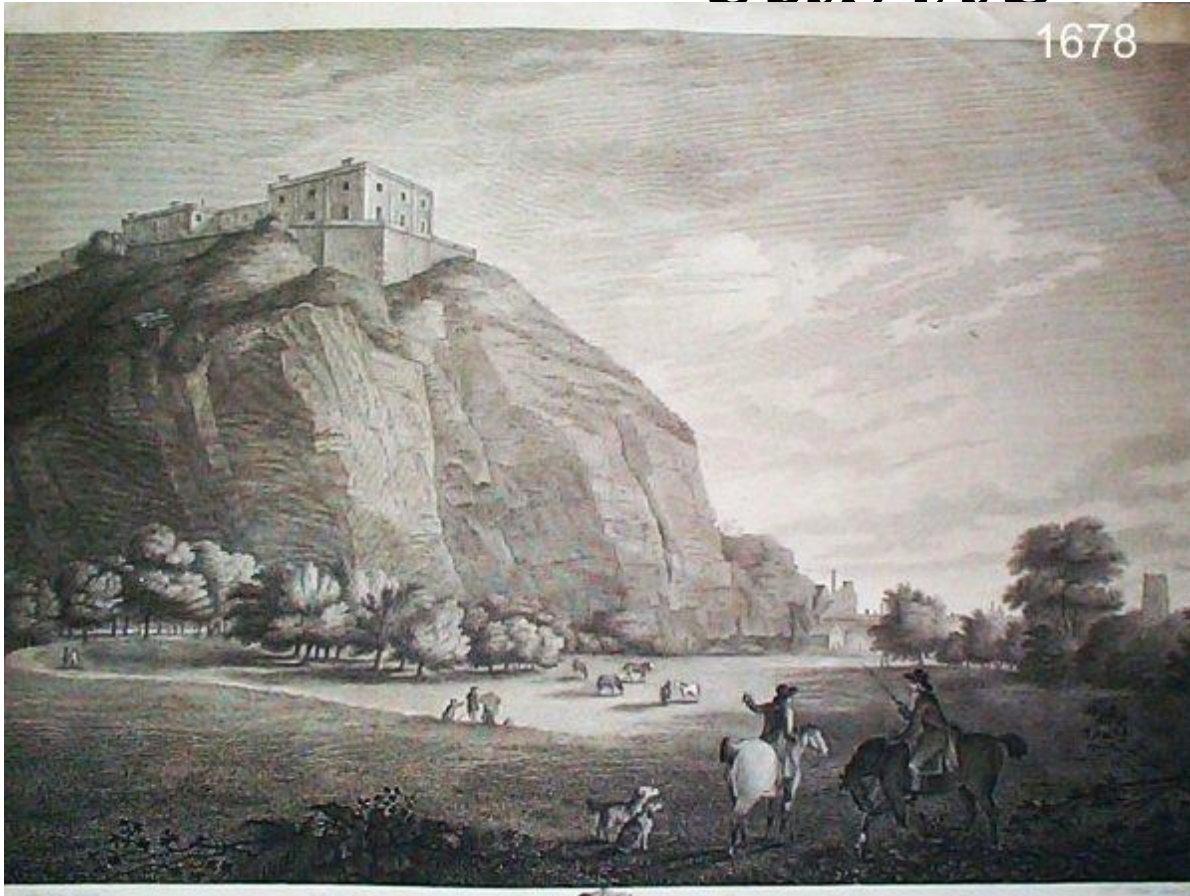
The **history** of Nottingham is very important in each period; the first evidence of a settlement dates back from times before the Roman Empire; then, with the invasion and when the Romans left the zone, it formed part of the Kingdom of Elmet; during Anglo-Saxon times the city formed part of the Kingdom of Mercia, and the area was called Snotingham (mentioned in Domesday Book) due to Snot, the person who ruled the city.



- In **11th century**, the Nottingham Castle was built to guard the zone (it was initially built in wood but it was rebuilt in stone the next century). After the Norman Conquest, the city grew and the Normans started the construction of St. Peter Church.
- The town was famous for the exportation of religious sculptures made from alabaster in 15th century, which originated the rapid development of the town; Nottingham was also famous due to their textiles during the Industrial Revolution but it declined in World War II as many other manufactures.
- Since 20th century the communications in Nottingham improved drastically with the Electric trams; nowadays, you can visit this wonderful destination and enjoy its plenty things to do, the outstanding venues, its top attractions and more of this city known as Robin Hood's land.



# History of Nottingham castle



It starts in 1067 when Saxon King, William the Conqueror decided to build a small wooden fortification for the control of crossing of the river Trent on a top of high rock

- In 1194, a historic battle took place at Nottingham castle when the supporters of Prince John captured it. The castle was the site of a decisive siege when King Richard I, returned to England and besieged the castle with the siege machines he had used at Jerusalem. Richard was aided by Ranulph de Blondville, 4th Earl of Chester, and David of Scotland, 8th Earl of Huntingdon.
- In 1387 the state council was held in the castle. Richard II held the Lord Mayor of London with Aldermen and Sheriffs in the castle in 1392, and held another state council to humble Londoners. The last visit recorded by Richard II was in 1397 when another council was held here.
- The castle ceased to be a royal residence by 1600 and was largely rendered obsolete in the 16th century by artillery. A short time following the break out of the English Civil War, the castle was already in a semi-ruined state after a number of skirmishes occurred on the site. At the start of the Civil War, in August 1642, Charles I chose Nottingham as the rallying point for his armies, but soon after he departed, the castle rock was made defensible and held by the parliamentarians. Commanded by John Hutchinson, they repulsed several Royalist attacks, and they were the last group to hold the castle. After the execution of Charles I in 1649, the castle was razed to prevent its re-use.

# Ghosts

- **Wet Prints**

Location: Nottingham – 1 Queens Street, British Transport Police Station

Type: Haunting Manifestation

Date / Time: 1977 and 2007

Further Comments: An officer who was working alone at night in 1977 heard a heavy door slam. Going to investigate, he found a set of wet footprints leading to the toilets, even though the weather was dry outside. Following the prints into the toilets, he found the room empty. Thirty years later, another officer spotted a man walk into the toilets – realising that he and his colleague should have been the only people on site, the officer looked into the room and found it empty.

- **Charles Watkin Williams**

Location: Nottingham – 23 North Street (now Forman Street)

Type: Haunting Manifestation

Date / Time: Early / mid twentieth century

Further Comments: A high court judge who allegedly died while with a 'working girl' was once said to haunt the upper part of this building.

# Ghosts

- **AA Man**  
**Location:** Nottingham – A52 (or A42) road  
**Type:** Haunting Manifestation  
**Date / Time:** 1930s onwards  
**Further Comments:** A patrolman belonging to the Automobile Association is said to ride his motorbike along this road. It is not known whether he stops to help broken down motorists.
- **Lady in Grey**  
**Location:** Nottingham – Flying Horse Hotel (now Flying Horse Walk, a shopping arcade)  
**Type:** Haunting Manifestation  
**Date / Time:** Twentieth century  
**Further Comments:** While staying at the hotel, one male guest refused to re-enter his room after encountering a grey lady passing down a corridor. The beer cellar was also said to be haunted, with lone staff reporting feeling a tapping on their shoulder.
- **Singing Spirit**  
**Location:** Nottingham – Denewood Crescent  
**Type:** Haunting Manifestation  
**Date / Time:** February 1968  
**Further Comments:** This entity made a couple of appearances in this house and was also heard to sing.