

Information Sheet: Ampthill Park



Once a deer park that surrounded Ampthill Castle and was popular with Henry VIII. The castle was demolished in the 16th Century and the park now contains a diverse collection of flora and fauna.

Ampthill Park, with 160 acres of parkland, woodland and stunning views across the Bedfordshire Countryside, makes it a favourite destination for walkers. The children's play area and café also means it is an ideal location for a family day out.

This Grade II Listed Historic Park is a place steeped in history. It was once the site of Ampthill Castle, an old manor house used by Henry VIII and where Katherine of Aragon was exiled to whilst her marriage to Henry VIII was annulled. Follow the main path from the west car park along the ridge to discover Katherine's Cross, which commemorates 'the mournful refuge of an injured queen'. The Ampthill Camp Memorial Cross can also be encountered along the ridge. The site of the old Ampthill Castle was between these two crosses.

The parkland landscape that is enjoyed today was designed by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown during the 18th century. It is home to a variety of interesting wildlife. Of particular note are the Park's veteran trees. Many were planted by Capability Brown, although some are even older, and are a valuable part of the park's heritage.





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People Say:

"We love the view from the ridge at Ampthill Park by Katherine's Cross."

Action Points:



Download the Ampthill Park map from the Ampthill Town Council website:

www.ampthilltowncouncil.org.uk/park/visiting-the-park



Greensand Trust: www.greensandtrust.org/ampthill-park History of the Park:

www.ampthilltowncouncil.org.uk/park/ national-history-heritage-wildlife

