

# Shuckburgh Hall

*visitor's guide*



# Welcome to Shuckburgh Hall.

*Please read the following to help us preserve the environment and 900 years of legacy.*

The main gate to the estate is not in use. Visitors can kindly use the back drive towards Park Farm but turn right at the Back Lodge when you see the gate and kiosk. Follow the signage please.

**Opening times:** On specific dates only, from 10am to 2pm - Last entry at 1:30pm. Please check the website for dates. We currently only accept cash. Prices are £10 for adult entries, £5 per child, there's no charge for visitors under 5 years of age.

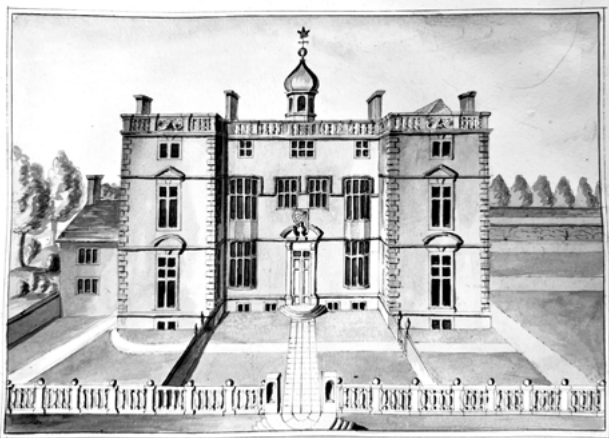
Visitors enter the property at their own risk. Sadly no dogs are allowed in the house or grounds given the nature of the deer park and because of our resident peafowl family.

The Church, House, Cannons Bank, Back Lawn, Wild Garden and part of the Deer Park will be open to the public on these days, with a marked route set out around the Deer Park.

Please do not enter roped off areas and marked private areas and stay on the paths in order to keep our bees and other wildlife in peace. Please do not approach any wildlife, especially deer in the fawning season.

The property is sadly not suitable for people with limited mobility, please ask the team for details or get in touch to plan your visit in advance. The property has many uneven surfaces and entry is entirely at the visitor's own risk. No photography indoors please. Please refrain from littering. Strictly no barbecues or fires. Unisex toilets available in the car park area.

We sadly do not have a cafe but The Napton Village Store is just minutes away and they serve wonderful takeaway food and drinks.



*Shuckburgh House in 1706*



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## The view of the north side of the house clearly shows the different periods of construction over 600 years

1. In the centre are two gable ends from the mediaeval period. Architectural features within the North West ranges of the house date parts of the construction to circa 1350.
2. To the right of the gable ends a Tudor store house was built, once open to the south. It has since been enclosed within the house to provide workrooms for the household.
3. To the left of the gables a vertical section has been cut into the earlier house to accommodate a refronting of the house prior to 1700.
4. Further to the left, the recently roughcast wall dates from the late 18th century.
5. The stucco render work of false windows is mid 19th century.

In the past, three sides of the house have been given a roughcast finish to provide uniformity, though this is belied by the roofscape above.



# Your adventure starts here:

## *The Shuckburgh's of Shuckburgh; a brief history of the family*

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900 years of recorded history of one family's continuous occupation of a house and home is very rare especially with the eponymous location and family name. Records go back to the Twelfth century with Robert de Shuckburgh mentioned in the records of Wroxall Abbey, the Abbey being an important landowner in Warwickshire. As early as 1300, William de Shuckburgh was already referred to as 'Lord' of Shuckburgh. The family, engaged in farming, prospered and were able to take possession of further lands in and around the villages of Upper and Lower Shuckburgh and Catesby, following the dissolution of Wroxall Abbey in 1541.

Through enclosure of lands for sheep grazing the family continued to prosper and rose in importance in Warwickshire. The benefits of commerce and favourable marriages gave successive generations a growing interest in the estate, enlarging the house and national politics.

It is considered that the original Hall building, circa 1200, was on the site of the present Front Hall, the oldest visible interior which has been dated by architectural style to around 1350. This corresponds to family records stating that the northwest part of the mediaeval courtyard was in use at the start of the Tudor period. The house has been added to by successive generations, the east façade being redesigned three times since its depiction in 1706.

Altered many times through the centuries but never demolished, the house holds a number of original features and decoration schemes that cross the centuries. The most notable room in the house is the Saloon, originally referred to as the 'Little Parlour', hung with 4 Bacchanalian tapestries (thought to be Mortlake) dates from around 1680.

A description of this was recorded by Celia Finnes in her diary of 1697. The remodelled entrance hall still maintains the original footprint where once a screened kitchen stood at the south end of the hall with the north end occupied by the parlour and chamber.

Though the current rendered façade dates to around 1840, the outline of a rooftop observatory, staircase, library and drawing room from 1782 can still be seen.

The Baronetcy was bestowed by Charles the 2nd on John Shuckburgh in recognition of the family's loss following his father's (Richard) support of King Charles. After the Battle of Edge Hill, where Richard had been knighted, he returned to Shuckburgh and fortified the house against Parliamentary forces. He was subsequently captured and imprisoned in Kenilworth Castle for two years.

Sir Charles Shuckburgh, 2nd Baronet was a noted Master of Buckhounds to Queen Ann.

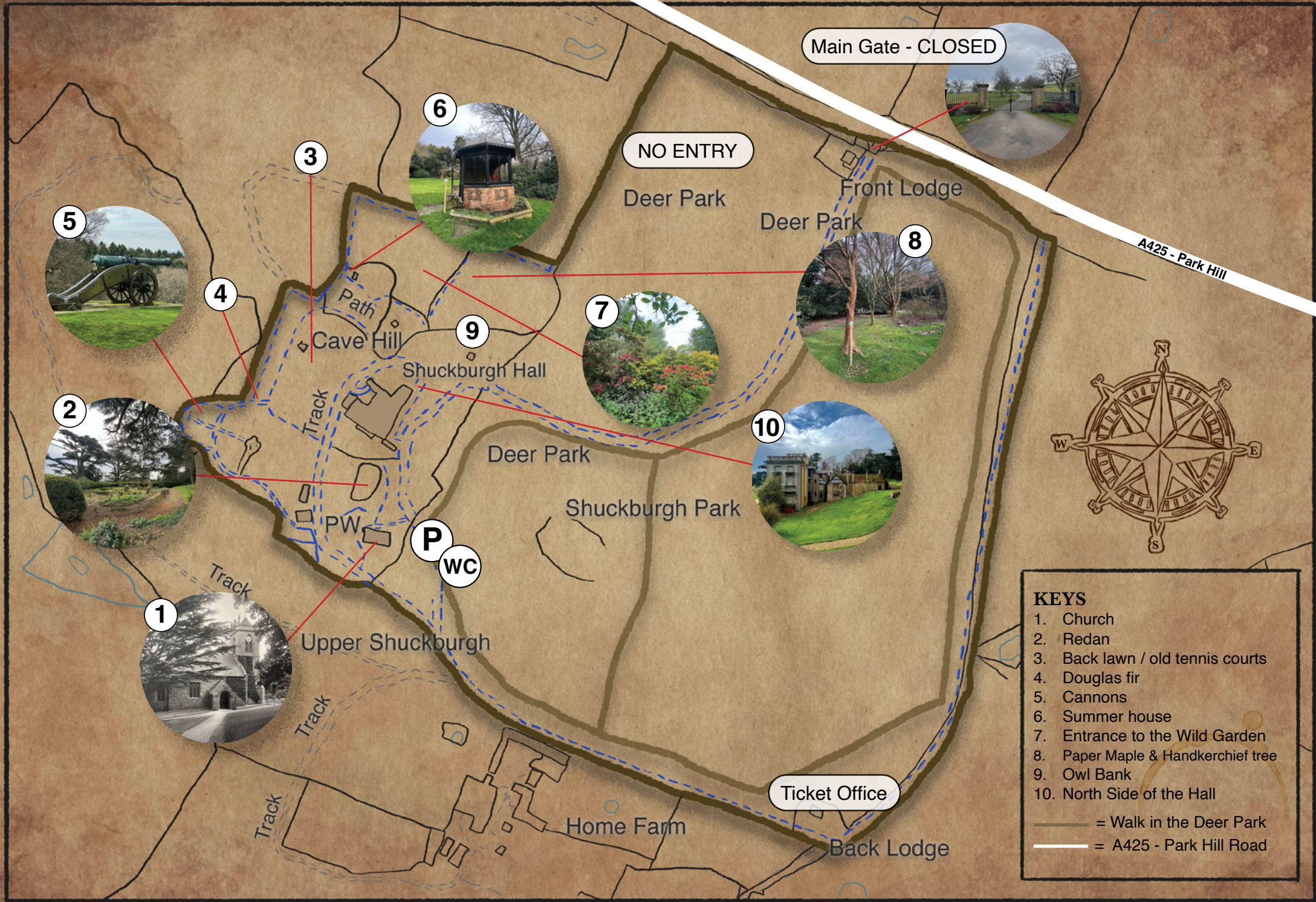
Sir George Shuckburgh, 6th Baronet was a member of Parliament, Astronomer and Member of the Royal Society.

Sir George Shuckburgh, 9th Baronet was a Major in the Scots Fusiliers and in the Crimean War. You will see his sword and other belongings displayed in the Saloon. The Baronetcy is now with its 14th incumbent, Sir James Rupert Charles Shuckburgh.





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**KEYS**

- 1. Church
- 2. Redan
- 3. Back lawn / old tennis courts
- 4. Douglas fir
- 5. Cannons
- 6. Summer house
- 7. Entrance to the Wild Garden
- 8. Paper Maple & Handkerchief tree
- 9. Owl Bank
- 10. North Side of the Hall

 = Walk in the Deer Park  
 = A425 - Park Hill Road

# The Interior of the house :

**The Grand Hall**, though it is one great room, is divided by 4 Ionic columns maintaining an historic room plan of the old Jacobean house which had a kitchen to the left of the original hall.

The current Neo-Jacobean interior dates from the 1850's and is the work of William Holland of Warwick for Sir Francis Shuckburgh. It is part of a major re-modelling of the house that took place between 1844 and 1860. Though restyled, the central hearth and chimney dates from the post mediaeval period at the time of Anthony Shuckburgh, when the house had a larger central Courtyard.

1. Portrait of Colonel Richard.
2. George 4th Earl of pomfret attributed to Arthur William Devis Royal academy 1813.
3. Oval portrait Sir Stewkley Shuckburgh 7th bt Circle of John Russell.
4. Portrait of Lady Charlotte Denys By Sir William Beechey.
5. Drovers and Horses at a Trough C Towne .
6. Portrait of Peter Denys .
7. Portrait of Charlotte Dens attributed to George Clint.
8. Portraits of Sir John Shuckburgh 3rd bt and his wife Abigail Shuckburgh attributed to Harman Verelst.
10. Portrait of John Shuckburgh kt.
11. Portrait of a fallow buck.
12. Portrait of Sarah Daughter of Charles Shuckburgh by Sir Joshua Reynolds.
13. Portrait of Ida Shuckburgh.

**The Staircase Hall** was built within the earlier central courtyard to improve access as part of the 17th century improvements. The present staircase is the work of William Holland and his re-modelling of the

1850's. Also please note the Scagliola Table and the taxidermy Golden Pheasant. Please look up and observe the etched glass dome. Shuckburgh crest and motto - Haec manus ob patriam = 'this hand for my country' and the red hand of the baronet, part of the more detailed Shuckburgh crest. This can be found in many other places including throughout the house and the church.

14. Catherine wife of Sir Charles Shuckburgh 2ndbt.

**The Saloon** historically referred to as the 'Little Parlour' was originally a room in the late mediaeval house, with a window into the central courtyard. The original window site now forms a doorway into the staircase hall. The current interior is late 17th century hung with 4 Bacchanalian tapestries, contemporary with the ornate ceiling plasterwork and canvassed painted central oval. The tapestries and interior decoration have benefited by the lack of direct sunlight into the room over the last 340 years leaving the tapestries in notably good condition.

15. Set of 4 English Bacchanalian tapestries circa 1680 probably Hatton gardens attributed to Francis Poyntz.



# The Interior of the house :

**The Dining Room** is dominated by William Holland's Jacobean inspired strapwork ceiling. The central light is a Regency Tent and Bag Chandelier that once hung in the old Drawing Room. The chandelier remains to this date candle lit in its original state. The large still life picture is of King Ludwig's Larder which was purchased by Sir Francis Shuckburgh from the British Hotel in London on Jermyn Street in 1853. Legend says there's another live animal depicted in this painting (apart from the obvious monkey).

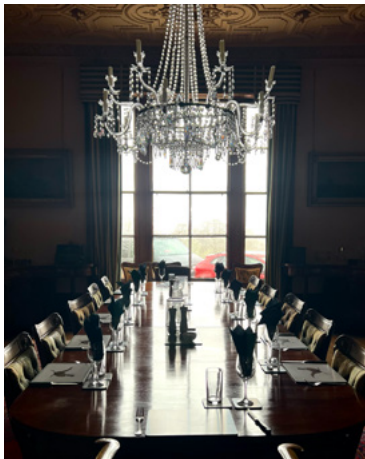
16. Peasant children giving arms to a monk signed W.Collins 1839.
17. King Ludwings Larder.
18. Dutch barges in a stiff breezes Charles Powell.

**The Morning Room** originally formed part of Sir George Shuckburgh's additions to the North side of the house from the 1780's. He built a new Drawing Room with Library above, along with an Observatory to further his astronomical observations. The room was formed by William Holland from what had originally been the staircase that had connected the Observatory with the Library and Sitting Room. Please note the paintings of past family members and historic figures and more recent nostalgic family photographs.

19. Portrait of Elizabet wife of Thomas Shuckburgh attributed to Cornelius Johnson.
20. Portrait of John Shuckburgh in masquerade 1655 later first baronet 1660.
21. Portrait of Catherine first wife of Sir Chrales Shuckburgh by Simon Vesist.
22. Portrait of Sir Charles Shuckburgh 2nd btpainted by Michael Dahl.
23. Portrait of Princess Mary Daughter of King Charles the 1st after Sir Antony Van Dyck.
24. Portait of King Charles the 2nd after Sir Peter Lely.
25. Portrait of Henrietta Maria after Sir Antony Van Dyck.

**The Old Drawing Room / Ball Room.** None of the original decoration remains in the room, it underwent a number of changes with fashion until its contents were fully removed when the house became a civilian convalescent home in 1941 following the bombing of Coventry. The Gilt Pelmetts above the three sash windows were originally hung with Crimson curtains that were part of a Louis 15th style suite of furniture that furnished the room in the 1880's. A pair of these curtains now hang at the front door of the Grand Hall.

26. Portrait of Sir Stewkeley Shuckburgh 4th bt Circle of Henery Pickering.
27. Portrait of Sir John Shuckburgh 3rd bt English school 1713.
28. Portrait of Charles Shuckburgh of Longborough younger son of Charles Shuckburgh.
29. Portrait of Diana wife of Sir Charles Shuckburgh 2 bt .



# Picture guide

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## FRONT HALL

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## STAIRS WELL

14. Catherine wife of Sir Charles Shuckburgh 2ndbt.

## SALOON

15. Set of 4 English Bacchalanalian tapestries circa 1680 probably Hatton gardens attributed to Francis poyntz.

## DINNING ROOM

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17. King Ludwings Larder.
18. Dutch barges in a stiff Breezes Chrales Powell.

## MORNING ROOM

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## BALL ROOM

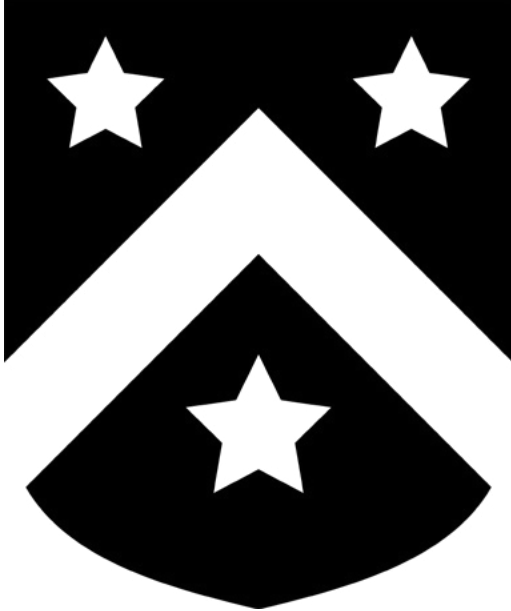
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## The Shuckburgh Family Shield: Argent a chevron between three molets sable.

Richard Shuckburgh (1606–56) was M.P. for Warwickshire; he was knighted by Charles I and fought at the battle of Edge Hill, and after defending his ancestral seat against the Parliamentary troops was taken prisoner, having to compound heavily for his liberty. His son John was created a baronet in 1660 by Charles II in recognition of his father's services, and the family estates have descended to Sir Charles Gerald Stewkley Shuckburgh, the 12th baronet.







## Thank You

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Dear Visitor. Thank you for your support, we hope you had a great day and look forward to welcoming you again soon. Sir James and Lady Clare Shuckburgh and the team of volunteers.

Social media link: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095270138156>

Website: <https://www.shuckburghestate.co.uk/visit-shuckburgh>

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