

## "Shepherd's Race" (turf maze)



“At Boughton Green, in Northamptonshire, about half a mile from the village of Boughton and near the ruined church of St. John the Baptist, was, until recently, a turf maze of like design but having the innermost convolutions of purely spiral form. It was 37 ft. in diameter and was called the ‘Shepherd Ring’ or ‘Shepherd’s Race.’ The ‘treading’ of it was formerly a great feature of the three days’ fair in June, an event dating from a charter by Edward III. in 1353. This famous relic was destroyed by some of our soldiers in training during the Great War [WWI]; trenches were driven right across it, and practically all traces of it are now obliterated.”

~~W.H. Matthews, from “Mazes and Labyrinths” (1922)