

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

Bathampton, Bath, Somerset

PART THREE

SOME NOTABLE BURIALS

Researched and compiled
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KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

Burial plot numbers are shown preceded by the letter A, B, C, D or E to denote relevant section of the churchyard the grave is located. Plans of the churchyard can be found in Part 4. Numbers with no prefix or with the letter W (denoting a window) refer to memorials within the church (see also '*St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part two - Interior Memorials Explored*'. BLHRG, 2024).

Bart:	Baronet
BLHRG:	Bathampton Local History Research Group
Col:	Colonel
Gen.	General
(jnr)	Junior
Lieut or Lt:	Lieutenant
Maj.	Major
no. or no's	Number or numbers
p. or pp.	Page or pages
See also:	For further information see number/s or items listed
(snr):	Senior

INTRODUCTION



'The monuments speak feebly of the natives of the place but loudly of imported mortals'
so The Rev. John Earle, MA., Rector of Swainswick wrote of Bathampton churchyard
in his book *'Bath Ancient and Modern'*, published 1864.

The churchyard does indeed contain many 18th and 19th century graves of people who weren't parishioners; usually of some notability. The details of which are recorded as part of their epigraph carved on impressive monuments. While those of lesser standing are honoured with little detail or forgotten in an unmarked grass covered grave.

The first recorded burial was in 1599 but no tombstones or burials prior to the 18th century, apart from those in the church, have been identified. The earliest memorials that still exist date from the 18th century, but many are now illegible.

During the 18th to mid-19th century the churchyards in Bath were becoming full and people chose to be buried in villages such as Bathampton, away from the smoke and grime of the City. A large proportion of them had resorted to Bath for the season or seeking cures for their ailments but had died while so doing. For instance, during the period 1810-1820 inclusive, when the population of the village was little more than 150, there were 390 burials of which 361 were from elsewhere and only 39 from the parish, despite double burial fees being charged for non-residents. Numbers for the period prior to 1807 are unclear as abodes are not always given in the register, but from 1807-1907 there was a total of 1,459 burials, 1,009 were of non-parishioners and 450 parishioners. The 1901 census shows the population of the village then at 460.

Originally the yard was just the immediate ground surrounding the church with an entrance in line with the church to the east. This is now blocked-up but its existence is clearly noticeable from the old farm lane, ie north from the present entrance. The yard was soon full and extensions were necessary - for further detail see *'St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part one - History of the Church and its Fabric'*, Bathampton LHRG, 2024.

The mid-19th century saw new cemeteries being established in the City including:

- Abbey Cemetery on Ralph Allen's Drive consecrated 30 January, 1843;
- Bathwick Cemetery - Smallcombe, laid out 1856;
- Lansdown c1844;
- Locksbrook (Walcot and St Saviours) consecrated 1841;
- Lyncombe, Widcombe and St James Cemetery (Lower Bristol Road) consecrated 1862;
- Roman Catholic Cemetery, Pope's Walk consecrated 1851;
- St Michael's Upper Bristol Road near Locksbrook consecrated 16 June, 1862.

Hence burials from outside the parish towards the end of the 19th century were greatly reduced.

Many of the Bathampton monuments are notable in themselves. In 1997 the National Monuments Department listed in their Sites and Monuments Register 32 chest tombs dating from the late 18th century to early 19th century as Grade II monuments. (See appendix to '*St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part one - History of the Church and its Fabric*', Bathampton LHRG, 2024).

The building of the 1993 extension at the east end of the church meant that some 55 graves (29 walled and 26 earth) were disturbed; their memorial stones removed and relocated including some eight listed monuments (see '*Nineteenth century Bath-stone walled graves of Bathampton*' by Margaret Cox and Gwyne Stock. Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Proceedings, Vol. 138, 1994). Many now line the low bank surrounding the extension or joined those that had, in the past, been placed along the east wall of the churchyard. A few others were re-erected nearby.

A close study of the burial register together with the record of memorial inscriptions shows interments covering a very wide and far reaching cross section of society from titled gentry, MPs; high rating army and navy personnel; clergy; doctors; solicitors; bakers; plumbers; masons; ferrymen; parish clerks; servants; victims of war; new born babies found drowned and accidental or suicidal deaths to name but a few. They now lie alongside one another - death being a great leveller.

This record aims to bring to light the stories behind some of those many that have gone before. A selection of not only some of the more prominent people buried at Bathampton but also those lesser mortals who deserve mention on a local level. It is not a comprehensive record and leaves plenty of room for further similar research to be undertaken.

See also '*St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part one - History of the Church and its Fabric*' and '*St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part two - Interior Memorials Explored*', BLHRG 2024. Also '*Bathampton Memorial Inscriptions*', BLHRG, 2005.



The May family vault; railings missing. B94 Listed. 2024.
See Chancel nos. 9 and 11, '*Interior Memorials Explored*'.

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The memorial to Juliana Macworth. B154. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'In memory of Mrs Juliana Macworth..... Humphrey Mackworth Bart..... Glamorganshire'. B154. Square tomb with large vase. As recorded in 2005, now completely unreadable. Register gives Mrs Juliana Mackworth as being buried 17th February, 1798 aged 66. Believed to be wife of Humphrey Macworth Bart. and the only interment.



The tomb of the Bowen family, B74. 2024.
The only tomb to have its rails replaced since the Second World War.

Memorial inscription:

'Underneath are deposited the remains of Elizabeth Bowen widow of Colonel Hugh Bowen of the Queens County, Ireland died December 18th 1829 aged 86. Also Catharine Bowen her eldest daughter who departed this life May the 23rd 1842 aged 60. Also of Margaret relict of the late Nicholas Sadler Esq. of Sadlers Wells in the County of Tipperary. She died August 24th 1853 aged 80'. B74. Altar tomb with replacement railings, inscription on top.

SOME NOTABLE BURIALS

THE ANDRÉ FAMILY

A55 and A56

Close family of Major John André who was hanged as a spy

West of the tower are two large 'altar' or 'chest' tombs marking the resting place of members of the André family - immediate relations of Major John André hanged as a spy during the American War of Independence. An event that greatly affected his mother and siblings and mourned throughout England and America.

One of five children John André was born in London on 2 May, 1750 to Anthony, a merchant born in Geneva, and Marie Louise who was French. Their other children were William Lewis, Anne, Louisa and Mary Hannah. The whole family apart from John and Anthony were buried at Bathampton.

John was charming with manners and education that set him apart from his contemporaries - fluent in four languages, gifted in mathematics, the arts, poetry and music. Educated in England and Geneva he then entered his father's business in London. In 1769, two years later, his father died and although only 18 he felt obliged to care for the family and continued in the business. He frequented literary gatherings and became much taken with Honora Sneyd but their liaison was forbidden due to their extreme youth; they continued to correspond and André drew miniatures of her, one of which he always kept with him. He would need to be very rich to obtain her hand, but before achieving this her feelings cooled and André decided (possibly due to a broken heart) to join the British Army.



John André 1750-1780.

He entered the 23rd Regiment as an Ensign on 25 January, 1771; after training in Germany was posted to America and served in the American War of Independence. He was made a Lieutenant and in 1777 promoted to Captain in the 26th Regiment, by 1779 he held the rank of Major. In 1775 he had been taken prisoner and on release was recognized for his detailed drawings and maps of enemy territory and made Adjutant General to General Sir Henry Clinton commander of British forces at New York.

Clinton wanted the army to push its way up the Hudson River in order to split the colonies and control the Hudson. To succeed they would have to take the strategically important fortress at West Point. The commander of West Point was Benedict Arnold, a traitorous American officer who was embittered at not receiving promotions as expected. He was in financial difficulties having lived beyond his means and had turned to corruption in order to maintain his standards. In 1780 he saw a solution to his problems and opened secret negotiations with Clinton for handing over plans of the fortress, details of the military he controlled and of other forts in exchange for some £20,000.

Now in charge of British Secret Intelligence, André was given the task of following this up and eventually appointed to secretly meet Arnold and receive the plans. This was safely accomplished but the 'Vulture' - a British sloop that had taken him up the Hudson - was mistakenly fired upon and had retreated. André had to travel the 50 miles back to New York by land; Arnold providing the necessary papers. In civilian clothes and with a guide he set off. They crossed the river and on reaching 'neutral' territory near the British line the guide left him. Having nearly accomplished his purpose he was seized on 23 September, 1780 by militia men just outside Tarrytown. Unhappy with his pass and answers to their questions they decided to search him and found in the soles of his stockings Arnold's drawings. Despite bribes by André they conveyed him to a military station where, on Washington's instructions, he was to be tried as a spy. Arnold, being alerted to André's capture, escaped down river and became a 'turncoat' - joining the British army as a Brigadier General for the rest of the war¹.

On the 29th André was allowed to write to Clinton explaining his actions although contrary to instructions. He was *'perfectly and tranquil in mind and prepared for any fate to which an honest zeal of my Kings Service may have devoted me'*. He praised his treatment and thanked Clinton for his trust and kindnesses adding *'.... I have a mother and three sisters to whom the value of my commission would be an object as the loss of Granada has much affected their income. It is needless to be more explicit on this subject'*.

He was tried by court martial and found to be a spy and condemned to death. His capture and sentence caused a deep sadness in the Army and in England. Every effort was made to save him but without avail. The British believed they would not dare to execute a British Adjunct General - there being an understanding that captured generals would not be executed. Washington, however, stood firm.

André had been sent on a dirty piece of business he was not fit for, and of which he was so ashamed he appears to have been willing to atone for it with his life. He appealed to Washington begging to be shot so he might die like a soldier, but Washington was resolute that he should receive the proper penalty - death by hanging.

His youth, graces and accomplishments together with his dignity and cheerfulness won the affections of his guards and the tenderest sympathy of the American army. There was no-one who wouldn't have given anything for André's release in exchange for Arnold. One of his jailers wrote: *'He was one of the most accomplished young Gentlemen I ever was acquainted with, with such ease, affability of manners, polite and genteel deportment..... On the day of his execution he was most elegantly dressed in his full Regimentals and marched to the gallows with as much ease and cheerfulness of countenance as if he had been going to an Assembly Room. Though his fate was just, yet to see so promising a young man brought to the gallows drew a tear from almost every spectator'*.



Self-portrait drawn day before being hanged.

So, on 2 October, 1780 aged 30, André was hanged *'Without a quiver of a muscle or sign of fear, the officers about him weeping, the bands played the 'Dead March' as he walked to his execution'*. His last words were of loving thoughts for the welfare of his mother and sisters in distant Britain, and how he would be remembered - *'As I suffer in the defence of my Country, I must consider this hour as the*

most glorious of my life - remember that I die as becomes a British Officer, while the manner of my death must reflect disgrace on your Commander²'.

'How hard is my fate, but it will be a momentary pang' he said as he pushed aside the executioner and adjusted the rope himself. *'I pray you bear witness that I meet my fate like a brave man'* and swung into eternity. He was buried nearby; his uniform removed; his watch purchased and sent to his family.

On the same day the tree under which he was searched was struck by lightning, and at the same hour in England one of his sisters awoke and cried out *'I have seen my brother and he has been taken prisoner'*. She awoke again calling out *'They are trying him as a spy'* and described the nature of the court in great detail. She awoke a third time exclaiming *'My brother is dead, he has been hung as a spy'* and gave a vivid description. The sister's kept this to themselves, recording it in their notebooks. The news eventually reached England and the family learnt how true, to the date, the dreams had been.

In the British army, and in England, wild indignation burst out against Washington. André was mourned and honoured as if he had fallen in a moment of glorious victory. George III is said to have instantly sent 1,000 guineas to Mrs André and settled an annual pension of £300 to her for life, and thence to her children or their survivors. The next year³ he knighted André's brother, Captain William Lewis André and his heirs for ever, in memory of his brother's services, declaring that *'the public can never be compensated for the vast advantages which must have followed from the success of this plan'*. The King also commissioned a memorial to be placed in Westminster Abbey. The carving on the sarcophagus represents Washington and his officers in his tent receiving details of the court martial and the arrival of a messenger with André's letter asking for a soldier's death. On the right is a guard of soldiers leading André to his execution and at the foot of a tree sit Mercy and Innocence. It is surmounted by the British lion and figure of Britannia, lamenting the fate of André.



Memorial in Westminster Abbey

The inscription reads:

'Sacred to the memory of Major John André who, raised by his merit, at an early period of his life, to the rank of Adjutant-General of the British forces in America, and employed in an important hazardous enterprise, fell a sacrifice to his zeal for his King and country on 2nd October AD 1780 aged 29 [30].

Universally beloved and esteemed by the Army in which he served and lamented even by his foes. His gracious Sovereign King George the Third has caused this Monument to be erected'.

André's Will allowed £700 each to his sisters and brother on condition that each gave their mother £10 a year. In 1821 his remains were returned to England and duly buried beside this monument with imposing ceremony. None of André's remaining family attended, but were represented⁵.

A further inscription was added and reads: *'The remains of Major John André were, on the 10th of August, 1821, removed from Tappan, by James Buchanan, Esq., His Majesty's Consul at New York, under instructions from His Royal Highness The Duke of York, and, with the permission of the Dean and Chapter, finally deposited in a grave contiguous to this monument on the 28th November 1821'.*

A statue in Tarrytown marks the site of André's capture which is shown in relief and inscription: *'On this spot, the 23rd of September, 1780 the spy, Major John André, Adjutant-General of the British Army, was captured by John Paulding, David Williams and Isaac Van Wart, all natives of this county.*

History has told the rest'. 'The people of Westchester County have erected this monument as well to commemorate a great event as to testify their high estimation of that integrity and patriotism which, rejecting every temptation, rescued the United States from most imminent peril by baffling the acts of a spy and the plots of a traitor. Dedicated October 7, 1853'.

A simple boulder marked André's burial in Tappan but was replaced by a memorial bearing the inscription: *'Here died, October 2, 1780, Major John André, of the British Army, who, entering the American lines on a secret mission to Benedict Arnold, for the surrender of West Point, was taken prisoner, tried and condemned as a spy. His death, though according to the stern rule of war, moved even his enemies to pity; and both armies mourned the fate of one so young and so brave. In 1821 his remains were removed to Westminster Abbey. A hundred years after the execution this stone was placed above the spot where he lay, by a citizen of the United States, against which he fought, not to perpetuate the record of strife, but in token of those better feelings which have since united two nations, one in race, in language, and in religion, with the hope that this friendly union will never be broken'.* It ends with George Washington's words: *'He was more unfortunate than criminal, An accomplished man and gallant officer'.*

André's grieving mother and sisters moved from London to Bath possibly seeking shelter from society and, from 1789, settled at no. 22 Circus where they all lived to advanced ages well known for their good and charitable deeds. Today a plaque over the front door reads *'Here dwelt Major André AD 1770'.* It is doubtful that he resided here as the Circus wasn't completed until 1775 and he was in America from at least 1774 and no. 22 was occupied by another family prior to the André's arrival.

His mother, Mary Louisa, was in her 92nd year when she died, (21 February, 1813), having not only suffered the unfortunate loss of her first son, but, on 11th November, 1802 the untimely death of her second son, Sir William Lewis André who died in Dorset, aged 42, unmarried. He was the first of the family to be buried at Bathampton; the baronetcy died with him as he had no surviving son. Mary Louisa, was buried with him.

As to the sisters, Anne, distinguished for her poetical taste, died on the 8 August, 1830 in her 77th year; Louisa died on the 25 December, 1835 aged 81 and Mary Hannah died on the 3 March, 1845 aged 94 - all were buried at Bathampton. The connection with Major John André and Bathampton doesn't quite end here as the graves hold two more distant members of the family, Alice Emily André and Mary Priscilla Mitchell (née Wakefield).

Mary's Priscilla's mother, Edith Miriam André had married Captain Edward Marcus Wakefield in 1906, but he died in 1913. He also had notable ancestors being a descendant of Daniel Wakefield first attorney general of New Zealand⁶ and his wife, Angela, who was the daughter of Thomas Attwood the great British Parliamentary Reformer⁷, and Daniel's brother, Edward Gibbon, who was the key figure of planned colonization in New Zealand⁸. They had had two children Mary Priscilla (born 7 December, 1909), and, Edward Roger (born 13 July, 1910).

Edward (jnr) and his mother moved to Bathampton in 1933 after he inherited St George's Hill House from an uncle. At the onset of the Second World War, Roger joined up but was killed in action in 1944 during a night raid on the Dalmation Island of Brac, and is remembered on the Roll of Honour in Bathampton church. [See *'Part two - Interior Memorials Explored'*, Bathampton LHRG, 2024]. Edith had gone to live at St Cuthbert's, [now *Bower House*], Bathampton Lane where she joined her two sisters Alice and Mildred - who quite possibly moved there to escape the war and to be near their grieving sister.

The three sisters were the daughters of James Lewis André, FSA (a distant relative to Major John André). Alice Emily André died on 8th January, 1946 aged 76 and was buried in the second André tomb. Mildred Cecilia André, *'the beloved sister of Edith Wakefield'*, died in 1956 and was buried in the Roman Catholic Cemetery in Perrymead; Edith died in 1958 and was buried with her.

Edith's daughter Mary Priscilla Mitchell (previously Williams by a former marriage) died 29 July, 2007 aged 99 and is also interred in the second André tomb at Bathampton '*niece of Alice Emily and sister of Roger Wakefield*'. For her much acclaimed public service and philanthropy in England she was awarded the MBE. She kept the Wakefield connection with New Zealand and England alive and was a great benefactor to various universities - her extensive archive of Wakefield papers passed to the Turnbull University in New Zealand. She had retired to Totness and received further acclaim for alms houses she commissioned to be built there. Although married twice there were no descendants so ended another André and Wakefield line and connections with Bath and Bathampton.



André chest or altar tombs, centre foreground, nos. A55-6. 2024.

Memorial Inscriptions:

'To the memory of Sir William Lewis André of Bath, Baronet, who departed this life the 11th of November, 1802 aged 42 years, also to the memory of Mary Louisa André mother of the above, and widow of Anthony André Esq., who died 22 Feb 1813 aged 91, also to the memory of Anne Margaret André late of the Circus, Bath. Obit 8 August in her 77th year'. A56. Altar tomb.

'Sacred to the memory of Louisa Catherine André late of the Circus, Bath obit 25 December 1835 in her 81st year; also of Mary Hannah André her sister who died March 3 1845 aged 93; also of Alice Emily André died January the 8th 1940 aged 76 daughter of the late J. L. André, FSA descendant of the above family. RIP. Mary Priscilla Mitchell [née Wakefield] MBE 1909-2007 niece of Alice André, sister of Roger Wakefield'. A55. Altar tomb.

References

1. He died in London 21 years later, in poverty and obscurity.
2. Major André's last words, General Evening Post, Tuesday 14 November, 1780.
3. 24 March, 1781.
4. Of the 26th Foot.
5. The family later presented a silver goblet to the Rev. Mr Demarat who owned the ground where André had been buried, and a silver standish to Mr Buchanan.
6. b27 February, 1798-d8 January, 1858, a lawyer and like his brother interested in colonization, emigrated to New Zealand and settled in Wellington. For a while acted as Supreme Court Judge.
7. MP for Birmingham, economist, banker and political campaigner notably for parliamentary reform.
8. 20 March, 1796-16 May, 1862 had a distinguished political career; known for his colonization scheme – 'The Wakefield Scheme' - masterminding the large scale British settlement in New Zealand based on his theory of systematic colonization.
9. Previously living in Weybridge.

Sources:

Parish Registers for Bathampton and Bath, and, Metropolitan Parish Registers, City of London.
Rate Books for Bath. (Bath Record Office).
Winthrop Sargent, '*Life of Major André*'. Dappleton & Co, New York, 1871.
Oxford Dictionary of National Biography.
Bath & County Graphic, July 1800; '*Historic Houses in Bath, Major André*'.
The Beacon. December 1902 and January 1903. '*Famous Buildings in Bath: Major André and Bath, parts 1 and 2*'.
J. F. Meehan, '*More famous houses in Bath: Major André and Bath*'. 1906.

BAILEY, John

Unidentified grave

Killed while carrying out his duties as a Tythingman

On the night of 28 June, 1847 a fight took place just after 9.0 pm in the field opposite The George Inn, ('Home Close' now southern part of the churchyard), during which John Bailey was killed while trying to stop it.

Two men, Solomon Dainton and John Potter, labourers on the Wiltshire, Somerset and Weymouth Branch Line, were in the Inn when they quarrelled over their work. John Potter challenged Dainton to a '*fair stand-up fight*' and they went into the field with seconds Morris Perry and Henry Crawley.

A large crowd gathered and the fight had gone five or six rounds when Thomas Smith, a Tythingman (village constable), tried to stop it. He was knocked down when he said he was a Tythingman. John Bailey (another Tythingman) and George Bindon then came into the field and also tried to stop the fight. Bailey announced that he too was a Tythingman and it was his job to stop the proceedings and was twice pushed out of the ring. Statements by witnesses vary as to what happened next but mostly allude to him then being knocked to the ground by Morris Perry; that Samuel Crawley kicked him in the stomach and that he received a number of other blows from onlookers. The tone of Perry and others was to the effect that they didn't like Tythingmen and '*they would drive every Constable out of the field*'. Although Bailey had other injuries he died, at the scene, from a ruptured vein near his heart which flooded his heart and brain with blood.

An Inquest was held at The George on 1 July when the cause of death was confirmed. It was found that John Bailey had died due to extreme violence inflicted by Morris Perry, Samuel and Henry Crawley, Solomon Dainton and others unknown. After a hearing at the Bath Magistrates Court they were sent for trial at the County Assizes.

The crown court proceedings held at Bridgewater found Morris Perry guilty of murder while Henry Crawley and Solomon Dainton were acquitted. Samuel Crawley, who had absconded, was, it is believed, never brought to justice. Perry was sentenced to be hanged and his body to be buried in the grounds of the prison where he was held. This sentence was later commuted to transportation for life, on grounds of insufficient evidence. He was transported on The Mermaid, on 30 December, 1850 and died in Australia in 1885.

John Bailey was buried at Bathampton on 4 July, 1847 aged 52 in an unmarked grave.

References

National Archives ASSI 21/61; 25/34/5 and 25/34/12.

Bath Chronicle 1 July, 1847, 8 July 1847, 19 August 1847 and 23 September 1847.

BLACKETT, Colonel William

C78

Lieutenant Governor of Plymouth Fortress

The Royal Citadel, Plymouth, Devon (sometimes referred to as Plymouth Fortress) was built in the late 1660's at the eastern end of Plymouth Hoe, overlooking Portsmouth Sound. Constructed on the site of a fortress built by Sir Francis Drake to improve defences of Plymouth; in the mid-1700s it had 113 guns and was one of the most important English defences. Colonel Blackett was the Lieutenant Governor there from 1771 to his death in 1782.

He wanted to be absolutely certain that he was dead when he was buried, so added his wishes to his Will as follows: '*I desire that my body may be kept as long as it may not be offensive and that one or more of my toes or fingers may be cut off to secure a certainty of my being dead. I also make this*

further request to my dear wife that as she has been troubled with an old fool she will not think of marrying again'.

It doesn't appear that his wife heeded his words as she is buried in the adjoining grave (C79) with her brother, Henry Butler who had died on the 4 May, 1791. The inscription refers to her as Mrs Harriet Molesworth the second wife of Arthur Molesworth, widow of **Henry** Blackett, Lt. Governor of Plymouth. The inscription has several anomalies including an unfinished sentence which would have given the date of her death. The burial register gives Mrs Henrietta Molesworth as buried on the 1 May, 1798 and her brother on the 11 May, 1791.



Tombstone of Col. W. M. Blackett, C79. 2024.

Memorial inscriptions:

'Col. W. M. Blackett Lieut. Governor of the town and citadel of Plymouth died at Bath June 27 1782 aged 61 and lyes here interr'd'. C78. Low altar tomb.

*'Henry Butler of Thorpe in Surrey Esq. Departed this life May the 4th 1791 and lies here interr'd 28th of April 1798. Mrs **Harriet** Molesworth the second wife of Arthur Molesworth departed this life She was the widow of **Henry Blackett**, Lt. Governor of Plymouth, and sister of Henry Butler who are also **interred** here'.* C79. Flatstone.

du BARRÉ, Viscount Jean Baptiste

A71

Killed in a Duel

Born in 1749 eldest child of the Count of Cerés; married Mademoiselle de Truron in 1773; died on the 18 November, 1778.

Among the rich and famous visiting Bath in autumn 1778, to take the waters and enjoy the social scene, were a French nobleman the Viscount Jean Baptiste du Barré, his beautiful young wife (not to be confused with his notorious Aunt, King Louis XV's mistress) and her sister. He rented 8 Royal Crescent, sharing it with his friend Count Rice, an Irishman formerly in the French military. Their extravagant lifestyle included gambling, parties and excursions into the surrounding hills.

On Tuesday, 17 November the Viscount was unwell and stayed in his room with Count Rice. In the evening a dispute arose and a challenge given, the cause is unknown but may have been a quarrel over a game of cards or the Count becoming involved with du Barré's wife. At midnight supper was ordered but never eaten; the two men, wearing greatcoats and accompanied by another Irishman Mr Toole, stormed out of the house followed anxiously by the Viscountess. Soon after she was found nearby by the valet *'faint from fear and exhaustion'*, he carried her into the house then searched the streets for his Master and Count Rice without success.

They had gone to the Three Tuns Tavern in Stall Street and hired a coach and four which drove them and their seconds, Toole and a Mr Rogers, down through the town, picking up a surgeon Mr Cadby at

1 am. On reaching the Old Bridge over the River Avon they ordered the postilions to drive them up to Claverton Down. Until 1792 the Bath racecourse was sited there, stretching from the Down House (now Rainbow Wood Farm) to the site of the present Bath University.

The combatants were silent during the journey and the coach reached the hilltop at about 4 am on 18 November. They drove around the Down, stopping at the grandstand near the Down House to wait for daylight. Du Barré was impatient to proceed with the duel but Count Rice remained calm and composed. The quarrel must have been serious as the seconds did not attempt reconciliation during the wait. Dawn broke soon after six and the coach drove across the racecourse to the parish boundary wall separating Claverton from Bathampton Down. Du Barré, the Count and the seconds 'went over the wall' leaving the surgeons and postilions to watch from the Claverton side. They saw the four in conversation about 60 yards away and heard firearms being prepared. Then the seconds paced out the ground.

The noblemen removed their coats and faced each other, firing their pistols simultaneously. Despite being badly wounded in the groin Count Rice managed to fire his second pistol, shooting the Viscount through the chest. He fell to the ground dying instantly; there was nothing the surgeon could do so he went to assist the Count. Toole removed the Viscount's money, watch and pocket book then walked to Bath with Rogers. The surgeon got Rice into the coach and sent a postilion for help - he soon met three labourers and sent them to stay with the body. Count Rice then ordered him to collect the weapons from the scene before they proceeded to Bath.

The Viscount's servants arrived just before noon and took care of the body which was taken to a house in Bathampton where the inquest was held, probably the George Inn. After deliberating for 16 hours the jury of 12 Bathampton men reached a verdict of manslaughter. This event was probably the most sensational to have ever happened in this small, quiet village and was reported not only in Bath but nationwide. As Bathampton parish dealt with the death it must therefore have taken place on Bathampton Down, not Claverton Down. At that time Bathampton Down, now the Bath Golf Club course, was turf grazed by sheep; Ralph Allen had built Sham Castle on its western edge sixteen years previously and had put in numerous plantations of fir trees.

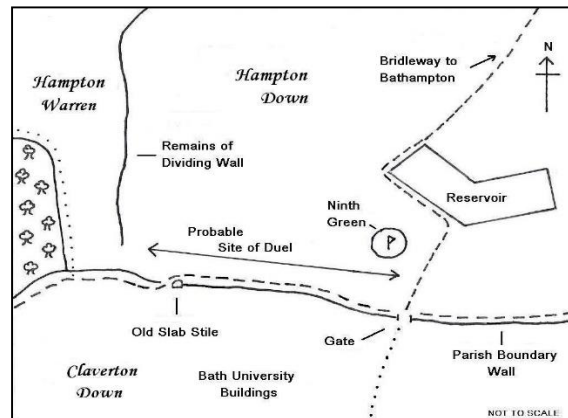
Madame du Barré instructed the Duke of Northumberland to arrange her affairs and organise the funeral before hastily returning to France to escape the gossip and speculation. The Viscount was buried in Bathampton Churchyard on Sunday, 22 November, north-west of the church tower. A flat, rectangular stone slab with the following inscription marks his grave, now beneath a walnut tree.



'Here rest the remains of JOHN BAPTISTE Viscount du Barré, Obiit. 18th Novr 1778'. A71.

Count Rice recovered from his wound and was tried at Taunton Assizes on 26 March, 1779. The judge noted the defendant's reluctance to fight and suggested a verdict of manslaughter but the jury decided he was not guilty. The Count later returned to the continent where he died in Spain in 1809. An ivory knob said to be from the hilt of his sword is attached to the Bath Town Clerk's Seal and kept at Bath Guildhall.

It is said that immediately after the Duel a stone was placed marking the spot but, despite extensive searching over many years it cannot be found. It is likely that the combatants '*went over the wall*' using an old slab stone stile which still exists and that the duel was fought somewhere in the vicinity of today's fairway on the southern edge of the present golf course. Edmund Rack visited Bathampton between 1781 and 1787 doing research for his book '*Survey of Somerset*'. In this he writes of how he rode up to '*the eastern point of the hill called Hampton Cliffs, nearly 700 feet above the river*' where he stopped to admire the view. '*About half a mile south of this spot, behind the great plantation of firs which front the city of Bath, the duel was fought*'. The plantation, which would have provided a secluded spot for a duel, is long gone but is marked on the following plan.



The story of the Duel and the stone which marked the spot has been passed down through local families for generations and has formed part of local folklore.

Courtesy Mary Clark, 2024.

A more detailed account with photographs can be found in '*Bathampton Down, A Hill Divided*'. Bathampton LHRG, 2017, pp 89-97. ISBN 978-1-91202067-8.

THE CHARMBURY FAMILY

A60; A69; B43; B44; B62

Ancient Bathampton family

The name of Charmbury appears throughout the church registers which date from 1599, including numerous burials through to 1883, of which only a few are now extant. Most of which are located near the door to the vestry.

A surname distribution map [*based on the 1881 census*] shows the name Charmbury and variants (*Cha[e]rn[e]bury, Charmbryh; Charmebury, Charmberye/urie*) being found predominately in Somerset and Wiltshire. Locally it is associated not only with Bath, but Twerton, Southstoke, Combe Hay, Monkton Combe and Claverton. It is also connected with Bathampton being mentioned in Medieval Deeds of the 14th century and in greater detail in documents, held by the Bathampton LHRG, dating from the late 16th century through to 1931. These form the basis of a more in- depth study of the family by the Group entitled '*The Charmbury family, The Grange and Steam Mill*' along with a family tree.

Like the Fisher family, who are mostly buried under the Chancel, the Charmbury family has ancient connections with the parish dating back at least to 1327. They were Freeholders and associated with sites we now know as The Grange and Bathampton Lodge; as such they did not come under the jurisdiction of the Manor and held land mostly located in the area known as Holcombe together with pasturage rights on Hampton Down.

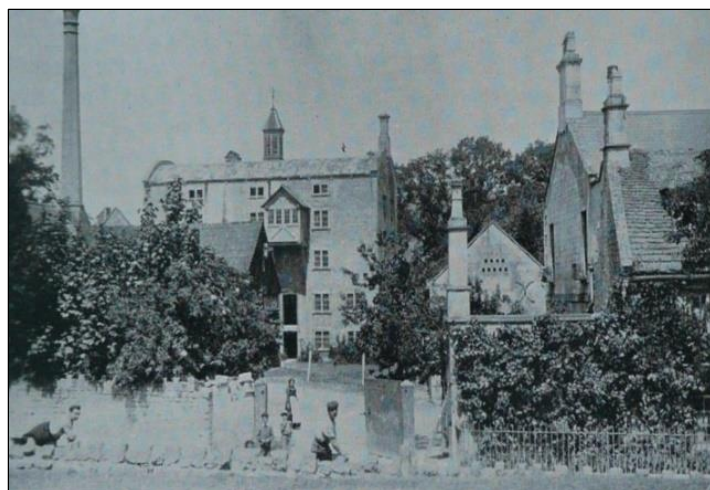


The Grange, south elevation. 2008.

The earliest reference is to a Thoma Chermebury (along with eight parishioners) being taxed 2s in the 1327 Lay Subsidy Return for Hampton - a tax dating from 1181 based on the value of a person's removable items, at the rate of 1 tenth of their value. A further seven had to pay 3s each; another three paid 4s and one more paid 6 shillings. Thoma was, it would appear, of a reasonable standing within the community.

The family were often referred to as Yeoman or Gentlemen. It is not possible to detail their long association with Bathampton here, however, during the 19th century the family became widely known for their steam mill which is worthy of mention.

It had been built by brothers James and William Charmbury, sons of John Croome and Dorcas Charmbury, of the Grange, about 1852 on their land that lay to the north west of the house alongside the Kennet and Avon canal, and as freeholders were unhindered in their project. They had recognised the opportunities the canal offered with regards transport for their proposed enterprise of milling flour - not only for the delivery of grain from Bristol but with the distribution of the resulting flour. An agreement was made with the Canal Company to rent the bank of the canal for use as a wharf and to use the waterway for trading purposes.



The steam mill from the High Street, The Grange on the right, c1900.

The five storey mill, powered by steam, was built with a 'cat head' jutting out over the canal enabling grain to be unloaded and hauled to the upper floors where it could be fed down through the various milling processes. They appear to have been successful in their enterprise gaining contracts to supply various institutions in Bath and Bristol.

James was born on the 5 January, 1796 and as eldest of the family succeeded to the house and lands. He died, unmarried, in 1858 and William, the next eldest, inherited his part of the business and his property.

William, born on the 22 March, 1812, had married Mary Ann Harriet Butcher on 12 December, 1850 at St Saviours, Larkhall and had five children. After James's death William continued to run the mill and farm 140 acres with the help of 10 men. At various times in the 1850s-60s he held parish offices such as Churchwarden, Waywarden and Overseer of the Poor.

He paid the church a '*substantial proportion towards a new [north] aisle*' for which, at Easter 1861, he was '*allocated a pew, no. 24, of five sittings*'. [In March 1928 his son, James Alfred, presented this freehold to the Churchwardens as a thanks offering for the recovery from illness. '*It was to be a 'free seat' for ever*'].]

In 1861 a number of outbuildings were destroyed by fire believed to have been started by younger members of William's family playing with matches. Despite this set-back William continued milling, together with his two sons until 1872 when he was declared bankrupt.

The mill together with The Grange was put up for sale along with animals and stock. Both the mill and The Grange were purchased by Bath Paper Mills but by 1883 they were up for sale once more this time being purchased by the Bath Lager Beer Co., but this enterprise also failed and was followed by a series of short lived ventures by milling and steam baking companies and, in the late 1890s, were held by the Grosvenor Breweries. By the turn of the century they were once more up for sale and the mill's fortunes changed when William Harbutt purchased the property for the purpose of expanding his invention of Plasticine. The old steam mill was eventually destroyed by fire during a night in early February, 1963. (For further information see section on William Harbutt and family).

William and his wife Harriet went to live at Holcombe Cottage for a while before moving to Hanover Street, Bath to live with a daughter and son. The connection with Bathampton didn't quite end here. William died on the 28 September, 1880 and was buried at Bathampton; Harriet died on the 26 April, 1883 and was buried in the same Charmbury vault. Shortly afterwards their son Alfred inherited from his uncle (Harriet's brother) a quarter of the rights of grazing on Hampton Down and a parcel of land adjoining the Down - both previously owned by William prior to his bankruptcy. These passed down to Alfred's son, John Richard, who disentailed the 'tail male' of any future male claims to the property and on 25 July, 1931 he sold the '*¼ right of pasturage over Bathampton Down and Fussells (wood) No. 55 and 65, to Anthony Guiniss Franklin Spurr of Selworthy Cottage, Bloomfield Road, Bath*'. (This was later sold to Bath Golf Club). The connection with Bathampton now ended.

Both James, William and Harriet are buried in two of the family vaults; James with his parents [B44] and William and Harriet with earlier members of the family [B43].



The Charmbury vault, B43, in which William and Harriet were buried. 2024.

Memorial inscriptions:

'In memory of Harriet[Charmbury] wife of William Butcher of Bath who died 18th October 1817 aged 37 years; also Hannah second wife of William Butcher who died 4th September 1823 aged 48 years; also of the above William Butcher who died 9th January 1826 aged 51 years. Also of William George grandson of the above and eldest child of William and Mary Anne Harriett Charmbury of Bath who died 21st April 1859 aged 7 years, also of Fanny Edith Charmbury youngest child of the above who died 19th August 1877 aged 16 years'. A60. Altar tomb.

'..... illegible..... also Diones Charmbury spinster daughter of the late John Croome Charmbury of this parish who died Feb. 23rd 1838 aged 32'. A69. Altar tomb.

'Also here lyeth the body of Elizabeth the daughter of James and Elizabeth Charmbury of this parish who died the 4th day of September 1734 aged 28 years....

Here lyeth the body of James Charmbury of this parish who departed this life he 29th day of October 1710 aged 43 years.....

Near this tomb lyeth ye body of Elizabeth the wife of James Charmbury of this parish and late the widow of Thomas Clement of Batheaston who departed this life the 30 day of January 1763 aged 85 years. Here lyeth the body of James Charmbury son of James and Diones Charmbury of the parish who died March 4th 1758 aged 5 years.

Near this site lieth the body of Diones Charmbury wife of James Charmbury of this parish who departed this life the 10th day of January 1773 aged 45 years. Also near this site lieth the body of James Charmbury of this parish, Gent. who departed this life the 5th day of April 1784 in the 80th year of his age.

Here lyeth the body of William Charmbury born 22nd March 1812, died 28th September 1880....

Here lyeth the remains of Mary Ann Harriett widow of William Charmbury who died April 26th 1883 aged 65 years. Also in memory of John Croome Charmbury son of the above who was killed during the siege of Pretoria, South Africa, February 1881 aged 25 years. George H. Charmbury brother of the above died Malvern Sept. 23 1909 aged 51 years'. B43. Altar tomb.

'Sacred to the memory of John Croome Charmbury (of this parish) Gent. who departed this life on the 18th day of December 1813 aged 59 years. Also George son of the above who died November 21st 1820 aged 22 years. Also John Charmbury who died April 27th 1822 aged 14 years and of Dorcas, widow of the above named John Croome Charmbury who died August 7th 1852 aged 80 years. Also James eldest son of the above John Croome Charmbury and Dorcas his wife died March 31st 1858 in the 63rd year of his age'. B44. Altar tomb.

'In memory of Hannah and Mary daughters of John Croome Charmbury by Dorcas his wife of this parish who died in their infancy. Also Ann their daughter who died June 7th 1800 aged 6 years'.

B62. Head and foot stones missing, 2005.

COLES, Sarah and children

Unidentified grave

One of many suicides.

The River Avon and Bathampton weirs were often the cause of deaths by misadventure, usually due to boats venturing too close to the weirs and being overturned. They also claimed a number of lives of those committing suicide. With the arrival of the Kennet and Avon Canal and later the Great Western Railway, suicides became a little more frequent in the parish and if they were not parishioners their remains were often buried here, the responsibility for burial resting on the parish in which death had occurred. The canal bridge on Meadow Farm Lane (Candy's Bridge) and the adjoining railway bridge became a favoured spot for suicides both becoming known as 'Suicide Bridge'.

Possibly one of the saddest stories relating to suicides in the parish is that concerning Sarah Coles and her family.

It appears that Sarah had lived comfortably with her husband, a gilder and engraver, and two children in Larkhall, but due to reduced circumstances had moved to Bristol to take on a public house. This

venture had failed and the family (now with five children) returned to Bath subsisting by selling their wearing apparel and any chattels they still had. On the morning of 8 July, 1863 a District Visitor had called and recommended the family went into the workhouse. Sarah had replied she would rather jump into the river with her baby than go there. She had threatened to take her life and that of the younger children on several occasions previously saying that her husband could support himself and the two older children but not five.

Shortly afterwards she walked out from Bath with the three youngest children. On reaching Candy's Bridge she first threw Matilda, aged five, into the canal then John, aged three. She then jumped in herself with Alfred, a babe in arms of five months. A man working in nearby fields heard screams and rushed to the scene, he then ran to the Folly Pub (adjacent to Grosvenor Bridge) to get the grab poles kept there, but to no avail. The bodies were removed to The George for an Inquest to be held - the verdict of 'Suicide' was returned. All four were buried on the 10 July in an unmarked grave at the parish's expense.



'Candy's' or Meadow Farm Bridge. 2024.

DAVIS, Samuel, and, HOLBROOK, James

Long serving Parish Clerks
C89, C72

Within the churchyard are the family graves of two long serving Parish Clerks - Samuel Davis who died 6 December, 1817 aged 96 having served 47 years, and, James Holbrook who died 24 October, 1872 aged 70 having served over fifty years.

The role of Parish Clerk was important to the running of church affairs and also in the work of the Vestry. The Vestry was a body that dealt not only with ecclesiastical matters but also many of those regarding the running of the parish. Amongst its many responsibilities was the annual walking of the bounds at Rogation tide; overseeing poor relief, law and order and upkeep of the parish roads - appointing parishioners to carry out such duties. It had the power to raise rates in support of these works. Some of its functions had been taken over from the manorial courts which had mostly faded away in the 17th and 18th centuries. During the 19th century the Vestry was gradually superseded by Acts such as the Local Government Act and other legislations that centralised responsibilities either nationally or at County or Borough levels. It was eventually replaced by the Parochial Church Council and formation of the Parish Council in 1894.

The person appointed as Parish Clerk had to be literate and the post was often held for life and might pass from father to son. The duties included arranging baptisms and communions, acting as sexton, ringing the bell for service and often led the responses at services. It was also their responsibility for collecting pew rents and customary fees and maintaining appropriate accounts. They were often called upon to be a witness at weddings and both the names of Samuel and James appear frequently throughout the marriage registers during their time in office. The appointment was made by the Vicar

and was a paid post. With no resident vicar in the parish - the church still being annexed to Bathford until 1855 - the work of Bathampton's Parish Clerk was of even greater importance.

Very little is known of Samuel Davis despite having served the parish for so long. He married Anne Fry on the 29 October, 1755 both being of Bathampton; one of the witnesses was Hester Holder, wife of Charles Holder the then Lord of the Manor. They had at least one child - Elizabeth baptised on the 5 October, 1766.

The name of Holbrook is associated with the parish from the 18th century to the early twentieth century.

Daniel Holbrook, James' father, succeeded Samuel Davis as Parish Clerk in 1817 until his own death in 1822. It would seem that James, his son, then took on the role until he died in 1872.

James was baptised on 26 June, 1803 one of five children born to Daniel and Mary Lee. He married his cousin, Elizabeth Holbrook, on 25 September, 1828. She was baptised on 20 October 1805 - the second child of five born to John and Jane. The family lived in one of several cottages that became Court Leet. They took an active part in parish affairs and their name is frequently mentioned in village records. As well as serving as Parish Clerk, James became the village post master, from at least 1860, operating the service of receiving and despatching post from the cottage. After his death on the 24 October, 1872 his wife continued in this role for a few years after which their married daughter, Mrs Emma Edwards, took over. Elizabeth died 24 March, 1882 and was buried with her husband.

James and Elizabeth had four children only two survived to maturity, Emma and their first son, William James. William became a marble mason and after his marriage in 1852 continued to live in the parish and was buried here in 1897.



Headstone for Samuel Davies, C89. 2024.



The Holbrook grave, C72. 2024.

Memorial Inscriptions:

*'In memory of Ann Davis wife of Samuel Davies of this Parysh who died May the 10th 1800 aged 72 years. Also Samuel Davies **Clerke** of this parish 47 years who died December 6th 1817 in his 96th year'.* C89. Low altar stone with headstone, west, and footstone, east. Inscription on headstone. A.D. 1800 S.D. 1817 is recorded on top of altar stone and on footstone.

'I.H.S. Sacred to the memory of James Holbrook Clerk of this parish over fifty years who died October 24th 1872 in his 70th year.... Erected by his affectionate widow and children. Also of Elizabeth Holbrook, widow of the above who died March 24th 1882 in her 77th year..... Also buried here Caroline Matilda Taylor buried Jan. 4th 1913 aged 40'. C72. Headstone with curb and footstone.

DESHON, Lt. General Frederick George Thomas

C103; D41

Distinguished army officer

Born in 1818 at Chester, son of Major Peter Deshon who had volunteered into the army in 1794 serving in the 43rd and 85th Regiments throughout the Peninsular Campaign. He married in 1851 May daughter of William Hooton Deverill and had two daughters, she died 1858; married secondly in 1875 Julia (died 1904) daughter of Alexander Tower and had a son and daughter.

He entered the army as an ensign in 1837 in the 86th Regiment - the same year as Queen Victoria ascended the throne. In 1841 he was made Lieutenant and served with 22nd Regiment in Scinde under Sir Charles Napier; present at Battle of Hyderabad (medal) and served throughout the South Mahratta Campaign 1844-45 receiving the medal. Made Captain 1849 and with the 48th Regiment landed in Crimea in 1855 where he saw much fighting and was mentioned in despatches. Served at siege and fall of Sebastopol and received medal and clasp; the Brevet of Major, the 5th Class order of the Medjidie and the Turkish medal. From 1864-1870 was Assistant Inspector of Volunteers before retiring. In his latter years was famed in military circles for being the last survivor of the famous army of Sir Charles Napier which had fought so bravely in the Scinde campaign of 1843.

In 1902 he was awarded a CB and in 1903 the Lieutenant General received the great honour of being appointed Colonel of the Yorkshire Light Infantry. Though in his 85th year he enjoyed good health and it was hoped he might be spared for many years longer to fill the Colonelcy of the King's Own.

He came to Bath early in the 1870s and for a while lived at Grove House, at the top of Bathwick Hill before renting the original Bathampton House c1876-1896 and subsequently purchasing Chorian House [now *Druids Garth*], Bathampton Lane from 1896-1913. Here he took a deep interest in church affairs and was churchwarden 1878-1898; on resignation his '*friends and neighbours*' presented him with a handsome silver bowl. He had been instrumental to the Bathampton Jubilee Memorial Scheme, which included the 1887 enlargement of the vestry. With his wife became constant visitors of the first school supporting it in various ways and he had presided at the very first Parish Council Meeting in 1894. Of a simple, unassuming nature he was held in the utmost regard by all who knew him and was last to speak of his military exploits, unique as they were. After only a week's illness he died at Chorian House on 3 April, 1913, aged 94, having been a great influence on the parish and always interested in its wellbeing.

His funeral was held with semi military honours with six Sergeants and four Buglers from the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in attendance. The coffin was of panelled oak with brass fittings with inscription '*Frederick George Thomas Deshon died April 13 1913 aged 94*'. Covered in a Union Jack, it was borne from his residence at the top of Bathampton Lane on the shoulders of six villagers - C. Bence, H. Adams, F. Tucker, H. Loveder, J. Newman and E. J. Fudge who alternated with the six Sergeants in full dress. The procession also consisted of the four Buglers. It was met at the west gate by the clergy (three of whom were family members) and surpliced choir and a simple service followed at his request. After the committal and recited psalm the Buglers sounded the Last Post whilst standing at the south side of the grave which was lined with evergreens. It was the same grave in which his second wife had been buried eleven years earlier.

His unmarried daughter, Constance, who had lived with him, moved in to Bath and the house was sold in the May. Following her death in 1943 she was buried at Bathampton in a separate grave.

Ferdinand George Tower Deshon, his son, also went into the army but was badly wounded early in the First World War. However, he rose to rank of Major (and later Colonel) in the Artillery and appointed Major Instructor in Gunnery at the School of Instructors for Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery in 1916. He died at Wiveliscombe, Devon on 28 November, 1936 and is remembered on his parents grave. Several of the Colonel's nephews also became distinguished officers.



Chorian House (now Druids Garth). 2024.



Remains of the Deshon grave and memorial cross, C103. 2024.

Memorial inscriptions:

'In memory of Julia Euphemia Elizabeth the dearly loved wife of Lieut. General Deshon died 19 March, 1904 [aged 65]. Also of Lt. General Frederick George Thomas Deshon, CB., Colonel, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. Died April 3, 1913 aged 94. Also in dear memory of Ferdinand George Tower Deshon, Colonel Royal Artillery, died 28 November 1936'. C103. Curbed grave with cross on three plinths; cross now broken and lying flat on ground, 2024. Ferdinand G. not in burial register.

'In loving memory of Constance Dewhurst Deshon died January 28th 1943'. D41. Curbed grave.

References:

Death and Funeral General Deshon, Bath Chronicle 5 April and 12 April, 1913.

EMBLEY, Edward

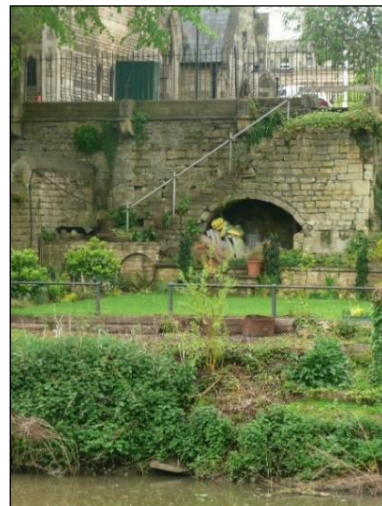
A53, A54

Ferryman

Although little has been found on this family it is thought that Edward and Thomas Embley were cousins, living with their wives at South Parade, Bath in the parish of St James. Probably in accommodation adjacent to Ferry Steps (known as Whitehall Stairs) that led down to the river at the end of the Parade where they ran the South Parade Ferry. The steps and gate leading onto them can still be seen.



Above: Gate leading to Ferry Steps. 2024.



Right: Ferry Steps leading to the river. 2024.

There were two other ferries - one leading from Walcot to Bathwick just downstream from today's Cleveland Bridge and a horse ferry operating just above the present Pulteney Bridge used for transporting livestock on route to the Bath Markets.

The South Parade ferry became the favoured route for those wishing to stroll in the Bathwick Meadows or visit Spring Gardens and appears to have survived until after the North Parade Bridge was constructed in 1836.

On 15 May, 1817 this ferry was the scene of a tragedy when, during a 'Beating of the Bathwick bounds' event, too many people scrambled aboard, the boat upturned at a particularly deep part of the river and six people drowned. One victim, a thirteen-year-old boy from the Bluecoat School was subsequently buried in Bathwick's graveyard. The Embley family must have been witnesses to this incident.

Edward's wife, Sarah, died shortly after on 15 July, 1817 aged 56 and was buried on the 20th. Edward died on 29 November, 1818 aged 50 and was buried on the 29th. Thomas died on 23 April, 1820, aged 36, and was buried with them on the 28th. Thomas' wife, Joan, died on 27 February, 1838 aged 56 and was buried separately on 4 March.



Hipped tomb of Joan Embley, A53. 2024.

Memorial inscriptions:

'In memory of Joan Embley wife of Thomas Embley for many years an inhabitant of the South Parade, Bath departed this life 27 February 1838 aged 56 years....'. A53. Gable or hipped tombstone.

'Sacred to the memory of Sarah wife of Edward Embley of the South Parade Ferry, Bath who died July 15th 1817 aged 46. Also the above Edward Embley died November 24 1818 aged 50. Also Thomas Embley of the above place died April 23 1820 aged 36....'. A54. Headstone, missing 2005.

GILLIAT, Rev. Edward M.A.(Oxon)

Unidentified grave.

Clergyman and author

Edward Gilliat was born in 1844 at Horncastle, Lincolnshire. He was blind for a year when aged 13 and suffered a severe attack of typhoid fever when 15 - both of which affected his education. Following private tuition he was able to enter Pembroke College, Oxford (1861-64) where he had a distinguished record and gained First Class degrees in Classics. He was a keen sportsman, a good fencer and rowed for his college. From 1867-1879 he was a Master at Westminster School and then Assistant Master (Classics) at Harrow (1871-August 1901) during which time he wrote for the London Review. In 1871 he married Emily Louisa Bonus (born Stratford, Essex c1842), at Hastings and had the following issue:

Irena Dorothea born 1875, Hendon, died Weymouth 1958;
 Emmaline Gertrude born 1876 Hendon, died 1947 Totness aged 70;
 Nesta Catharine, born 1877 Hendon, died Bath 1971, aged 84. Buried St Mary's Churchyard, Smallcombe;
 Lillias Elizabeth born 1878 Hendon, died Bath 1958 aged 79. Buried St Mary's Churchyard, Smallcombe.
 Enia [Enid] Mary B. born 1879 Hendon, married Mr [] Keith, died Wandsworth 1972.
 One son: Desmond Alan Keith.
 Edward Norman born 1881 Hendon, died from wounds during the First World War.

On retirement from Harrow in August, 1901 the family went to reside at Lavingham Rectory, Petworth where he officiated for the parish of Graffam Petworth from c1901-1913.

Edward was a notable author and wrote the following:

Asylum Christi - three volumes;	On the Wolds;
Under the Downs;	Forest Outlaws;
John Standish;	In Lincoln Green;
Wolf's Head;	Dorothy Dymoke;
God Save King Alfred;	Heroes of Modern India;
Heroes of Modern Crusades;	The Romance of modern sieges;
The Kings Reeve and how he supped with his Master;	Heroes of the Age of Elizabeth
Heroes of the Indian Mutiny- stories of heroic deeds, intrepidity and determination in the face of the odds during the great mutiny.	

He was a member of the Authors Club and National Liberal Club. His wife, Emily, died December quarter 1912 at Midhurst, aged 71. Shortly afterwards he moved to Avonhurst (*now Tasburgh*), Warminster Road, Bathampton with at least two of his daughters.



Avonhurst (now Tasburgh). 2024.

During 1915 their son, Lieutenant Edward Norman Gilliat, who was serving with the Canadians, was wounded and came home on leave to convalesce. In September he was promoted to rank of Captain for good work done with his regiment when in action. Then, on the 18 December, 1915 the Bath Chronicle carried the following headlines - '*Shocking accident at Pulteney Bridge; Rev. E. Gilliat of Avonhurst fatally wounded*'. The long account included details of the accident; inquest and burial from which the following is extracted:

The Rev. E. Gilliat had been struck by a motor car on Pulteney Bridge on Friday, 10 December and was removed to the RUH where he became unconscious and died early Saturday morning. He was 74 years old, with good sight but slightly deaf. Apparently he was returning home after attending a lecture at the Assembly Rooms and was crossing Bridge Street from Duck Son and Pinker's to stationers Messrs G. M. Curtis on the other side of the road. There was a car coming slowly down the

street which sounded its horn as a warning to Rev. Gilliat who turned, hesitated and then started back to the pavement. The car's brakes were jammed on but the car skidded on the greasy road knocking down and running over the reverend gentleman. He is survived by five daughters and one son serving as a Captain with the Canadians who was at home on sick leave not long ago. Rev. Gilliat had been a great author of literary books and won a notable reputation at school for fencing. He had retired to Bathampton two or three years ago.

The inquest was held on Monday, 13 December when his daughter Liliat said his eyesight was good but that he was slightly deaf. He was conscious when she saw him in hospital but he didn't know what had happened. Witnesses stated that the car was going quite slowly, and accident only due to greasiness of road causing it to skid. If the Rev. Gilliat had not gone back the accident would have been avoided as the driver had tried to swerve towards the pavement to avoid him. He had died of an internal haemorrhage. A case of accidental death was returned.

'In drenching tempestuous weather the interment took place at Bathampton Church on Tuesday 14 December [register states 15th]. Mourners included Captain Norman Gilliat (son) of the Canadian Contingent who had come from France for the funeral; The Misses Gilliat (3) and Mrs Keith (daughters); Mr Keith (son in law) and Miss Gilliat (niece). Miss G. Gilliat (cousin); Mr Arthur Gilliat (brother); General Bonus (brother in law) plus others including local residents. Music included O rest in the Lord; Peace Perfect Peace; The King of Love my Shepherd is. The grave was lined with moss, ivy and chrysanthemums. Flowers included those from his children; from Miss Barlow; Laura Barlow; Matron, sisters and nurses of Red Cross Hospital No 2 and patients of C ward of same hospital and others including locals'. *This was at the original Bathampton House.*

In his Will he left an autographed letter written by Lord Nelson; his cups won at rowing; his plate and portraits to his son Edward (jnr) and an autographed letter from Cardinal Newman to his grandson Desmond Alan Keith.

The Bath Chronicle reported on 3 November, 1917 that *'among officers decorated by the King on Wednesday were Major E. Gilliat of the Canadian Infantry, son of the late Rev. E. Gilliat of Avonhurst, Bathampton'*. Then, a year later, on the 24 August, 1918 the Bath Chronicle announced that *'Major Gilliat has died of wounds. Only brother of the Misses Gilliat of Avonhurst'*.

Major Edward N. Gilliat, MC was serving with the Canadian Infantry having formerly been a Lieutenant with the 3rd East Yorkshire Regiment. Before entering the War he was a Mortgage Broker having previously been a professional soldier and had served in the South African War, receiving the Queen's medal with three clasps. He had then served with the Canadian Infantry at the Second Battle of Ypres Hill 70; The Somme; Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele and was awarded the Military Cross in October 1917. During his time fighting at the front he was wounded three times. He died on the 12 August, 1918 at a clearing station after being seriously wounded by a shell, aged 36, and was buried Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery, France and remembered on the Bathampton Roll of Honour.

At least two of the daughters continued to live at Avonhurst until 1920, it is not clear where they lived after this date. From 1950 to their death Liliat Elizabeth and Nesta Catharine B. are listed in the Bath Street Directories as residing at 10 Darlington Place, Bathwick. The Parish Registers and Memorial Inscriptions for St Mary's, Bathwick show that Liliat died in 1958 aged 79 and was buried in St Mary's Churchyard, Smallcombe and that Nesta died in 1971 aged 84 and was buried with her sister. Emmaline Gertrude B. had died at Totness in 1947 and Irena Dorothea at Weymouth in 1958. The only sister to marry, Enia [Enid] Mary B. Keith, died at Wandsworth in 1972 leaving one child - Desmond Alan Keith.

Rev. Gilliat's burial is recorded in the Burial Register, however there is no record of location and it appears to be one of the many unmarked graves.

HARBUTT, William and Elizabeth and their family

C149; C149a; C171; E19

The inventor of Plasticine

William Harbutt (13 February, 1844-1 June, 1921) was the 7th of eight children born to Thomas and Elizabeth (née Jefcote) Harbutt of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He studied at the South Kensington Art School - an artist of considerable skill, later becoming an Associate of the Royal College of Artists.

In 1874 William came to Bath as Headmaster of the Bath School of Art. Shortly afterwards he married Elizabeth Cambridge, (1847-27 March, 1930), of Cambridge who was also a very talented artist and noted painter of china and miniatures - painting miniatures for both Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. They had six children (three girls and three boys) all of whom inherited their parent's artistic and inventive abilities. (Elizabeth's surname was perpetuated by using it as a middle name for their children and by future generations). In 1877 he left this position and with his wife and several other teachers established their own studio - The Paragon Art Studio at 15 Bladud Buildings, offering a wide range of classes.

William had an enquiring and inventive mind. For a long time he had the idea of creating a material that had more potential than clay for modelling in his sculpture classes. The water contained in clay was likely to carry disease - depending on its source - it was unwieldy and tended to dry out too quickly. He sought to develop something more pliable and longer lasting.

After much experimentation in the basement of his home in Alfred Street his object was accomplished in 1897 - he had invented a substance that met his needs. The basic recipe is still a guarded secret but is known to include china clay and Vaseline. It was to become a material that by its use an immense amount of educational therapy, practical modelling, solution of industrial problems and creative fun could be achieved, ultimately gaining an international reputation.

When he found his young children greatly amused by the material he began to realise its potentials and started to make quantities of it at his home in Alfred Street with a retail outlet in Milsom Street. At first it was only produced in grey, but he was soon producing it in yellow, red and blue.

An advertisement placed in The Royal Magazine carried the slogan '*Plasticine is something new and hopes to make a friend of you - a pound packet post free for 1s 6d*'. This one advertisement brought an overwhelming number of orders and the whole family was put to work making and despatching it. Further advertisements brought more custom and interest from the commercial world.

William was soon looking to expand what he now saw as a viable commercial business. He started to look at possible premises and came across Charnbury's old flour mill at Bathampton together with living accommodation at The Grange.

'The mill was a five-storey building with a 'cat-head' projecting from the fourth floor over the canal on the north side. It was full of old little stair-cases, rough wooden floors, curiously fashioned doors and tiny windows peering out of the thick walls solidly built of local stone..... a building with a decided character of its own'.

He raised the purchase price with backing from his relations in the north and in 1901 moved, with his family, to The Grange. Having converted the mill, production of Plasticine started in earnest. The business expanded rapidly in the following years, and in 1912 became a Limited Company headed by William and sons Noel and Eric. The canal was used to bring in coke and raw materials while the nearby station played a great part in the despatch of the end product.



The old steam mill, north side.

William was a good employer and kept jobs open for staff called up to serve in the First World War. Many villagers found employment in the factory. He encouraged the playing of games during the lunch break on the ground between the factory and the road, including cricket, football and hockey - rules being made up as they went along. He would frequently allow extra time to ensure a result rather than a draw. During the winter months staff were often allowed extra time to skate on the canal and on occasions during the summer he would let them go home early to '*enjoy the fresh air*'. Annual outings to the seaside were organised for staff and their families which were also attended by members of the Harbutt family.

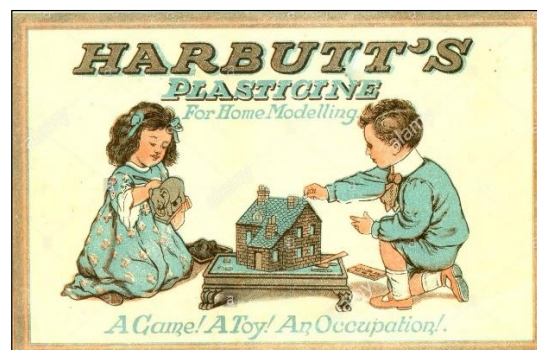
He was a non-smoker and teetotaler; a kind and generous man, supporting local societies and doing his best to improve the amenities of the village, creating a snooker and reading room. A staunch Liberal, he stood for Somerset County Council and for some years served on the Bath Rural District Council and Board of Guardians and, from 1911 to his death, was Chairman of the Parish Council. A regular church-goer, he became attracted to the Swedenborg movement; his life's motto being '*All religion has relation to life and the life of religion is to do good*'.

William was invariably seen with a walking stick - when 16 he fell and broke his hip and had to lie up for two years and was left with one leg shorter than the other.

He purchased Bathampton Lodge in 1908, which he rented out until sold in 1924, and built a wall to split this property from The Villa which was in its grounds. It was in this latter property that his eldest son Noel and wife Maud came to live renaming it I-kaya (African for home). He built a new coach house for the Lodge (today used for pre-school children), whilst the original coach-house (now named Tithe Barn) was converted for use as reading and snooker rooms. From c1939-1947 it became the 'Dog's Head Cafe'; and for a while used as a butcher's. It was later converted into living accommodation and from c1950-c1955 Donald, Noel's first son, resided there, then from c1965-1984 it was occupied by Roy, Noel's fourth son, and Maud Cooper - previously housekeeper to Noel and his wife.

William spent much time touring and giving demonstrations of the advantages of Plasticine in teaching. His eldest daughter, Olive, joined him and they started making visits abroad. In 1908 they toured Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and Canada achieving success beyond belief. Whilst away Noel and brother Eric ran the business.

Production continued throughout the First World War and Plasticine began to be used for other purposes - one of which was as ear plugs for soldiers in combat. William's three sons, Noel, Eric and Owen were called up and on being de-mobbed returned to the business.



Early advertisements.

In May, 1921 William was on a trip to America when he caught a chill whilst on board ship. This developed into pneumonia and he died in New York on the 1 June, 1921. His body was embalmed and brought back to Bathampton for burial on the 21 June, 1921. A huge cortège accompanied the coffin from The Grange to the church with colleagues and associates carrying wreaths and tributes. Elizabeth recorded that she had over 500 letters of sympathy.

His Will published in November, 1921 directed that for a period of five years from his death £10 a year each was to be paid to the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Swedenborg Society, London, and the Bath RUH and £6 a year each to the Bath New Church Sunday School; the Bath New Church Book Room, and the Bathampton Club Reading Room and Village Recreation Room.

He cared deeply for the village and its affairs and did much to aid its well-being. After the First World War, as Chairman of the Parish Council, he put forward a plan to erect a permanent memorial to those who had died in the conflict. He proposed that local men should cut a large block of stone from the Bathampton Quarries which would be erected as a monolith, suitably inscribed, in the corner of the churchyard facing the canal bridge. Sadly he died before this came to fruition and the semi-circle of ground given for the purpose still stands unadorned.

Elizabeth continued to live at The Grange until her death on 27 March, 1930 aged 84.



Elizabeth and William Harbutt in later life.

William's eldest son, Noel Cambridge (1877-1949), served with the Somerset Light Infantry in the Boer War and held the rank of Major and saw further service during the First World War being mentioned in despatches for gallantry. He had attended the South Kensington School of Art and was a talented artist and noted photographer carrying his camera nearly everywhere he went. He joined the firm in 1903 and was appointed Chairman in 1930 (taking over from John Dawson, his cousin, who had held the post since William's death). Noel was mainly involved in the day-to-day running of the business and kept the firm going throughout the 2nd World War supplying the Army, Navy and Air-

force. Maud, his wife, did a great deal for the school and village activities. On his death in 1949 his brother Eric Cambridge (1884-1969) became Chairman until 1967. Eric also had an inventive mind and did much to develop and improve machinery used in the production processes. He was succeeded by Owen Cambridge, the boffin of the family.

Owen (1889-1995) was the youngest child and had also inherited his father's inventive mind. After serving in France during the First World War set himself up in his own business in wooden huts in front of the old factory - Owen Cambridge and Company. He bought Plasticine from the factory and sold it in packs together with cleverly shaped moulds called Presto Shapes. He went on to manufacture stencils and outfits, novel and constructive toys. In 1920 he became a Director of Harbutts and after the Second World War his business was incorporated within the main firm. He invented many devices for increasing the production of Plasticine and an entirely new method of making chalks and new lines.

Known affectionately as 'Uncle Nunc', the model railway and swimming pool which he constructed were well known together with his film shows and children's parties with illuminated jellies. He was also noted for his presents of blown eggs with the surprise of finding a bank note inside! Village children often visited him, taking along broken toys for him to mend. In turn he would entertain them with home-made fireworks and other novelties. Owen was the last member of the family to reside at The Grange (in The Garden Flat) as a *'tenant for life'* leaving in 1992. He died in 1995 aged 104.

William's eldest daughter, Olive (1878-1965), had also attended South Kensington School of Art and was a gifted miniaturist and like her siblings inherited an inventive mind. After William's death she continued to undertake demonstrations and exhibitions at trade fairs and was known for her pictures in relief (using Plasticine) especially of horses - using palette knives for modelling the Plasticine as a form of oil painting. She remained living at The Grange after her parents died where she kept open house for the family. After her death in 1965 Denis Applegate, her sister Beryl's son, now Managing Director, took up residence there together with his wife Constance until 1983.

Albert Blanchard, Studio Modeller from 1906-1963, contributed greatly to the firm by making models and designing displays, giving demonstrations and working alongside Olive in the studio and came to live in No. 7 Holcombe Terrace from 1930. During the First World War he made Plasticine models for the Military of territory held by German forces at Vimy Ridge and of Mole at Zeebrugge to help British Forces in their attack. His skills were also used in the Second World War in building replicas of the countryside for ordnance maps.

Both Beryl (1881-1977) and Enid (1886-1973), William's other two daughters, had artistic abilities which were put to good use within the firm until their respective marriages. Beryl married George S. Applegate, a doctor and surgeon, both their sons joined the company, Denis in 1965 and George as Manager of the company's subsidiaries in Newcastle. Enid married Lt. Charles H. Bird and moved away from the area - apparently none of their children became involved with the business.

Throughout the years sales of Plasticine expanded in a wide range of forms and the company extended its interests into new areas - sealing wax, inks and paste were added by taking over other businesses and in 1937 they diversified further by taking over a company manufacturing chalks and crayons. Some of these and other enterprises bought-up were re-located to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne business. Agents were appointed throughout Britain and around the world.

Space was at a premium and wooden huts were replaced with new buildings to cope with the need for increased production and new products, but it continued to be a problem. The solution came when Peter Candy of the adjacent Manor Farm-house built a new house for himself just to the west (c1959) opposite Mount Pleasant. Harbutts purchased the old farm-house and converted it into offices with a first floor 'walk way' linking it to a new despatch department built between the farm-house and The Grange. (Traces of this walk-way can be seen in the east gable end of the farm-house). They also

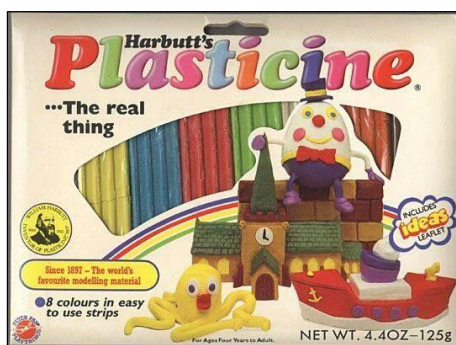
purchased its grounds that lay immediately behind and alongside the canal to the north-west, on which they were able to expand after a disastrous fire that started early in the morning of 6 February, 1963.

There had been a previous fire in 1957, but this second fire completely destroyed the old steam mill and buildings immediately surrounding it. It was a particularly cold spell with deep snow and ice freezing water pipes and hydrants. The Fire Brigade had to lay pipes along the High Street to the canal, where holes were made through a foot of ice to get to water far below. Machinery was also damaged and many irreplaceable records, models, pictures and moulds were irrecoverable. A great deal of stock was lost and there wasn't a child in Bathampton who didn't raid the huge piles of damaged material that was piled up on the roadside ready for disposal. Although production was halted for a while it was only a matter of weeks before work recommenced in temporary housing. This was gradually replaced as permanent purpose built buildings were erected, giving greater efficiency and increased productivity.

Peter Candy sold (c1965) his new house to Stewart and Ann McKim who in turn sold it to Harbutts 12 years later. It was to be used as a manager's office and later as office accommodation. Eventually the house was demolished to allow a better entrance to the extended complex.

The 70's saw further growth this time by acquiring games and carnival novelty businesses which were re-located to Newcastle-on-Tyne. By 1976 two and a half thousand tons of Plasticine was being produced annually with no fewer than three million packs of the cheapest line being sold each year - much being despatched all over the world. Most of the management of the firm was now being handled by seven of William's grand-children and several 'in-laws'.

Uses to which it was put were far ranging, including use as ear plugs by First World War troops on the Somme and at Vichy Ridge to deaden the noise of shelling; steel plants used it to simulate the behaviour of steel; it was used in secret research work during the Second World War and during the Berlin air lift when Plasticine sealed off parts of aircraft to stop coal dust getting into the controls. Rolls Royce, Leyland and BAC utilised it in modelling and testing of their new inventions. It has become a universal commodity with uses in all walks of life, far outstripping its original purpose. There have been rivals and competitors and although other materials have been invented nothing compares to the Harbutt mixture.



The manufacture of Plasticine had been in existence for over seventy-five years, when, in 1976 Berwick Tempo, toy and novelty manufacturers, took over Harbutts business in a £600,000 deal - ending the previous family unity and involvement with the firm. It is believed this was due to reluctance of fourth and fifth generations to enter the family concern, coupled with the need to break into new export markets which required capital not readily available. By the early 80's the Company was in the hands of a receiver. Peter Pan Products, a subsidiary of Berwick Tempo, then took over the business which they moved to Peterborough, and so, on 3 March, 1983, the gates of the factory closed for the last time, marking an end of an era. By August the factory buildings had been demolished, and the site cleared and sold. There was much disagreement as to what should happen to the ground but plans to build twenty-two retirement homes and for the farmhouse to be converted into three units were eventually passed and the development was fittingly named 'Harbutts'.

Plasticine had gained an international reputation and played a most important part in the advancement of both science and technology even being used to model future space suits; locally it had dominated the centre of the village for some 83 years.



The Harbutt grave, C149, 2024.

Memorial Inscriptions:

'William Harbutt ARCA 13.2.1844-1.6.1921 also Elizabeth Cambridge his dearly beloved wife 27.3.1930 in her 85th year.

Olive Cambridge eldest daughter of W. and E. Harbutt died 10 January, 1965 aged 86.

Beryl Cambridge Applegate born 1881 died 1977 widow of Dr C. S. Applegate daughter of W. and E. Harbutt.

Owen C. Harbutt youngest son died December 1993 aged 104.

Enid Cambridge Bird 1886-1973 younger daughter of William Harbutt and Elizabeth, wife of Lt. Charles Harold Bird RNR 1885-1965....

His life's motto was All religion has relation to life; and the life of religion is to do good'

C149. Curbed grave with headstone and tablet.

'In memory of Roye Francis Cambridge Harbutt, died 10 May, 2000 aged 85 years'.

C149a. Headstone.

'In cherished memory of Noel Cambridge Harbutt, Major R. E. (J0) died October 28th 1948 aged 72 years, and his beloved wife Maud Mary Hope Harbutt, reunited April 13th 1962 aged 79'.

C171. Curbed gawe with headstone.

'In loving memory of Flt. Lt. Eric William Harbutt D.F.C., Squadron 183 youngest son of Eric and Connie died suddenly May 1st 1965 aged 42 years;

Eric Jefcoate Cambridge Harbutt passed away 26 December, 1969 aged 85;

Constance Ethel beloved wife of Eric J. C. Harbutt born 12 January, 1885 passed peacefully away October 11th 1970;

Molly Harmsworth 29th July, 1981

Betty Cambridge Harbutt daughter of Eric and Constance Harbutt died 11th October, 1986 aged 73'.

E19. Cross on single plinth.

JONES, Richard

B222

Ralph Allen's Clerk of Works

Although Richard Jones was for most of his life Clerk of Works to Ralph Allen, and responsible for carrying out Allen's many projects, little is known about him. There is a manuscript entitled *'The Life of Richard Jones'*¹ supposedly written by himself; it is very rambling and jaunty in style and is generally thought to have been dictated by Richard in his later years². The following account is partially based on those papers.

The manuscript states he was born in the parish of St James, Bath c1703; the only record found in the parish baptism registers for St James, relating to a Richard Jones dates to 5 November, 1700 as the son of Robert and Sarah Jones. His father was a cordwainer *'living in good credit'*. Richard was *'kept close to writing till he was 15 years old then put to apprentice to old Mr Pitcher who had a quarry on Combe Down'* and *'as a freemason of Bath was sent to work in Monmouth in 1725'*. On coming home, he married Hannah *'the daughter of Charles Tyler'* in Bristol on 29 September, 1726 with whom he had 11 children³.



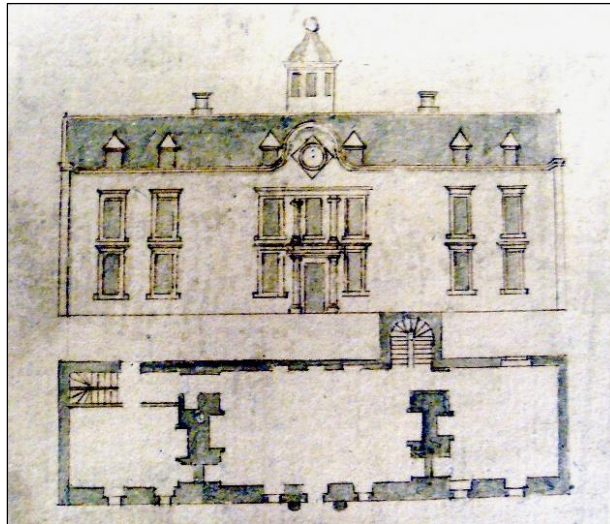
Richard Jones and Ralph Allen, from *'The Four Worthies'*.

Anon, c1740. (Museum of Bath Architecture).

About this time Ralph Allen was purchasing the Combe Down quarries and building properties - *'in the year 1731 I [Richard] was [appointed by Allen as] clerk to carry out all stone works and buildings and learned myself to draw which I did to my master's satisfaction.... Living with my master until his death'*.

He [Allen] began the new reservoir of Bathwick *'to bring water from Bathwick down over Mr Pulteney's Bridge, which springs he gave to the City, all on the north side and [a] stone [was] set up marked BC - Bath City Springs'*.

In 1743 Allen purchased Hampton Manor Estate from his wife's uncle, Charles Holder⁴ and *'began to build at Hampton several houses and some alterations were made in the great house'*. Here Richard is referring to today's Manor House, a former farm-house property that Charles had adopted as his manorial seat. The work entailed extending the house to the east thus forming three main ground floor rooms, re-ordering the frontage to include a new entrance door and Tuscan columns, giving an overall symmetrical frontage and fashionable Baroque house⁵.



Drawing of Bathampton Manor and ground plan
recorded on Ralph Allen's Estate Map c1743-1764. (Bath Record Office).

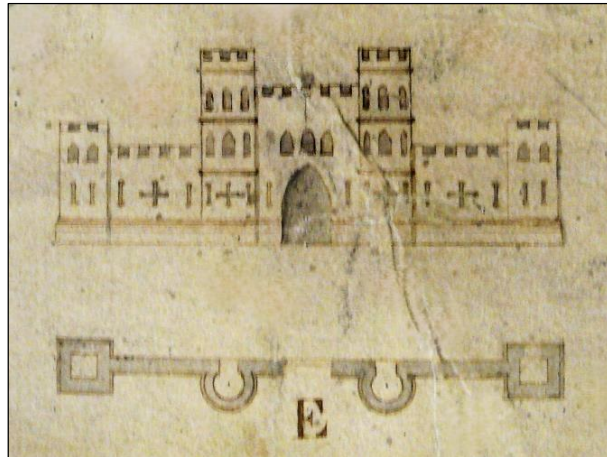
'About the year 1742 he [Allen] began to plant the [Hampton] Warren which was a rabbit warren before. The first portion planted is now [was] called Fir Forest and then he began to plant firs all over his estate, which extended five miles in length; his coach roads through his estate measured at least 10 miles. Never was so great a plantation by one private gentleman, in all 55,146⁶'.

Included in the many works Allen employed Richard to undertake was the refurbishment and virtual rebuilding of Hampton Church and further work on Claverton Church... *'About 1752 I did building at Hampton estate and built a new church for Mr Allen at his own expense'*. The work included new roof, flooring, seating etc. and in particular the construction of the Allen Chapel alongside a porch - both now part of the south aisle⁷. Sadly his records have not survived although in his MSS he refers the reader to see *'all my drawings and not to burn them and all my moulds which would serve [a] freemason in his work'*.

'In the year 1755 he ordered me to build the bridge over the pond the first stone was laid by Mr Allen May 29, 1755...'. This is the Palladian Bridge at Allen's Prior Park Estate, believed to be a copy Richard made of the one at Wilton House, but with larger spacing of the columns. The carriage road to take stone from Combe Down to the River Avon was also to his plan as was most of the east wing of Prior Park mansion.

In 1752 Allen *'purchased Claverton Manor Estate and began to build there, and altered the great house and extended the coach road from his home in Prior Park.... Built a new farm house and pulled down the old one which adjoined the great house before and made a great many alterations. Built a new school room for the Parson £150 [and] made many alterations to the church and would have built a new tower if he had lived'*. Presumably this all came under Richard's direction.

Then *'in 1762 [Richard] began the Castle in the Warren and was built in a quarter of a year to my plan... ...but I would have built it larger for an object to be seen further off, but was hindered by my master and other gentlemen...'*. This is Sham Castle - a folly built not only to enhance the hill view from Bath but also to extol the virtues of Bath Stone as a building stone⁶. Also *'... a plan was drawn for another long pile at the point of the hill facing the London Road and Hampton, but I put him off that which would have cost £250...'*.



Drawing and ground plan of Sham Castle recorded on Ralph Allen's Estate Map c1743-1760. (Bath Record Office).

'... Last of all he [Ralph Allen] found his death approaching with me he chose out the spot of ground where his vault and monument should be in the churchyard [Claverton], and a drawing I made to that purpose. About five days before he died he sent for me to bring him the drawings of his burying place and told me if he lived any time he would see it done in his life time and ordered me to leave till the next day, which I did and before I saw him again he died ... he was one of the greatest men of his age as will plainly appear by my book of his life and great charities'.

Ralph Allen died on the 29 June, 1764 in his 71st year and was buried in Claverton Churchyard. The monument and vault in which his body rests was built by Richard Jones, *'his faithful and trusted servant'*, but clearly not with the whole-hearted good will of Mrs Gertrude Warburton, (Allen's niece), by whom Jones seems to have been very shabbily treated and for whom as a consequence he has little good to say.

'... She caused to have pulled down one of the neatest pile of buildings which stood in the Lodge field [east of Prior Park] which Mr Allen took a great deal of notice of to all gents that come - to show it - from it was an exceeding fine prospect in to Wales and Wiltshire and Somersetshire...'. '...poor Mrs Allen cried when she came to hear she had ordered it to be pulled down. In short when I found her so arbitrary I was glad when she ordered me off for it would have grieved me to the heart to have seen all things pulled down and sold for such trifles'. This building was replaced by a monument⁸ to Allen erected by Gertrude's husband, Bishop Warburton, for which Richard remarked *'the construction is not a thing of beauty and reflects no credit to Warburton'*.

Allen left the Prior Park Estate firstly to his wife, Elizabeth, and then to Gertrude who inherited the property on the death of Elizabeth in 1766. With Allen's demise so ended the immense income he so ably generated through his various business interests - it was obvious that Gertrude would not be able to afford to maintain the estate for long. The loss of such income led her to sell off the contents and lease the mansion. Bathampton Manor Estate also went first to Elizabeth then to Allen's brother, Philip and his line. Philip predeceased Elizabeth and the estate passed to his son, Philip (jnr) and remained in the family until 1921.

The complete change that came over Prior Park very soon after Allen's death is pathetically if crudely, given in the manuscript - *'He did not employ less than 100 men of all kinds, so that his death was a great loss to this part of the country. And see the goodness of Mrs Warburton when a little before his death he desired her to let everything remain as it is, 'believe me, it shall be obeyed', [she promised] and in about four years, after his death, she striped the house of all the furniture and sold it which was exceedingly good.... sold all the marble chimney pieces, marble tables... doors... damask hangings, pictures and left nothing but bare walls. In short I found her so arbitrary I was glad when she ordered me off, for it would have grieved me to the heart to have seen all things pulled down and sold for*

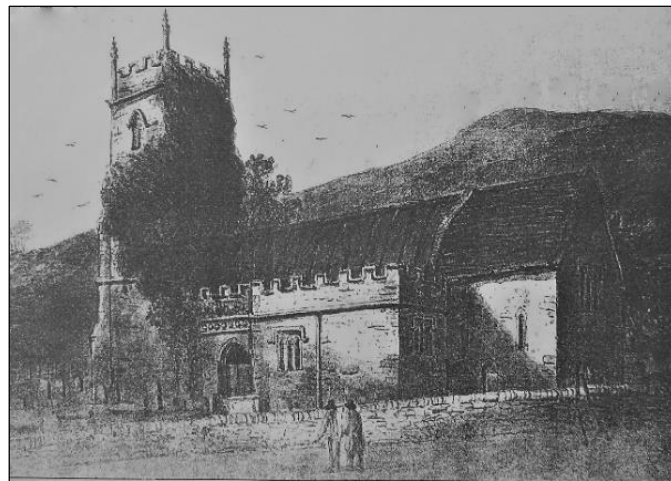
trifles... so that after his death he was soon forgot of them, as though he never was there... and so good a man he was!'

'... In short she put off all the old servants in general indeed I was the last and many more things I could relate of her misconduct. Her poor uncle never brought her up to be so arbitrary; when she came to him a poor girl and hardly clothes to her back, till a person was sent to Wells to meet her and clothed her'.

'... Mr Allen told Mr Dodsley the gardener and me he would take care of us as long as we lived, but through Mrs Warburton he left us out of his will; only left us with one year's salary'. The Will⁹ reads '...Richard Jones, Clerk and first servant in the stone work, one year's wages £45'. '...Mr Allen was one of the greatest men of the age'.

In 1765 Richard was appointed Surveyor to the City of Bath at £40 per annum. He brought with him a vast knowledge of the buildings of Bath and Bath Stone and proved a great asset to the City. One of his first tasks was to plan for a new Town Hall, although this was not adopted, and then the market and shambles.

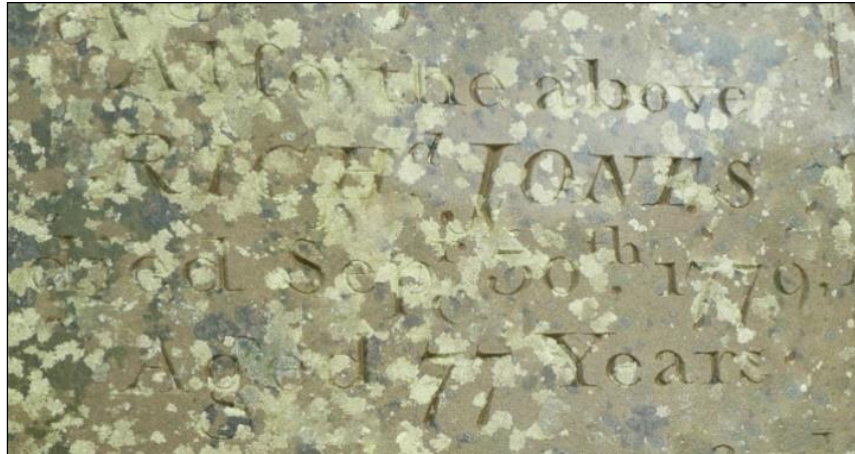
He chose to be buried at Bathampton alongside his handiwork - the south wall of the Allen Chapel. Hannah, his wife, predeceased him dying on 16 November, 1776 aged 76 and he died on 30 September, 1779 aged 77. Both the head and foot stones have since been removed and now stand against the east wall of the churchyard. The vault also contained three other members of his family, Sarah Tyler, probably Hannah's niece; Richard Jones (jnr) and his wife Mary.



Early drawing of church showing original porch and Allen Chapel alongside which Richard Jones was buried.



Richard Jones' relocated headstone, B222. 2024.



Memorial Inscription:

First column: *'In memory of Hannah wife of Richd. Jones who died Nov. 16th 1776 aged 75 years. Also the above Richd. Jones died Sepr. 30th 1779 aged 77 years. Sarah Tyler died Decr. 14th 1784 aged 27 years'.*

Second column: *'Also Mary the wife of Richd. Jones Junr. of the Parish of Walcot in the City of Bath who died Octr. 4th 1785 aged 46. Also the above Richard Jones who died Novr. 25th 1792 aged 55 years'.* B222, relocated. A footstone gives: *'H. J. 1776; R. J. 1779; S. T. 1784; M. J. 1785; R. J. 1792'.*

References;

1. *'The Life of Richard Jones'* transcribed by CJ 26 January, 1858. Bath Local History Library, Access no. 22886 B926 Loc SR (MS).
2. See also *'Documents of the Ralph Allen Estate, Bath'*. Edited by M. Chapman. Survey of Old Bath, volume 1, 2008. BRO PP1564.
3. Some appear in the baptism registers for St James: 24 September, 1727/8 Ann*; 19 February, 1730/31 William; 3 March, 1732-33 Elizabeth; 26 February, 1733/34 Richard*; May/November, 1737 Samuel; 20 November, 1739 Richard*; 8 November, 1739/40 Richard; 3 January, 1741-42 Hannah; 2 October, 1743-44 James; 3 November, 1745 Anne; 15 March, 1746-7 Walter. *Presumably died in infancy.
4. Wills held by National Archives of Charles Holder PROB 11/881 4/5/1763; Robert Holder PROB 811/887 10/11/1750; Simon Holder PROB 11/856 28/5/1760 and Conveyance between Charles Holder and Ralph Allen, 1745 (trans. BLHRG) which show Elizabeth Holder as Charles' niece - contrary to contemporary records who refer to Charles as her brother.
5. *'Bathampton Manor House, an Historic Building Survey'*. BLHRG, 2011.
6. See *'Bathampton Down - a hill divided'*. Mary Clark and Gillian Huggins. BLHRG, 2017. ISBN 978-1-91202067-6.
7. See *'St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part one - History of the Church and its Fabric'*. BLHRG. 2024.
8. This no longer exists but stood in the field now known as the Monument Field, adjoining Prior Park. It was a tower, the lower part triangular in shape to represent the Trinity, the top cylindrical typifying the Unity.
9. Wills of Ralph Allen PROB 11/900 11/7/1764; Charles Holder PROB 11/881 4/5/1763; Robert Holder PROB 811/887 10/11/1750; Simon Holder PROB 11/856 28/5/1760 held by the National Archives.
See also: *'The Benevolent Man. A Life of Ralph Allen of Bath'*, by Benjamin Boyce. Harvard UP., 1967.

KEANE, Sir John and Dowager Lady Dorothy, and, VIVIAN, Lady Eliza

B100 (See also memorial in north aisle, north wall no. 79)

Irish politician

Sir John Keane Bart., of Royal Crescent, Bath, died 18 April, 1829 and was buried Bathampton 27 April aged 71; Dorothy his wife died 5 July, 1837 at Upton on Severn and was buried with her husband on 15 July, aged 71.

Sir John Keane 1st Baronet 21 May, 1757-18 April, 1829; was a Irish Tory politician - MP for Bangor 1790-1797 and Youghal 1790 to Act of Unison 1800 and then to 1806 as part of enlarged Parliament of the UK. Baronet of Belmont and Cappoquin, Waterford from 1801. Married firstly Sarah Kelly at Cork and had at least three sons and two daughters; married secondly 1804 Dorothy, widow of Philip Champion de Crespigny of Aldborough, Suffolk and had issue.

Philip Champion de Crespigny born 1 April, 1738 London, died 1 January, 1803 Bath, and buried at St Swithins. A British lawyer and politician 1774-1790 with interests in Jamaica. Married four times with issue of five. His fourth marriage, 20 February, 1783, was to Dorothy Scott born on 15 November, 1765 daughter of Richard Scott of Bettons Strange, Shropshire. They had at least one daughter, Eliza Champion born on 29 July, 1784 Aldeburgh, Suffolk who married Lt. Gen. Sir Hussey Vivian on the 20 November, 1804 and had two sons and three daughters. She died 15 June, 1831 at Clifton aged 47 and was buried with her mother and step-father at Bathampton on the 22 June,.

Lieutenant General Richard Hussey Vivian, 1st Baron Vivian GCB., GCH., PC., PC(Ire)., FRS., was born 28 July, 1775 and died 20 August, 1828 - a distinguished cavalry leader. Son of John Vivian (1750-1826) and Betsey of Truro - an old and extensive Cornish family. Entered the army 1793 and fought in the French Revolutionary Wars, Peninsular War and Hundred Days. MP for Truro 1820-26 and New Windsor 1826-1831. From 1814 known as Sir Hussey Vivian. Created Baronet of Truro 1827, and shortly afterwards raised to the peerage as Baron Vivian of Glyn and Truro, Cornwall and died a year later at Baden-Baden. He married secondly Letitia Webster daughter of Rev. James Agnes Webster and had a daughter. His first son, Charles Crespigny Vivian, succeeded as 2nd Baron.

Sir John Keane's second son, born in 1780, had a distinguished military career, rising to Lt. Col. of 60th Foot. He succeeded his father to become 1st Baron Keane GCB., GCH., of Ghuznee and Cappoquin, Waterford. At one-time Commander in Chief West Indies and administered the colonial government of Jamaica; later Commander in Chief of British India 1833-39.



The Keane tombstone, B100. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'The remains of Sir John Keane Baronet are placed in this tomb. He died April 18 1829 aged 71. Underneath lies the body of Eliza wife of Lt. General Sir Hussey Vivian Bt. who died June 15 1834 aged 47. In the vault beneath are deposited the remains of Dorothy Dowager Lady Keane, relict of Sir John Keane Baronet she died July 5 1837 aged 71 years. Urn decorated by a grateful friend'. B100. Relocated 1992/3. Large tomb with railings and urn; railings and urn missing 2005. *Burial register gives 22 June. (See also 'St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part two - Interior Memorials Explored', Bathampton LHRG, 2024).*

KEMBLE, William JP C104, C151

Served in Indian Civil Service; active parishioner in local affairs

Born Swindon in 1837 first son of Rev. W. Kemble, Rector of West Hanningfield, Chelmsford. Married Elizabeth Emma Hinde daughter of Rev. F. Hinde of East Lambrook, Somerset.

William Kemble joined the Indian Civil Service (Bengal) at an early age. After retiring came to Bathampton living firstly at St Leonards, Warminster Road 1880-1888 before moving to Beechfield [now West House] Bathampton Lane, until his death in 1907.



Beechfield (now West House). 2024.

He became actively employed in many different ways becoming a Governor of the Mineral Water Hospital in 1894 and its President in 1901; a trustee of Lansdown Cricket Club; Honorary Secretary to the Sutcliff Industrial School and served on the Board of Directors of the Bath College and also on the Executive Committee for the Frome Conservative Branch. In addition, he entered into village affairs becoming Chairman of the School Board from 1894 and for the Bathampton Educational Committee from its formation in 1903; Chairman and Clerk to the Parish Council from its institution in 1894 and a Churchwarden from 1899. From 1901 he was a Magistrate for Somerset, often presiding at the Weston Petty Sessions.

He died suddenly on 22 February, 1907 aged 70. His funeral took place on the 27 February with a cortège of carriages leaving Beechfield. They were met by the Vicar and surpliced choir at the lych gate and a single, muffled bell was tolled as the church was entered. The coffin was of oak with brass fittings, inscription read '*William Kemble died February 22nd 1907 aged 70*'. After the service four villagers, Messrs Fred Hunt; H. Loveder; G. Fidler and H. Hurford bore the coffin to the grave, lined with moss and bunches of snowdrops. After the committal a peal of muffled bells was rung. Many mourners attended, including his children and families, colleagues and numerous villagers as well as teachers and children from the school which was closed for the day.

He was known as being '*honourable, loyal, just and kind*', someone who had devoted his services in so many capacities during the past twenty years. A Memorial Service was held simultaneously in Bath Abbey.

His wife, Elizabeth Emma, continued to live at Beechfield until it was let in 1912 when she moved to Woodcote until 1916 returning to Beechfield where she died on 5 October, 1918 aged 72 and was buried with her husband on the 9 October. Their eldest daughter Mary Elizabeth died in London, on the 11 June, 1932 aged 59 and was buried nearby.

They had a number of other children including William Edward; Francis A.; Henry Herbert; Paul B.; Kathleen and Thomas, some of whom were born in India. Most of the sons went into the forces attaining high ranks with William Edward as a Lieutenant General who was appointed Inspector in Range Firing in the Royal Artillery during 1921, and by 1922 Francis Arthur was a Lieutenant Colonel and in 1923 Tom Aubrey was a Major in the 2/1 Madras Pioneers. Another son became a Captain in the RN.

A further son, Lieutenant Colonel Henry Herbert Kemble, DSO., MC., served in the 23rd London Regiment during the First World War and was twice mentioned in despatches and awarded the Military Cross and DSO. He was wounded at Messines Ridge and died on the 7 June, 1917 from wounds, aged 40. He was buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium and is remembered on the Bathampton Roll of Honour and on his parents grave.



Grave of William Kemble, C104.
2024.



Grave of Mary Elizabeth Kemble, C151.
2024.

Memorial inscriptions:

'In loving memory of William Kemble late Indian Civil Service died Feb. 22nd 1807 aged 70 years. Also of Henry Herbert Kemble, Lt. Col. DSO., MC., their son who died of wounds received in action at Messines Ridge, June 7 1917'. C104. Curbed grave with cross on two plinths.

'In loving memory of Mary Elizabeth Kemble died June 11th 1932 aged 59'. C151. Cross on plinth. Burial Registers give burial 11 June, 1932.

References:

Bath Chronicle. 28 February, 1907.

'St Nicholas Church: Part two - Interior Memorials Explored', BLHRG 2024.

KIRKHAM, Samuel

A65

Lodging house keeper

Born on the 20 September, 1726; one of eight children born to John and Susanna (Ball); died on 2 March, 1809 aged 83 and buried at Bathampton with his wife Elizabeth who had died 3 December, 1799 and his son, Samuel (junior) who had died 1 March, 1806 aged 47.

Samuel Kirkham, (snr), was a successful lodging house keeper in Bathwick towards the end of the 18th century, frequently leasing land for erection of properties. In 1789 he leased land from the Pulteney Estate and built a large house on Bathwick Street which appears to be the beginning of Bathwick's Georgian village.

He was responsible for Kirkham Buildings, c1791-1803, a row of seven cottages off Bathwick Street. Part of a small development originally designed and built on land he had leased to meet the need for artisan housing brought about as a result of the Georgian building boom in Bathwick, and demand for housing by tradesmen and labourers attracted to the area by work prospects. They included features such as a parlour, dining room, separate kitchen and other conveniences found in larger Georgian properties, though tailored to suit the needs of the working classes. Kirkham Buildings were retained and maintained by the Kirkhams until 1899 when the lease reverted to the Bathwick Estate. They were demolished in November, 1966 to make way for Powlett Road; the walkway that served them is still in use and now connects Bathwick Street and Powlett Road.



Kirkham's Buildings.

Samuel (jnr) died 1 March, 1806 aged 47 and was buried at Bathampton with his wife Martha who had died on 4 January, 1804 aged 41. They had two sons, Thomas Bullman Kirkham and Samuel Robinson Kirkham. Thomas resided at 10 Pulteney Street and like his grandfather was a successful lodging house keeper - he had three wives during his life and 19 children, not all survived. He died 30 July, 1845 aged 65 and was buried in the Bathampton Kirkham vault where his first wife, Mary Ann Beville had been laid to rest after her death on 24 February, 1810. His second wife, Ann Gardener, died 23 December, 1815 and also buried Bathampton on the 27th; it is not clear if in this vault or not. No record has been found of his third wife, Jane Harriet Philpot, who he married 23 October, 1820.

The second son of Samuel (jnr), Samuel Robinson Kirkman, married Elizabeth Legg in November, 1810, they had 11 children, at least three of whom died young, and lived at 4 Kirkham Buildings. After Samuel Robinson's death on the 5 February, 1835 aged 46 - also buried in this vault - his eldest son, Edward, continued living there and five other sons and a daughter lived at number 6. Samuel's wife Elizabeth, was buried at Bathampton on the 24 September, 1840 aged 49 whether in this vault or not is unknown.

The burial register for Bathampton shows a total of 15 burials for members of the Kirkham family, six of whom were children. No other location found.



The Kirkham altar stone, A65. 2005.

Memorial inscription:

'In memory of Elizabeth Kirkham wife of Samuel Kirkham, Senr. of the City of Bath who died December 3 1799 aged 68 years... Also to the memory of the aforesaid Samuel Kirkham who died March 2 1809 aged 83 years; Also Saml Robinson Kirkham, son of Samuel and Elizabeth who died January 16 1812 aged 3 months; Also in memory of Martha wife of Samuel Kirkham junior who died January 4th 1804 aged 41 years; also the above Samuel Kirkham son of Samuel and Elizh. Kirkham who died March 1 1806 aged 47 years. Also Rosetta Kirkham who died March 28 1807 aged 1 year 8 months. Also the memory of Mary Ann Beville Kirkham wife of Thomas Kirkham who died February 24 1810 aged 29 years. Also the memory of the above Thomas Bulman Kirkham who died July 30 1845 aged 65; Also to Samuel Robinson Kirkham buried February 5 1835 aged 46'. A65. Altar tomb.

KNAPTON, Baroness Elizabeth (née Brownlow)

B191 (See also Ann Knox, Viscountess Northland, daughter, B205)

Elizabeth was the daughter of William Brownlow. She married John Denny Vesey 1st Baron Knapton, son of Rt. Rev. Sir Thomas Vesey 1st Bt. and Mary (Muschamp) in 1732; from 10 April, 1750 styled as Baroness Knapton, of Queens County, Ireland. John was an Anglo Irish politician and peer. From 1727-1750 elected to the Irish House of Commons as MP for Newtownlands. In 1730 succeeded to his father's baronetcy, and in 1750 elevated to peerage of Baron Knapton, Queen's County and assumed seat in Irish House of Lords. He died 1761. They had four children, three girls and one boy. One of the daughters, Ann Knox, Viscountess Northland, is buried close-by.

A grand-daughter, The Honourable Elizabeth Vesey died on the 5 January 1787, aged 15, and was buried with the Baroness.

Memorial Inscription:

'Here lieth the body of Elizabeth Baroness of Knapton who died August 4th 1786 aged 71. Also the body of her grand-daughter The Honble. Elizabeth Vesey who died January 5th 1787 aged 15'. B191. Altar tomb. Not found, 2024.

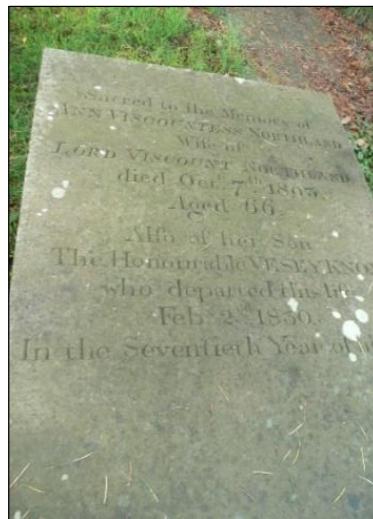
KNOX, Ann Viscountess Northland (née Vesey)

B205 (See also Baroness Elizabeth Knapton, mother, B191)

Ann was a daughter of John Vesey, 1st Baron Knapton and Elizabeth (Brownlow)

Ann Vesey, daughter of Baron and Baroness Knapton, married Thomas Knox, 1st Viscount Northland (1729-1881) - an Irish politician - who was known as The Lord Welles between 1781-1791. From 1755-1781 he was MP for Dungannon and ennobled as Viscount Northland of Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, 1791. With the Act of Union became one of 28 original Irish representative peers in the British House of Lords until his death.

Viscountess Northland died 7 October, 1803 and buried close to her mother, Baroness Elizabeth Knapton. Her son, The Honourable Vesey Knox died 2 February, 1830 and was buried with her.



Viscountess Northland's tombstone, B205. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'Sacred to the memory of Ann Viscountess Northland wife of Lord Viscount Northland died October 7th 1803 aged 66 [72]. Also of her son The Honourable Vesey Knox who departed this life February 2nd 1830 in the seventieth year of his age'. B205. Flat stone over vault.

LUKE, Elsie Adeline (alias Wilke)

A64

Murdered on Hampton Down

Elizabeth Luke (known as Elsie) was born in London in about 1867, the youngest child of James and Elizabeth Luke, members of the German immigrant population in the East End. Her father had probably died as by the 1881 census her mother is the wife of Frederick Wilke, a bootmaker from Cologne. The family was poor; in 1880 Elsie, aged 14, was charged with '*felony in service*' at Thames Magistrates Court. She was sent to prison for 10 days then to Limpley Stoke Reformatory for five years. It provided training and a better environment for poor girls who had offended and hoped to improve their behaviour by teaching skills to fit them for a life of domestic service.

The Reformatory opened in 1861. Philip Charles Sheppard tenant of Bathampton Manor was the first manager, supported by a matron. After a year he handed over the running of the Reformatory to his wife Mary, who improved things greatly. By 1875 the Sheppard's had moved from Bathampton to Waterhouse near Limpley Stoke and by 1890 their eldest daughter, Elizabeth, had taken over as Superintendent. Miss Rodman was Matron during Elsie's time at Limpley Stoke. She thought her good looking, healthy, a hard worker with nice manners, quick, intelligent and good at lessons but she had a violent temper, then she was locked in her room to calm down with some sewing, at which she excelled.

Elsie left the Reformatory on 3 May, 1885, aged 19. Matron could not send her into service because of her temper so she returned to her mother in Plaistow, London, to work as a dressmaker. However her stepfather was violent and she wrote to Fanny Smart, the Reformatory Launderess (who had left and married John Bowles of Turleigh) saying she was in distress and had been ordered into the country because of her epileptic fits. She returned to Bath, took lodgings and lived by taking in needlework, often walking to see Mrs Bowles who gave her a meal, some employment, help with rent and treated her kindly despite finding her far from truthful and bad tempered.

During spring 1890 Elsie met Arthur Coombs who was seventeen but looked older and was apprenticed to Fuller's Carriage Works, Bath. They '*walked out*' together, often going to the Railway Mission Hall in Monmouth Street, although Elsie was disliked there. That year Elsie found work at Dean's Irish Linen Warehouse in Northgate Street, but left because of her fainting fits. She then worked for several employers as a domestic servant, eventually getting a job in Clifton, near Bristol. While she was there Arthur found out about her past and the lies she had told him about her stepfather's job and earnings. His parents also disapproved of her so he broke off the relationship. He then began seeing Mary Sheppard (known as Polly). Elsie, having left Clifton returned to Bath, became jealous and went to great lengths to get Arthur back. One night in February 1891 she was outside his home, 25 Kingsmead Terrace, crying and banging on the door. His father let her in - she said she was pregnant and Arthur was the father. He angrily denied this and Mr Coombs got Elsie to leave, she never returned and Arthur became engaged to Polly in March. Elsie was then staying with Miss Hull (former Reformatory needlework mistress) at 7 Kingsmead Buildings. On the 21st she registered with an employment agency, gave a false reference, and found work as a cook with the Kerry family of Cheriton House, Oldfield Park. James Kerry was a Director of Colmers, the Bath department store.

The family found Elsie well-spoken, able to speak French and read music, but she had a temper and a superior manner. She was short, slight, had nice teeth, wore a gold watch and chain and at times went outside for air as she felt faint. Again she lied, saying she had come to Bath to nurse her sick mother and the Bowles' were her Uncle and Aunt. Elsie next sent Polly the love letters Arthur had written her; these Polly burnt. Polly then wrote Arthur 161 letters, she called Elsie '*a beast of a girl*' said her claim of pregnancy was untrue and begged Arthur not to have anything to do with her. Polly wrote, '*I'm not afraid of her*' although Elsie shouted at her in the street and once hit her. Elsie was trying everything to break them up, perhaps because Arthur may still have been seeing her. A fellow servant at Cheriton House saw a young man not unlike Arthur who visited in the evenings. Elsie still thought

Arthur loved her - in July she said she had made up with him and they were to be married in two or three weeks time, when he would leave home without telling his parents. Then Mr Kerry gave Elsie notice as *'he did not like her acquaintances'*. Elsie asked his wife Mary for her wages on 25 July saying she was going to London as an Uncle had died and left her some money - another untruth. Mrs Kerry soon found she had stolen a dress, nightwear and underwear when she left. She had also been to Oliver's Boot Shop, Westgate Street, persuading the manager to supply her with a pair of Oxford Boots, without payment, by saying they were for Mrs Kerry.

The day after Elsie left the Kerry's, she was seen by two young men, Arthur Clare and Alfred Phillips, walking with Arthur up the St George's Hill Track from the Warminster Road to Hampton Down; later that week she called on a friend, Lucy Isaacs, to collect a photograph saying she was leaving on Bank Holiday Monday to marry Arthur but not where they were going. Lucy did not believe her as she had *'found her out in many lies before'*. Elsie did not appear to be pregnant. On Saturday, 1 August she called on Mrs Annie Hayman of 11 Kingsmead Terrace, asking to sleep at her house until Tuesday morning as the Kerry's were away, pretending she had just seen them off at the GWR station. Mrs Hayman suggested she tried the Coombs' neighbour Harriet Dillon at number 26. Elsie, who appeared respectable and wore a black straw hat was less bright than usual but not suicidal. She said she had been engaged to Arthur for some time and was three months pregnant. When she obtained lodgings at Mrs Dillon's she said Mrs Kerry would pay. On the morning of Sunday 2nd she was seen in Mrs Dillon's garden wearing a white apron and cuffs and in the afternoon going down the steps at the bottom of the terrace, followed shortly after by Arthur Coombs.

Elsie left Mrs Dillon's at 10.30 on Bank Holiday Monday, 3 August, 1891, saying she was going to Turleigh for the day. She did not arrive there but probably went to the Reformatory instead as Matron saw her for the last time that weekend. She came to say 'Goodbye' as she was returning to London. Mrs Dillon did not see Elsie again; she left behind an old dress, mirror and a nightgown marked with Mrs Kerry's initials. As Elsie did not return she thought she had gone to the Kerrys' and returned it to them.

Mrs Hayman saw Elsie twice on Bank Holiday Monday, in the morning when she said she was going to Turleigh by train and at 5 pm talking to a woman below the terrace before walking alone along the riverside towards the GWR, wearing her black straw hat. The last time she was seen alive. An hour later, Arthur Clark 15, and his brother Frank 13, were picnicking at Hampton Rocks when they saw an agitated young man (not Arthur) wearing only a shirt and socks. He said his clothes had been stolen while he was swimming in the Avon and was going home once it was dark - this was strange as the river was a mile away. When they left at 7 pm they saw him in a wood near the quarries. On Friday 7th Frank was on the Downs again and found a lady's black straw hat near Claverton Woods. He took it to Bath Police Station.

The Bath Volunteers, who used the Rifle Range near Hampton Rocks, were at camp that week so the Down was less frequented than usual. Arthur Coombs was a Volunteer but did not go. William Dill, marker for the Volunteers at the Rifle Butts, went - resuming his duties on their return. He knew the Downs well and often walked round early in the morning to see what he could find. On August 12th or 13th he picked up a cuff saturated with blood and a lady's gold watch and chain about four feet from the edge of a small quarry. The broken watch appeared to have been wrenched off. He took the items back to the butts and showed the cuff to the Assistant Marker but kept quiet about the watch and chain, hoping to get a reward. They returned to the quarry and, looking over the edge, saw the other cuff then scrambled down and near the entrance to a small cavern found a lady's blood stained handkerchief marked A. H. Kerry. Dill did not consider his finds suspicious as *'He had found lots of strange things up there'* but showed the cuffs and handkerchief to two policemen at the markers' hut, where they met on their rounds. These he kept but sold the watch chain. He raffled the watch later at a Bath inn.

On 22 September, 1893, two Bath schoolboys, Cecil Brand and Alex Emerson, were exploring the disused quarry workings at Hampton Rocks. They were at the far eastern end of the Down, near the

Bathampton parish boundary wall, playing in a small quarry when, on its northern side, they found a small entrance to a secluded cave. They crawled in and by the light of their candle found a skeleton. They ran to Cecil's home on Bathwick Hill and his father went to the cave with a Bath policeman. However, as the cave was outside the City Boundary the find had to be dealt with by the County Constabulary. Bathampton had no policeman so Sgt. Edwards of Batheaston and PC Brunt from Bathford went to the cave the next day. The skeleton, covered with stones, had been dragged in feet first and lay face down; the skull had a severe blow to the left temple. Some hair, scraps of clothing, corsets and a wire bustle remained, also an almost new pair of Oxford Boots. The police took the remains to the George Inn at Bathampton.

On Monday, 25 September Charles Harper, Surgeon of Bathford, examined the skeleton - it was that of a young woman aged 19 to 21, 5 feet tall, slight with perfect teeth. The right foot was dislocated and toes drawn up. The fingers had also contracted showing she died in convulsions, consistent with a fractured skull causing death; the fracture occurred before death and was due to a violent blow. The underwear was marked A. H. Kerry. That day the first newspaper reports were printed; Dill realised the significance of his finds and handed the police the cuffs and handkerchief and told them of the watch and chain. In charge of the case were Superintendent Rutherford and Detective Sergeant Smith who viewed the remains and began enquiries.

Next day the Coroner for North Somerset, Samuel Craddock, opened the inquest at the George, the jury of fifteen men viewed the cave and the remains beforehand. The foreman was Henry Dolman, landlord of the George. Cecil Brand and Sgt. Edwards described the cavern and finding the body and Dill was questioned. The Surgeon gave his report - *'Something happened on the top and the body was thrown into the quarry. It had been there for a considerable time; how long depended on the number of rodents about'*. A juryman commented *'the place swarmed with stoats'*. The Coroner adjourned the inquest.

Soon afterwards the name Kerry on the clothing identified the remains as those of Elsie Luke (or Wilke), whose description closely matched the Surgeon's report. At about this time Elsie's name and a cross were carved on the rock face above the cave, known locally as 'The Murder Hole'. The case caused intense interest and thousands arrived at the site; some had their photographs taken by the cave. Vendors sold refreshments and sheep's bones purporting to be part of the skeleton. Interest continued and the Volunteers became concerned that someone might get hit by a stray bullet.

Arthur Coombs was arrested and appeared at Weston Police Court charged with murder. This he denied but was agitated and nervous. E. B. Titley represented him and Canning Collins, a Bath solicitor, acted for the prosecution. The police described removing the remains and searching for Elsie's jewellery and money without success but had recovered the watch. They could not trace Elsie's relatives. Mrs Kerry identified her handkerchief and linen and said Elsie had left behind two old dresses and some letters (which she did not read). She burnt it all. The Matron gave a character description and the ladies from Kingsmead gave evidence of her movements before she disappeared. Lewis Vigus, a Bath Chemist, said he had treated Arthur just after Bank Holiday for a severely injured thumb. The prosecution produced Polly's letters, proved Arthur was seeing both girls at the same time and suggested his injury, caused by a human bite, happened in a struggle above the quarry. Much evidence was vague and contradictory and it was found that Arthur's injury occurred during a fight a week prior to the murder. Polly Sheppard gave Arthur an alibi - he had collected her at 5 pm on the evening of Bank Holiday and they had gone to the theatre. The Magistrates verdict was that there was insufficient evidence for a conviction but there was a strong case of suspicion against him. Arthur was dismissed to deafening cheers in court.

Meanwhile the Inquest had been running concurrently for seven sessions, hearing much the same evidence as in the courtroom. The highlight was the appearance of Arthur Coombs who denied committing murder and gave explanations which he hoped would clear his name. A number of people testified to his good character. The Coroner said he had never seen so many obstacles to an investigation and told the jury to disregard the court case and a lot of evidence which was unreliable.

The jury quickly reached an open verdict - she met her death at the hands of an unknown person by being cruelly murdered. The Coroner then gave permission for the remains to be buried in Bathampton Churchyard at the expense of the parish.

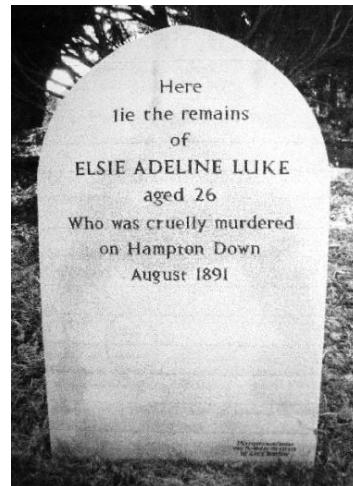
On 11 December, 1893 Elsie's remains, in a small coffin covered with a black pall, were carried from the skittle alley at the George across the road and laid to rest in the Churchyard, northwest of the church tower. Rev. H. Girdlestone conducted the service; the only mourners were the policemen Edwards and Brunt and some curious onlookers. None of Elsie's family attended, although both her mother and stepfather were still alive at this date and as the tragedy was widely reported in the press probably knew of it. By 1893 they had come up in the world and were proprietors of a coffee house in the East End so perhaps wanted nothing to do with their daughter's notorious death.

The Surgeon, moved by Elsie's sad ending, organized a fund to raise £5 for a headstone. Another fund was raised to help Arthur's father, who had spent his life savings on his son's defence. By 2005 the headstone had degraded and was replaced by a replica paid for with part of a legacy left to Bathampton in 1998 by Miss Lucy Barlow, whose family had played an important part in the life of the village.

Arthur Coombs became a local preacher and around 1912 came from Bath each Sunday to preach at Bathampton. He kept his thumb, supposedly scarred from a bite inflicted by Elsie, clenched inside his fist as the Sunday School children would try to see it. He had married Polly Sheppard at St Paul's, Bath in November 1895. In 1913 they decided to escape the sniggering and innuendo and sailed for Canada dying childless in Victoria, British Columbia; Polly in 1946 and Arthur, aged 78, in 1952. Local people remember a cross cut in the turf, kept neatly trimmed, next to the quarry where the murder took place; many years ago cameras were set up to discover who maintained it, without success. Was it the person who put an 'In Memoriam' to Elsie in the Bath Chronicle on 11 August, 1906, '*Vengeance is mine saith the Lord, I will repay*'? Lastly, in 1969, the Bathampton Churchwarden added a note to Elsie Luke's burial record card, '*a long time after, a man in Australia made a death-bed confession to her murder*'. Was this Arthur when he died in Canada? The story of Elsie's murder continues to fascinate and has featured in the local press frequently. Despite all the speculation and rumour it seems her killer will never be unmasked.



Elsie in her maid's uniform.



The headstone in Bathampton Churchyard, A64.

Memorial Inscription:

'Here lie the remains of Elsie Adeline Luke, aged 26, who was cruelly murdered on Hampton Down, August 1891'. A64. Headstone.

Courtesy Mary Clark, 2024.

A more detailed account with photographs can be found in '*Bathampton Down, A Hill Divided*'. Bathampton LHRG, 2017, pp. 103-119. ISBN 978-1-91202067-8

THE MURCHISON FAMILY

B166; B180 (see also W3; 54; 57-8 and 70 in church)

The name of Murchison is commemorated by a number of memorials in the church including a window and within the churchyard. Full details are given in '*St Nicholas Church: Part two - Interior Memorials Explored*', Bathampton LHRG, 2024.

The most eminent connection with this name is that of Sir Roderick Impey Murchison Bart., KCB., FRS., GCStAnne., and St Stanislaus of Russia to whose memory a tablet is dedicated in the tower [58]. A founder member of the Academy of Sciences and other institutions, Director General of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom, and for many years President of the Royal Geographical Society; author of '*The Silurian system*' and '*Russia and the Ural Mountains*'. Although not buried here his parents, uncle, sister-in-law and nephew are [B166, B180].

His father Kenneth Murchison (snr), born 1751, married Barbara Frances (daughter of Roderick Mackenzie of Fairburn) in 1791. He served in the East Indian Co. as Surgeon, Calcutta from 1772; returned to England 1784 and spent some time travelling before settling back in Scotland, purchasing the estate of Taradale in 1788. He devoted his later years to the gratuitous care of the sick and poor of Ross-shire - a planter of trees; antiquary, devoted Gaelic scholar, zealous student of geology and music.

He and his wife moved from Ross-shire to Bathampton for him to recuperate from illness, but he died here in 1796 and was buried on the 5 May, aged 44(3). Barbara returned to Edinburgh, with her two young sons, Roderick Impey and Kenneth (jnr) [W3, 57] where she married secondly Colonel Robert Murray MacGregor an old friend of her husband and had two daughters, Jannetta and Barbara. She died at Clifton on 9 September, 1836 aged 66 and was buried Bathampton with her first husband.

Also buried in the same vault is their daughter-in-law, Anne (née Nesham), second wife of their son Kenneth (jnr), who died Camden Place, Bath on 21 February, 1846 and buried on the 27th aged 41 years. Barbara's brother, General Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Baronet, GCH., GCSU., of Fairburn, Ross-shire, Senior General in HM Service, died at Circus, Bath on 17 October, 1853 aged 83 years and was buried in the same vault on the 22nd. A tablet [57] was erected in the church to his memory by his nephew, Sir Roderick I. Murchison. Another tablet [70] commemorates Kenneth (snr) and Barbara and was erected by Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, Kenneth Murchison (jnr) and step-sisters Jannetta Hull (née MacGregor) and Barbara Hort (née MacGregor), Barbara's children by her two marriages.

Roderick Impey Murchison was born in 1792 at Taradale, Ross-shire the first son of Kenneth (snr) and Barbara [70, B166]. He was educated at Durham Grammar School and Royal Military College, Harlow. Obtained an MA., from Cambridge; entered the army in 1807 as an officer in 36th Foot and afterwards on staff of his uncle General Sir Alexander Mackenzie [57, B166] and lastly Captain 6th Dragoons. He left in 1816 and devoted himself to science and applied himself to the systematic examination of older sedimentary deposits in England and Wales. After five years established the Silurian System - succession of rocks lying below the old red sandstone, seemingly to lie in deposits preceding existence of plants and animals, published 1837. In 1841 the Czar of Russia decorated him with the Order of the Second Class of St Anne in diamonds for work undertaken in Russia. In 1848 undertook, with others, a geological survey of the Russian empire for which was awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of St Stanislaus, published 1846 and was knighted. He predicted gold in Australia. President four times of the Geological Association and also Royal Geographical Society amongst many other prestigious institutions.

He married Charlotte, daughter of General Hugonin of Nursted House, Hampshire, and spent two years in Italy before settling firstly at Barnard Castle. She was born on the 7 April, 1788 and baptised All Hallows on the Wall, Exeter 1 May and died in 1869 and was buried on the 13 February Brompton

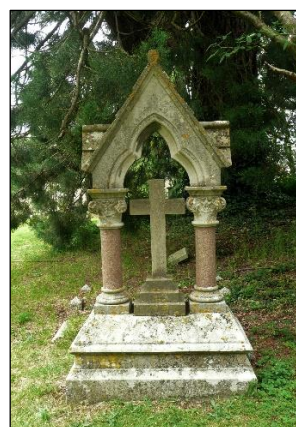
Cemetery, London. Roderick died on the 22 October, 1871 and was buried with her on the 27th. A tablet dedicated to his memory was placed in the tower [58].

Roderick's brother, Kenneth Murchison (jnr) the second son of Kenneth (snr) and Barbara was born in 1794 at Taradale, Ross-shire and died on the 1 August, 1854 [57-8, 70, B166]. Started work with the East India Company; appointed Resident Councillor of Penang 29 November, 1827 and Resident Councillor of Singapore and 3rd Governor of the Straits Settlement, 7 December, 1833-17 November, 1836. Whilst in Penang he conducted a geological survey of the area for his brother. Married firstly Charlotte Pryce on the 4 December, 1814 (died 1816) and had a daughter Charlotte Barbara born 21 May, 1816 in India and married William Cox who died 1892 Cheltenham. In 1826 Kenneth (jnr) married secondly Anne Nesham who died 21 February, 1846 at Camden Place, Bath and was buried at Bathampton with his parents on the 27th aged 41 [B166]. They had two sons Kenneth Robert and Roderick Maing(a)y. Kenneth Robert was born on the 12 August, 1829 Penang, Malaysia, married Isabella Travers on 7 December, 1854 and died in 1897 London. Roderick Maing(a)y was born on the 10 August, 1830 Penang and died on the 30 April, 1873 Bath and buried at Bathampton on the 5 May aged 42 [B180].

The south west window of the south aisle was erected in 1862 as a '*tribute of affection*' by Kenneth Robert and Roderick Maing(a)y to the memory of their beloved parents, Kenneth (jnr) and Ann. The original window was replaced in 1974 with clear glass to give more light to the font. [W3; 54].



The Murchison tombstone, B166. 2024.



Roderick M. Murchison's tombstone, B180. 2024.

Memorial Inscriptions:

'Kenneth Murchison (snr) Esq. of Taradale, Ross-shire, father of Sir Roderick Murchison and Kenneth Murchison Esq. died at Bath May 1796 aged 44. Mrs B Murray Macgregor relict of Colonel R. MacGregor eldest sister of General Sir Alexr MacKenzie Bart. of Fairburn and first married to Kenneth Murchison (snr) Esq. of Taradale died at Clifton Sept 9 1836 aged 65 years. Anne Murchison, daughter of John Nesham Esq. and wife of Kenneth (jnr) Murchison Esq. formerly Governor of Singapore. Died at Bath February 21 1846 aged 41 years. General Sir Alexander MacKenzie Bart. of Fairburn Monar and Strath Connan Ross-shire GCH., GCStJan., died at Bath October 17 1853 aged 83 years'. Altar tomb with vase. B166.

'Erected by a brother's love to the memory of Roderick Maing(a)y Murchison born 10 August 1830, died 30 April 1873'. B180. Son of Kenneth Murchison (jnr) and his second wife Anne (née Nesham). Erected by his brother, Kenneth Robert Murchison.

NOOTH, John Mervyn M.C., F.R.S.

C46

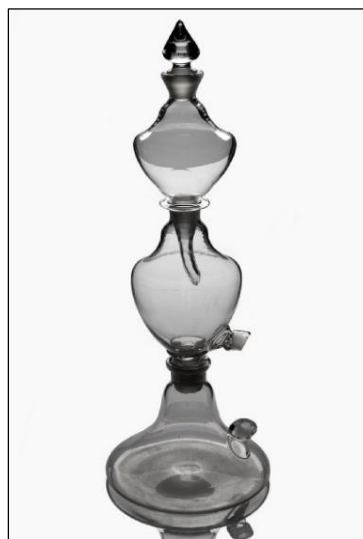
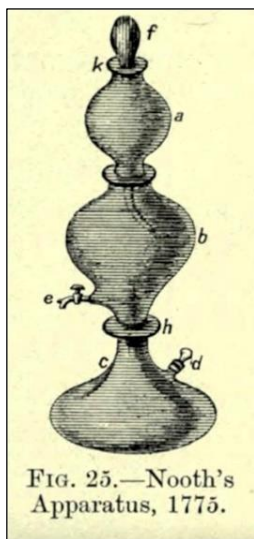
Military surgeon, noted inventor and scientist

'Dr John Mervyn Henry Nooth's apparatus was one of the very first to be designed to produce, for medicinal purposes, what may inclusively be called carbonated waters, and, surprisingly, there are strong links of coincidence between the histories of artificial mineral waters and of anaesthesia, and the personalia involved in each'. Dr D. Zuck, 1978.

John Mervyn Nooth (5 September, 1737-3 May, 1828) was eldest son of Henry, an apothecary of Sturminster Newton, Dorset, and, Bridget Mervyn Nooth. Graduated from Edinburgh University with an M.D., in 1766. That Nooth, son of a country apothecary, was able to go on the Grand Tour, and his brother, Henry, was able to purchase first a commission and then progressive advancement in a very fashionable regiment, the 4th Dragoons, and to marry into the landed gentry, is evidence of more wealth and social status than is usually attributed to an 18th century country apothecary. On returning to London and over the coming years John engaged himself in expensive scientific activities.

During the 18th century there had been a resurgence in the popularity of naturally occurring mineral waters which appears to have been used for medicinal purposes since pre-historic times, a subject that started to attract numerous researchers, of whom Nooth was one.

On 14 December, 1774 he read a paper to the Royal Society describing his apparatus for the impregnation of water with fixed air (carbonated or aerated water).



18th/19th century version.

Nooth's apparatus for making carbonated water.

*'Designed to prepare water containing carbon dioxide. The bottom vessel contains chips of marble in which diluted sulphuric acid was added. Carbon dioxide was given off and this passed into the middle vessel which contained water in which some of the carbon dioxide dissolved. A valve arrangement allowed the gas to move upwards but did not allow the water to move downwards. When the water was needed, it was drawn off using the tap in the middle vessel'.
C. Aiswornth Mitchell 'Mineral and Aerated waters'.*

Although Joseph Priestley had been first in the field, his apparatus was difficult to use and imparted a ruinous taste to the water, often so pronounced it could not be drunk. Nooth's apparatus consisted of three glass vessels fitted together with air-tight joints, and being all glass there was no question of contamination. The lowest vessel contained the reacting chemicals, and was connected to the middle container, which held the water or solution to be impregnated, by an ivory valve mounted in cork - this allowed the carbon dioxide through, but prevented the water from escaping. This valve also allowed the two upper vessels to be detached from the lower for agitation. The highest vessel served to receive

water displaced by the ascending carbon dioxide, and functioned also as a seal. Once the correct amount of chalk and sulphuric acid had been found by trial and error, a volume of carbon dioxide could be generated adequate to impregnate the water, but just insufficient to cause it to overflow from the upper vessel. For full impregnation it was necessary to repeat the process four or five times, adding fresh chalk on each occasion.

Compared with Priestley's apparatus, Nooth's took an enormous step forward; it is beautifully integrated, functional in design, and even aesthetically pleasing. One can imagine the 18th century housewife objecting to having Priestley's apparatus, complete with a bladder, on her side-board, but proudly displaying the new apparatus of Dr Nooth. In appearance and ease of use it must have contributed to its acceptability, and hence to its influence. Nooth's apparatus clearly aroused considerable interest, and, no different from medical apparatus today, it was soon produced with various modifications. These were intended either to speed up the process, or to overcome certain technical difficulties such as a tendency for the upper vessel to explode. Chalk was often replaced by pounded marble.

Nooth's three-tiered apparatus added invigorating fizz to a glass of plain tap water. To stay healthy in the 18th century doctors recommended a regular glass of mineral water, particularly the sparkling variety. They regarded impregnated water as an active chemical remedy. It was used for the treatment of putrid disease - now called infections - characterized by putrefaction of the tissues; for the treatment of bladder stone and for other complaints such as gout, arthritis and gastro intestinal disturbances. 'Artificial waters' have been used with success in putrid fever, scurvy and dysentery, and water impregnated with fixed air was now known (1780) to be a powerful antiseptic, or correction of putrefaction.

Nooth himself may have been unaware of the subsequent development and use of his apparatus for some years, as his career took an unusual turn for someone with his qualifications and attainments. In 1775 he joined the medical service of the British Army, being appointed Physician Extraordinary and Purveyor to the forces in North America on the 19 October. He served in America during the War of Independence, and remained on service abroad until 1784.

On 10 April, 1779 Nooth was appointed Superintendent General of Hospitals for the British Forces in North America; this post, the only one ever of its kind, was created to provide one person with the authority to resolve the differences between the regimental surgeons and the general hospitals. In this Nooth appears to have been reasonably successful. Although he was beset by clashes of personality among his staff, he was certainly able to avoid destructive quarrels. At the conclusion of the war Nooth was left to wind up the general hospitals in New York. He returned to England in 1784/6, and during 1787 he lived for about six months at 28 Golden Square. Once at home, his scientific interests and inventiveness came again to the fore. In 1788 Nooth rather reluctantly returned to Canada at the personal request of the Governor General, Lord Dorchester, and was undoubtedly the premier physician in Canada. His eminence was such that he was called to attend Edward, Duke of Kent, (later the father of Queen Victoria), after a fall from a horse in 1798, and he secured the Duke's gratitude by invaliding him home. Nooth himself returned to England towards the end of 1799 suffering from an illness that he expected to be fatal - he had gradually developed respiratory difficulties, an irregular pulse and paroxysms of fever and was given to coughing. During one such bout he brought up a considerable amount of phlegm and found something hard in it - a large shot about the eighth of an inch in diameter. He then remembered that shortly before his illness he had drunk some wine, a drop or two of which had *'gone the wrong way'* and realised the lead shot must have passed from the bottle into his glass, and thence into his trachea. He was soon feeling well again.

Nooth was appointed Physician to the Duke of Kent's household in 1800, remaining in England for a short time in London then at Bath where, from 1792 his youngest brother, James, practised as a surgeon at the Bath Infirmary. He served in Gibraltar from c1803 to about 1807, and helped cope with the epidemic of yellow fever that was ravaging the southern parts of Spain. It is recorded that he courageously attended the worst cases himself, to prove his opinion that it was not contagious; he was

now about 70 years of age, and the severity of the epidemic was such that 6,000 people died in Gibraltar alone. Nooth retired to Bath c1807 and appears on the Army List of 1809 as on half pay. He remained Physician to the Duke of Kent's household until the Duke's death in 1820.

Little is known of John's personal life, it is said that he was married three times, but only two marriages have been identified. Just before leaving for New York he married Sarah Williams, a young widow and they had three children John Mervyn 1778-1821; Henry 1781-1861, both born New York, and had military careers, and, Mary born 1791 and died unmarried 1846. Sarah died of yellow fever during 1804 whilst they were in Gibraltar and was buried in Trafalgar Cemetery. On retiring to Bath c1807 he married again, another widow, Elizabeth Wilford (1761-1850) on 19 August, 1807. It is known that he lived at 9 Edward Street, Bath from at least 1819 and at 12 Great Pulteney Street from 1824 until his death on 3 May, 1828 in his 91st year. An obituary notice in the Bath Chronicle, 8 May, 1828 records Nooth's distinguished record of public service, his scientific and literary attainments, and the qualities of *'integrity, candour, and benevolence which uniformly marked his conduct in every relation of his long and honourable life'*. He was buried at Bathampton on the 10th.

Inside the vestibule of the south-west door to Bath Abbey there is a large, ornate memorial to Nooth's eldest son also named John Mervyn Nooth. The main inscription reads: *'Lieutenant Colonel John Mervyn Nooth C.B. and Lieut. Col. of the XXI Regt. of Foot. Departed this life at Demarara August XXIII MDCCCXXI aged XXXVIII years'*.



Memorial in Bath Abbey to Dr Nooth's son, Lieut. Col. John Mervyn Nooth

The plinth carries the following inscription:

'To evince the esteem so generally felt for him not to hand down to posterity their veneration for his many virtues, and record their admiration of his character as a gentleman and an officer, the officers, non-commissioned officers, drummers and privates of the XXI Royal North British Regt. Fusiliers have erected this tablet in his memory. He was a man frank in manner and of inflexible resolution, susceptible of the warmest attachment, and every time the soldier's steadiest friend'.

Dr Nooth's widow, Elizabeth, moved to 73 Pulteney Street where she lived with her step-daughter, Mary, who died 21 June, 1846 aged 55 and was buried with her father. Elizabeth died there on 4 January, 1850 aged 90 and was also buried at Bathampton.

Nooth's apparatus appears to have become almost a household article, at least among the better off, and many thousands were sent abroad. But although impregnated, carbonated or artificial mineral

waters had probably declined into merely a pleasant, refreshing drink by the end of the 1700's, Nooth's apparatus itself seems to have been about, if not in daily use, for the next 40 or 50 years. The two earliest inhalers devised for the administration of ether anaesthesia in England incorporated a modified version of the bottom part of a Nooth's apparatus.

On 19 December, 1846 Peter Squire of Oxford Street, not merely an '*instrument maker named Squire*' but a most distinguished member of the pharmaceutical profession, and the Queen's chemist and druggist, no less, was visited by his friend Robert Liston, senior surgeon at University College Hospital. Liston brought with him a letter from Boston, USA which gave an account of the first successful demonstration of surgical anaesthesia, by the inhalation of ether vapour, and he asked Squire to prepare for him a suitable apparatus so that he could try the method himself. He would like to have it quickly as he had arranged to amputate a leg two days later. Squire chose as the essential part of his vaporizer the bottom part of a Nooth's apparatus. Into this he placed sponges to absorb the ether and assist vaporization, and he added a glass funnel, a valve to control the direction of air flow, a breathing tube, a ferrule for regulating the admixture of air, a mouthpiece and a nose clip; and this inhaler was used by his nephew William, a medical student, to administer the first general anaesthetic for a surgical operation at University College Hospital on 21 December, 1846. There followed many experiments for the administration of ether using modified versions of this apparatus.



Squire's 19th century inhaler. Surgeon's Hall Museum.

Nooth's apparatus for making 'carbonated water' was eventually superseded by a new process invented by a German immigrant in London called Schweppes. A name still closely associated with aerated water and the soft drinks industry.



Dr John Nooth's tombstone, C46. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'To the memory of John Mervyn Nooth MD., FRS., late Superintendent General of Military Hospitals who departed this life May 3rd 1828. Beloved, esteem'd and regretted by all who knew him both in public and in private life. Also of Mary Nooth daughter of the above who died June 21st 1846 aged 55. And of Eliza widow of the above died January 4th 1850 aged 90'. C46. Altar tomb.

Based on extracts by courtesy of D. Zuck, MB., ChB., FRCA., DA., DHMSA., Honorary Consulting Anaesthetist, Enfield Health District, taken from his papers published in the British Journal of Anaesthesia: 'Dr Nooth and his apparatus', 1978 pp 393-405, and, 'John Mervyn Nooth - an update', vol. 48, 1993, pp 712-714.

PHILLIP, Admiral Arthur, RN

Ledger in church, no. 4 south aisle, see also nos. W2, 40, 40a
First Governor and Founder of New South Wales

Admiral Arthur Phillip RN., died on the 31 August, 1814 at 19 Bennett Street, Bath and was buried Bathampton on the 7 September aged 76; Admiral of the Blue, First Governor and Founder of the Colony of New South Wales. Isabella, (née Whitehead), his second wife, died 4 March, 1823 and was buried at Bathampton on the 11 March aged 71.

Born on the 11 October, 1738 in Bread Street, London, son of Jacob Phillip, of German descent, and Elizabeth (née Breach) an English widow. Educated at Greenwich Hospital School, part of Greenwich Hospital, where he was trained for a seafaring life. Joined the RN at an early age and saw action during the Seven Years War after which he was retained on half pay; married Margaret Denison, a wealthy widow c1762, and entered a farming life in Lyndhurst, Hampshire - they separated six years later. Having farmed for some 12 years Arthur returned to life at sea and was given leave to join the Portuguese Navy. During this period he took 400 Portuguese convicts to Brazil without any loss.

In 1779 he was recalled back to England for active service, obtained his first command and promoted to captain.



In October 1786 Arthur was chosen by Lord Sydney, Secretary of State for the Home Department, as Captain-General of a proposed expedition to New South Wales and Governor of the new settlement it was intended to establish there. Arthur's experience with the Portuguese Navy may have prompted this choice. The expeditionary fleet of 11 ships carrying 1,487 persons, including c759 convicts, plus a contingent of marines and other officers who were to administer the colony, set sail from Portsmouth on 13 May, 1787 taking everything that might be needed for the task. The first boat reached Botany Bay on 18 January, 1788 and the others soon followed. It was quickly realised that the area was unsuitable for the establishment of a colony; after exploration they eventually landed at Sydney Cove (named after Lord Sydney) on 26 January, a date now known as Australia Day.

They had taken with them 10,000 bricks, 4 cows, 1 bull, 44 sheep, 122 fowls, 1 piano and 300 gallons of brandy, among other necessary supplies. Most of the livestock was lost during the voyage or shortly after landing when there was insufficient feed.

Early days were chaotic and difficult. With limited supplies the cultivation of food was imperative, but the land around Sydney was poor, the climate unfamiliar and very few had any knowledge of agriculture. Starvation was ever a problem and was made worse by the arrival of some 3,546 male and 766 female convicts during 1788-1792 - many of whom were sick and unfit for work, while the condition of healthy convicts only deteriorated with hard labour and poor sustenance. They arrived

with inadequate supplies and Arthur had to impose strict rationing and send a ship for provisions to Cape Town in 1788 and Calcutta in 1791. In addition to this the marines wanted their own land but did not want to grow food; were poorly disciplined and many not interested in disciplining the convicts.

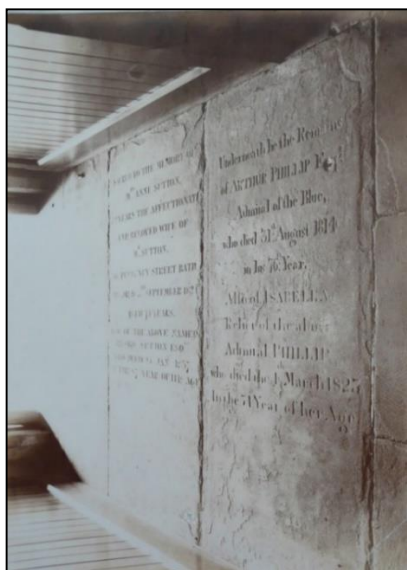
Arthur Phillip was a quiet, modest and unassuming man, but also an experienced navigator, efficient, able to make correct decisions calmly and quickly and had the strength of character to see the task through despite environmental difficulties and the antagonism of some of his senior staff. *'A slight, dark-complexioned man of less than average height, self-controlled and courageous. His task was to make a settlement in a wilderness with few and imperfect tools and a host of broken men to use them. He had, however, the determination that enables a man to make the best of bad conditions. His strong sense of duty and the fact that he had no gift of getting on with people made him unpopular, and he received little help from some of his subordinates. But, steadfast in mind, idealistic and modest, he had imagination enough to conceive what the settlement might become, and the common sense to realise what at the moment was possible and expedient. When almost everyone was complaining he never himself complained; when all feared disaster he could still go hopefully on with his work. He was sent out to found a convict settlement, and he laid the foundations of a nation'*. (Extract from an Australian Encyclopaedia).

He was injured in the shoulder by an aborigine's spear and by 1792 was in poor health due mainly to the injury and poor diet. The early years had been years of struggle and hardship, but the worst was over, a whaling industry had been established; trading ships began to visit and convicts, whose sentences had expired, took up farming. Arthur applied to return to England and embarked for home on 11 December, 1792 arriving in May, 1793 and tendered his resignation. Arthur's first wife had died in 1792 and in 1794 he married Isabella Whitehead and for a while lived in Bath. By 1796 with health somewhat recovered he went back to sea holding a series of commands during the wars with France. In 1801 was made Rear-Admiral of the Blue and in 1803 Commander of the whole of the Sea Fencibles, with jurisdiction over the entire coastline of Great Britain. Appointed Rear-Admiral of the White in April, 1804 and Rear-Admiral of the Red in November, 1805. In 1805 aged 67 he retired from the Navy and returned to Bath to live with his wife and was successively made Vice-Admiral of the White in October, 1809; Vice-Admiral of the Red in July, 1810 and Admiral of the Blue in June, 1814.

It is not clear whether Isabella remained in the area after his return to sea in 1796. What is clear is that they had a residence in Bathampton before Arthur retired as the Bathampton Highways Account Books show him paying highway rates during the period c1803-5. It is likely their residence was at Bathampton Lodge (which was frequently let out). It had been thought that they lived at Osborne House, in Bathampton Lane, but that property was not yet built. The Bath Chronicle gives notice of sale of some of his effects in 1806 *'lately removed from Bathampton'*. They went to live at 19 Bennett Street where he died 31 August, 1814 having fallen from a third floor window. Some accounts say the Admiral committed suicide due to extreme pain but this was never verified.

Admiral Phillip was buried in the original porch before it was incorporated into the south aisle and tablet no. 40 placed over the internal door. It wasn't uncommon for people from outside the parish to be buried at Bathampton. At the time the Bath churchyards were becoming full and many chose to be laid to rest in churchyards of surrounding villages away from the smoke and grime of the City. During the period 1810-1820, for instance, the Bathampton registers record a total of 391 burials of which only 39 were parishioners. His preference may have been because of his previous connections with the parish, things would, however, have been different if a case of suicide had been proven.

Isabella continued to live at 19 Bennett Street and died there on 4 March, 1823 and was buried with her husband. The original ledger stone has since been replaced.



Charles Ward, 1903.

The original ledger marking Admiral Phillip's grave, once part of the south porch but seen here after the porch was taken in as part of the new south aisle of 1882. The interior doorway to the present porch is just showing on the left-hand side.

'Underneath be the Remains of Arthur Phillip Esq. Admiral of the Blue who died 31st August 1814 in his 76th Year. Also of Isabella Relict of the above Admiral Phillip who died 4th March 1823 in the 71st Year of her Age'

Inscription on replacement ledger reads similarly: *'Underneath lie the remains of Arthur Phillip, Esqr. Admiral of the Blue, who died 31st August 1814, in his 76th years. Also of Isabella, relict of the above Admiral Phillip, who died the 4th March 1823, in the 71st year of her age'. No. 4.*

An outstanding feature was his regard for others tempered with tolerance, kindness and justice which was shown to all he came in contact with, whoever they were, making them feel confident of receiving fair and generous treatment.

'His role was not just planning the settlement, but to lay the foundations of a colony; to establish the machinery of a civil government; explore the territory both inland and coastal; to promote friendly relations with the aborigines and to govern a community of felons as well. This was made more difficult by the neglect of not being sent regular and sufficient supplies of food and necessities.

He was a plain, quiet, efficient man, of more than ordinary vision, set a task requiring precision, activity, courage and judgement - which he did and did well. Not a colossus by any means but a pioneer-colonist worthy to be numbered and honoured amongst the great Empire builders for all time. He well and truly laid the foundation stone of the Commonwealth of Australia setting up the rough ashlar which time and energy have chiselled and polished into a noble and enduring edifice'. (George Mackarness, 1937).

A monument to the Admiral's memory was placed in St Mildred's Church, Bread Street, London in 1932 but was destroyed in the 1940 blitz - some parts were recovered and re-erected in St Mary le Bow, Watling Street, 1968. A further monument was unveiled in Bath Abbey in 1937.

There is a statue of Admiral Phillip looking towards the harbour in Sydney's Botanic Gardens and his name is commemorated in Australia by Port Phillip; Phillip Island (Victoria); Phillip Island (Norfolk Island) and in many other ways such as in the naming of streets, parks and schools.

In 2014, to mark 200 years since the Admiral's death, the British-Australia Society raised funds for a further two memorials, one in the nave of Westminster Abbey and a specially-commissioned armillary sphere sited in the small garden at the rear of the Assembly Rooms, Bath, just opposite 19 Bennett Street. It evokes the landing at Sydney Cove in 1787 and includes a dressed quay-side bollard, which supports the armillary sphere, made by sundial expert David Harber, and, Nigel Fenwick, stone carver. This was relocated to Sydney Gardens, Bath in 2024.

Admiral Phillip's memory is perpetuated at Bathampton by the Australia Chapel, dedicated 1975, [see *'St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part two - Interior Memorials Explored'* nos. W2 and 40a], and various publications and display boards in the church. Each year on the Friday nearest to the Admiral's birthday, 11 October, a service is held in the church, attended by Australian dignitaries and representatives of the different states together with other worthies. A short service is also held on the Saturday closest to Australia Day.

RHODES, Rev. Edward Duncan BA., MA., BD.

C43 (See also no. 76 brass plaque in church, North aisle, north wall)

First resident Vicar since parish separated from Bathford after some 250 year's annexation.

There are a number of graves of clergymen within the churchyard, but one of the most notable is probably that of the Rev. Edward Duncan Rhodes who was the first resident Vicar here, following the separation of the church from its some 250 years annexation to Bathford. He and his sister were great benefactors to the church and he is responsible for many changes and extensions to the building.

Edward Duncan Rhodes, B.D., Prebendary of Wells and from 1855 Vicar of Bathampton. Born 13 October, 1797 Colyton, Devon, son of Rev'd George Rhodes; died Wo(o)dehouse, Lyme Regis, Dorset 18 September, 1866 aged 68 and buried 26th at Bathampton.

'A zealous Pastor, a wise and thoughtful teacher, a Preacher of rare eloquence, an affectionate and generous Relative and Friend, a large hearted, noble minded man, of a Pious, Reverent spirit, and cultivated intellect. This church restored in large measure by his liberality and taste, is his finest and most lasting monument. This tablet has been erected to record the love and grief of those to whom within these walls, and from house to house, he ministered so faithfully and well. Dr Magee, Bishop of Peterborough and Archbishop of York'. Plaque no. 76.

Rev. Rhodes gained a B.A., at Sidney College, Cambridge in 1819; M.A., 1822; B.D., 1830 and ordained priest at Exeter Cathedral in 1832. Rector of Ermington and Curate of West Teignmouth, Devon for sixteen years and appointed Prebend of Wedmore the Second, in Cathedral Church of Wells, April 1861.

As Sinecure* Rector of Ermington (which he held until his death) came to Bath c1841 with his sister, Susan Loveday Rhodes; the following year was appointed to the Perpetual Curacy of Kensington which he held for a short time. They came to live at Hampton Villa [now Avonstone] in Bathampton Lane, possibly the first to reside there, and in 1855 he was appointed Vicar of Bathampton at the time the parish's annexation with Bathford ended and held this post until his death. Although the church had come under the Vicar of Bathford it had, for some years, been in the charge of curates who lived in Bath which was not that satisfactory. With this appointment the parish had at last a resident and active incumbent who ministered in a quiet and simple way and became highly thought of by all classes.



Hampton Villa (now Avonstone). 2025.

The Bath Chronicle of 29 September, 1866 carried a long obituary stating that during his time '*.... he was responsible for the enlargement and restoration of the church and improvement of the churchyard; instrumental in improving the efficiency of the schools and awakened the zeal and interest of parishioners in church matters. During his incumbency Dissent which had acquired a stronghold in the parish began to disappear... He was well read and had an extensive library which also contained many priceless engravings. He was courteous, dignified and kind hearted; cheerful, manly and sincere in disposition... President of the Church of England Young Men's Society; Secretary Church Missionary Society and President Bath School of Art...*'.

During his incumbency the north aisle and a small vestry were built and a new window installed east end of the chancel and further new windows installed in the Allen Chapel. Whilst these works took place services were held at the Chapel in the High Street. The church re-opened and consecrated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Lord Auckland, on 29 April, 1859. During the coming years the lych gate was erected; door to tower blocked up and new entrance made from outside and part of churchyard extended and consecrated on 16 June, 1862. A stone reading desk with steps leading up to a pulpit was also added and low pitch pine seats fitted. He was also instrumental in securing the site of the first vicarage, adjacent to Hampton Villa.



Rev. E. D. Rhodes (back row, 4th from right) and Choir, 1864,
in grounds of the original Bathampton House.

He often opened his garden to the parish for such events as the following:

'Rev. Preb. Rhodes Vicar of Bathampton threw open his grounds in accordance with his annual custom for the reception of all his parishioners together with a few friends from Bath including the Committee of the Church of England's Young Men's Society. Tea and Coffee were served in the spacious marquee and after the repast the guests strolled around the Vicar's beautiful grounds and cricket, dancing etc. engaged their attention until dusk when supper was served. After an address from Mr Rhodes in which he reviewed the local and general events that had taken place since last year the National Anthem was sung, thanks voted to the vicar and proceedings terminated'. Bath Chronicle, 28 July, 1864.

His family inherited property from the Andrews family of Lyme Regis. Following an illness, he had gone to Wo(o)dehouse, his house at Uplyme, near Lyme Regis, to recuperate, but died a few days later. He is responsible for planting the Pinetum there which still exists today.

'Mr Rhodes died suddenly much to the grief of his parishioners, among whom he had for 11 years most affectionately ministered and to the especial sorrow of that large circle of friends who far and near had experienced the privilege of his personal friendship. The simple dignity and sweet courtesy of his manner were such as to win the confidence and love of all whose good fortune it was to know him. He was a ripe scholar and an excellent divine. Few men were so thoroughly imbued with a love of poetry as he, or possessed a more complete knowledge of poets and poetic literature, especially of

an early date. And though one of the most ostentatious of men, he was ever ready to allow others to profit by the almost boundless resources of his literary knowledge.... His church and parish of Bathampton were the home of his thoughts and affections, as of the labour of his later years. That church, a model of an English country church, restored to its present perfection, mainly by his liberality stands the centre of what he had made a model English country parish - the [] monument to his memory. No truer heart than his was ever laid to rest 'in sure and certain [.....]' within its shadow, no dearer or more honoured memory of teacher, pastor, friend will ever be cherished by those who yet may worship beneath its roof". Written by Dr Magee, Bishop of Peterborough and Archbishop of York.

Shortly after his burial it was rumoured that his ghost was haunting the churchyard and that nightly floating apparitions were being seen. There was no street lighting, no passing traffic, the only light would have been a faint glimmer from the George Inn - the churchyard was probably quite eerie in the darkness of night. Reports reached Bath and numerous people walked out to see for themselves, causing great disturbances; one night things got so bad that the pub had to be closed and occupants ejected. To try and stop this continuing the police decided to investigate further and found that the silent, gliding, white apparitions were in fact a pair of white barn owls that had taken up residence in a nearby barn and were out hunting not haunting!

Susan, his sister, continued to live at Hampton Villa until her death 6 April, 1877 aged 94 and was buried at Bathampton on the 9th. She had been a great benefactress to the parish, in particular the Sunday School and Voluntary School, and was responsible for the installation of the church clock.

From at least 1845 the Rev. Rhodes was in possession of Diamond Cottages, two two-storied houses in the High Street (immediately west of today's The Normans). During the 18th century this site was the village poor house. He had a school room in the left-hand (eastern) property, now known as Diamond Cottage. On his death this premise passed to his sister, Susan, who subsequently gave it to the church '*for educational and church purposes*' and it was used partly as a Reading Room and partly as a place for the storage of blankets to be loaned to the needy during the winter. In her Will she bequeathed further legacies to the original School and the Clothing Club.



Grave of the Rev. E. D. Rhodes and his sister, Susan, C43. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'Sacred to the memory of Edward Duncan Rhodes, BD., Vicar of Bathampton for 11 years. Born October 13 1797. Died September 18 1866.... Also to the loved memory of Susan Loveday Rhodes his sister who was born June 23 1783 died April 6 1877'. C43. Hipped tomb with curb and railing - rails missing 2005.

*Sinecure - when a rector of a parish neither resides nor performs duties at the church gifted to him as his 'living' but has a vicar under him, endowed and charged with the cure thereof, this is termed a sinecure living.

See also '*St Nicholas Church, Bathampton: Part one, and, Part two*', BLHRG, 2024.

The Reverend Rhodes was followed by **The Rev. Henry Girdlestone B.A.**, from 1866-1896. He and his wife were the first to reside at the new Vicarage. During his incumbency further alterations were made to the church. An arch was erected over the entrance to the Vestry, on the south side of the Chancel, to conform with the archway over the organ chamber on the opposite side; and the pitch of the Vestry roof was raised and a pine ceiling installed. At the same time he was also responsible for the construction of the South Aisle, to correspond to the North Aisle, taking in the Allen Chapel and original porch and provision of a new porch. This new Aisle gave additional seating for 40 people and all the works were completed in 1882 four years before his resignation.

He retired to Bournemouth and died there on 20 March, 1904 aged 70 and buried on the 23rd at Bathampton aged 70. [B120]. His wife, Eliza Jane, also died at Bournemouth aged 73 and was buried at Bathampton on 31 March, 1917. One of his sons, Captain Morrell Andrew Girdlestone, was killed in the First World War and is remembered on the Roll of Honour.

For more detail see '*St Nicholas Church Bathampton: Part one - History of the Church and its Fabric*', BLHRG, 2024.



Grave of Rev. Henry Girdlestone, B120. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'Henry Girdlestone, born October 3 1835(4) died March 20 1904. For 30 years Vicar of this parish. I have kept the faith. 11 Timothy IV 7'. B120. Curbed grave; see also no. 48 east wall of Nave.

RYE, Dr John

Brass plaque in church no. 73a, Nave, north west wall, see also 6, 20 and 20a
Founder of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners Royal Benevolent Society

Dr John Rye of Johnstone Street, Bath was born 14 August, 1767 and died 28 January, 1855 and buried 5 February at Bathampton aged 87. His wife, Anne, born 20 June, 1763 had predeceased him having died 25 December, 1828 and buried 2 January, 1829 Bathampton aged 68. They were buried in the original south porch, now incorporated into the south aisle - ledger [no. 6] no longer visible.

John Rye with Charles Gee Jones were the founders of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners Royal Benevolent Society, instituted 1839 and incorporated by Act of Parliament 1850.

During the autumn of 1838 the Clovelly herring fleet suffered the loss of 11 boats and 21 men when gales took them by surprise in the Bristol Channel. They had already suffered great losses in 1821 when 40 boats were lost and 31 fishermen and pilots perished, leaving 19 widows and 61 children destitute of their only means of support.

On learning of the latest disaster John Rye, a retired medical man of Johnstone Street, Bath, and Charles Gee Jones, a Bathwick Publican (one time Bristol Pilot) concerned over the welfare of the dependants decided to do something to aid the stricken fishing community. On making enquiries they found that there were no funds available to alleviate such distress and with the Governor of Greenwich

Hospital drew up a proposal towards the formation of a suitable Benevolent Society. That winter was particularly bad with numerous disasters around the British coast involving fishing fleets and other seafarers, often with much loss of life causing great hardship and distress to their families.



Dr John Rye and Charles Gee Jones.
Courtesy of The Shipwrecked Mariners Society.

The Admiral of the Fleet, Sir G. Cookburn, GCB., took up the cause. He called a public meeting for 21 February, 1839 in London with the purpose of forming a Society for Relief of Mariners and Fishermen, or their Widows and Orphans - creating a fund from annual contributions of not more than two shillings and six pence to provide relief to those left destitute by the loss of a seafarer or to one injured and unable to provide for his family.

This resulted in The Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners Benevolent Society being founded and in March HM Queen Victoria became Patron, thereby introducing Royal to its title. The original purpose of the Society was '*to provide financial help to merchant seafarers, fishermen and their dependants who were in need*'; this charitable organisation still exists today (2024). Royal connections have remained unbroken and the present patron is HRH The Princess Royal. It was to become an extensive operation, one of the most appropriate and useful charities of '*our sea-girt Isle*'. In a quarter of a century it had relieved upwards of 12,000 widows, orphans and aged parents of drowned fishermen and sailors, besides affording assistance to about 45,000 shipwrecked persons.

Now known as the 'Shipwrecked Mariners Society', and based in Chichester, the Society has a volunteer network of over 300 Honorary Agents throughout the British Isles; much funding coming from those large red mines found at coastal resorts converted into gigantic collecting receptacles.



One of the converted mines. 2024.

John Rye was a long term resident of Bath, and devoted much of his life to charitable works and organizations and was instrumental in forming the Bath Branch of this Society. He died 28 January, 1855 aged 87 and was buried with his wife, Ann, (died 25 December, 1828 aged 65) in the original porch of St Nicholas Church, Bathampton, alongside Rear Admiral Arthur Philip. This brass plaque was placed by their son together with two further memorials in St Mary's Church, Bathwick. Charles Gee Jones died 20 May, 1851 aged 45 and was buried in St Mary's old churchyard, where his gravestone bears further tribute to the foresight of these two gentlemen.

John's wife, Ann (née Brograve), was the last descendant of Sir Berney Brograve, 5th Baronet of Worstead Hall, Norfolk - there being no direct male descendants the baronetcy had become extinct. Her only surviving child, George Augustus Rye (born 17 May, 1797), changed his surname to Brograve by Royal Assent in the hope of being granted the baronetcy but his application was unsuccessful. He continued to live in the family home in Johnstone Street, but actually died at Weston-super-Mare, 25 March, 1874. His wife Mary (born 8 April, 1800) died on 9 December, 1877 [nos. 6, 20, 20a]. They were both buried in the original south porch (now taken in as part of the south aisle) probably with his parents John and Ann Rye - but the inscribed ledger stone is no longer visible [no. 6]. Two panels of the Reredos, depicting St Mark and St Luke, [nos. 20, 20a] were dedicated to their memory by their four daughters, Ann, Mary, Sarah and Juliana in 1890.

'Death 25th inst. Mrs Rye wife of John Rye Esq. of Johnstone Street in this City and sister of the late Sir George Berney Brograve Bart. of Worstead House, Norfolk'. Bath Chronicle, 1 January, 1829.

'At Bathwick church George Augustus Brograve son of John Rye Esq. of Johnstone Street in this City and grandson of the late Sir Berney Brograve Bart. of Worstead House, Norfolk to Mary daughter of the late John Hawker Esq. of Dudbridge, Glos.' Bath Chronicle, 25 August, 1831.

Memorial Inscription on brass plaque in church:

'In memory of John Rye Esq. (late the parish of Bathwick). Born 14th August 1767, died 28th January 1855. Founder of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners Royal Benevolent Society, instituted 1839, Incorporated by Act of Parliament 1850. His mortal remains are deposited in a vault within the [original] South Porch of this Church beside those of Anne Rye, an affectionate wife and mother, who died 25th December 1828 aged 65 years, the daughter and last descendant of Sir Berney Brograve, 5th Baronet of Worstead Hall in the County of Norfolk. The Blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me, and I caused the Widow's heart to sing for joy. In Reverential regard for his beloved parents, George Augustus Brograve, Esq. their only surviving child, has inscribed this plate in their memory, which is also recorded on two tablets in St Mary's Church, Bathwick'. 73a.

Reference:

Article re The Late John Rye, Bath Chronicle, 22 February, 1855.

SALT, Edward DL., JP., for West Riding

C118

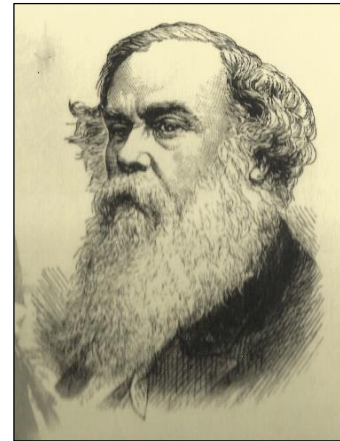
Son of Sir Titus Salt, founder of Saltaire, the first purpose built village and mill

Edward Salt was the third son of Titus and Caroline (Whitlam) Salt; born 3 April, 1836 and christened 1 May, 1837 Bradford; married 10 July, 1861 Mary Jane Susan Elgood (1840-1870) at Ratcliffe on the Wreale, Leicester; married secondly Sarah Amelia Rouse (1846-1929) on 1 November, 1871 at St Mary's, Burleigh in Wharfedale. No issue.

His father, Titus Salt, later a baronet, is renowned for building Saltaire, (3 miles south east of Bradford), the first purpose built village and mill - now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Titus Salt (snr) was born 20 September, 1803 and died 29 December, 1876. He married Caroline Whitham 21 August, 1830 at Grimsby and had 11 children - William Henry, succeeded as 2nd Bart; George, Amelia; Edward; Herbert; Fanny Caroline; Titus (jnr); Whitlam; Mary; Helen and Ada.

He was a woolstapler (a buyer and seller of wool) having worked for some years learning the trade. In 1824 he established the firm Daniel Salt and Son (Woolstaplers), Bradford. He bought wool from the Don area of Russia - a coarse and tangled wool - nobody wanted it as it was thought impossible to spin. Titus believed otherwise, rented a mill and proved everyone wrong and his firm now entered into the spinning business.



Titus Salt (snr)

In 1836 he came across 300 bales of discarded Alpaca wool in a warehouse and after thoroughly testing it bought the lot - contrary to others judgement. But once again he was proved right and by the 1840's was operating five mills in Bradford - Alpaca becoming very fashionable when Queen Victoria started to wear Alpaca dresses. He didn't stop here and soon turned his attention to mohair.

Bradford at the time was one of the filthiest towns in the world - booming but without sewers and the canal an open cess pit. The population had risen from 13,264 in 1801 to 103,782 in 1851. Rioting in the streets in 1848 was followed by cholera in 1849. Titus decided to build a purpose built village and one very large mill for efficiency. He found the beginnings of a site at Airedale and his vision began to evolve and Saltaire (bringing his name and nearby River Aire together) was launched. The land had water and was well placed for transport by river, canal and rail - but he had to negotiate further purchases of adjacent land over several years to meet his ambition. There was no overall plan but from 1853, when the new mill opened, to 1876 houses were built together with a church and chapel, bath and wash house; factory schools, alms houses; shops; a park; club and institute and Sunday schools - a complete infrastructure was established. Titus was constantly adding extra amenities for his villagers. By 1871 there were 82 houses with a population of 4,389 - houses with gas and a privy in a country setting away from the fog, smoke and disease of Bradford.

Titus (snr) had encouraged his sons to become involved in the business and in 1854 William Henry and George were made junior partners. William Henry retired in 1871 aged 40 after 25 years' service leaving George, Edward and Titus (jnr) as active partners who proved a considerable force in pursuing the company's business both in running the mill and the village.

In 1869 Titus (snr) was made a Baronet - in recognition of his commercial enterprise which brought wealth and honour to the nation. He died on 29 December, 1876 and was succeeded by his son, William Henry, as 2nd Baronet. His Will made substantial provisions for his wife and £80,000 to each of his surviving daughters, to be controlled by them and not their husbands, and, £100,000 to William Henry and Herbert both no longer involved in the business. The other sons, George, Edward and Titus (jnr), as partners, were to receive, if leaving the firm or dying within twenty years of Sir Titus's death, payments reflecting the value of their share in the company, payable in annual instalments over a twenty year period.

'He dreamt not of fame, yet he acquired it; he sought not honours, yet they came; he was unswerving in his religious and political principles, and hence was respected by his fellow-men; he lived not for himself, but for others, and hence the reverence attached to his name.'

He will be remembered as the wool-stapler pushing his way in business; as the manufacturer, striking out new paths of commercial enterprises; as the founder of a town, which, for its beauty of situation, and its moral and educational advantages, stands unrivalled; as the chief magistrate of Bradford and its representative in the Senate; as the philanthropist, who sympathized with humanity in all its sufferings and conflicts; as the generous benefactor, whose helping hand was not restricted by

religion, politics, or nationality, but extended to the most deserving; as the possessor of great wealth and influences and with the baronetcy raised to the dignity by his Sovereign'.

Edward lived with his wife Mary Jane at Ferniehurst, Baildon, north of the River Aire - a mansion built by Edward and lavishly fitted and furnished. The interior boasted 12 bedrooms, a library, billiard room, tennis courts, numerous greenhouses, a farm, dairy, carriage house for six carriages and other buildings. He lived there for three decades whilst engaged in the business of the mill and his own interests, enjoying riding to hounds, angling and shooting. A keen horticulturist and renowned grower of orchids; was at onetime Vice-President of the Gardener's Mutual Improvement Association and had a great interest in the Association's welfare, and horticulture in general; he was also a JP and DL for West Riding. Mary Jane died October, 1870 aged 29; he remarried 1 November, 1871 Sarah Amelia Rouse at St Mary's, Burleigh in Wharfedale and they continued to live at Ferniehurst.

In 1881 the firm became a Limited Company with shares available only to the family. The first directors of 'Sir Titus Salt, Sons and Co. Ltd.,' were George, Edward, Titus (jnr), Charles Stead a partner since 1854 and William Stead. George retired in 1886 and on 9 November, 1887 Titus (jnr) died suddenly which left Edward as the only family member actively involved. The loss of the two brothers must have affected the firm's stability especially when the terms of Titus's Will were evoked.

Although no longer part of the company Sir William Henry died in July, 1892 and just two months later the business went into liquidation. Edward had mortgaged Ferniehurst in the 1880s as security for the firm, he now found the bank calling in their loan and he lost his home of 30 years (as did Charles Stead). It was estimated he had spent some £35,000 on the property but at auction it was withdrawn at £12,500 - it eventually sold in 1896.

The mill and village were purchased by a consortium and in 1933 the houses began to be sold off. With the decline of the textile industry many of the buildings were in a sorry state, unsound and derelict, and in 1986 Salt's mill was sold. Jonathan Silver bought it and started to turn it into a world of culture arranging cultural events, including setting up three David Hockney Galleries. During the 1990s Saltaire began to be rejuvenated and in 1996 won the Europa Nostra Medal for conservation. It is now a Unesco World Heritage site.

Edward not only left the company but also the area, going first to London before settling in Bathampton from 1895, initially at Bathampton Lodge then [*the original*] Bathampton House (rented from the Manor Estate) with a staff of three - many less than he had enjoyed before. 1,400 Saltaire residents presented him with a testimonial and silver casket surmounted by a model Alpaca and decorated side panels of orchids and lapagerias - his favourite plants. He had not only lost the company but in so doing lost the provisions made in his father's Will. His circumstances were obviously reduced somewhat from the heydays at Ferniehurst; he and his wife were now sustained by Sarah's private income.



The original Bathampton House, east side, 1921.

He didn't have a robust constitution and died from pneumonia on the 20 October, 1903 aged 66 just a week after returning from Weymouth where he had been for his health and was buried at Bathampton on the 29th. The interment was in a new walled vault decorated with ivy. The coffin was of English oak, panelled and polished with handsome brass furniture and on the brass breast plate was inscribed '*Edward Salt, born April 3 1837 died October 24 1903*'. The funeral was attended by many notable people as well as many from the parish. His effects were valued under £500. Sarah moved to London and died at Kensington in 1929 and was cremated Golders Green, and her ashes dispersed in the garden of rest there; she is commemorated on Edward's tombstone.

The Bathampton Parish Church Annual Report for 1903 contained the following; '*.....in the autumn, after a short illness, Mr Salt was taken from us, and we shall long remember him as one who took a keen interest in all that concerned the welfare of our village and as one whose heart and hand were ever ready to assist all who needed help*'.



Grave of Edward Salt, C118. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'In memory of Edward Salt born 3 April 1837 died 24 October 1803. Also in memory of his wife Sarah Emelia who died 31st July 1929 aged 83'. C118. Flat stone with cross in relief. Sarah not in register, died and buried London.

References:

Rev. R. Balgarnie - '*Sir Titus Salt, Baronet, his life and its lessons*'. Published as '*Balgarnie's Salt*' by Nemine Juvante (Saltaire) Publications, 2003 with comments and additions by Barlo and David Shaw. ISBN 0 9545840 07.
Bath Weekly Chronicle, Thursday, 29 October 1903, and 7 November, for details of funeral.

SICKERT, Walter Richard and LESSORE, Thérèse

D30

Famous artists

Walter Sickert was born on 31 May, 1860 in Munich. He was one of the six children of Oswald Adalber Sickert, who was Danish, and his British wife Eleanor (née Sheepshanks). The family moved to London in 1868 when he was eight.

On leaving school he chose acting as a career and joined repertory companies under the pseudonym of Mr Nemo. At the age of 21 he enrolled at the Slade School of Art and in 1882 became pupil and studio assistant to the American painter James Whistler who was then living in London. Through his association with Whistler he met the French artist Edgar Degas who had a great influence on his work.

His sister, Helena Swanwick, became a journalist and was known as being a British feminist, pacifist, and non-militant suffragette.

Sickert was a colourful, eccentric character with a love for the stage and music halls. He had charm and wit and dressed with panache in surprising outfits. He became a very famous British artist and was regarded as the leading figure among English Impressionist painters.

He married Ellen Cobden (1848-1914) daughter of a radical MP, who soon became upset by his promiscuity and infidelity and in 1895, in an attempt to save their marriage, they moved to Venice. The marriage failed and they were divorced in 1899. However, from an artistic point of view the move was a huge success for Sickert and prompted many more visits when he was able to capture the beautiful transient light of Venice on canvas.

In 1893 Sickert opened, in Chelsea, his first of many schools of art and became known not just as an artist but also for his teaching skills.

He gained recognition, first in France and by 1920 in England. In 1924 he was an Associate of the Royal Academy and in 1927, for a short period, its President - his skill was French, the contents of many of his paintings were English.

Sickert was the central figure of the Camden Town Group formed in 1911. They were a group of modern Impressionist Painters who were becoming increasingly critical of the conventional teaching of the Royal Academy and wanted to encourage the new interest in Impressionism. At this time, he was painting his well-known seedy North London interiors and female nudes in bedrooms. He wrote later that he loved London for its evil, racy little faces and the whiff of leather and stout coming from the swing doors of the pubs. He extolled the magic and poetry found in everyday surroundings.

His second wife was Christine Drummond Angus, one of his pupils and 17 years his junior; a talented designer and embroiderer. They were married for just nine years when she died in 1920 from TB. During the First World War they stayed in Chagford, Devon or Bath where, during 1916-18, he had a studio in Bladud Buildings, capturing the atmosphere of the city in paintings of Beechen Cliff, Lansdown, Camden Crescent, Pulteney Bridge, Belvedere and other landmarks. He came to love Bath and the surrounding country.

In 1926 he took as his third wife Thérèse Lessore who he described as a '*Persian miniature*' and who in later years was to be a great support to him when his health broke down. Born in Southwick, West Sussex in 1884 to Jules Lessore - a Frenchman who had settled in England in 1871 making a name for himself as a painter and etcher - and Ada Louise (née Cooper). Thérèse's brother was the sculptor Frederick Lessore. She married Bernard Adeney but was later divorced. A talented painter in her own right, Thérèse attended the SW Polytechnic Art School and later the Slade School of Fine Art from 1904-9 where she won the prestigious Melville Nettleship Prize for Figure Composition. She showed at various prominent galleries and in 1918 had her first solo exhibition at the Eldar Gallery. The catalogue was prefaced by Sickert who wrote about her '*sense of design, her spare style and her technical skill in extracting value from the interplay of coloured underpaintings and final coats of local colour*'. Her first watercolour exhibition was in 1926. In 1931 The Times review of a further exhibition noted her '*serene*' portrayal of subjects ranging from '*children playing in London parks*' to '*people at the circus or theatre, Sussex fishermen and a few pure landscapes*' concluding that she possessed '*rare talent happily employed*'. Thérèse shared a love of the musical hall and circus with Sickert and this was often reflected in her work.

Unable to join the Camden Town Group, as women were denied membership, she became a founder member of the London Group which combined the Camden Town Group and English Vorticists together with independent artists.

Her grandfather, a French ceramic artist and painter had designed and decorated Wedgewood pottery since the 1860s. Both Thérèse and her sister, Louise, followed him in engaging in similar work for this famous pottery.

Thérèse's style was different to Sickert's but in later years this merged somewhat and they often painted the same subjects with strong similarities. She also came to love Bath and painted numerous scenes of the city and was a frequent exhibitor with the Bath Society of Artists after they came here to live. Her work is often considered as having been over looked.

Sickert wrote articles for many journals and was a prolific, witty and controversial critic of contemporary painting. He set up an etching studio in London but his prints were not commercially popular. His pictures of music hall scenes were much criticised as tawdry and vulgar but he loved the relaxed atmosphere of the famous Gatti's Music Hall which he frequently visited. He enjoyed the cosmopolitan mixture of customers, the audience participation and suggestive songs, the beer, the roar of the audience and the fellowship - all of which he captured in the best of his paintings.

Despite his initial allegiance to Whistler and Degas he emerged as a strong, independent and highly individual artist whose influence on future generations of British painters is indisputable. The settings for his earlier works were music halls, sombre Venetian bedrooms and seedy North London interiors. He worked in poky, dismal studios and used unsmiling models who were often prostitutes, and frequently spent summers painting the landscapes and architecture of Dieppe and Venice. He exhibited with French Societies in Paris and became known as the '*Canaletto of Dieppe*' and was recognised as one of the greatest portrait painters of his time. Many of his portraits were done from quick informal sketches when the subject was off guard or mostly from photographs. He disliked the laborious business of sittings and chose informality, expressive gestures and an element of surprise in his paintings.

Whilst painting in Dieppe he met Sir Winston Churchill's wife who was on holiday there. She asked Sickert if he would help her husband with his painting. He agreed and later turned up at No. 10 and announced that he had come to teach Sir Winston how to paint!

In 1938 Sickert and Thérèse moved from Kent and took St George's Hill House, Bathampton Lane, possibly to escape the effects of another war; returning to an area that had endeared itself to them and where they led quite a secluded life, with even the telephone number being withheld.



St George's Hill House, Bathampton. 1921.

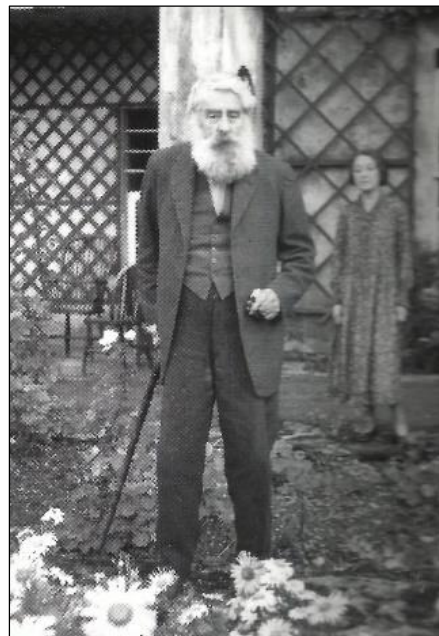
For a while he lectured students at the Bath School of Art housed on the top floor of the Technical College in Lower Borough Walls and in 1939 he opened an exhibition of their work at the Victoria Art Gallery. He also gave practical instruction to selected groups in a barn, which formed part of the outbuildings in the grounds of the house, which offered spectacular views over the garden and meadows at the rear, taking in the canal, railway, river, city and hills beyond. The early 19th century house with generously proportioned windows was spacious enough to allow three studios between him and Thérèse where he continued painting views of Bath. In 1940 he showed some paintings at the Bath Society of Artists exhibition (for the last time) and at the Royal Academy in London, although he had had nothing to do with the Academy for several years because of a disagreement with them.

However, he said he would support this exhibition as it was for the Artists Benevolent Fund. Despite failing health and being increasingly confused he continued to paint and Thérèse frequently finished his paintings for him.



Sickert opening Bath Society of Artists Exhibition, June 1939.

In his final years he concentrated on subjects he could paint from home as he looked out of the window at the garden or the view in reverse e.g. 'The Invalid' depicting himself from the back gazing over the end wall of the garden at the view beyond. Cecil Beaton photographed Sickert and Thérèse in the garden in September, 1940 but by the autumn of 1941 Sickert was confined upstairs having had a series of strokes. Thérèse cared for him and also had to cope with a number of evacuees billeted with them from Balham. Sickert found this intrusion within the house perplexing and, intermittently, would remember why they were there and would bow graciously on meeting them and remind himself 'Ah, the Balhams!'.



Sickert and Thérèse at St George's Hill
from photo by Cecil Beaton, 1940.

In the 1990s Bathampton resident Mr Ted Dolman remembered that *'as a boy of about 12 years of age, Mr Sickert, who was greatly interested in all that went on in the village, would frequently invite me to his home at St George's Hill House to talk about art, because he knew that I was interested in the subject. We used to sit in big, black leather armchairs with his paintings all around the room - a typical artist's room'*. He also recalled taking part in a fancy dress competition held in the village

parish room, in the High Street. Sickert judged the contest and agreed to paint a portrait of the winner, a young man who went as a jester.

Sickert died on 22 January, 1942 and was cremated at Arno's Vale. His niece, Miss K. Powell, played a Bach sonata on the viola and accompanied the hymn 'Praise my soul the King of Heaven'. Thérèse did not attend, but his brother Leonard did. Sickert's ashes were buried at Bathampton on the 30th in a full sized grave. *'A creative artist and inspired teacher'*. A memorial service was held in St Martin-in-the-Fields on 3 February.

Thérèse continued to live at St George's Hill where, during the Spring of 1942, she offered a temporary home to the Bath School of Art who, after being bombed on 25 April, 1942 had lost everything including their library, records and models. By November they were able to move to 99 Sydney Place where, apparently, they undertook invaluable war work. She was frequently fined for showing lights from windows during the blackouts. She eventually returned to London and died at St Mary Abbots Hospital in 1946 aged 62 and after cremation her ashes were interred with those of her husband at Bathampton on 18 February, 1946.

By the 1980's the stone marking their grave had deteriorated badly and an appeal was launched to replace it. The response was considerable and the grave was duly restored.

Many of Sickert's pictures are held privately, or in collections including those of the Tate Gallery, London and the Victoria Art Gallery, Bath who own five and some pencil sketches.



Walter and Thérèse Sickert's headstone, D30. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'Walter Sickert 1860-1942. Therese Sickert (née Therese Lessore) 1884-1945'. D30. Headstone.

References:

Bath Chronicle, 7 November, 1942.

Obituary Bath Chronicle and The Times, 24 January, 1942.

Philippa Bishop: *'Walter Richard Sickert (1860-1942) Painter of the Bath Scene'*. Bath History, Vol. 9, pp 138-154.

SMITH, Diane Christine

D136

Child resident

Diane was a pretty, fair haired girl who lived with her parents in Holcombe Green, Bathampton and attended the village school. At the early age of eight she was killed in an accident. The family had gone out for the day to Cheddar Gorge. Whilst picnicking in one of grassy areas within the gorge, a rock tumbled down from the cliffs that towered above and killed her. She was subsequently buried at Bathampton.



Diane Smith's headstone, D136. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'Treasured memories of a dear daughter Diane Christine Smith fell asleep 9th August, 1960 aged 8 years. Also a devoted husband, father and grandfather Albert Henry died 14th February 1995 aged 84 years. Also a beloved wife, mother and grandmother Marjorie died 4th September 2002 aged 86 years.
D136. Headstone and vase.

SMITH, Elizabeth (née Murray)

B173

Wife of Joseph Smith, British Consul, Venice

Elizabeth Murray was the second wife of Joseph Smith who she married c1757.

Joseph Smith (1682-6 November 1770) often known as 'Consul Smith' was the British Consul at Venice 1740-1760. He was a patron of artists most notably Canaletto; a collector and connoisseur and banker to the British community in Venice. Educated at Westminster School, London. He took up residence in Venice c1700 in the import-export trade and merchant banking house of Thomas Williams who was the British Consul at that time. He eventually headed a partnership with Williams. He was a passionate collector of 16th and 17th century masters and living artists; manuscripts, books, coins, medals and engraved gems. The majority of his collection was bought by George II c1762-5 and forms the nucleus of the Royal Collection of drawings at Windsor Castle; his books are now in the British Library.

He married firstly the renowned singer Catherine Tofts (1685-1756) and secondly Elizabeth Murray sister of John Murray, British Ambassador, Turkey. Elizabeth died 18 June, 1788 in Bath and was buried at Bathampton on the 23rd. Her brother's daughter, Catherine Murray, was buried with her in 1789.



Remains of Elizabeth Smith's tomb, B173. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'Here rest the remains of Mrs Elizabeth Smith widow of Joseph Smith Esq late Consul of Venice who departed this life universally and deservedly lamented on the 18th June 1788 aged 70 years. As also the body of her niece, Miss Catherine Murr[a]y who departed this life March 18th 1789.....'. B173. Altar tomb. Top only, 2024.

STACEY, George and Harriet

C5; C13

'Faithful servants of the Allen family'.



Harriet and George Stacey. Courtesy Rosemary Dyer.

It would appear that George, and later his wife Harriet, were employed by the Allen family (Lords of Bathampton Manor) for most of their working lives. They were closely associated with the workings of the estate and in the running of the Bathampton Laundry from c1878 to c1912.

George William Stacey, christened at Bathampton on 19 January, 1823 was the first child of William and Mary Ann (Brown) who were married at St James', Bath the previous year on 17 March. There were three other children - Jane; Amelia Sophie(a) and Eliza. William appears as a labourer in the baptismal registers but apparently became a railway foreman.

Nothing further is known about William and Mary Ann apart from the entry in the 1841 census which gives Mary Ann as a laundress, living with her children, George, Amelia and Eliza at Hampton Cottages, Bathampton. She died in 1846 aged 59.

George Stacey married Harriet Gane of Monkton Farleigh at Bath Registry Office on 8 October, 1846. They subsequently had 15 children born between 1847-1866 all baptised in Bathampton - only five of whom survived, four dying of scarlet fever during October 1864, three were buried together on the 5th and one on the 14th.

The following survived:

Henry baptised 20 July, 1847, died 29 April 1880, buried Bathampton aged 32. [C13]

James baptised 7 March, 1852, died Clifton 28 March, 1886, buried Bathampton aged 34. [C13]

Emma baptised 8 June, 1856, married George Robins a book binder on 8 February, 1880 at Bathampton. They lived most of their lives in Bathwick.

Elizabeth baptised 30 November, 1862, married Edward John Fudge a carpenter on 26 November 1881. She died aged 73 on 19 June 1935 having lived in Bathampton most of her life.

Unidentified grave.

Annie Gertrude baptised 23 December, 1866, married Frederick College 16 November, 1901; died in New Zealand 1948.

At some point during his life George lost an eye, possibly on coming across a burglary at the manor house, or maybe, on the occasion of a fight '*opposite*' The George Inn (now southern part of churchyard), when, on 28 June, 1847, John Bailey, a Tythingman, lost his life. George was passing by when he witnessed the fight, which had got out of hand and apparently went into the field to try and stop proceedings but without success. At the subsequent crown court hearing he, along with ten others, were sworn in as witnesses to the trial of Maurice Perry, Henry and Samuel Crawley, and, Solomon Dainton for murder. Maurice Perry was found guilty of murder and sentenced to be hanged, this was later commuted to transportation for life. Samuel Crawley had absconded and is believed never to have been brought to justice. The other two were found not guilty.

George also served as a Tythingman - a village constable - appointed either by the Manor or by the Vestry. It is not clear when he actually held this role.

The census returns from 1851-1861 list George (an Agricultural Labourer) and Harriet but no abode is given. In 1871 George is a gardener living in cottages near the George Inn and Harriet is a laundress, they subsequently moved to the Bathampton Laundry

It is believed that Major Ralph Shuttleworth Allen, Lord of the Manor at the time, established the Bathampton Laundry in buildings between The Old Rectory and the original Bathampton House during the late 1860s - combining a 17th century farmhouse (*now Kennet Court*) and the attached property dating to 1846 since called Downs View. This is now named Bathampton House - the original property of that name having been demolished in the 1960's. The enterprise utilised the plentiful water from springs arising close-by. Most of the area to the north-east and east of the farmhouse had been a farmyard, but during the 1840's George Edward Allen, the then Lord of the Manor, moved the workings of the farm elsewhere. This was due to problems that arose when the Kennet and Avon Canal and Great Western Railway cut through the rear of the holding and he subsequently remodelled the area. The arrival of the canal and railway split the manor estate in half and he not only created several new farms but reallocated land accordingly. The chimney-stack of the present Bathampton House (*Downs View*) bears a date stone 'GEA 1846' indicating when these alterations and build took place. It has not been proven which part of these two premises housed The Laundry or in which part the Stacey family lived. There is, however, evidence of internal access between the two buildings and a 'flying freehold' at first floor level still exists in the form of a room extending from Downs View (*Bathampton House*) into part of the old farm house. (See '*Historic Building Survey: Kennet Court*', Bathampton LHRG, 2011). It is generally believed the actual Laundry was established in the old farm house (*Kennet Court*) and that the Stacey's lived in the adjoining property or part thereof.



The buildings in which the Bathampton Laundry was established.
The old farmhouse, on left, is today much extended and known as Kennet Court;
seen here, post 1914, after it was adapted to include a Post Office service.
Adjoining is Downs View and in the far distance the original Bathampton House.

The first references to the Laundry are found in advertisements which appeared in the Bath Chronicle - one on 27 December, 1869 '*Bathampton Laundry wanting washing apply to Mrs Barrow*' and on 18 June, 1874 '*Good ironer wanted, Bathampton Laundry*'. Then in the 1874-5 Street Directory for Bathampton Elizabeth Berrow is listed as laundress at The Laundry and Harriet Stacey as a laundress, but no abode. The first listing for the Stacey's at The Laundry is in the directory for 1878 when George appears as gardener there - they had presumably moved during the previous few years - perhaps working with or replacing Mrs Be(a)rrrow, and still employed by the Allen Estate.

The 1881 census shows them living at 'Stacey's Cottage' situated between the Old Rectory and the original Bathampton House, either at today's Kennet Court (*the old farmhouse*), or today's Bathampton House (*previously Downs View*). George is still shown as a gardener and Harriet, now aged 57, as a laundress along with youngest daughter Annie and Annie Gane, a niece - both aged 14 and given as laundresses - presumably working for Harriet. It would seem that Harriet is now 'running' the laundry.

The 1886 Ordnance Map clearly shows 'The Laundry' on the site of the cottage, but no other residential buildings apart from The Old Rectory to the west and the original Bathampton House further to the east.

By 1891 George, aged 68, is listed as a General Labourer living at 'The Laundry' together with Harriett, aged 68, a laundress employing daughter Annie, aged 23, as a laundress, and, niece Alice Godwin, as assistant laundress aged 15.

The 1901 census shows the Stacey's still living at The Laundry: George now aged 79; Harriet 78 laundress and employer, working at home; daughter Annie, 32, single, and Martha Dark, Harriett's sister, 60, both laundresses.

George is still shown at The Laundry in the 1911 census aged 88, a widower, (Harriet died 3 years previously), living with daughter Annie College (having married in 1901). She is now aged 40 and appears to have taken over the running of The Laundry. This situation seems to continue until c1912 when George died and by 1914 The Laundry has ceased to exist and the premises have returned to living accommodation. The old farm-house is now partly used as the Post Office which was previously housed in one of the cottages that now form Court Leet.

Harriet had died on 29 April, 1908 aged 85 years and was buried alongside the west wall of the churchyard; George died on 26 December, 1912 aged 90 years and was buried with her. Their headstone reads '*Faithful servants of the Allen family for many years*'. The grave is close to that of some of their children.



George Stacey, c1823-1912. Courtesy Rosemary Dyer.

The following appeared in the Bath Chronicle, on 28 December, 1912:

'A link with the past. Death of a Nonagenarian at Bathampton. Former village Constable - passed away at Laundry House, Bathampton on Boxing Day Mr George Wm. Stacey at the advanced age of 90 years. His death has severed a link with the 'good old days' for Mr Stacey long ago served in the office of village constable. A tall fine looking man he was distinguished in his office by his tall hat. Uniformed men were unknown then. After he gave up the constableness he worked for some years upon the Allen estates from which we believe he rec'd in the later years of his life a small pension. Mr Stacey had been blind for several years and had been in failing health and he expired at the home of a married daughter. Another married daughter is the wife of Mr Fudge of Bathampton. The deceased was one of the eldest inhabitants of Bathampton though not the oldest, for the parish can claim to have residing within its borders at least 2 other nonagenarians both of who are male and hearty'.

Then on 4 January, 1913:

'The remains of the late George William Stacey the last of the old village constables of Bathampton were laid to rest in Bathampton cemetery at 3.0 o'clock on Thursday. The interment took place in the same grave as to which his wife who died 4 years ago is buried. The remains were enclosed in an elm coffin with heavy brass fittings. The brass plate bore the inscription 'George William Stacey died December 26th aged 90 years'. The mourners were Mrs College Mrs Robbins Mrs Fudge (daughters) Mr Robbins (son in law) Mr and Mrs E. Fudge (grand-children) Mr J. Godwin (nephew) and Mr W. Fudge (grandson). The officiating clergyman was Rev. Henry Gibbon the new vicar of Bathampton. Floral tributes were numerous and beautiful and included the following 'My last token of love to my darling dad from Annie'; 'With fondest love from Flo'; 'In loving memory from Emma and Albert; J. and F. Godwin'; 'Len and Ted'; 'General and Miss Deshon'; 'Will and George'; 'Miss Cordery'; 'Edwin and Harry'; 'Mr and Mrs Bence'; 'R. Dolman', 'K. and E. Leman'; 'M. Edwards'. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr G. [E.] Fudge of Bathampton'.

Frederick College, Annie's husband, had gone to New Zealand. Following the death of George and Harriet, Annie went to join him. However, Frederick was never found despite a police warrant being issued against him for leaving New Zealand without making adequate provision for her maintenance. She met up with another part of the Stacey family and remained there until her death in 1948.

Descendants of the family believe that the laundry work was indeed undertaken in the original part of Kennet Court (*Old Post Office*) and that the Stacey family lived in today's Bathampton House (*Downs View*) - or part thereof; but how exactly this was ordered still remains a mystery.

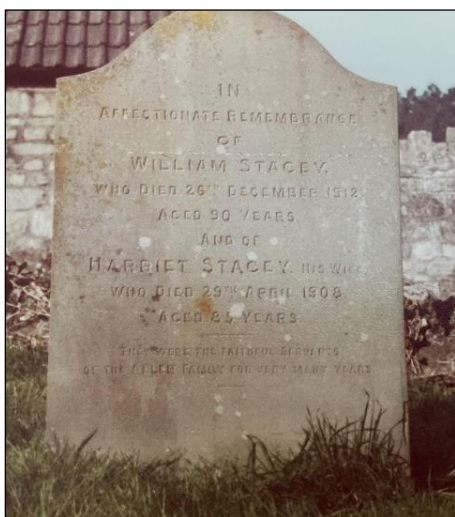
The following are some of their memories:

Ellen Victoria M. Fudge (née Dolman), grand-daughter by marriage, remembered that when passing by in the mornings *'George would be standing outside having got the boilers going - it was his job to get the boilers going first thing each morning - and he would say to her "Come in and warm your hands Vicky"'. The Laundry employed many local women and all the ironing, pressing and goffering*

was done upstairs [in the part of the building she believed to be that known as the Old Post Office - now Kennet Court] the irons were heated on a trivet with the boilers situated on the ground floor’.

Another grand-daughter would come out from Bath to look after George and Harriet when they became very elderly. Eventually, due to infirmities, the couple lived separately - one upstairs and one downstairs and could only hold a conversation by shouting up and down to one another.

George’s grandson, John ‘Jack’ Henry Duncan Fudge, recalled *‘That George had lost an eye in a fight at the Manor [possibly a burglary?]*. Also that *‘George wore a large brimmed hat [Quaker like] and used a stick like a shepherd and that he planted the yew trees at Yew Tree Cottage, High Street’.*



The Stacey headstone, C5. 2024.



Headstone of some of their children, C13. 2024.

Memorial Inscriptions:

‘In affectionate remembrance of William Stacey who died 26th December 1912 aged 90 years, and of Harriet Stacey his wife who died 29th April 1908 aged 85 years. They were the faithful servants of the Allen family for many years’. C5. Headstone.

‘Thy will be done. In memory of Mary Ann, Edward, Hester and Samuel the beloved children of George and Harriet Stacey died October 1864. Also Henry son of the above who died April 29th 1880 aged 32 years. Also James Stacey who died March 28th 1886 aged 34 years’. C13. Cross. [In Burial Register: E.S. and H.S. no age given; S.S. aged 3 years; all three buried 5th October, 1864. M.A.S. buried 14 October, 1864 aged 11. All died from Scarlet Fever].

STONEHOUSE GOSTLING, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Henry

D3

Distinguished army officer

Born 11 October, 1855 Madras, East India, died 25 July, 1936 aged 81 Simons Close [now Woolston Place], Bathampton Lane, Bathampton, only son of Charles Philip Gostling, Indian Civil Service and Selina Ann Mary Charlotte Stonehouse. Grand-son of Major General Gostling RA and Sir Vansittart Stonehouse, Bart. He spent much of his childhood living in Bath and both his mother and her sisters resided there later in life. Married firstly Alice Seaton Fraser-Tytler and had one son, Philip le Marchant Stonehouse Stonehouse-Gostling RA. Married secondly, May 1920, Anna Louisa Maude Docker (née Goodeve), widow of Capt. G. A. M. Docker, Royal Fusiliers.

He trained at Sandhurst; gazetted to Royal Scots in June 1874 and served in the Bechuanaland Expedition of 1881 and the Zululand Expedition of 1888. After he retired he returned to live in Bath in 1909. At the outbreak of hostilities of the Great War he was appointed assistant recruiting officer for Bath; six months later he raised and commanded for three years the 6th Voluntary Regiment

Somerset Light Infantry which soon became a smart and well equipped force. They trained at nights at the Wessex RE Drill Hall and often had long route marches on Sundays. The efficiency of the regiment was due to his military experience, tact and ability. He eventually retired due to poor health. In 1920 he moved to Berrow, Burnham-on-Sea before returning to live at Simons Close [*Woolston Place*], in Bathampton Lane.

The cairn, an Admiralty landmark on Malta, was built by him and a fellow officer whilst stationed there with the Royal Scots.

A great lover of music and gifted musician he took an active part in the Mid-Somerset Festival and was President of the Bath Orchestral Society for many years. A keen sportsman, he had represented England at Rugby Football whilst at Sandhurst and was one of the originators of Sham Castle Golf Club. Although not a naval man he did a lot for the Bathampton Sea Scouts and regularly carried out inspections and took the salute at passing out parades.

He died on 25 July, 1936 and was buried at Bathampton on the 29th. The Sea Scouts formed a guard of honour as the coffin, draped with a Union Jack, passed into the church. The grave was lined with evergreens and the last post was sounded at the committal.



Grave of Lt. Col. Charles H. Stonehouse Gostling, D3. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'To the dear memory of Charles Henry Stonehouse Gostling Lt. Col. Royal Scots (retired). Born October 11th 1855 called to higher service July 25th 1936.... Also in memory of Anna Louisa Maude born 6th April 1879 died 29th June 1966 widow of the above and formerly the widow of Capt. G. A. M Docker, The Royal Fusiliers, killed in action 17th November 1914'. D3. Curbed grave with Celtic cross on rough cut stone plinth. Anna not in burial register.

SUMSION, George

A11

Stone cutter

Sadly, nothing has been found regarding George Sumsion and his family, although the art of his trade would have stood him well within any of the many stone and monumental masons yards that existed during the late 18th and early 19th centuries within the City. The burial book shows the family came from Walcot parish - one of the largest parishes in Bath. According to the headstone he was a '*stone cutter*' which might be interpreted as a master mason, and no doubt would have been employed working the Bath Free Stone - a stone which, providing it was kept in its bed ie in the same way in which it had been formed, could be 'freely' carved. However, the carvings on the headstone rather point to him as being a monumental mason. Of all the stones within the churchyard this is the most

decorative. Although it is fairly small it contains delicate images in relief, presumably depicting the sort of work he undertook - including angels; scrolls; vases; emblems and an eagle. This fine tribute to him must surely honour his talents within his craft. He died 19 May, 1815 at the early age of 36, and his wife, Edith, on 12 June, 1824 aged 53. Their son, Charles (snr) is also buried with them following his death on 19 April, 1845 aged 44 along with three of his children who had predeceased him a few years earlier.



Headstone marking George Sumsion's grave, with close-up, A11. 2024.



Memorial Inscription:

'To the memory of George Sumsion stone cutter of Bath died May 19 1815 aged 36. Also Edith wife of the above died June 12 1824 aged 53. Also Edith (their grand-daughter) and daughter of Cha. and Susanna Sumsion, born Sept 26 1826 died Jan 21 1831. Also George their son born Jan 19 1835 died Feb 22 1838. Also Charles their son born August 3 1837 died Sept 30 1838. Also Charles Sumsion [senior] died April 19 1845 aged 44 years'. A11. Headstone with fine carvings depicting the work of a 'stone cutter'.

TWISS, Frances (née Kemble)

A94

Actress

Frances Kemble was born 1759 to Roger, an actor and theatre manager, and Irish born Sarah Kemble (née Ward) and died on 1 October, 1822 aged 62 years. Her siblings included Sarah Siddons (the famous actress); John Philip (a well-known actor and director); George Stephen and Charles, both actors.

She married Francis Twiss (jnr), a concordance copier, on 22 April, 1786 at St Giles-in-the-fields, London. Francis (jnr) was born in Rotterdam during 1759 and baptised in the English Episcopal Church there on 5 May, 1759; 6th son of eight children born to Francis (snr), an English merchant from Norwich, and Ann (née Hussey) Twiss.

Frances (née Kemble) came from a hugely talented theatrical family including brother John Philip and sister, Sarah Siddons, at a time when acting was only just becoming a respectable profession for women. As a stage actress she first appeared in Bath (Old Orchard Street) and Bristol in 1780-81 and in London from 1783 (when Reynolds painted her portrait). Critics found her diffidence and lack of dramatic power irritating and were often harsh about her despite many who expressed support and admiration. She later left the stage to raise a family and moved from London to Bath in 1802. Her father died in 1803 and bequeathed her £500 payable upon the death of her mother. Her mother died on 24 April, 1807 and this inheritance probably enabled Frances to establish a private girls school at 24 Camden Place, Bath with the assistance of her husband and daughters. *'A fashionable parlour-board school... The utmost attention will be paid to the girls' morals, conduct and manners'*. The fees were quite high amounting to 100 guineas per annum with entrance fee of 5 guineas. It appears it was most successful both scholastically and financially.

Known children:

- Elizabeth d1858;
- Horace 28 February, 1787-4 May 1849 MP;
- Daughter unknown 1789-1789;
- Frances Ann 1790-1852[1864];
- Amelia 1791-1852;
- Caroline 1792-1808 (buried Bathampton);
- Edward 16 March, 1795-1808 (buried Bathampton);
- John 1798-1866 Major-General.

Her oldest son became a socialist, barrister and MP; and youngest rose to rank of Major General in the Army and, on 5 January, 1864 Governor of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. Her three surviving daughters never married.

Frances died on 1 October, 1822 aged 62 and was buried at Bathampton in the grave of two of her children who had predeceased her in 1808 - Caroline, buried 25 April aged 15, and, Edward buried 8 June aged 13. Francis, her husband, died in 1827 at Cheltenham.

Her sister, Sarah Siddons, was born on the 5 July, 1755 Brecon and died on the 8 June, 1831 in London. A Welsh actress and best known tragedienne of the 18th century, often referred to as the greatest English tragic actress; such was her fame that a marble statue of her was placed in Westminster Abbey. Sarah never played in comedy. She was best known for her role as Lady Macbeth - a character she made her own and at the height of her career was the idol of the London stage. *'A tragedy personified'*. She played at York, Bath (Old Orchard Street) and Bristol, living in Bath at 33 The Paragon 1778-1782 then moved to London where she continued to perform. *'The Queen of Drury Lane'*. She retired in 1812. Her husband, Henry William Siddons, was also an actor and they had seven children, five of whom she outlived. She promoted the theatrical careers of her

sister and brothers; her brother, John Philip, became an important actor and director in his own right, he also has a statue in Westminster Abbey.

Fanny Kemble (1809-1893), her niece, daughter of Charles and Marie Therese, also entered the theatre and became a well-known and popular writer of plays, poetry and travel amongst other subjects and an active abolitionist. She married an American, Pierce Butler, and they lived in Philadelphia. Her husband inherited a number of plantations in Georgia and when she eventually visited them she was greatly shocked at what she saw and tried effortlessly to improve matters. The marriage failed and she returned to England and the stage. Her younger sister, Adelaine, became a talented opera singer.



Frances Twiss, 1784. Reynolds.



Sarah Siddons, 1785. Constable.

Memorial inscription:

'In memory of Frances the beloved wife of Francis Twiss Esq., of Bath. She died 1 October 1822 aged 62 years also of their dear children Caroline and Edward who both died 1808'. A94. Headstone missing, 2005.

VAUGHAN, Ellen (née Chambury)

A111

Wife of Bath builder

Ellen (née Charmbury) was the wife of John Vaughan, a master builder. John was born at Ide, Devon. He came to Bath in the early 1800s when there was a building boom following a gap of some 20 years when building development had stopped following the Bank Crash and onset of the Napoleonic Wars.

The Pulteney family had built Pulteney Bridge in 1770 and Pulteney Street and first part of Sydney Place had been constructed. But by 1810 Bath was changing; royalty and nobility now frequented venues such as Brighton and the development of the Pulteney Estate was on a smaller scale.

John Vaughan started to work in the Combe Down quarries and was soon involved in building Hampton Row 1816-19 with John Pinch, who was leading architect to the Pulteney Estate. This was a small but elegant development and John moved to No. 8 where he lived from 1819-1828. He now had a yard on Sydney Wharf employing 49 men where, in 1828, he built Raby Villa (seen on the right) which became his home for the next 37 years.

He had married Ellen Charmbury on the 1 June, 1814 at Lyncombe and Widcombe church when both were aged 27.



Ellen was related to the ancient Charmbury family of Bathampton. They had one child, Maria, and had been married 15 years when Ellen died on the 16 September, 1829 aged 42 and was buried at Bathampton. Her grand-daughter Maria Lucy Lewis was buried with her on the 22 August, 1857 aged 15. John married secondly in January 1830, Elizabeth Robinson a daughter of a brewer on Sydney Wharf, who was 26 years his junior. There were no children.

John was responsible for building many properties in Bath and Bathwick and operated a successful building business. Greatly respected and an influential member of the community, he worked closely with the architects of the day, including John Pinch senior and junior and Henry Edmund Goodridge with whom he had a long standing working relationship and whose father, James, had been a prominent Georgian builder. Of the many buildings John built the most notable are probably the toll houses on Cleveland Bridge (1826) and Beckford's Tower - with Goodridge as architect. In 1832 he built No. 1 Sydney Place and, during his lifetime, accrued numerous properties within the area.

He died on the 18 October, 1869 aged 83, a month after his daughter and was buried at Smallcombe alongside his second wife Elizabeth who had died on the 11 December, 1867 aged 63. Brass plaques to their memory can be seen in St Mary's Church, Bathwick.

Memorial inscription:

'Sacred to the memory of Ellen the beloved wife of John Vaughan of Bathwick (Builder) who departed this life September 16 1829 aged 42..... Also of Maria Lucy Lewis (rest illegible)'. A111. Altar tomb, partially illegible. Relocated to Section B, not found 2024. See also page 89.

THE WEATHERLY FAMILY

A62

Relatives of famous lyricist 'Fred' Weatherly

This grave contains three daughters and a son-in-law of Dr Lionel Weatherly brother of the famous lyricist Frederick (Fred) Weatherly.

Lionel Alexander Weatherly M.D., M.R.C.S., (1852-1940) was a physician and the Area Medical Officer for Bath who had established himself in the City before his more famous brother, Frederick Edward, also settled there. He married Gertrude Maud Morten in 1877 at Kensington, London and lived at Bailbrook House, Batheaston where for many years he was the proprietor, medical physician and superintendent of the Bailbrook House Private Lunatic Asylum.

He took a keen interest in Bath and its people as did his brother. Dr Weatherly founded the Winsley Chest Sanatorium at Winsley, Wiltshire and wrote and published many books on health and hygiene. A keen thespian he was also founder of the Bath Amateurs in 1894, forerunners of the Bath Operatic and Dramatic Group (BODS).

His famous elder brother was Frederick (Fred) Edward Weatherly, M.A., K.C., (1848-1929) who, after graduating from Oxford, took up tutoring but later entered the Bar, Inner Temple, and moved to London. He relocated to Bristol in 1894 and from c1902 took up residence in Bath, latterly living at 10 Edward Street, Bathwick and finally 1 Bathwick Hill. He was not only a Barrister but Circuit Judge (Western Division). Of an outward-going happy disposition he became known as a prolific lyricist penning some 3,000 songs of which around 1,500 were published, including *'Danny Boy'*, *'Roses of Picardy'* and *'We've come up from Somerset'* to name but a few. He was the eldest son of eight sons and five daughters born to Frederick Arthur William and Julia (Ford) Weatherly of Portishead. In 1872 he married Anna Maria Hardwick of Worle from whom he later became estranged. They had three children. Following her death in 1920 he married secondly Miriam Bryan Davis in 1923 and, in 1925, was made a King's Councillor. 'Fred' was born on the 4 October, 1848 and died 7 September, 1929 and was buried in Smallcombe Cemetery. Miriam died in 1941 and was buried with him.

Lionel and Gertrude had three daughters all of whom are buried at Bathampton. Kathleen, born on the 20 September, 1880 died unmarried on the 1 April, 1900 aged 19 and was buried on the 6 April; Winifred Morten Bertram, born on the 9 February, 1882 married Charles Weguelin Bertram and died 23 October, 1905 at Rock House, Winsley aged 23 and was buried on the 27 October, and, Edith Morten Somerset, born on the 26 October, 1878 married Charles Edward Henry Somerset and died on the 26 October, 1932 aged 54 and was buried on the 28 October.

Lionel died at Bournemouth during September, 1940 aged 88 and was presumably buried with his wife at Boscombe. She had predeceased him, dying on the 20 November, 1931, and is commemorated on this memorial.

Their daughter Edith's husband, Charles Edward Henry Somerset baptised 17 July, 1862 Woolaston, Gloucester, was the son of William and Georgiana Amelia (Darling) Somerset. He was also interred at Bathampton on the 12 December, 1939 having died on the 3 December aged 72. They had four children and had been living at Hollington, St Leonards-on-Sea.



Memorial to the Weatherly family, A62. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'In ever loving memory of Kathleen Morten Weatherly born 20 September, 1880 died 1 April 1900; In ever loving memory of Winifred Morten wife of Charles W(i)eguelin Bertram born 9 February, 1882 died 23 October, 1905; In loving memory of Edith Morten Somerset of Merryland, Hollington, Sussex. A dearly loved wife of Charles Edward Henry Somerset born 26 October, 1878 died 26 October, 1932. Also in loving memory of Charles Edward Henry Somerset born 15 May, 1882 died 13 December, 1939. In loving of Gertrude Maud Weatherly the beloved wife of Lionel A. Weatherly MD and the devoted mother of Edith, Kathleen and Winifred. Born 1856 married 1877 died November 20, 1931, buried Boscombe'. A62. Figure of angel with marble curb near lych gate.

WILLIAMS, Alice Catherine (née Cleaver)

C191

Survivor of the Titanic

Alice Catherine Cleaver was born on 5 July, 1889 at St Pancras, London, daughter of Joseph (a postman) and Lavinia Alice (née Thomas) and had three siblings Jenny Lavinia (born 1890); Daisy (born 1894) and Joseph (born 1899). In her teens she started working as a nursemaid to fashionable English families and by 1911 was working for the Sargeant family of Harley Street, London. The following year she was hired by millionaire Hudson Allison and his wife as a very last minute replacement nurse to look after their baby, Trevor, whilst en route to Canada via the Titanic.



The Titanic. *Henry J. Jansen, 1913.*

The Allison family had come to England on business shortly after Trevor was born (7 May 1911 Westmount, Quebec; baptised England) and were now returning on the Titanic travelling first class from Southampton. The party consisted of Hudson Joshua Creighton Allison (born 9 December, 1881) and his wife Bess Weldo Allison (née Daniels born 14 November, 1886 Milwaukee, Winconsin); daughter Helen Lorraine aged 2 (born 5 June, 1909) and son Hudson Trevor aged 11 months 8 days together with Alice Cleaver as nursemaid; a cook; a butler; a maid and a servant.

There are several accounts of what happened to them on that fateful night of the 14 April, 1912 when the Titanic hit an iceberg. One version is that after the collision Trevor went missing with nurse Alice. When the Allison's realized they were unaccounted for they resolved that they would not leave the Titanic until Trevor was found nor would they be parted from little Lorraine and were last seen standing smiling on the promenade deck.

The Montreal Daily Star reported that eye witness Major Arthur Peuchen recalled that *'Mrs Allison and Lorraine could have gotten away in perfect safety. She was in a boat but on being told that Mr Allison was on the other side of the deck she rushed away from the boat but did not find him and was last seen toppling out of a half swamped collapsible lifeboat'*. She was just one of four 1st class women to perish. If her body was recovered it was not identified. There was no trace of Lorraine who was the only child in 1st and 2nd class to die. (Fifty-three out of seventy-six children in 3rd class perished). Hudson was the 125th body to be recovered, and George, the butler, the 294th. Hudson was eventually buried at Maple Ridge Cemetery, Chesterville, Ontario.

Alice and Trevor had, in fact, boarded lifeboat no. 11 along with the maid, Sarah Daniells, and cook, Mildred Brown and were the only survivors of the party. They were rescued by the Carpathia which docked in New York on the 18 April. It was subsequently arranged for Trevor to be taken back to Canada by Hudson's brother George and his wife Lillian Allison who were to care for him.

Trevor died on Wednesday, 7 August, 1928 aged 18 years of Ptomaine poisoning and was buried alongside his father.

Alice had returned to England and, aged 28, married on 22 June, 1918 at Tufnell Park, Islington widower Edward James Williams (born 1891) a clerk, aged 27. They continued to live in London for a few years but by 1926 they were living in Bath. From 1929 they were renting 1 Down Lane, Bathampton and from 1933-1935 were renting the School House. They had at least five children: David E. born 1922 Lambeth; John A. born 1925 St Pancras; Lorraine born 1926 Bath; Josephine Anne born 21 January, 1929 baptised Bathampton 7 April, 1929, and, Barbara Enid born 15 April, 1930 and baptised Bathampton 22 May, 1930; the latter four attended the village school.

Edward is first recorded as an Artificial Limb Maker in the Bathampton registers for 1929 and 1930 on the occasion of the baptism of his younger daughters. The Bath Street Directories for this period are missing, but they do show him working as a Surgical Appliance Manufacturer in Manvers Street in

1933 and from 1933-4 to his death in 1935 at 31 Broad Street as E. J. Williams (late Hancock & Co) Surgical Appliance Maker.

He died on 1 April, 1935 and was buried at Bathampton; shortly afterwards Alice moved into Bath but continued to send her children to the village school. At first living in the City prevented John sitting for a County Free Place Examination, but in May, 1936 the ban was lifted and he got a place at the City of Bath Boy's School. (*'A sickly child who didn't start school life until six years' old'*). The 1939 Registers record Alice as living and continuing her husband's business at Broad Street. Son John is now in London with his uncle Arthur Williams (born 23 February, 1900) a Surgical Appliance Dealer and Margaret his wife (born 9 July, 1900). It is not clear where Lorraine was at this time, but both Barbara and Josephine are at the London Royal British Orphan's School (Reeds) in Watford. Nothing is known as to what happened to Alice after 1939.

All three daughters married in the early 1950's - two in Bath and one in Wandsworth.

Alice never talked about her experiences during that fateful night aboard the Titanic or what happened afterwards, but she wrote the following few lines (dated 13 September, 1955) to Walter Lord who was doing research for his book *'A night to remember'*:

'I had difficulty in getting Mr Addison to get up to see what had happened after the crash which they did not hear at all and thought it was my imagination. Some long time after the engines had stopped he decided to go and find out the trouble. While he was away I was afraid we would have to leave the ship so prepared the children and Mrs Allison, but she became hysterical and I had to calm her. About that time an officer came to close the cabins and advised us to go upon deck. We met Mr Allison outside the cabin but he seemed too dazed to speak. I handed him some brandy and asked him to look after Mrs Allison and Lorraine and I would keep baby. The child and I managed to get off the ship amidst some confusion occurring as to which deck we should go to and that is how we got separated. Afterwards I learned from one of the staff that Mrs Allison was hysterical again and that Mr Allison had difficulty with her and I can only surmise that is how they lost their lives as there was plenty of room in the boats because people refused to leave thinking it was safer on board the ship'.

Alice Catherine Williams died on 1 November, 1984 at Winchester aged 95 and was cremated at Southampton on the 7th. There is no record of where her ashes were interred; an inscription to her memory was, however, subsequently added to Edward's grave at Bathampton.



In foreground, grave of Edward J. Williams and commemoration of his wife, Alice, C191. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'Edward J. Williams died April 1st 1935 aged 42. Peace perfect peace.

Also in memory of his wife Alice C. Williams died November 1st 1984 aged 95'. C191. Curbed grave, inscriptions north and south. [Alice Williams not interred here].

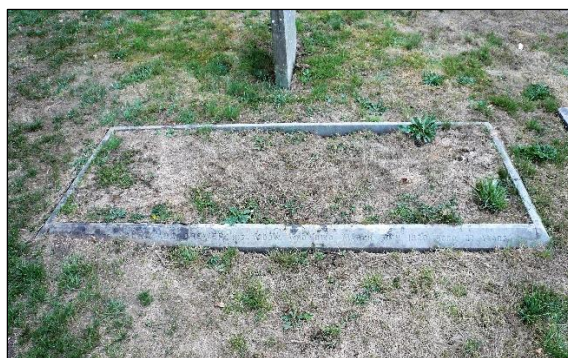
WAR GRAVES

cared for by the War Graves Commission
Also remembered on the Rolls of Honour in the church

First World War, 1914-1919:

Battery Quartermaster Sergeant Ivor Victor BREWER, Royal Garrison Artillery
C190

Ivor Brewer was born at Bathampton, the son of James and Annie (née Hunt) Brewer, (register states 'illegitimate'), and lived at Canal Terrace. After James left the family, his mother married Thomas Henry Dolman; they then lived at the George Inn. Following the death of his mother Ivor moved in with his grandmother at Norman Villa (10 The Normans). As a professional soldier he served in India and Ceylon as a Bombardier. During the summer of 1916, when serving in France, he was badly wounded in the leg. Then whilst staying in South Wales he married Laura Ada Seldon on the 2 January, 1918. Shortly afterwards he returned to London for an operation to remove his leg, but died after the operation on the 7 May, 1918 at the Great Northern Hospital, London aged 32 and was buried at Bathampton on the 10th. His wife, Laura Ada, was living with her parents in Swansea when, twenty months later, she returned to Bathampton and committed suicide by drowning in the canal, leaving letters saying she could not go on without him. She was buried with her husband on the 1 April, 1920. The burial register states '*drowned in canal, temporary insanity*'.



The grave of Sergeant Ivor V. Brewer and his wife, Laura, C190. 2024.

Memorial Inscription:

'In loving memory of Ivor Victor Brewer who died of wounds received in action May 7th 1918 aged 32 years. Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away. Also of Laura Ada Brewer his widow who died March 30th 1920 aged 27'. C190. Curbed grave. Maintained by the War Graves Commission.

Major Richard Aviary Arthur Young JORDAN, Kings Shropshire Light Infantry
C172, D96

Richard was the son of Richard and Annabelle Charlotte (née Young) Jordan, born on the 24 May, 1866 at Cashel, Tipperary, Ireland. After his father's death, he and his mother came to live in Woolwich, Kent with his grandmother. He joined the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry in 1886 and served with the 53rd Foot, 1st Battalion. After many years abroad he returned to live in Wales. Whilst based at Pembroke Dock he married Ella Mary Caroline Grove at Hanover Square, London on 18 April, 1904. He left the army in 1908 but retained the rank of Captain on special reserve returning to the army with the rank of Major in August, 1914 when he was posted to serve in France. He died on 14 June, 1920 aged 54 at Holcombe Lodge, Bathampton shortly after moving there and was buried at Bathampton on 16 June. His grave is one of the six war graves in the churchyard, although his name does not appear on the Roll of Honour in the church. His wife, Ella Mary Caroline (15 January, 1874–

13 August, 1951), subsequently married Captain Clare James Garsia (30 November, 1869-25 June, 1952) also of the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry. Ella was buried with her first husband and Captain Garsia is interred close by.



Major R. A. A. Y. Jordan's grave, C172. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'Richard Aviary Arthur Young Jordan, Major late K.S.L.I. died 14 June, 1920 aged 54. Also Ella Mary Caroline born 15 January, 1874 died August 13, 1951. Widow of the late R. A. Jordan and wife of Capt. C. J. Garsia'. C172. Cross on simulated rock. Maintained by the War Graves Commission.

'In loving memory of Captain Clare James Garsia late the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, born November 30th 1869 died June 25th 1952'. D96. Cross on rough-hewn stone.

Second World War, 1939-45:

Ordinary Seaman Bryan George GARD(I)NER Royal Navy D44

Born 27 November, 1925 Dunfermline, Fife son of Frederick and Georgina Gardener. The family came to live at 10 St George's Hill, Bathampton, and later moved to 78 Warminster Road. He was educated at Portsmouth Grammar School and matriculated in 1943. Came up in the Michaelmas term 1943 as a cadet on the training ship H.M.S. Ganges; died 31 March, 1944 at 10 St George's Hill, Bathampton aged 18 of Milay Tuberculosis and buried Bathampton 5 April, 1944.



Grave of Ordinary Seaman B. G. Gardner, RN., D44. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'Bryan George Gardner Cadet R.N.V.R., died 31st March 1944 aged 18 years. Georgina Gardner died 7th Feb. 1987 aged 90. Frederick George Gardner died 10th March 1963 aged 77'. D44. Flat stone with incised cross. Maintained by the War Graves Commission.

***Sergeant Air-gunner Frederick HARWOOD** Aircraftsman Royal Air Force
Commemorated on the grave of Sergeant (Pilot) Richard Noad D35

Born 1922 the eldest son of Percy Collie and Kathleen Harwood of 3 High Street, Bathampton. A student at Bath Technical College; he joined the RAF in 1938 soon passing his wireless operator and air gunner course. His last operational tour started on 17 April, 1940 after taking off from Lossiemouth in a day time raid on Stavanger and he was lost without trace aged 18. He was brother of Corporal Ivy Anne Harwood. His mother used to say if she heard footsteps coming down the village street in the quiet of the night she would think it was Fred coming home. Both his father, sister and younger brother served in World War II. He is remembered with honour on the Runnymede Memorial and commemorated on the grave of Sergeant Richard Noad, Bathampton.

Memorial inscription:

'In loving memory of two pals, Sergt. Pilot R. Noad killed August 11th 1942 aged 19. Also Sergt. Air-gunner F. Harwood killed April 17th 1940 aged 18. And J. Noad loved husband and father died February 14th 1967 aged 69, and of Gladys Reubena dear wife of Jack died June 9th 1988 aged 87. Reunited'. And on flower vase 'To our Pals Bill and Fred from the Youth Club'. D35. Curbed grave with headstone and vase. Maintained by the War Graves Commission.

***Corporal Ivy Anne HARWOOD** Auxiliary Territorial Service
D36

Born in 1919 she was the daughter of Percy Collie and Kathleen Harwood of 3 High Street, Bathampton. She worked in a milliners in Cheap Street, Bath before joining the ATS as a typist three and a half years before her death. Educated at Oldfield Girls School, Bath, she was the; sister of Sergeant Air-gunner Frederick Harwood. Both father and two brothers served in World War II. She died on the 20 May, 1943 in London aged 23; and was buried Bathampton 25 May.



Corporal Ivy Harwood



Grave of Corporal Harwood, D36. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'In loving memory of Cpl. Ivy Harwood A.T.S., died 20th May 1943, 23 years. You never shirked, you have done your task and left us to remember. Also my dear husband, Percy C. Harwood who died November 6th 1948 aged 62. At rest. Kathleen Sophia Harwood dear wife, mother and gran. Died November 27th 1986 aged 94. In sweet memory of Ivy from Peter. In loving memory of May Craig née

Harwood 23.2.1928-24.12.2005. D36. Curbed grave with headstone and small flat stone. Maintained by the War Graves Commission.

***Sergeant (Pilot) Richard Harold John NOAD** Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 616 Squadron
D35

Born in 1923 he was the son of John [Jack] and Gladys Noad of 7 Chapel Row, Bathampton. He went to school at Bathampton and was in the village scout troop. He won a scholarship to the City of Bath Boy's School, then played Rugby for the school and for Avon Rugby Club. Before enlisting with the RAF he worked for David Owen and Co. accountancy, Bath. He was killed on the 11 August, 1942 in a training accident over Britain aged 19 and buried at Bathampton on the 18 August.



Headstone and vase marking grave of Sergt. Pilot R. Noad and commemoration of Sergt, Air-gunner Fred Harwood, D35. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'In loving memory of two pals, Sergt. Pilot R. Noad killed August 11th 1942 aged 19. Also Sergt. Air-gunner F. Harwood killed April 17th 1940 aged 18. And J. Noad loved husband and father died February 14th 1967 aged 69, and of Gladys Reubena dear wife of Jack died June 9th 1988 aged 87. Reunited'. And on flower vase 'To our Pals Bill and Fred from the Youth Club'. D35. Curbed grave with headstone and vase. Maintained by the War Graves Commission.



Sergeant (Pilot)
Richard Noad 1923-1942



Sergeant Air-gunner
Fred Harwood 1922-1940.

**Richard Noad and Fred Harwood were villagers and boyhood friends. Fred wanted to join the RAF with Richard but was turned down as he had some webbed fingers. He was so determined that he had them separated and eventually enlisted. He was lost presumed dead following a mission in 1940. His friend Richard died in a training accident in 1942 and his body was returned to the village for burial. A large funeral cortège left his home in the High Street to walk to the church. The coffin was flanked by members of the Boy Scouts and Youth Club of which he had been a member. His parents didn't forget his friend Fred and included a tribute to him on the headstone, and the Youth Club placed a flower vase 'To our pals, Bill and Fred'. [D35]. In 1943 Fred's sister Ivy, who was in the ATS, also died and was buried alongside. [D36].*

Sylvia Helen VIAN Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service
B234

Born in 1894 she was eldest daughter of Alsager and Ada Vian of Gilridge, Edenbridge, Cowden Pound. She was the Matron of the Royal United Hospital, Bath 1931-1938; council member of the British College of Nurses and Ex Principal Matron of the Territorial Army Nursing Service and was with the Red Cross Hospital, Dunkirk, during the First World War before her eight years at Bath. From 16 September, 1939 she worked in France organizing hospital and nursing facilities. Whilst on leave during March 1940 Sylvia was taken ill and died before returning to take up work as Matron of an important military hospital. Her brother, Rear-Admiral P. L. Vian, was awarded the D.C.O., for his part in rescuing 300 British merchant seamen held prisoners on the Altmark whilst he was commanding H.M.S. Cossack. Sylvia died on the 16 October, 1941 aged 41 of Richmond House, Weston and was buried at Bathampton on 30 October. No affiliation with Bathampton found.



Grave of Sylvia Vian, B234. 2024.

Memorial inscription:

'Silvia Helen Vian who died 16 October 1941. She hath done what she could'. B234. Flat stone with incised cross. Maintained by the War Graves Commission.

The following are commemorated on the Roll of Honour and also in the churchyard:

2nd Lieutenant Arthur Roy CANDY Transferred to Cyprus Regiment then obtained his commission two months before his death
C182

Born in 1914 son of Sydney James and Mabel Candy of Manor Farm, Bathampton. Before the war he worked for the General Accident Assurance Corporation, Bath. He played Rugby football for King Edward's School and later for the Old Edwardians RFC who he captained for four years. On several

occasions he turned out for the Bath 1st XV. He was killed on the 20 April, 1941 aged 26 during the Battle for Greece and buried at Phaleron War Cemetery, Athens. He is commemorated on his parents grave, Bathampton.



2nd Lieut. Arthur Roy Candy.

Memorial inscription:

'In memory of Betty Candy died Nov. 7th 1917 aged 2 years. He took them in his arms. Also Roy Candy Second Lt. Cyprus Regiment killed in action April 20th 1941 aged 26 buried Phaleron Cemetery Athens. Even so, Lord. Also of their parents Sydney James Candy died June 23rd 1952. Mable Elizabeth Candy died May 3rd 1971. The peace of God which passeth all understanding'. C182. Headstone.

Lieutenant Colonel Henry Herbert KEMBLE, D.S.O., M.C., 23rd London Regiment
C104 (see also entry for William Kemble)

He was born at Purneah, India to William and Elizabeth Kemble; the family home became Beechfield, [now West House], Bathampton Lane, Bathampton. Before the war he was a school master at Charterhouse. He served with the 23rd London Regiment; was mentioned in despatches twice and was awarded the Military Cross and the D.S.O. He fought and was wounded during his last action at Messines Ridge and died on 7 June, 1917 from wounds, aged 40. He was buried in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium and is remembered on his parents grave at Bathampton.

Memorial inscription:

'In loving memory of William Kemble late Indian Civil Service died February 22 1907 aged 70 years. Also of Henry Herbert Kemble, Lt. Col. DSO., MC., their son who died of wounds received in action at Messines Ridge, June 7 1917'. C104. Curbed grave with cross.

SOME NOTABLE VERSES

Quite often memorial inscriptions contain lines taken from the Bible or are verses - sometimes humorous or occasionally giving an insight into the life of the interred. The same words are frequently found repeated in other churchyards as though they have been chosen from a book of samples. In Bathampton's churchyard, for instance, two verses seen elsewhere have been used twice but slightly altered. Although there are not many poetical examples to be found here, the following are perhaps some of the most poignant.

Ronald Hamilton Urch died 25 December, 1991 aged 84. E138.

Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe.

Arthur H. Green died 24 June, 2011 aged 82.

A master craftsman who loved the village and enriched so many lives.

Jane Bourn died 19 July, 1785 aged 32 years. B1 Listed.

A pale consumption gave the fatal blow
and laid me silent in the dust so low
Dear husband do no trouble take,
but love my children for my sake.

William Bourn, husband of Jane, died 23 February, 1794 aged 49. B1 Listed.

Hark from the tomb a doleful sound
My ears amend the cry;
Ye loving men come view the ground
Where you must shortly lie.

William Guy Knee died 23 January, 1829 aged 3 months. B193.

Adieu sweet babe short was thy stay,
just looked about then called away;
Thy angels face we all did see,
but soon we was deprived of thee
Sleep lovely babe and take thy rest
God takes them first that he loves best.

Henry Bailey died October, 1825 aged 65. C25.

Here lieth freed from pain and care
A loving husband and a father dear.
He was beloved by great and small
Was honest, just and kind to all.
He laboured hard until his death
And then in Christ resigned his breath.

The Honourable Alexina Duncan died 26 June, 1824. B195.

Bring flowers, pale flowers o'er the grave to shed,
A crown for the brow of the early dead.
Though they smile in vain for what once was ours
They are loves last gift, I bring ye, flowers, pale flowers. *Written by Mrs Hemans*

The Dillon vault includes 7 children aged 10 months to 13 years who died c1817-1824. B4, B217.

Nipt in the bud secured from further ill
Great is the loss, tis the Almighty's will.
Shall I repine to lose what God hath given
No I'll resign with joy my babes to heaven.

Richard Edward Davis died 5 January, 1819 aged 5 months. B10.

Crop'd in the bud, secure from future ill,
Great is the loss but the Almighty's will,
Why should we repine to lose what God have given,
No we'll resign with joy our child to Heaven,

Mary Gwynne died 19 January, 1842 aged 66. A1.

Affliction sore long time I bore
Physicians where in vain
Till God was pleas'd by death to ease me of my pain.

Susanna Wimble died 9 September, 1844 aged 26 years. C38.

Afflictions sore long time I bore
Physicians strove in vain
Till God was pleased to give me rest
And take me from my pain.

Ellen Vaughan died 16 September, 1829 aged 42. A111. (See pp 75-76).

Farewell vain world!
I've seen enough of thee,
and now am careless what thou say'st of me.
Thy smiles I court not, nor the frowns I fear.
My cares are past, my head lies quiet here.
What faults you saw in me, take care to shun,
and look at home, enough there's to be done.
Where'er I liv'd or did it matters not,
To who related, or by whom begot.
I was, now am not, ask no more of me.
'Tis all I am, and all that you shall be.

Agnes Wilton infant child of Agnes Emily and John Gauler Wilton of Hampton Hall. Died
10 February, 1878 aged one day. A123.

Fresh glistening with baptismal dew.

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