

## ***St Nicholas' Church, Willoughby***

### ***Graves on the front left side of the churchyard***



In the summer of 2022, the church was lucky to secure a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant for much needed roof and stonework repairs. Alongside this, a wide range of activities and events were planned. One of these was to uncover overgrown gravestones and to research and document the history of those buried there.

This document is part of our journey, as was the uncovering of the gravestones, which had been laid flat and were covered with grass. Many thanks to the volunteers who helped, especially Brenda, who researched through ancestry data to find the information documented here. Thank you also to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for enabling us to awaken interest in our rich heritage.

#### **GRAVE FL1**

##### **Mary Collins Hancock**

She was born about 1766 and died July 24<sup>th</sup> 1843 aged 77. Widow of the late Thomas Hancock. They married at Willoughby on 11<sup>th</sup> October 1790. In the 1841 census, Mary was recorded as having independent means. She had a son called Thomas on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1802.

#### **GRAVE FL2**

##### **Robert Kening**

Burial date July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1793



GRAVE FL3

**“she died”**

This is one of the most interesting graves in this section. The only two clear words on the stone are “she died”. The top of the stone shows a woman in the arms of a man having apparently fallen from a horse when riding. An outline of a horse is also visible.

GRAVE FL4

**John Matthew**

Born about 1813, died March 10<sup>th</sup> 1845 aged 32. He was the husband of Mathilda.

“Also son of the above departed this life March 24<sup>th</sup> 1845 in infancy.” It appears that the baby boy died and was buried with his father. It is likely John Matthew came from Yelvertoft as land there was left in his will.

GRAVE FL5

**Mary Hall**

Born 1795. Buried 18<sup>th</sup> May 1867 aged 72. She was a grazier with 19 acres of land. Born Mary Ivens at Harborough Magna, she married George Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> October 1817 in Harborough Magna.

In 1841, Mary was a publican at the New Inn with two daughters Maria and Sarah. She was widowed. In 1851, she was still a publican but had also become a grazier.

In 1861, two grandsons were living with her, Jeremiah Brierly and William Batchelor. She left under £200 in her will.

GRAVE FL6

**Henry Mills**

Born in 1720. Died on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1775. He lived at Willoughby Wharf and also had four fields. He was married to Ann Darby on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1740. They had three children William, Henry and Susannah.

His father was Edward Mills. He said in his will that, if his children were wild or unruly, he would prevent them from inheriting.

GRAVE FL7

**John Wells**

Died December 1757.



GRAVE FL8

**Henry Mills**

Born in 1742. Buried 1<sup>st</sup> February 1825 aged 83. Records show he was going to marry Mary Field but instead married Mary Hands on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1775. They had 7 children. He was a church warden. Son of Henry Mills.

GRAVE FL9

**Ann Mills**

Died November 16<sup>th</sup> 1808. Wife of William Mills and had children who died in infancy. It is likely she died of complications after childbirth. William, her husband, was a gamekeeper.

Her son William was baptized in June 1803. She had another son Henry baptized in November 1808.

The children who died were Mary Ann born April 23<sup>rd</sup>, died December 26<sup>th</sup> 1806 and Elizabeth died November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

GRAVE FL10

**Unidentified**

Stone upside down.



GRAVE FL11

**Joseph Mayo – Mary Mayo**

**Joseph** died 11 October 1783 aged 70. **Mary** died in 1794 aged 71. Buried 14<sup>th</sup> December.

They married on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1745. She was Mary Onely. Born in Willoughby 1718. He was a toymaker. They had a daughter Elizabeth.

GRAVE FL12

**Mary Mills - Mary Mills**

**Mary Mills** was the wife of Henry Mills. Buried in November 1792.

Married on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1775. She was Mary Hands and had to make a mark to sign the registry book when she married.

**Mary Mills** the daughter of Mary and Henry Mills. Born in 1784 and buried on 7<sup>th</sup> November 1831 aged 47.

GRAVE FL13

**Henry Capell - Samuel Capell**

*Henry* was buried 14<sup>th</sup> September 1703. The son of Thomas and Elizabeth.

*Samuel* was baptized 26<sup>th</sup> August 1702 and buried 19<sup>th</sup> April 1704.

GRAVE FL14

**Thomas Hesom**

Buried 9<sup>th</sup> July 1796. He was born in 1751. Married Elizabeth Mayo on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1772.

They had nine children. James, Edward, Elizabeth, George, Joseph, Margaret, Mary, Thomas and William.

GRAVE FL15

**Manna Gare**

She was buried in 1679 on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Daughter of Jonny Gare. This is the oldest grave in this section of the churchyard.



GRAVE FL16

**Catherine Ellard**

Wife of William Ellard. Died November 16<sup>th</sup> 1809 aged 30. Mother of three children who died. Edward 1804-1806, Edward 1807-1807 and Catherine baptism November 1809. Died 27<sup>th</sup> April 1810.

Catherine was born Catherine Crofts in 1781 to John Crofts and Elizabeth Taylor. They had two other children Thomas 1801-1869 and William 1802-1833.

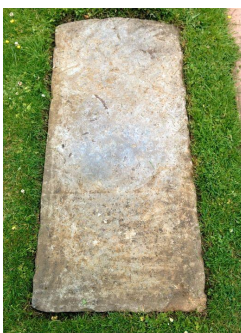
GRAVE FL17

**Mary Clark**

Widow from Flore in Northamptonshire. Died March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1857

GRAVE FL18

**Unidentified**



GRAVE FL19

**Ruth Ellard**

Born 1743. Died 12<sup>th</sup> September 1827. Buried 16<sup>th</sup> September 1827. Aged 84. Born Ruth Hart at Wolfhampcote. Her parents were Job Hart and Mary Elkington. She married Zaccheus Ellard on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1772.

Zaccheus and Ruth had four children Thomas 1781-1802, Anne 1784-1826, Mary 1772-1854 and Thomas 1777-1778

Also **Anne Hull**. Their daughter born 1784, died 1826. She married Samuel Hull and had four children.

Grave FL20

**Thomas Ellard**

Born to Zaccheus and Ruth Ellard 1781. Baptized 5<sup>th</sup> April 1781.  
Married on May 5<sup>th</sup> 1800 to Ann Slaymaker. Died in 1802.

GRAVE FL21

**William Ellard**

Died July 13<sup>th</sup> 1846. Aged 72 years. "The Lord is thy keeper". He was born in 1774 to Zaccheus Ellard and Ruth Hart. Baptized on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1774.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1807, he married Jane Townsend (1787-1853). On the 1841 census, it records him as being a grocer but he was also a farmer. He had two sons William Joseph 1822-1894, John 1824-1914.

Also **Jane Ellard** 1787-1853 his wife.

Also **Susanna Jane** their daughter.

Also **Susanna Jane Ellard** granddaughter born 1850, buried 30<sup>th</sup> January 1851 aged 13 months. She was the daughter of William Joseph.

GRAVE FL22

**William Rowledge**

Died December 25<sup>th</sup> 1827 aged 63 years.

“A lingering sickling did me fairs  
And no physician could me ease  
I sought for help but all in vain  
Until the Lord did ease my pain”

He was born in 1764. Married Hannah Ann Rogers on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1799 at Allesley, Warwickshire. They had four children. Richard, Elizabeth, James and Mary.

GRAVE FL23

**Richard Rowledge**

Born in 1800. Buried 11<sup>th</sup> January 1874 aged 73. His parents were William Rowledge 1764-1827 and Hannah Ann Rogers.

From 1841-1871 he was the publican at the Rose Inn. His effects were under £20.

GRAVE FL24

**Unidentified**

Might be Edwin Alonzo Higgins.

[See Grave 25 below]



GRAVE FL25

**John Thompson**

Died July 29<sup>th</sup> 1876 aged 72. He was baptized 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1804. Son of John Thompson 1738-1828 and Ann Crofts 1786-1870. They had seven children. He was a hay dealer. Married Ann Bourton in Daventry. John was sent to trial in 1855 for submitting false documents but was acquitted.

**Ann Thompson**

Was Ann Bourton. Born in 1800 in Hampton Warwickshire. Buried on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1867 aged 67 years.

**Edwin Alonzo Higgins**

Their grandson. He was baptized 11<sup>th</sup> February 1855 and died March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1855 aged 8 months. Father was Thomas Higgins who was a stonemason.

Grave 24 may be his but he is recorded on his grandparents' gravestone.

GRAVE FL26

**Hannah Rowledge**

Died in 1840 aged 86. She was Hannah Ann Rogers. Married William on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1799.

Her son was the publican of the Rose Inn. It appears she was living there when she died.

GRAVE FL27

**Ethel Lizzie Johnson**

Died December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1886 aged 8 years.

Daughter of Ernest Holland Johnson and Elizabeth Johnson. Her dad was a wheelwright. Her mother was Elizabeth Reynolds. She had a brother who was one year younger than her. Her dad was born in Derbyshire. They lived in a cottage near College Farm.

GRAVE FL28

**Catharine Martyr**

Born on 29<sup>th</sup> May 1828. She lived at 1 Paragon Villas, Southampton. She died 18<sup>th</sup> October 1885 aged 57. Her father was called Thomas and her mother Ann.

In 1861, Catharine was living with her mother in Ramsgate, Kent where she was born. Described in 1871 as a "private lady" in Ludlow with a cook and a maid. In 1881, she was a boarding house keeper in Bournemouth and had five servants. She left £81 in her will to her sister.



GRAVE FL29

**Susannah Ellard, William Joseph Ellard, John Ellard**

**Susannah Ellard** was born Susannah Elkington on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1821. Married William Joseph Ellard on 17<sup>th</sup> February 1848. She died in 1882.

**William Joseph Ellard** was born in 1822 at Willoughby to Jane and William Ellard. They had five children, William Elkington, James, Edwin, John and Sarah.

In 1851, William was a farmer with 82 acres employing two labourers. In 1861, this had risen to 90 acres with two men and two boys employed. By 1871, this had risen to 143 acres employing one boy and three men and, in 1881, he had 150 acres with three men and three boys. By 1891, he was a widower. He died 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1894. In his will he left £5624 2s 6d to James Ellard farmer and grazier, Edwin Ellard and Zaccheus John Elliott Ellard farmer and grazier.

**John Ellard** was baptized 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1858. He died 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1889 at Crick aged 31. Left a personal estate of £176 3s. He was a butcher. Married Maria Clarke on 29<sup>th</sup> Dec 1880. He had one daughter, Madeline, in 1882.

