



A BRUSH WITH THE COLES

BY
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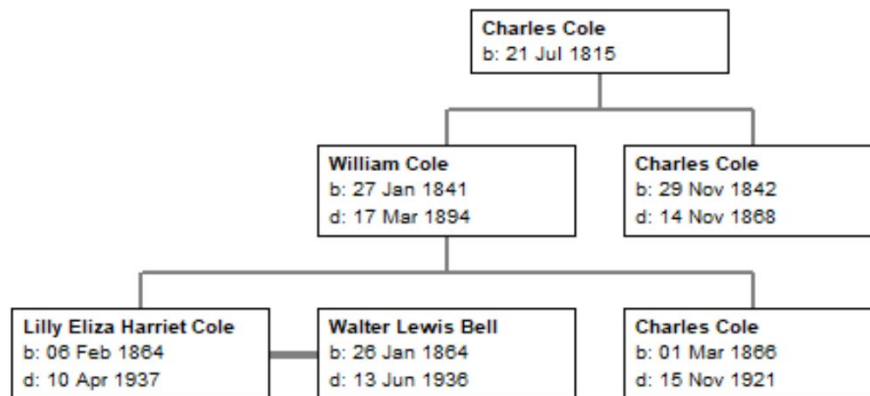
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A BRUSH WITH THE COLE FAMILY

Overview

These notes have been put together with the initial objective of highlighting the brief and humble involvement of my family in the brush making business. Inevitably I have strayed into a sketch of the particular firm where, I believe, they could have been employed and into at least one other branch of the family story. I will summarise the brush making episode in this overview and follow up with details of the family, including references to my sources in the later part of this essay.

The Brush Makers



Charles Cole (son of Thomas), born 1815 in West Worlington, and his wife Ann Thomas Babb migrated from Devon to Bristol where they raised a family of four. Charles and Ann were not brush makers but two of their sons, William and Charles, did enter the trade.

William, born 1841 in Bristol, married Eliza Ann Curtis. They had four children, two of whom became involved in the brush making business. William himself was involved in the distribution and warehousing side, rising to the level of Foreman.

Charles, born 1842 son of Charles and Ann, married and had one daughter who died in infancy. Charles initially worked as a brush maker's packer and, as an adult, was employed in the warehouse until his early death at the age of 25.

Eliza Harriet (aka Lily or Lilly) born 1864 daughter of William and Eliza, worked as a brush drawing hand before her marriage to Walter Lewis Bell. Walter was born into the boot making trade. Nevertheless, after his marriage, he took a short break from a lifelong involvement in footwear to work in the brush maker's warehouse.

Lily's brother Charles, born 1866, was working in the brush making factory at the age of 15. Later he worked as a warehouseman. In 1889 he was a haulier, perhaps still for the brush making concern. By 1899 however he was labouring, firstly in a quarry, subsequently on the docks

To take up the story, in 1841 we find Thomas COLE (1780-1854), a one-time North Devon militiaman, now a grocer, at the age of 61 living in Bristol's Chatterton Square. Orange, his wife, is away on census night but with him are his 25-year-old son Charles, daughter in law Ann and his 5-month-old grandson William.

Charles COLE was born in Devon in 1815, apparently after his father was discharged from the Militia. He may have been a sickly child for he was baptised twice. Charles did have an elder sister and a younger brother, but they disappear from the records at an early date. Whenever precisely it was, he would have moved with his parents to Bristol where we can imagine him growing up. We have only the 1841 census to indicate that his father, Thomas, was involved in the grocery business but clearly Charles did not follow him in that occupation. When he, Charles, married Ann Thomas BABB, in 1840, he declared himself a carpenter. Charles and Ann stayed in Bristol long enough to produce three sons. William was born in 1841, Charles in 1842 and Henry in 1844. After that it was doubtless the opportunities in the building trade which drew the couple to London. Their daughter Mary Ann was born in St Pancras in 1847. There is then some mystery over the couple's subsequent fate. They seem to have disappeared from the record when their youngest son Henry dies in Bristol 1848. One must recognise that there was enough danger in child bearing, and in the several killer diseases stalking the anonymity of our big cities at this time, to account for two untraceable deaths.

Mary Ann is taken in (adopted?) by relatives, one William COLE and his wife Elizabeth. This William COLE (born 1806 in East Worlinton) is the son of Thomas COLE's brother William (b1777)¹. By 1851 he, William (junior) and his wife Elizabeth (née HAYWOOD) have also migrated Bristol. He is earning a living as a Maltster. The couple are living in Chatterton Square with a 4-year-old Mary Ann, whom they acknowledge as a daughter.

Meanwhile Mary Ann's elder brothers William and Charles have been taken into their Grandparents' care. In 1851 a 10-year-old William and an 8-year-old Charles are living with Thomas and Orange at 114 Temple Street. Three other families also occupy these premises and at age 70 Thomas is still labouring to support his. Nevertheless, the boys are attending school.

William and Charles both enter the Brush Making business but on the distribution end of the trade rather than as skilled craftsmen. In 1861, their grandparents having passed in 1854 and 1858, they are both lodging at 64 Thomas Street, where William's future wife Eliza Ann CURTIS is also living. William, aged 20, is described in the Census as a Carter while 18-year-old Charles is shown as a Brush Maker's Packer. Incidentally, 6 households totalling some 24 individuals are occupying the premises at 64 Thomas Street.

William marries Eliza in St John's Church, Bedminster in 1861. Aged 21, he describes himself as an haulier. When, on the 6th of February 1864 his daughter Eliza Harriet (Lily), is born at 17 King Street, the record shows William as a Merchant's Haulier. On the first of March 1866 a son Charles arrives. William is described as a Brush Maker's Porter. The census suggests that William remained a Haulier at least until 1871. By 1881 the family has moved to no 2 Ship Lane and William is shown as a 40-year-old Warehouseman in a Brush Factory. It seems probable to me that this was a change of role rather than a change of employer. In 1885 when his third child, Ethel Emma Durant COLE, is born William is again described as a Warehouseman.

When, in 1889, his eldest daughter, Florence Mary COLE, dies at the age of 21, William is described as a Brushmaker's Foreman. This speaks perhaps of long service with his employer,

It would seem though that he did not keep this position very long. The 1891 census finds him, at the age of 51, living with his daughter and son-in-law (Walter Lewis BELL) at No 7 Ship Lane. Now he is earning a living as a General Labourer, as is his second son William George COLE.

¹ See William COLE (1777) in *The People* below

William is taken by pulmonary TB at the early age of 53, on the 17th of March 1894. His youngest daughter, Mary Ann (now the wife of PC Henry SHARP) is perhaps remembering happier times when she records his occupation as a Brush Maker's Foreman.

Returning to William's younger brother Charles COLE, we have already seen the siblings lodging in Thomas Street in 1861. The 18-year-old Charles is listed as a Brush Maker's packer at this time. We cannot be sure how the pair were recruited into the industry, but it was, it seems, not uncommon, Bristol being a centre of the trade. There is indeed another brush maker, or at least an apprentice, dwelling in the same lodging house.

Charles marries Rebecca COBLEY on the 14th of September 1864 in St James Priory church in Horsefair². I believe this would have been the church, then Anglican, now RC, in Whitson Street.

The couple have one daughter, Alice Florence in 1868 (28th May) but, sadly, she is taken by bronchitis at less than two years old. At the time of his marriage Charles appears as a labourer, but, when his daughter is born, he declares himself a brush maker's warehouseman. Charles himself dies in 1868 (14th November), of a chronic abscess. His brother William, reporting the death confirms this occupation. Rebecca later re-marries, but that is no part of our story here.

Returning now to Eliza Harriett COLE, known to the family as Lily, we saw above that she was born to William and Eliza Ann on the 6th of February 1864 at 37 King Street in Bedminster. She was baptised in St Luke's Church on the 27th of March. From the census records we can see that the family had moved to Number 20 King Street by 1871. Maybe this was a step up, for this house was home to just 3 families, 11 residents in all, including our menage of 5. Our 7-year-old Eliza and her younger brother Charles are both attending school.

The next snap shot we have is from the 1881 census. This implies that the family now has their own front door, at No 2 Trotts Cottages in Ship Lane. We have already seen that her father was working as a Warehouseman in a Brush Factory. At 17 Lily is working a Brush Drawing Hand and brother Charles (b1866) also has, unspecified, duties in the factory.

Lily's brother Charles marries Alice WINDOW. Their story is told in the Appendix to these notes. Charles later declares himself a Carter, as do two of his sons. However, they are described as General Hauliers and were perhaps not working specifically in the brush making business.

In 1886 Lily marries Walter Lewis BELL. Her groom comes from a long line of boot and shoe makers. We will not dwell on the origins of this family, but Walter had clearly been raised in that business. Like the COLE family the BELLS had migrated to Bristol some years previously. Exactly how and when the couple met is not clear, but both gave their address as 70 Philip Street (Bedminster)³ on their marriage lines. Walter sticks to his trade for some years after the marriage but by 1892 he is working as a Warehouseman presumably for the same firm of brush makers. He seems to have remained in the Warehouse, as his family grew, till at least 1898. By 1900, however, when his son Archibald is born, he has reverted to his true colours and appears as a Master Shoemaker. Within a few years of this he moves the family business to Swindon, beginning a new chapter of the story.

The overall picture we are left with is of a family caught up in the general move of the times from a rural existence to the town, Bristol primarily, in our case. The COLE family enjoy limited education or skill training while the BELLS have a background in self-employment and apprenticeship in the

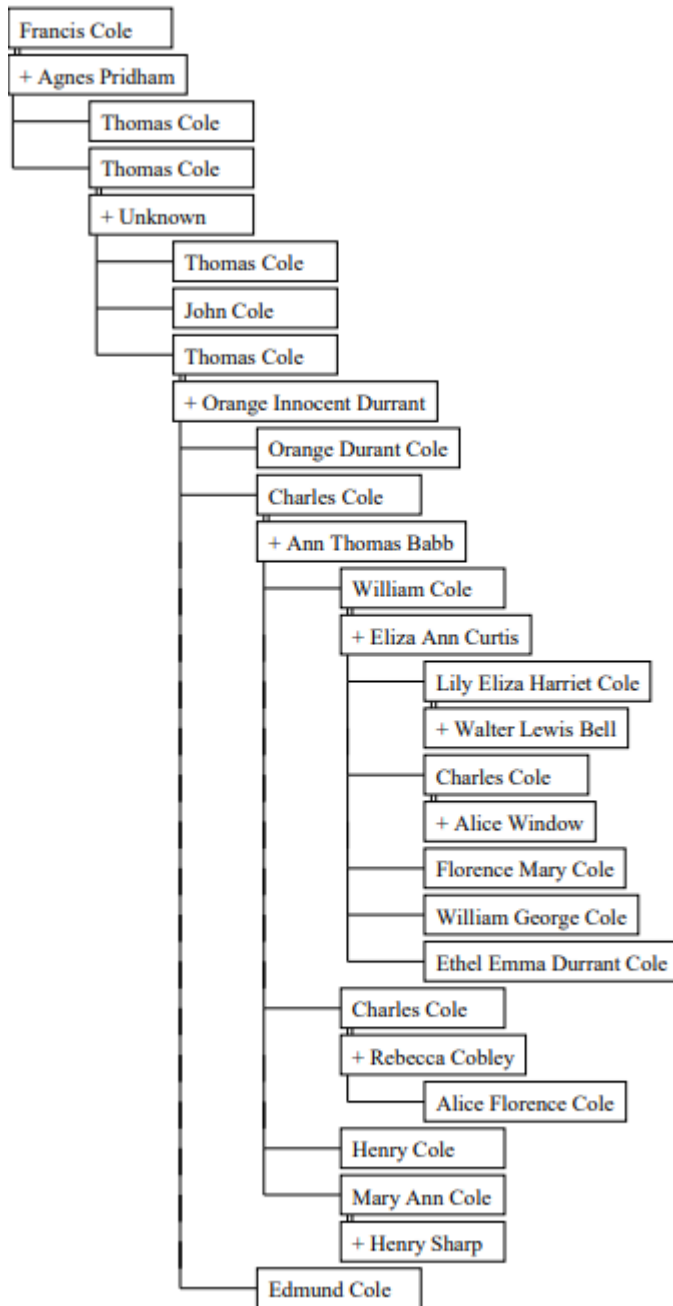
² The couple give their address on the marriage lines as Eugene Street. I take this to be the address in St Philip & Jacob Without rather than the street of the same name in Kingsdown.

³ This is the home of Lily's aunt Harriet (her mother's sister) and husband Benjamin William THOMAS.

footwear trade. High rates of infant mortality are endemic while general health is far from guaranteed. Employment opportunities are to be seized as they occur. The family involvement in the brush making business extends for a relatively few years but involves a couple of generations. The men, in our case, are involved in distribution and warehousing, the sole girl from our group takes up brush drawing. This occupation, by the 1880s, and apart from a small number of skilled and specialised craftsmen, is mechanised and female dominated.

The Family Tree

A selection of the Cole family, so far as the direct descendants have been traced, from Francis Cole in the 18th Century down to the generation of the author's Great Grandmother, Lily E. H. Cole, is charted below.



Selected Descendants of Francis Cole

The People

Francis COLE and Agnes PRIDHAM

Francis and Agnes COLE are the 18th Century starting point of this narrative and are as far back as I have been able to trace the ancestry with any certainty.

Agnes PRIDHAM, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth, was baptised in Thelbridge, Devon on the 11th of April 1715¹, but I can say little with any conviction of Francis COLE's background.

We can find a record² of the couple marrying in Thelbridge on 10th June 1733. This was presumably in the medieval Church of St David, as it stood at that time.

Though they married in Thelbridge they then lived and brought up their family some eight miles away in Witheridge. It was clearly a fruitful union for we know of ten children, though in the chart above I have included only my direct ancestor Thomas (b 1755) and his elder namesake, who did not survive infancy.

The full list includes:

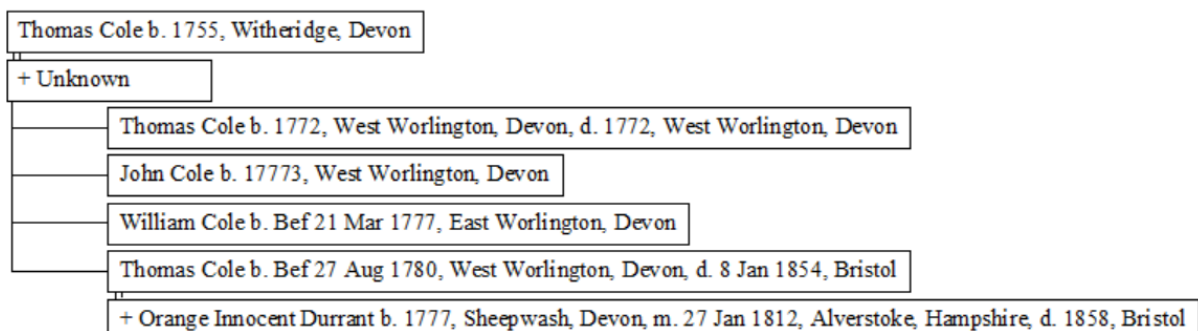
Francis	(1734-1735) ^{3 4}
James	(1736-1820) ⁵
Francis	(1738-1742) ^{6 7}
Mary	(1741-1821) ^{8 9}
Elizabeth	(b1744) ¹⁰
Thomas	(1746-1750) ^{11 12}
Francis	(1750-1782) ^{13 14}
John	(1753-1775) ^{15 16}
Thomas	(b1755)¹⁷
Agnes	(1758-1851) ^{18 19}

James COLE (1736-1820) married, as did Agnes (1758-1851). James certainly had issue, whom I have traced for two generations, but I include no more of them and little of any other branches of the family here in these notes.

Children of Francis and Agnes

Of the list above we are looking here chiefly at Thomas COLE, born 1755.

Thomas COLE (1755-?)



Thomas, son of Francis and Agnes, was baptised in Witheridge on the 6th of April 1755. We can imagine him, and indeed his siblings, being splashed in the 15th Century font of St John the Baptist Church.

By 1772 he had moved from his birthplace by less than four miles and was living in West Worlington.

As to his offspring we know from their baptismal records that he was blessed (if that is the word, considering his age at the time of the first arrival) with at least three children. Sons Thomas, John and another Thomas were all Christened in West Worlington. A further (probable) son William, actually third of the quartet, was Christened in neighbouring East Worlington. Sadly, the parish records here do not give us the name of the mother or mothers of these boys. The gaps in the birth dates hint at other issue or possibly a remarriage but research has yet to confirm this. Indeed, considering that the family and given names are not uncommon, one must allow some uncertainty in the tree here.

Grandchildren of Francis and Agnes

Thomas COLE (1772-1772)

The first child (as far as we can tell) of Thomas (son of Francis) was named for his father. He was baptised on the 1st of January 1772²⁰ but lived for a few days only.²¹

John COLE (1773)

John COLE was baptised in 1773²². The name is quite common, so, failing to track any further conclusive information, we can only speculate on the possibility of another infant death.

William COLE (1777)

The next child whom we find Thomas baptising is named William. This is a few years later in 1777²³ and in the neighbouring settlement of East Worlington. East and West here are no more than a few fields apart, so whether this indicates any other family change we cannot say. Again, the baptismal record says nothing of the mother.

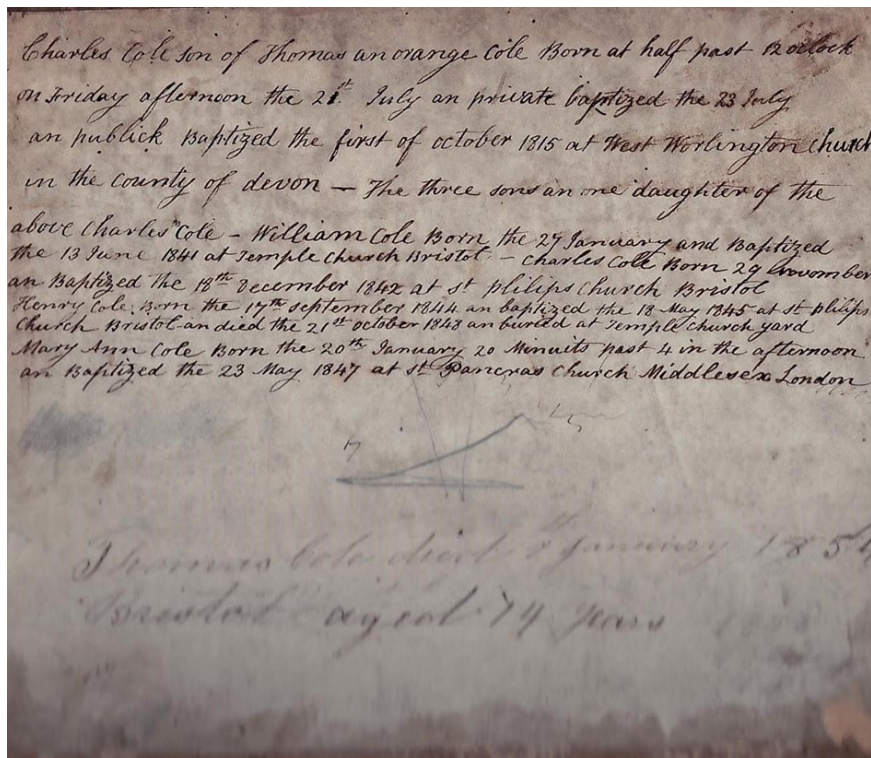
William heads a line of the family which re-appears later in this story. To outline this, briefly, William marries Sarah TAYLOR in 1802²⁴. The third of their four children, another William, born in 1806²⁵, goes into the malting trade and takes a wife, Elizabeth. This couple, then living at 12 Chatterton Square, Bristol are able to take in William's orphaned relative Mary Ann (daughter of Charles COLE and Ann Thomas BABB), as revealed in the 1851 survey²⁶.

Thomas COLE (1780-1854)



The fourth child of Thomas, the 1755 son of Francis and Agnes, was also so named, after his father and deceased elder sibling. This Thomas was Christened on 27 August 1780 in West Worlington. We can suppose that it was here or hereabouts he later met Orange, his bride to be. However, if so, he whisked her away to Alverstoke in Hampshire where, on 27 Jan 1812²⁷, he married Orange Innocent DURANT. While there Thomas gave his occupation as the North Devon Militia on his daughter's baptism on the 18th of July 1813. Alverstoke and Forton (where they seem to have been

at the time of the birth) are close to military installations around Portsmouth⁴. Bear in mind this was before the railways had reached that part of the coast so the journeys cannot have been easy. However, their stay in Hampshire was not prolonged, for by 1815 he was back in West Worlington. Sometime after 1817⁵ the family was on the move again, migrating from Devon to Bristol, presumably for economic reasons. For the ensuing quarter century of his life he leaves little in the records. However, in 1841 the survey²⁸ shows him, aged 60, living with his married son Charles and family, in Chatterton Square, near St Mary Redcliff Church. At this time his occupation is shown as *Grocery*. In the previous year, on the occasion of his son's marriage, he had been recorded as a shoemaker²⁹. In 1851³⁰ we find Thomas with his wife and two grandsons at 114 Temple Street, premises shared with three other families. The economic decline seems to have continued since he is recorded then, at the age of 70, as a labourer. Thomas' death on 8th Jan 1854 is the last entry in the family Bible³¹. His funeral, on the 15th was held at nearby Temple Church³².



Cole Family Bible

Orange Innocent DURANT (1777-1858)

Spelling was still a fluid affair in the 18th Century. Thomas' future spouse makes a first appearance as *Orringe Inasent DURANT* in the record of her baptism³³ on 27 December 1777, in the charmingly named village of Sheepwash in Devon. I am informed that this spelling of the infant's name is indeed as it is recorded in the original Parish Records. I like to think of some incumbent, or his hapless curate, listening to the Devon burr and writing it

⁴ Wikipedia tells us that from November 1811 to May 1814 the North Devons were stationed at Gosport, including Fort Monckton. The regiment moved to Dartmoor in June, but by then the war was over, the Treaty of Fontainebleau having been signed in April. On 16 June the warrant for disembodiment of the Devonshire Militia was signed. The regiment marched to Barnstaple to be disembodied on 30 July 1814.

Fort Monckton is a historic military fort on the south-east shoreline of the Gosport peninsula, Hampshire. Built on the ruins of Haselworth Castle to protect Portsmouth Harbour at the start of the American War of Independence, it was rebuilt in the 1880s as a Palmerston fort.

⁵ When his son Edmund is baptised in West Worlington

as he heard it! Variations on the surname including DURRANT, apparently are not uncommon in the locality. Be that as it may, it seems likely that her parents, John Cornish DURANT and Elizabeth SPEAR, who married³⁴ in Petrockstowe in 1771 were of local stock.

Orange DURANT, I have been told, has been remembered in the family as a redoubtable (formidable?) lady. She stayed with Thomas throughout, outliving him by a few years and dying (of bronchitis it seems) at the age of 82 on 22 December 1858³⁵.

Thomas and Orange had three children, daughter Orange in 1813 and sons Charles and Edmund in 1815 and 1817 respectively. Their daughter was Christened Orange Durrant (COLE) on the 18th of July 1813 in Alverstoke³⁶, presumably in the Parish Church where her parents had been married. Charles was born apparently after their return to Devon. Their last child, Edmund, was Christened on 26th of October 1817 in West Worlington³⁷. Nothing further on either Edmund or young Orange has come to light and, despite the lack of any burial record in likely parishes, one is left with the probability of two more early deaths.

Great grandchildren of Francis and Agnes

Charles COLE (1815-1852)

Charles Cole b. 21 Jul 1815, West Worlington, Devon	
+ Ann Thomas Babb b. 1817, Bridgwater, Somerset, m. 1 Jun 1840, Holy Trinity St Phillips & St Jacob, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England	
William Cole b. 27 Jan 1841, Chatterton Square, St Mary Redcliff, Bristol, d. 117 Mar 1894, Bedminster	
+ Eliza Ann Curtis b. Abt 1843, Coalpit Heath, Gloucestershire, m. 5 Aug 1861, Bedminster, Somerset, d. 1887, Bristol	
Charles Cole b. 29 Nov 1842, St Phillips, Bristol, d. 1868, Bedminster, Somerset	
+ Rebecca Copley b. 1840, Bristol, m. 1864	
Henry Cole b. 17 Sep 1844, Bristol, d. 21 Oct 1848, Bristol	
Mary Ann Cole b. 20 Jan 1847, St Pancras, Middlesex, England	
+ Henry Sharp b. Bef 26 Jan 1845, Rodborough, Gloucestershire, m. 2 Dec 1875, Bedminster, Somerset	

The family Bible tells us that Charles, son of Thomas and Orange, was born at half past 12 o'clock on Friday afternoon 21st July 1815. He was Christened on the 23rd of July in the Parish Church of St. Mary, West Worlington³⁸. From the same entry in the Bible we learn that this was a private affair and that a second, public baptism took place on 1st October. Though we are not told, I believe this was the practice when the survival of the new-born was initially in doubt.

When the family moved to Bristol Charles could have been little more than two years old. At any rate he most probably grew up in south Bristol (or Bedminster if you prefer). We know nothing of his education or any apprenticeship, but from his marriage lines we learn that he became a carpenter rather than following his father into the shoemaking trade. It would have been in Bristol that he met Ann Thomas BABB. The couple married on 1st of June 1840 in St Philip and St Jacob's Church on Tower Hill³⁹.

Charles and Ann produced 4 children

William (1841-1894)
 Charles (1842-1868)
 Henry (1844-1848) and
 Mary Ann (1847-)

After their marriage they set up home, before the birth of their first child, in Chatterton Square, Redcliff, Bristol. At this time (1841) they were living under the same roof with Charles' parents⁴⁰. (As an aside we can note that on census night Grandma Orange was away visiting her sister Sarah in Rogate, Sussex⁴¹). Here they stayed for several years but by the birth of their daughter they were resident in London. Mary Ann's baptismal record shows a family address in Cromer Street⁴². I have heard of a family story of a Prison Governorship, and this would have been as near as Charles ever was to HMP Pentonville. It seems to me more likely that it would have been the availability of work as a Carpenter that drew him to the Metropolis.

I am assuming that Charles was indeed still living when he was named on Mary Ann's baptismal record but after that I have found no further information. Like his wife Ann (see below) the date and place of his decease remain a mystery to me.

Ann Thomas BABB (1817-)

Ann, daughter of Francis and Mary (née THOMAS) BABB was baptised on the 16th February 1817 in St Mary's Church, Bridgwater⁴³.

Francis was Somerset born⁴⁴ while Mary hailed from Devon⁴⁵. Francis BABB worked as a labourer in his early life⁴⁶ but by 1841 he was living in Bedminster and employed as a floor cloth weaver⁴⁷.

In 1840, when Ann married Charles COLE, both she and her groom gave their address as Baptist Mills. Seemingly she later went with her husband to London, where their fourth and last child, Mary Ann, was born. However, when their third child, Henry, died at the age of 4 in Bristol, she was not present. Possibly we are looking at her passing shortly after the arrival of Mary Ann on the 20th of January 1847. Her last act, of which I have any record, was the on the 23rd of February⁴⁸ when she registered her daughter's birth. We will return to this point, below, when looking at Henry's short life.

Great-great grandchildren of Francis and Agnes

William COLE (1841-1894)

William Cole b. 27 Jan 1841, Chatterton Square, St Mary Redcliff, Bristol, d. 117 Mar 1894, Bedminster
+ Eliza Ann Curtis b. Abt 1843, Coalpit Heath, Gloucestershire, m. 5 Aug 1861, Bedminster, Somerset, d. 1887, Bristol
Lily Eliza Harriet Cole b. 16 Feb 1864, King St., Bedminster, Bristol, d. 10 Apr 1937, Swindon, Wiltshire
+ Walter Lewis Bell b. 26 Jan 1864, Bedminster, Bristol, m. 25 Dec 1886, Bedminster Parish Church, d. 13 Jun 1936, 6 Regent Circus, Swindon
Charles Cole b. Abt 1866, Bedminster, Somerset, d. 1921, Bristol
+ Alice Window b. 1867, m. 30 Sep 1888, Bedminster, Somerset, d. 1914
Florence Mary Cole b. 1868, Bristol, d. 25 Dec 1889, 2 Ship Lane, St. Mary Redcliff, Bristol
William George Cole b. Abt 1873, Bristol, d. 1899, Bristol
Ethel Emma Durrant Cole b. 1885, Bristol, d. 1939, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset

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BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <i>Temple</i> in the County of <i>Bristol</i> in the Year 1841						
When Baptised	Child's Christian Name	Parent's Name		Abode	Quality, Trade, or Profession	By whom the Ceremony was performed
		Christian	Surname			
1841 May 30 No. 201	William Charles son of Charlotte	John Frost	St Thomas Redcliff			W. H. Brown Curate
June 3 No. 202	Mary Ann daught of	Mary Ann Cannock	Temple			J. B. Brown Officiant
June 6 No. 203	Maria daught of Sarah	James Hopkins	Temple			W. H. Brown Curate
June 13 No. 204	William son of Ann born Jan 27 th to Mr. Cole	Charles Cole	St Thomas Redcliff			W. H. Brown Curate

William COLE, son of Charles and Ann, was born on the 27th of January 1841, the birth certificate⁴⁹ recording the address simply as Chatterton Square. One month later the family (including Grandfather Thomas) appears in the census⁵⁰, but it is difficult to interpret the street number. It seems the dwelling is shared with several other families and is clearly not the same house his sister Ann finds herself a few years later. William is baptised on the 13th of June in Temple Church⁵¹. In 1841, before the attention of the Luftwaffe, this would have been standing proud, despite its leaning tower.

1842 Baptism William COLE

In 1851 we find William and his younger brother Charles, apparently now orphaned, living with their Grandparents, Thomas and Orange, at 114 Temple Street. This house was shared with three other families. The boys are shown as scholars, which I assume means they were indeed attending school, but it appears Grandad, at 70, is still labouring to support them⁵².

By 1861 he (William) and Charles are both lodging at 64 Thomas Street⁶, St Mary Redcliff. There William meets his wife to be, Eliza Ann CURTIS. The couple are married at the Church of St John the Baptist in Bedminster on August the 5th of that year⁵³.

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1861. Marriage solemnized at <i>The Parish Church</i> in the Parish of <i>Bedminster</i> in the County of <i>Bristol & Somerset</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
137	August 5	William Cole	21	Bachelor	Haulier	Cathay	Charles Cole	Carpenter
		Eliza Ann Curtis	19	Spinster	—	Cathay	Charles Curtis	Iron Moulder
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by <i>James William Heston</i> after <i>James</i> by me <i>Wm. Heston</i> This Marriage was solemnized between us, <i>William Cole</i> and <i>Eliza Ann Curtis</i> in the Presence of us, <i>James Heston</i> and <i>Mary Ann Heston</i> Curate								

Marriage of William COLE and Eliza Ann CURTIS

At their marriage both parties give their address only as "Cathay". This⁷, then, was a thoroughfare adjoining Ship Lane, which features further below.

By the time of the birth of their first child, my great-grandmother Eliza Harriet (Lily), in 1864 the couple were living at 37 King Street⁵⁴. William gave his occupation as a Merchant's Haulier. I take the latter to indicate that his employer was probably operating a wholesale company rather than a

⁶ I take this to be St Thomas Street, Redcliff not Thomas Street, Stokes Croft.

⁷ See Maps below

haulage firm. In 1866 however he is described as a Brush maker's Porter⁵⁵. One can only speculate on whether he had changed employer or just his role. Their next child, Florence, is also born at No. 37⁵⁶ and he now (1868) describes himself as Brush Maker's Haulier. By 1872 they have moved a few doors to No 23⁵⁷.

In the long years following we have little information on the family. They are still together in 1881, though now they are living in Ship Lane, at No2, Trotts Cottages. William seems to be still in the same business but now as a Warehouseman in the Brush Factory⁵⁸.

If they did have any children in the years before Lily arrived, it seems none may have lived to any age. Indeed, I found the births and corresponding deaths in this period of around a dozen young COLEs who did not survive infancy, in the Bristol registry alone.

By 1889 William has reached the position of Brush Maker's Foreman⁵⁹, perhaps the height of his career. I cannot fully tell how things transpired over the next few years, but they were clearly not happy ones. By 1891 a widowed William is working as a general labourer. He remains though in Ship Lane with his son William George and daughter Ethel⁶⁰.

William dies aged 53, from TB, on 17 March 1894. His married sister, Mary Ann SHARP, is at his side in 16 Newport Street⁶¹. This is a small, terraced house, the home of Walter and Lily BELL, the latter being William's own daughter. On his death certificate Mary reports his occupation as Brush Maker's Foreman, but of course she may have been looking back to better times.

Eliza Ann CURTISS (1843-1887)

Eliza was born on the 9th of March 1843 in Westerleigh, Gloucestershire to Charles and Eliza (née CROKER) CURTISS⁶². As ever the spelling of CURTISS or CURTIS is fairly fluid.

Charles CURTISS was Bristol born and was working as a moulder in an Iron Foundry while his wife Eliza was a Londoner⁶³.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <u>Westerleigh</u> in the County of <u>Gloucester</u> in the Year 1843						
When Baptised.	Child's Christian Name.	Parent's Name.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian	Surname.			
5 th		Luke				Alfred
Nov ^r No. 105	Ann	Sarah	Tovey	Westerleigh	C. Miner	Gibson
5 th	Eliza	Charles				Alfred
Nov ^r No. 106	Ann	Eliza	Curtis	Westerleigh	Moulder	Gibson

Baptism of Eliza Ann CURTIS 5 Nov 1843

The family, including her younger sister Harriet, are still in Westerleigh in 1851⁶⁴. Ten years later though, the 18-year-old Eliza is working as a stay maker and living with her sister and widowed mother under her grandfather's⁸ roof at 64 Thomas Street, Bristol⁶⁵.

1861 Census, Gloucestershire, Bristol, St Mary Redcliff

102	64 Thomas Street 1	William Curtis	Head	73	Artist Oil & Water Colours	Go	Go
163		Eliza Curtis	Head	18	Stay Maker	Gloucester Coalpit Heath	Go
		Eliza Ann	Daughter	17	Stay Maker	Go	Go
		Harriett	Daughter	15	Stay Maker	Go	Go

As we have hinted above, several families shared no 64 and on 5th August 1861 she married William COLE, a lodger with another family in the house. Eliza moves with William to King Street and later Ship Lane as also described above. Over the years she bears William five children but on 13 February 1887 at the age of 43, sadly, she succumbs to TB⁶⁶.

These children of William and Eliza Ann were:

Eliza (Lily) Harriet (1864-1937)
 Charles (1866-1921)
 Florence Mary (1868-1889)
 William George (1872-1899) and
 Ethel Emma Durant (1865-1939)

We will return to these children of William & Eliza Ann after considering William's siblings.

Charles C OLE (1842-1868)

Charles Cole b. 29 Nov 1842, St Phillips, Bristol, d. 1868, Bedminster, Somerset

+ Rebecca Copley b. 1840, Bristol, par. Samuel Copley and Hannah

Alice Florence Cole b. 28 May 1868, Bristol, d. 29 Dec 1869, Bedminster

The birth of Charles, brother of William and son of Charles and Ann, on the 29th of November 1842 was recorded in the family Bible. His baptism in the church of St Philips & St Jacob, on the 18th of December⁶⁷ is also shown there. We have seen above, also, that both he and his brother were living with their Grandparents in 1851 and lodging at 64 Thomas Street in 1861. The census for 1861 shows us that while his brother was a carter, Charles was working as a brush maker's packer. It is tempting to speculate that they may well have shared the same employer.

Some three years after his brother's marriage, Charles himself is wed. He marries Rebecca COBLEY on the 14th of September 1864 in St James Church⁶⁸. (This Haymarket church was Congregational at one time, it was destroyed in the blitz and later restored, today it is RC.) Both bride and groom give their address as Eugene Street which I take to be the nearby street of that name in the historic parish of St James.

When his daughter Alice is born at 28 King Steet, in May 1868 Charles is still in the brush making business, now as a warehouseman⁶⁹. Sadly however, she is shortly to lose her father, he having suffered the effects of a chronic abscess for some months. Charles dies, aged 25, on the 14th of November⁷⁰ 1868. His address is then given as number 27. Charles was buried at Arnos Vale Cemetery⁷¹. He lies in grave 94 section PP.

⁸ I am assuming that the 73-year-old William Curtis, artist in oil and water colours, is Eliza's paternal grandfather.

Rebecca COBLEY (1840-)

Rebecca was baptised on 22nd March 1840 in St Philip and St Jacob Church⁷². Proud parents were Samuel COBLEY and his wife Hannah (née WHITE⁷³) who were living then in Jacob Street⁷⁴.

By 1861 Rebecca (now 21) is lodging, together with her widowed mother and younger sister in Prewitt Place, St Mary Redcliff. Her mother is described as a nurse, but Rebecca is working as a stay maker⁷⁵. Could she perhaps have encountered her sister-in-law Eliza CURTIS as a colleague?

Marriage in 1864⁷⁶ is followed by the birth of daughter Alice Florence in 1868⁷⁷ and, sadly, widowhood later in that same year. Rebecca and her daughter, apparently, were subsequently supported by brother-in-law William but Alice too is taken from her by inflammation of the lungs in 1869⁷⁸.

Rebecca does re-marry, in 1871, to Robert Henry HOUGHTON⁷⁹. This marriage produces three children^{80 81} before Rebecca fades from our story.

Henry COLE (1844-1848)

Henry, the third child of Charles (b1815) and Ann (née Babb), is born on 17th of September 1844 in Chatterton Cottage^{82 9}. Once more we have the record of his baptism in the family Bible. The ceremony took place on the 18th of May 1845 in St Philip and St Jacob's church. This is confirmed in the Parish Registers⁸³. The unfortunate infant sadly died (of scarlatina) on the 21st of October 1848, the address being given as 9 Avon Street⁸⁴. Henry's death certificate shows that Elizabeth COLE¹⁰, rather than his own mother, was present at the death. This gives me to believe that Henry was indeed orphaned before his death though, as indicated above I cannot give any definite information on his parents passing. Elizabeth COLE however appears again, in connection with Mary Ann below.

Mary Ann COLE (1847-1911 or later)

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parent's Name: Christian. Surname.	Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed. Date of Birth.
1847 May 23 No. 456	James Henry	James Charlotte	St. Philip's Church, Finsbury	Minister	17 September 1844
23 No. 457	Thomas Edward	Francis Emma Bailey	St. Philip's Church, Finsbury	Engineer	6 November 1844
23 No. 458	Henry John	Francis Emma Bailey	St. Philip's Church, Finsbury	Engineer	4 April 1845
23 No. 459	Charles Frederick	Francis Emma Bailey	St. Philip's Church, Finsbury	Engineer	10 October 1845
23 No. 460	Mary Anne	Charles Emma Cole	Common Street, Finsbury	Carpenter	20 June 1847

Baptism of Mary Ann COLE_1847

Mary Ann, the fourth of Charles and Ann's children, cannot have enjoyed a good start in life. Though we cannot be precise about the manner or date of her parents' passing, she seems to have become an orphan at an early point. We have seen above that neither her mother nor her father was noted as present at the death of her elder brother Henry in October 1848. That death was registered by one Elizabeth COLE⁸⁵. This Elizabeth I take to be the wife of William COLE (b1806), the maltster, mentioned above. By 1861, at the age of 4 she seems to have been taken in (for want of a better expression) by this "uncle" William COLE and his wife Elizabeth. They were then living at 12 Chatterton Square⁸⁶.

⁹ I have not positively identified the location of Chatterton Cottage but there is a modern apartment block called Chatterton House in Ship Lane. I am discounting Chatterton Square and the Chatterton House, Redcliffe Way, said to be Thomas Chatterton's birthplace.

¹⁰ I believe this Elizabeth was the wife of William COLE the maltster (son of the William COLE born in 1777). The couple apparently "adopted" Mary Ann.

We next glimpse Mary Ann through the medium of the 1871 survey. Aged only fourteen she is working as a domestic servant¹¹. It can have been no easy life as the only live-in employee. The household consisted of one Hannah HATHERLY and her eight children aged from under one up to twenty years old⁸⁷.

It may be that Mary Ann remained in service or other employment for some years as she remains single until the age of 28. Then, on the 2nd of December 1875, she marries the 30-year-old Henry SHARP⁸⁸. Henry is widowed with three children, but by now Mary must have known what she was taking on. Henry had been a labourer for most of his life but, around this time, he joins the police force. He stays a Constable till his retirement.

Mary remains with Henry though several postings around Somerset^{89 90 91}. As we have seen she attends her brother William's death in Bristol in 1894, but I doubt that implied a permanent residence there at that time.

Henry and Mary returned to Bristol on his retirement, taking up residence by 1911 at 65 Sandy Park Road, Brislington⁹². Unfortunately, I have yet to trace the eventual demise and interment of either.

Third great grandchildren of Francis and Agnes

Lily Eliza Harriet COLE (1864-1937)

Lily (or Lilly), the eldest child of William (b1881) and Eliza Ann¹² COLE, was born at 37 King Street, Bedminster on the 6th of February 1864⁹³. She was christened Harriet Eliza in St Luke's Church on the 27th of March⁹⁴. The family remained at No 37 for some years but by 1871 they have moved the short distance to No 23⁹⁵. In the 1881 Census we see an 18-year-old Lily, still living under her parent's roof, albeit this is now at Trotts Cottages in Ship Lane. Lily has also followed her father's footsteps as far as employment is concerned and is working as a "brush drawing hand"⁹⁶.



Lily Eliza Harriet BELL, née COLE

Lily married Walter Lewis BELL on the 25th of December 1886 in the Bedminster Parish Church of St John the Baptist.

Walter Lewis BELL

Walter Lewis BELL, the son of Abraham John and Ann Griffiths (née LEWIS) BELL was born on the 26th of January 1864. The birth certificate gives the address as 21, Somerset Crescent, Bedminster⁹⁷. This may be a reference to Somerset Road which runs to the south of Arnos Vale cemetery.

Walter was the third of his parent's five children, four of whom survived to adulthood. He was baptised at the age of three, along with his younger twin siblings, on the 14th of July 1867 in St Luke's Church, Brislington. This latter not to be confused with the Bedminster church of the same dedication.

By 1869 Abraham, now a master shoemaker, had moved the family from Brislington into Bedminster, when tragedy struck. Walter's elder sister, Clara Peninnah, was taken by typhoid fever,

¹¹ At 7 Wellington Terrace, Coronation Road, Bedminster

¹² Née Babb

at the age of ten, after 7 days illness. This was at the family home, 11 Cromwell Terrace, New Walls Road. That address lay within the Totterdown district of Bedminster.

In 1871 the census shows the family living at 9 Oxford Street Bedminster.

In 1881 we see a 17-year-old Walter, living with his parents at 6 Beaufoy Terrace¹³, Bedminster. Walter by this time has followed his father into the boot and shoe trade⁹⁸.

We next find, in Wright's Directory of Bristol and Clifton 1886, one Walter Lewis, Shoemaker in Wells Road, Totterdown. Apparently, he was striking out on his own, for his father, Abraham, is listed on the same page at Beaufoy Terrace in the Bath Road. We should bear in mind that the directory would have been compiled from information recorded before the December 1885 publication of this directory.

On the 25th of December 1886, in St Luke's Church, Bedminster, Walter marries Eliza Harriett (Lily) COLE⁹⁹. Both give the same location, 70 Philip Street, as their address at the time of marriage¹⁴.

Notwithstanding any address given in their marriage lines, the couple evidently set up home with her parents. Thus, their first two children (Elsie and William) are born at No 2 Ship Lane.

Elsie Orange Durant BELL (my grandmother) is born on the 16th of January 1888¹⁰⁰.

When Elsie's sibling, William Henry Lewis BELL, is born on the 2nd of January 1890 his father is recorded as a Journeyman shoemaker¹⁰¹. Although William, is born at No 2 Ship Lane he is baptised on the 6th of April in Bruton, where we surmise his mother had taken him to visit her married aunt Mary Ann SHARP. Sadly, the infant dies from meningitis on the 30th of July, back at home, at number 2 Ship Lane. Walter, at this distressing time, seems to have changed trades for he is listed on the death certificate as a Wholesale Brush Maker's Warehouseman¹⁰².

Walter seems next to have reverted, if only briefly, to his true trade. The 1891 Census¹⁰³ shows him as the head of the family, now at number 7 Ship Lane, following the occupation of a bootmaker. Notwithstanding this shift from number 2 to number 7 they are still sharing house with the COLE family.

We have evidence of Walter's employment over the following several years (from 1891 until 1898) in a brush maker's warehouse^{104 105 106 107 108 109}.

While still at No 7 Ship Lane Walter and Lily must have again experienced both joy and despair with the birth on the 29th of August 1892 of their second son Ernest Water Stanley¹¹⁰ who sadly lived only till the 9th of May 1893. An anxious time surely, for Ernest is shown as suffering for four months until his death from pneumonia¹¹¹.

Shortly after this trauma however the family are on the move. Lacking evidence either way I like to think of this as a positive step. Henry William is born at 16 Newport Street, Bedminster on the 6th of July 1894¹¹². Before too long the family move yet again, but not far, taking up residence at 58 Oxford Street. They do not yet escape from their tribulations however for they lose Henry, their latest son, to meningitis and pneumonia, on the 21st of April 1897¹¹³.

However Walter and Lily may have viewed these events, I do like to perceive some improvement in their fortunes around this time. Harold James (the second of their children who would survive to

¹³ This address was on the Bath Road in the Totterdown area of Bedminster.

¹⁴ This address was the home of Lily's aunt Harriet THOMAS (née CURTIS)

adulthood) was born on the 14th of December 1898¹¹⁴. Harold will grow up to follow a career in the railways. Unsurprising, given his family's future moves, but he forms little part of our story here of their involvement in brush making.

Before their next child is born Walter and Lilly move to what is then known as New Brislington. They take a terraced house at 31 Sandholm (or Sandholme) Road. Doubtless this is an improvement, even if still not straying far from their old haunts. Archibald Clifford is born there on the 13th of March 1900. Walter has seen the last of his brush making days and is described as a Master Shoemaker.

They cannot have remained in Sandholme Road long after the birth, for on the 1st of March 1901 the Census finds the family at 4 Kitchener Terrace. Indeed, they are back on the Bath Road, near the Arnos Vale Cemetery. Walter is described as a boot maker but as a worker rather than an employer. Sharing the house are a widowed seamstress and her unmarried sister who seem to be unrelated to our family.

When their daughter, Lily Florence Kathleen, is born in this house on the 30th of May 1903, Walter is still a Journeyman¹¹⁵.

It seems to me that it cannot have been long after this when they started contemplating their decisive move away from Bristol. Again, I can only speculate on the relative business opportunities in Bedminster and Swindon. However, it is around this point where Walter does indeed establish the family footwear business in the latter town.

Since these notes are intended to focus on and around the family involvement in the brush-making trade I shall leave the story of Walter and Lily and their family at this departure.

Charles COLE (1866-1921)

Charles Cole, second child of William and Eliza Ann and younger sibling to Lily Eliza Harriet, was born on the 1st of March 1866 at 37 King Street, Bedminster¹¹⁶. He is baptised on the 14th of October that year at St Mary Redcliff Church¹¹⁷.

Aged 5, Charles appears in the 1871 Census as a scholar¹¹⁸. Apart from this, I can say no more of his education than of that of any other of the family members of this era.

The next definitive information, again from the census, records Charles, aged 15 in 1881, as working at a brush factory, apparently in the company of his father and elder sister¹¹⁹. However, whereas his father is shown as being employed in the warehouse and his sister as a brush drawer, Charles duties are unspecified at this stage.

In 1881 the same source shows that family are living still at Trott's cottages, No 2 Ship Lane.

On the 30th of September 1888 he marries a local girl, Alice Window, at St Luke's Church in Bedminster¹²⁰. At this time, he gives his address as 60 King Street and, like his father, he is a warehouseman. It seems reasonable to assume that both are still employed in the same brush making business.

Quite how long he remains in the brush making or warehousing business is not clear. However, in 1889, at the baptism of his first son, William Charles, he is described as a haulier¹²¹. Whether this is in the general cartage business or perhaps specifically distributing brush ware is something that leaves room for speculation. The 1891 Census¹²² confirms this occupation. without elaborating. The address however is now **24 Somerset Street**. Again in 1894, when his son Ernest Window is baptised, Charles is referred to as a haulier¹²³. However, things are about to change, and not apparently for the better. In 1899, on his son Fank's birth certificate¹²⁴, he is shown as a quarry

labourer. The address is given as 22 Somerset Street and I tend to rely on the GRO for street numbers, in preference to the census.

The 1901 Census¹²⁵ shows another shift of employer as Charles appears as a Dock Labourer, now living at 3 Little Avon Street.

By 1911 circumstances seem to have improved, for Charles, aged 44 is shown in the census¹²⁶ as a Carter, General Haulier. His wife is still living, 3 sons and his daughter are in employment (one son in the same trade as his father) and two boys are at school. The family are occupying No. 2 Tower Terrace, Tower Street in the Temple district of Bristol.

It would seem that this return to the haulier business was not to last for when he is widowed, in 1914, he declares himself a dock labourer once more¹²⁷. At this time his address is recorded as 24 Tower Street.

The widowed Charles, aged 56, passes on the 15th of November 1921¹²⁸. His death, from a cerebral tumour, occurs at Snowdon Buildings. Stapleton, which I believe at the time was a mental institution. His son Frederick witnesses the registration. The funeral takes place on the 19th of November at St Mary Redcliff Church¹²⁹. In the burial record Charles' "abode" is shown as 35 Spring Street. That indeed is Frederick's address. Whether Charles was living with his son prior to his admission to hospital in Stapleton I cannot say.

Alice WINDOW (1867-1914)

Alice was born on the 16th of October 1867 at 8 Church Alley¹⁵, St. Philips, Bristol. From her birth certificate¹³⁰ we learn that her father, John, was then a coppersmith and that her mother was born Ann Williams. Alice's father dies in 1869¹³¹ leaving her with her two sisters and widowed mother living at 3 Unity Place¹⁶ in 1871¹³². When she marries, she remembers her father as a nail maker¹³³.

Alice and Charles have 6 children, of whom some brief details in the appendix to these notes. She lives until the outbreak of the Great War but on the 9th of September 1914 at the age of 46 she succumbs to TB. leaving Charles as a widower¹³⁴. Her death takes place in the Stapleton Workhouse Infirmary, which I imagine says something of their financial position. Charles, who is the informant on the death certificate, is shown as a Dock Labourer. It would seem, even assuming the support of those of working age among his 6 living children, that this was not enough to keep his wife out of the Workhouse Infirmary.

Florence Mary COLE (1868-1889)

Florence Mary COLE, daughter of William and Eliza Ann COLE was born on the 7th of June 1868 at 37, King Street, Bedminster. ¹³⁵Although she was so named on her birth certificate, and apparently, known accordingly throughout much of her life, the baptismal record of St Mary Redcliffe shows that she was christened Florence May on the 28th of June¹³⁶.

Sadly, her life was cut short (on the 25th of December 1889) at the age of 21 by a perforated bowel. The death certificate indicates that this may have been a sudden onset to which she succumbed within 18 hours¹³⁷. After a service at St Mary Redcliff on the 29th of December Florence was interred at Arnos Vale¹³⁸, where she lies in Section S, grave no 640.

¹⁵ I have tentatively identified this as Church Lane, which ran between Old Market Street and Jacob Street in the historic parish of St Philip and Jacob Within. Now adjacent to 1 Castle Park, all trace of these premises seems missing from modern maps.

¹⁶ Unity Place may have been situated on the North side of Unity Street

William George COLE (1872-1889)

William George COLE, younger brother of Florence Mary, was born on the 27th of July 1872¹³⁹. The family, by then, had apparently moved to number 23 King Street. His baptism, on the 11th of August, took place at St Philip and St Jacob's church¹⁴⁰. At this time, they are recorded as living in Bread Street.

On Census Day, 3rd of April 1881, we find the 8-year-old William in Devon, visiting his Aunt Mary Ann SHARP (née COLE). Aunt Mary was living in South Brewham (then spelled Bruham) where William's uncle Henry was a local bobby¹⁴¹. By this date William's parents had moved the family to Trotts Cottages in Ship Lane where they shared a house with the Bells¹⁴². Ten years later William is still living under the same roof with his younger sister and widowed father. In 1891 both he and his father are shown as general labourers.

At some point William gets work at an oilseed mill. This may have been the mill at Bathurst Wharf (now known as Merchant's Quay) perhaps the operation of British Oil & Cakes Mills Ltd aka Joseph Fisher & Sons Ltd., but it is difficult to be precise as we only have his death certificate to rely on.

William died on the 15th of February 1899 aged only 26. The medical cause is given as phthisis, which I think today we would recognise as TB in common speech. The affliction took him in three months, and he died under his brother-in-law's roof at 58 Oxford Street¹⁴³.

The interment took place at Arnos Vale, Grave No 668 Section JJ.

Ethel Emma Durant COLE (1885-1939)

Ethel Emma Durant COLE was the youngest child of William and Eliza Ann COLE. She was born on the 20th of January 1885 at No 2 Ship Lane¹⁴⁴ and baptised on the 12th of February at St Mary Redcliffe¹⁴⁵.

Ethel's was not a good start in life for, at the age of 2, she lost her mother and by 1899, when she was 14, she had also lost her father, her sister Florence and her brother William, with whom she had been living.

By 1901 she was staying with her elder sister Lily and brother-in-law Walter BELL at 7 Kitchener Terrace¹⁴⁶. The 16-year-old Ethel was earning some kind of income as a cigarette box maker. Doubtless these would have been for product of WD & HO Wills.

By 1911, when the BELLS had moved their business to Swindon, Ethel was a lay servant at St Mark's Mission House in Milton Road in that town¹⁴⁷. The Nuns of the order of St Mary the Virgin, for whom the Milton Road premises were built in 1896, were involved in Parochial services in this country and abroad. In Swindon they ran a day school in Maxwell Street. We have no further indication of Ethel's job at this time, but later her death certificate reveals a role as a domestic cook.

Ethel died on the 14th of May 1939, aged 54, of heart and chest problems, in Barrow Gurney Psychiatric Hospital¹⁴⁸. Prior to her admittance to hospital, she is shown as living with her sister and brother-in-law in Swindon.

Alice Florence COLE (1868-1869)

Alice Florence COLE, the only child of Charles and Rebecca was born on the 28th of May 1868 at 28 King Street¹⁴⁹. Baptised on the 19th of July at St Philip and St Jacob¹⁵⁰ she was just one year old when she succumbed to bronchitis on the 29th of December 1869¹⁵¹. The address recorded is 28 King Street. The infant was interred at Arnos Vale Grave 94 Section PP where her father would later join her.

Brush making

W. H. Vowles & Sons Ltd.

William Henry VOWLES, son of Thomas and Ann (Nancy) VOWLES was baptised on the 10th of July 1831 in Yatton, Somerset¹⁵².

From an account provided to me by Steve Kirby I learn that the firm of W. H. Vowles originated in 1836 when William took over a small shop in St Peter, Bristol¹⁵³. This was on the death its owner, a Mr Harris, to whom he had been apprenticed. By 1861 William was living at no 4 North Street with his wife Elizabeth and four children¹⁵⁴, later this rose to six. At that time the Census shows him employing four men and four boys. In 1862 the operation was relocated to 5 Castle Street, a large shop and a dwelling house, with a workshop nearby. The firm were selling brushes and other goods. A somewhat later advertisement in the Bristol Mercury shows them offering Perambulators and Invalid carriages in Wood and Wicker¹⁵⁵.

In 1879 W. H. Vowles died¹⁵⁶ and the business was taken on by his widow and their four sons, Frederick, Arthur, Edgar and William. However, Frederick William the eldest son, born in 1854¹⁵⁷, does not remain in the picture. He marries Harriet M. E. Sweatman in 1875¹⁵⁸, they have two children Maud Mary in 1875¹⁵⁹ and Lionel Frederick George in 1877¹⁶⁰. As late as 1891 Frederick William is still a brush maker living in Bristol¹⁶¹. Subsequently he seems to have departed for Australia without his family. This is where he was when his son dies in 1897¹⁶². Frederick William himself dies on 29th May 1901 in Sidney¹⁶³. His will, probated in London, reveals effects valued at nearly £2,500.¹⁶⁴

The Bristol firm seem to have been an early adopter of mechanisation, initially perhaps for the woodworking with boring machines and band saws. A factory in Broad Weir was set up to cope with increasing demand.

By 1881 we know that my Great Grandmother, her brother and her father were each working in the brush trade¹⁶⁵. Possibly employed by Vowles, she worked as a brush drawing hand, the men, at various times as porter, hauliers, warehousemen and even a foreman. This family association with the trade was not long lived, all was finished by 1890. For the sake of completeness, we will continue with a brief outline of the fortunes of W. H. Vowles & Sons.

The same account referenced above tells us of a visit in 1887 by Arthur VOWLES to the US and Canada which led to the purchase of patent rights for several machines which were set up in more new premises in Quaker's Friar. No longer a male dominated industry we can see W. H. Vowles advertising, in 1895, for female brush drawing hands for their Broad Weir premises.¹⁶⁶



Upper Mills, Stonehouse, SHG

In 1907 W. H. Vowles & Sons was incorporated as a limited company with Arthur Vowles as Chairman and Managing Director. One of the first actions of the new board was the purchase of Upper Mills to allow for expansion. The machinery from Quaker's Friar was removed to this newly acquired factory.¹⁶⁷

Upper Mills in Stonehouse, Gloucestershire had been established in the late 18th Century and run, as a cloth mill since then by members of the Davies family¹⁶⁸. With the decline of the cloth trade, it had closed in 1904¹⁶⁹ and actually failed initially to sell at auction¹⁷⁰.



The purchase of Upper Mills in Stonehouse proved a wise investment, these pictures hinting at a busy place, producing the company's flagship range, the Kosmos brush.

Brush Drawing Shop, Upper Mills SHG



Wood Yard, Upper Mills, SHG

Vowles meanwhile continued to trade in Bristol, and we have these two views of Castle Street. The first gives a glimpse of their premises in what was, pre-war, one of the busiest shopping streets in town. The second shows the devastation of the 1942 Blitz.



Pre-war Castle Street, Bristol. Flickr



Castle Street 1942 Flickr

This was by no means the finish for W. H. Vowles & Sons in Bristol. In 1953 it was reported that they were still occupying premises in Broad Weir and that 35 craftsmen were producing their hand made brushes in Bristol while about 150 people were employed in Stonehouse¹⁷¹.

All good things come to an end however, and in 1962 the company was taken over by The Briton Brush Co. Britons continued to work Upper Mills, though their main site remained in Wymondham, Norfolk.¹⁷² We can see W. H. Vowles & Sons Ltd advertising still in 1963 for staff (a wages clerk and female machine operators) at Stonehouse.¹⁷³

Around 1967 The Briton Brush Company were acquired by the Reed Paper Group, later known as Reed International¹⁷⁴.

In 1968 Briton were still operating, at Stonehouse under the name of W, H. Vowles & Sons. The company was still making Kosmos brushes, but low profitability and labour shortages were troubling

the business¹⁷⁵. In January 1969 it seems, that they issued redundancy notices to staff. Production of the Kosmos brushes transferred to the Norfolk factory.

In 1969 Britons was amalgamated with Reed's brush making division, Chadwick Hollins, to form Briton Chadwick¹⁷⁶. In 1982 Briton Chadwick Ltd was sold to the Windmill Brush Co. The latter, I understand, closed in 1985 and the Wymondham factory was demolished¹⁷⁷. In 1987 Briton Chadwick Ltd was acquired from Reed International by Williams Holdings. That Group, in turn, were broken up in 2000¹⁷⁸.

Historical

For these notes I am indebted to the work by William Kiddier "The Brushmaker, and the secrets of his craft and romance"¹⁷⁹. This was first published in 1922.

William Kiddier was born in Loughborough on 23rd July 1859^{180 181}. His father (also William) was a brushmaker and William junior joined the family business. Later he became, and remains known as, an artist and author. In 1917 his only son, Ernest, was killed in France¹⁸². William died in 1934^{183 184}.

Kiddier describes the brush making trade as he knew it in his youth, though he also draws on the much older records of the (defunct) Society of Brushmakers. He introduces the workers involved in the making of brushes by hand and describes their special skills. These included the hair hand who sorted and prepared the bristles¹⁸⁵, the pan hand who made brushes where the bristles were set in pitch,¹⁸⁶ and the drawing hand. Drawing, he describes, is the "process by which the knots are drawn into the holes from the back of the brush, with wire"¹⁸⁷. This required considerable manual dexterity. Brush making we are told was originally an exclusively male affair. The old Unions, such as the London Society of Journeymen Brushmakers, strove to keep it so. As late as 1833 they resolved "that all our members be withdrawn from each of the two shops where women are employed at drawing". This was clearly a lost cause and by 1843 they were conceding that "members wives" could perform some of the work. Kiddier indicates though, that it was "not until the trade boom began in 1870 that women drawing hands were employed everywhere"¹⁸⁸. However, the question of women in the trade became increasing concern for the rest of the century¹⁸⁹.

Ken Doughty, of the Society of Brushmakers Descendants, tells us that by the 1850s Bristol was England's main brush making town¹⁹⁰. Kiddier devotes a chapter to the brush makers of old Bristol. He notes some eleven master brush makers recorded in a Bristol directory for 1793-4. These, it seems were clustered around St Mary-le-Port and St Nicholas Streets. Their goods, he tells us, were sold in "Leather-hall Back market" nearby¹⁹¹. I imagine Kiddier is referring here to what we now know as St Nicholas Market¹⁷.

¹⁷ Established in 1743, St Nicholas Market is the oldest and best loved market in Bristol.

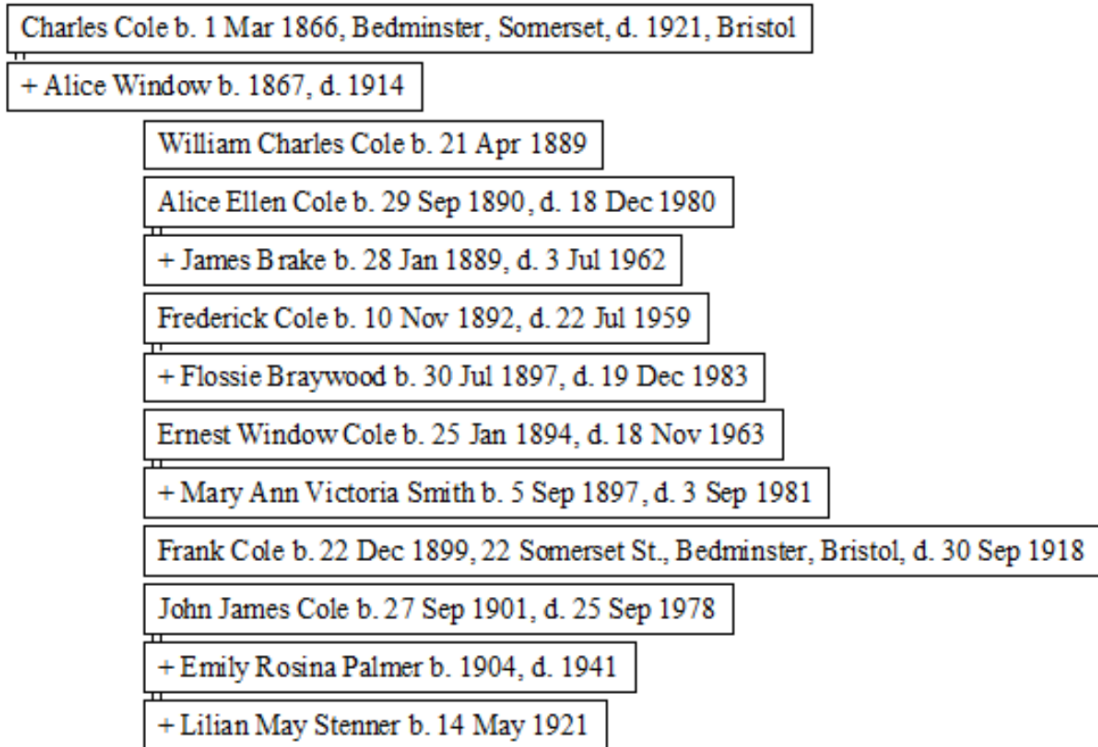
Kelly's 1899 Directory for Bristol (see below) lists some 17 brush makers. Of these Vowles appears to be one of the larger. Indeed, the firm of Willam Henry Vowles is the sole brush maker to list the address of their warehouse. Thus, I suppose it to be possible, perhaps likely, that they were the employers of our Cole family.

Kelly's Directory Bristol 1899 1

	BRUSH MAKERS.
t	Baylis Mrs. Frances, 21 Woodwell cres-
t	cent, St. George's road
	Beard Henry, Midland road
	Brison E. & Co. Peter street
l	Cornock Wm. 3 Beaufort pl. Stapleton rd
	Edwards Francis, 2 Royal Fort road
	Fox Thomas, Windmill hill, Bedminster
s	Greenslade Edward Acraman & William,
	60, 67, 68, 71 & 80 Thomas street
	Hoskins Thomas, 37 Gloucester road
l	Jenkins Joseph, 24 Broad mead
	Jones John & Co. 38 & 39 Maryleport st
	Rosevear Mrs. Sarah, 44 Maryleport st
t	Tyler William, Keynsbam R.S.O
l	Valentine H. 20 Dean la. Moor flds. St. Geo.'s
	Valentine Henry Fredk. 116 Easton rd
	Vincent Joseph, 18 Wine street
	Vowles Wm. Hy. 5 & 6 Castle street &
t	Peter street; warehouse, Asher lane,
	Redcross street
l	Wyatt G. 25 Temple st. & 11 Stokes croft
	BRIS. 19

Appendix 1: Great Grand Uncle's family

Descendants of Charles and Alice (née WINDOW) COLE

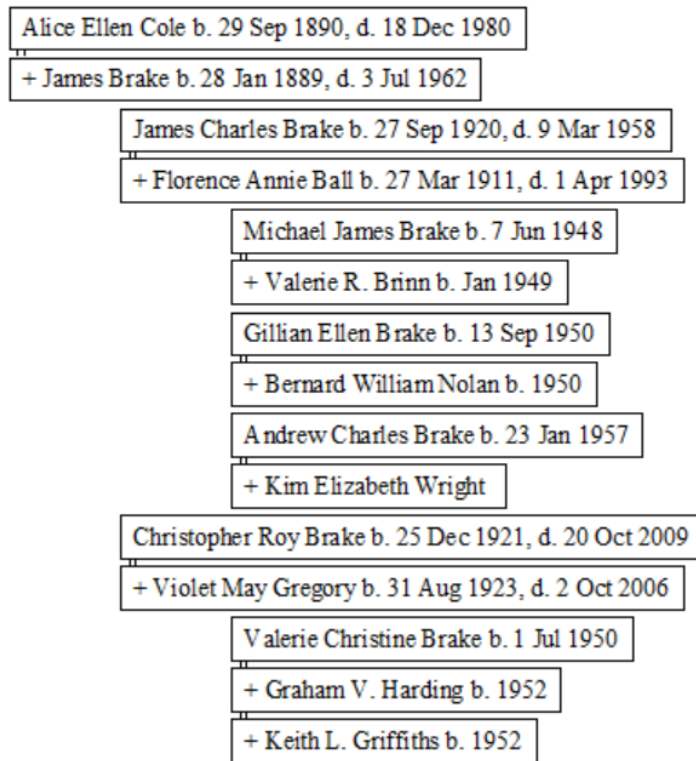
*William Charles COLE (b. 1889)*

William Charles, the first child of Charles and Alice COLE, was born on the 21st of April 1889 at 24 Somerset Street, Bedminster¹⁹². The christening took place on the 3rd of July at Temple Church¹⁹³.

Strangely, William Charles was not recorded with his father and mother in the 1891 Census. However, aged 12, he was at home with parents Charles and Alice in 1901¹⁹⁴. By 1911, aged 22 he had found employment at a colliery. William Charles was then still living with his parents and siblings, now at No. 2 Tower Terrace in the Temple District. The census shows him as a "shackler" in a coal mine¹⁹⁵. This job involved coupling the coal trucks. I assume this was an underground task rather than surface work as he is recorded as a miner.

His was a common enough name, but this census entry is the final definite record I have found for William Charles. The Great War was looming, and he would not have been too old to enlist. The country would soon need people with his experience, as sappers in the Royal Engineers¹⁸. That is pure speculation on my part. Nevertheless, in 1918, when his younger brother Frank is killed in action, it is not he but their sister Alice who is named as next of kin¹⁹⁶.

¹⁸ One CSM William C. COLE 504010 RE, mentioned in the 1914 Medal Rolls index cards could, perhaps be he.

Alice Ellen COLE (1890-1980)

Alice Ellen COLE, the second child of Charles and Alice, was born on the 29th of September 1890 at 24 Somerset Street, Bedminster¹⁹⁷. Baptism followed on the 11th of December at St Mary Redcliff church¹⁹⁸.

By 1901 the family have moved to 3 Little Avon Street. Ten years later the 21-year-old Alice Ellen is still living with her parents, now at 2 Tower Terrace¹⁹, Temple. She is working as a spinner in a Rope works¹⁹⁹.

Ropemaking. and the associated hemp processing industries have a long history in Bristol but by the 20th century the number of rope makers in the city had declined. The remaining works were, probably, just the firms of Joseph Bryant in St Philips, who were noted for their church bell ropes and William Terrel at Arnos Vale, some of whose machinery has been preserved in local museum care²⁰⁰. At which establishment Alice Ellen may have worked I cannot say.

The death of her mother in 1914 must have left Alice as the lady of the house; with a father who may already have been ailing. She is named as next of kin when her brother Frank is killed in action in 1918²⁰¹.

The family seems to have moved, perhaps twice, in these few years with addresses at 24 and 7 Tower Street, still in the Temple District of Bristol. If so, this could point to some financial instability, as I mention earlier when describing her mother's death.

¹⁹ Tower Terrace does not appear on the modern Bristol Street maps though a rebuilt Tower Street does.

More happily, on the 20th²⁰ of December 1919, at the age of 29, she marries James BRAKE²⁰². The wedding takes place at the Parish Church of St Paul's Bedminster. I take this to be St Paul's in Southville rather than the church of the same dedication in Portland Square. The Bedminster church is flanked by Coronation Road and Southville Road. From here it overlooks the New Cut of the River Avon.

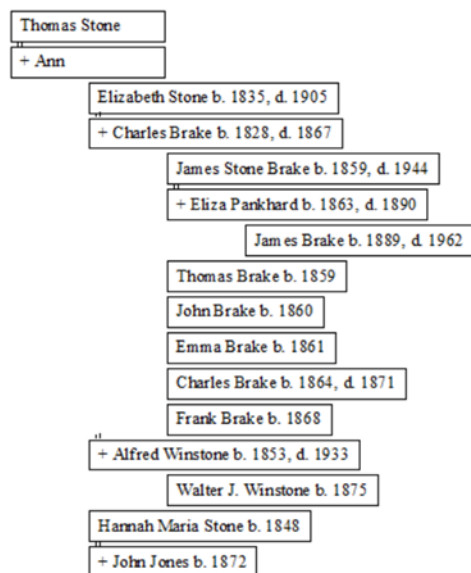
Alice's father Charles would have lived long enough to see the birth of his first grandchild James Charles BRAKE in 1920²⁰³. Christopher Roy followed in 1921²⁰⁴.

As for the remainder of Alice's life, in 1939 we find her with James (and, presumably, both boys) living at 28 Stafford Street, Bedminster. At 49 years of age, she is employed in the canteen at the rope works²⁰⁵.

In 1958 her eldest son James Charles dies from a brain cancer²⁰⁶. In 1962 Alice loses her husband, who must have been in poor health for some time. No doubt she relied on the support of her remaining son Christopher. At some point she leaves the city and moves to a Council maisonette in Withywood, at number 78 Fouracres. It is there, on the 18th of December 1980, that the widowed Alice passes, with a coronary thrombosis.²⁰⁷

James BRAKE (1889-1962)

James BRAKE (husband of Alice Ellen COLE) was born on the 28th of January 1889 at No 2, Jones Court, Avon Street, Bristol to James Stone BRAKE and his wife Eliza née PRANKARD²⁰⁸. James' mother, Eliza, dies in 1890, very shortly after his birth²⁰⁹. This would account for the infant being placed with a relative. In 1891 we find a James BRAKE, aged 2, staying with his (great) aunt and uncle at 31 Aberdeen Street Bristol²¹⁰. This couple were a John and Hanna Maria JONES. Hanna Maria (née STONE) was sister to Elizabeth, James' grandmother.



However, his grandmother, Elizabeth, remarried following the death in 1867 of James' grandfather Charles BRAKE²¹¹. In 1901 we find the twelve-year-old James, with his father and elder siblings, Charles and Emma, living under the roof²¹ of Alfred WINSTONE and his wife Elizabeth, formerly BRAKE, born STONE.²¹²

By the age of 14, in 1903, James was employed by the GWR²¹³. The records describe his capacity as that of a "vanguard" but indicate that he was dismissed in 1907. Perhaps it was this dismissal that suggested a life at sea. In 1911 he is recorded as a stoker first class aboard HMS Carnarvon, then at anchor in Torbay²¹⁴. Stoker BRAKE rose to the rank of petty officer and may have been decorated for his war service²²²¹⁵.

²⁰ Strangely, although the Parish Register shows the 20th, the certificate records the 21st and shows some confusion about the bride's middle name.

²¹ At 34 Church Street, Temple.

²² He would have been entitled to the 1914-15 Star Medal, The Victory Medal and the British War Medal.

The war over he married Alice Ellen COLE and resumed his GWR service. In the employment of the GWR he rose from porter to “carman”²¹⁶. A carman’s function at this time was that of local delivery driver (of van or cart) for the railways.

James died. from multiple ailments, aged 70 in the BRI on the 3rd of July 1962²¹⁷.

James Charles BRAKE 1920-1958

James Charles BRAKE, son of James and Alice Ellen was born in Bristol²³ on the 27th September 1920²¹⁸. James Charles, now working as a tailor’s cutter, marries Florence Annie BALL on the 20th of March 1948²¹⁹. The couple have three children. Michael James is born on the 7th of June 1948²²⁰, Gillian Ellen on the 13th of September 1950²²¹ and Andrew Charles on the 25th of January 1957²²². James Charles passes on the 9th of March 1958, in Frenchay Hospital, at the early age of 37 having suffered from a brain cancer²²³.

Florence Annie Ball 1911-1993

Florence Annie BALL was born on the 27th of March 1911 at 14, Park Street, Easton²⁴, Bristol. Her father, Ernest Alfred BALL was a carter by trade. Her mother Rosina was born an UPTON²²⁴.

Florence marries James Charles BRAKE on the 20th of March 1948 in Bristol²²⁵. As mentioned above, they have three children, Michael James in 1948²²⁶, Gillian Ellen in 1950²²⁷ and, a few years later. Andrew Charles in 1957²²⁸. She loses her husband in 1958²²⁹ but lives on to the age of 82. Florence dies, with heart problems, in the Bristol Royal Infirmary on the 1st of April 1993. Intriguingly her death is registered, under her maiden name, not by any of her own offspring but by her niece, Linda Suzanne LANE²³⁰, the daughter of her sister Lilian. Though Florence dies in hospital her last address is recorded as 77 Robertson Road, Eastville. Administration was granted in June²³¹.

Christopher Roy BRAKE 1921-2009

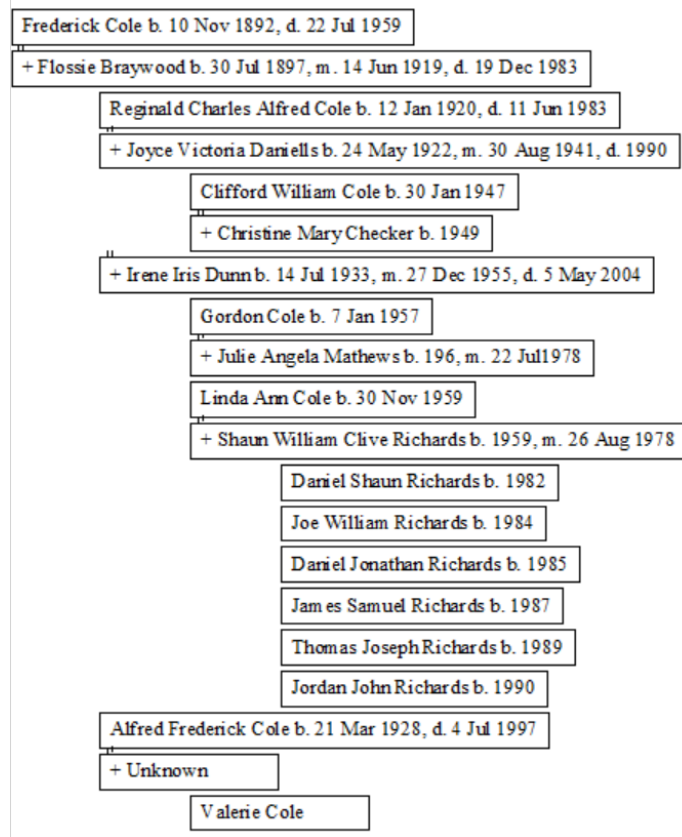
Christopher Roy BRAKE son of James and Alice Ellen was born in Bristol on the 25th of December 1921, at the Colour Works²³². He was employed as a baker’s roundsman when he married Violet May GREGORY on the 16th of October 1948 in St Mary Redcliffe church²³³. Their only child, daughter Valerie Christine, was born on the 1st of July 1950 at 154 Bath Road, Bristol²³⁴. Christopher Roy died of cancer, aged 87, at the Bristol Royal Infirmary on the 20th of October 2009²³⁵, only one year after his wife’s death.

Violet May GREGORY 1923-2008

Violet May GREGORY was born in Bristol on the 31st of August 1923²³⁶. Her father Leonard was a warehouseman, while her mother Christabel Emily came from the BOOER family. Violet passed on the 10th of February 2008 at the age of 85²³⁷, leaving Christopher Roy a widower.

²³ Given address The Colour Works, St, John’s Lane, Bedminster

²⁴ Now Park Street, St George West BS5 7

Frederick COLE (1892-1959)

Frederick COLE, the third child of Charles and Alice COLE, was born at 23 Somerset Street, in Bedminster on the 10th of November 1892²³⁸. He was baptised on the 19th of March 1895 in St Mary Redcliffe Mission Church²³⁹. This Place of Worship was founded in 1879 but has been demolished since 1942. It stood in Barnards Place which, at the time, adjoined Clarence Street, on the banks of the Avon.

Aged 8 we find Fred living with his parents at No 3 Little Avon Street²⁴⁰. Ten years later and still under his parent's roof he seems to have followed his father into the Carter's trade²⁴¹.

I have found no record of any military service by Frederick. With the war over however, he marries Flossie BRAYWOOD on the 14th of June 1919 in Saint Luke's Church, Bedminster²⁴². The couple have two children, sons Reginald Charles Alfred in 1920²⁴³ and, a later arrival, Alfred Frederick in 1928²⁴⁴.

In 1939, still working as a carter, he is living with his wife and sons at 36 Richmond Street in Totterdown, Bedminster. It would seem they were sharing this house with brother-in-law Samuel BRAYWOOD and his family²⁴⁵.

Frederick passes, aged 66, on 22nd of July 1959, with his wife at his side. He dies at 12 Parson Street²⁵ though his address at that time was given as 97 Weare Street, Bedminster.²⁴⁶

²⁵ !2 Parson Street was the home of his sister Alice Ellen who was married to James BRAKE.

Flossie BRAYWOOD (1897-1983)

Flossie²⁶ was born in Cardiff, Glamorganshire, on the 29th 27 of July 1897²⁴⁷. Her father, Derbyshire born²⁴⁸ Alfred BRAYWOOD, was a commercial traveller²⁴⁹, having previously run his own drapery shop²⁵⁰. Her mother, Mary, hailed from Abergavenny in Monmouthshire.

After their marriage Mary and Alfred BRAYWOOD produced 6 children, Ernest (1888), Octavius (1890), Daisy (1893), Samuel (1895), **Flossie (1897)** and Alexander (1900)²⁵¹.

Flossie outlives her husband and her son Reginald, dying in Bristol in 1983²⁵².

Reginald Charles Alfred COLE (1920-1983)

Reginald, first son of Frederick and Flossie COLE, was born on the 12th of January 1920 at 35 Victoria Place, Spring Street²⁸, Bedminster²⁵³ and baptised on the 1st of February in St Luke's Church²⁵⁴.

In 1939, aged 19 he was living with his parents (and the in-laws!) at 36 Richmond Street. Still single he was earning a living as a Lorry Driver²⁵⁵. However, the all-engulfing war was soon to catch up with him. He enlisted on the 16th of May 1940, initially with the Somerset Light Infantry, transferring later it seems to the Royal Artillery²⁵⁶. At some point he served with the BAOR, but not before he married Joyce Victoria DANIELLS. They tied the knot on the 30th of August 1941 in St Mary Redcliffe²⁵⁷. Reginald is released from military service in June 1946²⁵⁸ and their son Clifford William COLE is born in 1947. At this time Reginald is lorry driving for an engineering firm²⁵⁹.

However, the marriage does not survive, and Reginald takes a second wife. Now a lorry driver for a brewery, he weds Irene Iris DUNN in the Bristol Register Office on the 27th of December 1955²⁶⁰. The couple have two children, Gordon in 1957²⁶¹ and Linda Ann in 1959²⁶²²⁹.

At some point Reginald leaves his employment as a driver. At his death, aged 63, on the 11th of June 1983, his son, Gordon, lists his occupation as a painter and decorator. By this time he had removed, if no great distance, to³⁰ Bedminster Down²⁶³.

Joyce Victoria DANIELLS (1922-1990)

Joyce Victoria DANIELLS, first wife of Reginald Charles Alfred COLE, was born into the victualing trade. She was the daughter of Hubert Edwin DANIELLS and his wife Caroline (formerly BIRT). Hubert combined beer retailing with coal supply at the Trafalgar Tavern, Calton Road Bath where Joyce was born on the 24th of May 1922²⁶⁴.

As we have seen above, she marries Reginald Charles Alfred COLE in 1941²⁶⁵ and gives him one son²⁶⁶. Apparently, the marriage eventually failed, both parties forming new relationships. Joyce marries one William Duster in 1955²⁶⁷ and there we will leave her story.

Irene Iris DUNN (1933-2004)

Irene Iris DUNN (second wife of Reginald Charles Alfred COLE) was born at 43 Wilton Close, Southmead on the 14th of July 1933²⁶⁸. She was the third of 4 sisters born to general labourer Frederick Charles DUN and his wife Maud Alice, formerly RAWLINGS^{269 270}.

²⁶ Flossie was the wife of Fredrick COLE, see above

²⁷ Birth date given as 29th on Birth Certificate but 30th in Parish Register and 8th in 1939 Register.

²⁸ Now redeveloped as Victoria Grove

²⁹ Linda Ann's birth certificate gives an address of 155 York Road. New Cut, however I have been unable to track a number 155 in that road in 1959.

³⁰ 33 Eastlyn Road

Aged 22 and working as a Brewer's Bottling Machinist, she marries a divorcee 13 years her senior, Reginald Charles Alfred COLE who is now driving a brewer's lorry²⁷¹. As we have seen above, this marriage produces two children.

Irene survives her husband by many years. She is living at 12 Coneygree, Eastridge Drive, Highridge³¹ when she succumbs to lung cancer, dying in the BRI on the 5th of May 2004²⁷².

Alfred Frederick COLE (1928-1997)

Alfred Frederick COLE, the second son of Frederick and Flossie COLE, was born on the 21st of March 1928 at 16 York Street, Bedminster²⁷³. Although so named on his birth certificate, by the age of 11 the schoolboy is listed as Alfred C. COLE in the 1939 register²⁷⁴. Presumably, he keeps that additional forename since, when he passes, in 1997, he is listed as Alfred Charles F. COLE²⁷⁵. We can see from this death certificate³² that Alfred had a daughter named Valerie, but no further details have been identified.

Ernest Window COLE (1894-1963)

Ernest Window Cole b. 25 Jan 1894, d. 18 Nov 1963
+ Mary Ann Victoria Smith b. 5 Sep 1897, m. 1 Aug 1920, d. 3 Sep 1981
Ernest Philip Charles Cole b. 2 Feb 1924, d. 7 Oct 1942

Ernest W. COLE, fourth child of Charles COLE and his wife Alice née WINDOW, was born on the 26th of January 1894 at 23 Somerset Street, Bedminster²⁷⁶. Aged 17 in 1911 he is living with his parents at 2 Tower Terrace and, like his father, is engaged in the haulier's trade²⁷⁷.

I cannot be sure about his war service but am tentatively identifying him as sapper Ernest W. Cole 514541 of the Royal Engineers who earned the British War and Victory medals²⁷⁸.

On August the 1st 1920 Ernest married Mary Ann Victoria SMITH in St Silas Church, Bristol²⁷⁹. The couple had a son Ernest Philip Charles in 1924²⁸⁰.

By 1939 Ernest is living with his wife and son Ernest Philip Charles at 11 Lurgan Walk, Knowle West.³³ He is employed still as a carter²⁸¹. It would seem though, that after a lifetime of driving, he took up a role in the warehouse before retirement. He died at home, of cancer, at the age of 69 on the 18th of November 1963 leaving Mary as a widow²⁸².

Mary Ann Victoria SMITH (1897-1981)

Mary was born on the 5th of September 1897 at 5 Harris Yard, Temple Back to Philip and Elizabeth (née ASHMAN) SMITH²⁸³. The fifth of what would become seven children^{284 285}, she was baptised at Temple Church on the 6 October 1897²⁸⁶. As we have seen above, she married Ernest Window COLE in 1920.

Widowed in 1963 she survived her spouse by some 18 years, passing on the 3rd of September 1981 in the BRI³⁴. After such a long widowhood it fell to her younger brother Charles Leonard SMITH to register her death²⁸⁷ and, presumably, arrange for her burial in Greenbank Cemetery, Eastville²⁸⁸.

³¹ In Bishopsworth Ward

³² The certificate shows his address at the time was 6 Greendale Road, Bedminster.

³³ In Filwood Ward

³⁴ Home address 25 Ruthven Road, Filwood Park, Knowle West

Ernest Philip Charles COLE (1924-1942)

Ernest Philip Charles was born on the 2nd of February 1924 at No 1 Stephen Court, Kingsland Road in the St Philips district of Bristol²⁸⁹. He was the only son of Ernest Window and Mary Ann Victoria COLE.

The next we see of young Ernest is at the age of 15, living at home³⁵ with his parents and working as a grocer's assistant²⁹⁰.

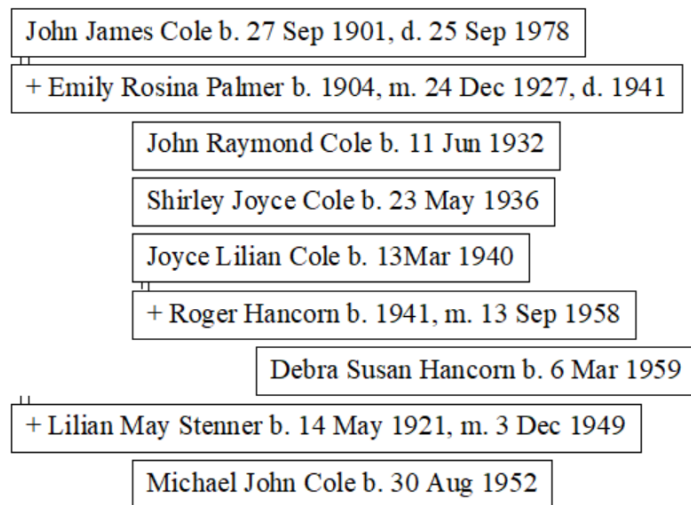
We can only guess at his state of health over the next few years, but his early death comes at the age of 18. Taken by Leukaemia he dies on the 7th of October 1942 at the BRI, his mother at his side²⁹¹.

He is interred at the Greenbank Cemetery, Eastville²⁹².

Frank COLE (1899-1918)

Frank COLE, son of Charles and Alice COLE, was born on the 22nd of December 1899 at 22 Somerset Street²⁹³. The family were living here still, some five years after the birth of his brother Ernest. With little direct evidence of his early life, we can see that he follows the family through their moves to Little Avon Street and Tower Terrace. Neither of these would have taken him outside of his native Bedminster. His mother passes in 1914 and, at some point, he joined the Shropshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action on the 30th of September 1918²⁹⁴ and is remembered in the military cemetery at Loos.²⁹⁵

John James COLE (1901-1978)



John James COLE, son of Charles and Alice was born at 3 Little Avon Street³⁶ on the 27th of **September** 1901²⁹⁶. For this information we have his birth certificate, the 1939 register and his death certificate to rely on.

However, his baptism (or, at least, that of one John James, son of Charles and Alice COLE) on the 18th of **April** 1901, is recorded in the Parish Register of St Mary Redcliffe²⁹⁷. Albeit the registry entry mis-spells the address as Little **Haven** Street. This baptismal date is supported by the inclusion of an unnamed, 4-day-old, male in the family entry of the 1901 census²⁹⁸. This survey was taken on the 31st of March of that year. This speaks to us of a sad loss, but I have found no record of such a cot death.

³⁵ In 1939 at 11 Lurgan Walk

³⁶ Little Avon Street, formerly a turning off Avon Street

Leaving this anomaly aside we find John, aged 9, with his family at 2 Tower Terrace in 1911²⁹⁹.

We cannot say what war service John may have seen. His is not an uncommon name in the military records of the time, now available to us.

On the 24th of December 1927, at the age of 27 he marries his first wife Emily Rosina PALMER. The marriage takes place at St Luke's Church in Bedminster³⁰⁰.

The couple have three children, all Bristol-born. John Raymond COLE is born on the 11th of June 1932³⁰¹. Shirley Joyce on the 23rd of May 1936³⁰² and Joyce Lillian on the 13th of March 1940³⁰³. We shall be following their story no further here.

Emily Rosina Palmer. (1904-1941)

The daughter of Edgar and Rosina PALMER, Emily Rosina, first wife³⁰⁴ of John James COLE was born in 1904 in Bristol³⁰⁵. After bearing her husband three children Emily passed away in 1941³⁰⁶.

John James COLE next marries Lillian May STENNER. This marriage takes place in St Dunstan's Church, Bedminster on the 3rd of December 1949³⁰⁷. A son, Michael John COLE, is born in 1952³⁰⁸. Having moved on from general labouring to butcher's assistant, John James is a Meat Porter at this time. John lives on to the age of 76, succumbing to cancer on the 25th of February 1978. He dies at home, 104 Lynton Road, with his wife at his side³⁰⁹.

Lillian May STENNER (b1921)

Lillian May STENNER was born on the 14th of May 1921 at 22. Hereford Street, Bristol to Eli and Sarah Jane STENNER³¹⁰. Ten years younger than her husband, to whom she gives one son, she outlives her husband, but I have not followed any further events in her life.

Michael John COLE

Son of John James and Lillian May STENNER, Michael John is born the 30th of August 1952³¹¹. However, we are not tracking his life in these notes.

Appendix 2: The places

Locations and events

The following tabulation summarises the places where family members mentioned in the main body of these notes lived over time.

Location	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Bristol Bedminster	Coronation Road, Wellington Terrace, No 7	1861	Hannah HATHERLY with George Vincent, Charles, Thomas, Mary Louise, Alice Jane, Lucy Hannah Rooke, William Cannynge Hall & Thatford HATHERLY Mary Ann COLE (servant)	Residence (Census)
	King Street No 23 ³⁷	1871	William & Eliza COLE with Eliza H, Charles & Florence Mary COLE	Residence (Census)
	King Street No. 28	1868	Alice Florence COLE	Birth
		1869	Alice Florence COLE	Death
		1866	Charles COLE (b1866)	Birth
	King Street No 37	1868	Charles COLE (b1842)	Death
		1869	Lily E. H. COLE	Birth
		1888	Charles COLE (b1899)	Residence at marriage to Alice WINDOW
	Newport Street No 16	1894	Walter & Lilly BELL	Residence
		1894	Henry William BELL	Birth
		1899	William COLE	Death
	New Walls Road, Cromwell Terrace No 11	1869	Abraham John BELL With (presumed) family inc. dau. Clara Peninnah BELL	Residence at death of dau. Clara
	Parson Street No. 12	1959	James & Alice Ellen (née COLE) BRAKE	Residence
		1959	Frederick COLE	Death
	Philip Street No 17	1888	Alice WINDOW	Residence at Marriage
	Philip Street No. 70	1881	Benjamin & Harriet (née CURTISS) THOMAS with Annie, Harriet M., Alice, Charles & Patience THOMAS	Residence (Census)
		1886	Walter Lewis BELL & Lily Eiza Harriet BELL	Residence at Marriage
	St. John's Lane Winford Cottage Colour Works ³⁸	1921	James & Alice (née COLE) BRAKE and James BRAKE, With in-laws Thompson	Residence (Census)
			James Charles BRAKE	Birth
			Christopher Roy BRAKE	Birth

³⁷ This King Street, St Luke's, Bedminster is a vanished street in a parish also gone.

³⁸ The 1921 Census identifies Winford Cottage as one of a pair close to and west of 402 St. John's Lane. (No 402 is the last house before the cemetery). I have tentatively identified these cottages as those small buildings shown on St John's Lane directly in front of the Malago Vale Works on the old OS map.

Location	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Bedminster (cont.)	Somerset Crescent ³⁹ No. 21 (<i>location unknown</i>)	1864	Walter Lewis BELL	Birth
	Stafford Street No 28	1938	James and Alice E. (née COLE) BRAKE with James C. BRAKE	Residence (1939 register)
	Victoria Place, Spring Street No 35 (now Victoria Grove)	1919	Frederick COLE & Flossie BRAYWOOD	Residence at time of marriage
		1920	Frederick & Flossie COLE	Residence
		1920	Reginald Charles Alfred COLE	Birth
		1921	F. COLE	Residence at father's death
	York Road No 156 (New Cut)	1959	Linda Ann COLE	Birth
	Weare Street No. 97	1959	Frederick & Flossie COLE	Residence at Frederick's death
Brislington	Sandy Park Road No. 66	1911	Henry & Mary Ann SHARP	Residence (Census)
	Sandholm Road No 31	1900	Walter & Lily BELL	Residence at birth of son Archibald
Lawrence Hill	Baptist Mills	1840	Charles COLE & Ann Thomas BABB	Residence at marriage
	Park Street No 14 Nr. Easton Road	1911	Ernest & Rosina BALL with Ernest, Lily, Abert & Florence BALL and a boarder	Residence (Census) & birth of Florence
Eastville	Robertson Road No 77	1993	Florence Annie BRAKE/BALL	Death
Filton	Conygre Grove 155	2010	Michael James BRAKE	Residence per electoral register
Fishponds (Stapleton)	Snowdon Buildings	1921	Charles COLE	Death
	Stapleton Workhouse Infirmary	1914	Alice COLE (Née WINDOW)	Death
Henbury	Dowdeswell Close No 4	1957	James Charles & Florence Alice (formerly BALL) BRAKE with Andrew Charles BRAKE	Birth of Andrew Charles BRAKE

³⁹ Possibly Somerset Road in Knowle Ward

Location	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Knowle	Bath Road, Kitchener Terrace No. 4	1901	Walter & Lily BELL with Elsie, Harold, Archie BELL & Ethel_Emma Durant COLE	Residence (Census)
Lawrence Hill	Riches Lane No 3	1921	Ernest A & Rosina BALL with Ernest E, Lily, Florrie & Edna BALL	Residence (Census)
Montpelier	Richmond Road No 50	1939	Ernest BALL with Florence & Edna BALL	Residence (1939 register)
Redcliffe	Cathay	1861	William COLE & Eliza Ann CURTIS	residence at marriage.
	Ship Lane, Trotts Cottages No. 2	1881	William & Eliza Ann COLE with Lily E. H., Charles & Florence Mary COLE	Residence (Census)
	Ship Lane No. 2	1888	Elsie Orange Durant BELL	Birth
		1890	William Henry Lewis BELL	Birth & Death
	Ship Lane No.7	1891	Walter Lewis & Elza H. BELL with Elsie O. D. BELL & Harry WHITE (lodger) William COLE with William G. & Emma E. D. COLE	Birth
	Chatterton Square No. unknown	1841	William COLE	Residence (Census)
		1841	Thomas COLE (wife, Orange away on family visit at time of census), Charles & Ann COLE with William COLE	Residence (Census)
	Chatterton Cottage	1844	Henry COLE	Birth
	Chatterton Square No 12	1851	William & Elizabeth (Née HEYWOOD) COLE with (orphaned) Mary Ann COLE and Henry EDWARDS (lodger)	Residence (Census)
	Somerset Street No. 23	1892	Frederick COLE	Birth
		1894	Ernest Window COLE	Birth
	Somerset Street No. 24	1889	Charles & Alice COLE	Residence
		1889	William Charles COLE	Birth
		1890	Alice Ellen COLE	Birth
		1891	Charles & Alice COLE with Alice E. COLE	Residence (Census)
	Thomas Street No. 64	1861	William CURTIS, Eliza CURTIS (wid.) with Eliza & Ann CURTIS James & Jane JEFFERY with 7 children William & Charles COLE (Lodgers)	Residence (Census)

Location	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Southmead	Wilton Close No 43	1933	Irene Iris DUNN	Birth
		1939	Frederick & Maude A. DUNN with Joyce B., Kathleen G. & Irene I. DUNN	Residence (1939 Register)
St. Philip	Church Alley (Lane?) No. 8	1867	John & Ann WINDOW Alice WINDOW	Residence Birth
	Jacob Street	1840	Samuel & Hannah COBLEY Rebecca COBLEY	Residence Baptism
	Bread Street (presume present-day Old Bread Street rather than New Bread Street?)	1872	William & Eliza Ann COLE with William George COLE	Residence at Baptism of William G. COLE
	Unity Place No. 3 (on Unity Street?)	1871	Anne WINDOW with Mary J., Caroline & Alice WINDOW	Residence (Census)
	Kingsland Road Stephen Court No. 1	1921	Ernest & Mary A.V. COLE	Residence (Census)
St James	Eugene Street	1864	Charles COLE & Rebecca COBLEY	Residence at time of Marriage
St Philip's Marsh	Aberdeen Street No 31	1891	John & Hannah M. (née STONE) JONES with Florence L., William J., Sarah A. and James S. JONES, James BRAKE (Nephew) and Mary LLEWELLYN (Aunt) and 2 boarders	Residence (Census)
Temple (Holy Cross)	Great Avon Street No 4 (identify Great Avon Street with Avon Street)	1881	John & Ann (formerly WINDOW, née Williams) MURPHY with Alice WINDOW	Residence (Census)
	Avon Street No. 9	1848	Henry COLE	Death
	Avon Street, Jones Court, No 2	1889	James Brake	Birth
	Little Avon Street No. 3	1901	Charles & Alice COLE with William C., Alice, Fred, Ernest, Frank, & Infant COLE	Residence (Census)
	Temple Street No 114	1851	Thomas & Orange COLE with William & Charles COLE	Residence (Census)
	Tower Terrace, No 2	1911	Charles & Alice COLE with William, Alice. Frederick, Ernest, John & Frank COLE	Residence (Census)
	Tower Street, No 7	1919	Alice Ellen COLE	Residence (per Pension Card of Frank COLE, KIA)

Place	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Temple (Holy Cross) (Contd.)	Tower Street, No 24	1914	Charles COLE	Residence (per Death Certificate of late wife, Alice)
Totterdown	Bath Road, Beaufoy Terrace No 6	1881	Abraham John BELL. Boot & Shoe Maker	Residence (Census)
		1 886		Wright's Directory 1886
	Richmond Street No 36	1939	Frederick & Flossie COLE with Reginald Charles & Alfred Frederick COLE	1939 register
	Wells Road	1886	Walter Lewis BELL Shoe maker	Wright's Directory 1886
Withywood	Fouracres No 78	1980	Alice Ellen BRAKE (née COLE)	Death
Devon Sheepwash (Shipwash)		1777	Orange Innocent DURANT	Baptism
Thelbridge		1738	Francis COLE & Agnes PRIDHAM	Marriage
East Worlington		1777	William COLE	Baptism
West Worlington		1772	Thomas COLE	Baptism & Burial
		1773	John COLE	Baptism
		1780	Thomas COLE	Baptism
Witheridge		1755	Thomas COLE Numerous other COLE family entries appear in the Witheridge records	Baptism
Gloucestershire Amberly		1845	Henry Sharp	Baptism
Rodborough	Swells Hill	1851	Henry Sharp	Residence (Census)
Westerleigh		1843	Eliza Ann Curtis	Birth
Hampshire Alverstoke		1812	Thomas COLE & Orange Innocent DURANT	Marriage
	Forton	1813	Orange Durrant COLE	Birth
Middlesex St. Pancras:	Cromer Street	1847	Charles & Ann Thomas COLE with Mary Ann COLE	Residence at baptism of Mary Ann COLE
	Speedy Place No. 20	1847	Charles & Ann Thomas COLE with Mary Ann COLE	Residence at birth of Mary Ann COLE

Place	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Somerset Bridgwater		1817	Thomas & Mary BABB with Ann Thomas BABB	Residence at baptism of Ann Thomas BABB
South Bruham (Brewham)	Bruham Street	1881	William Henry Lewis BELL	Visitor at time of baptism
		1881	Henry & Mary Ann SHARP (née COLE)	Residence (Census)
Bruton		1891	Henry & Mary Ann SHARP (née COLE)	Residence (Census)
Compton Dundon, Castlebrook	Police Station	1901	Henry & Mary Ann SHARP (née COLE)	Residence (Census)
Sussex Rogate, Haben/Habin		1841	George & Sarah (Sally) (née DURANT), GARDENER with Sally. Orange & Mary GARDENER & Orange COLE (visitor)	Residence (Census)
Wiltshire Swindon:	Milton Road. No 21 St, Mark's Mission House	1911	Ethel Emma Durant COLE	Servant (Census)
	Regent's Circus No. 6	1911	Walter & Lily (née COLE) BELL with Elsie, Harold, Archie, Lily & Harold BELL & Florence CARPENTER (lodger)	Residence (Census)
	Regent's Circus No. 12	1906	Walter & Lily (née COLE) BELL with family inc. Harry Ivor Leslie BELL	Residence at birth of son

The next table shows the places identified where my great grand uncle and aunt Charles and Alice COLE and their descendants lived.

Location	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Bristol Bedminster	6 Greendale Road	1997	Alfred (Charles) Frederick COLE	Residence at time of death
	22 Hereford Street	1921	Lilian May STENNER	Birth
	104 Lynton Road	1928	John James COLE	Death
	12 Parson Street	1959	James & Alice Ellen BRAKE	Residence
			Frederick COLE	Death
	36 Richmond Street	1939	Samuel & Elizabeth BRAYWOOD with Mabel G. & Ronald E. BRAYWOOD plus Frederick & Florie COLE with Reginald C., Alfred E. COLE and two others.	Residence (1959 Register)
	St John's Lane, Colour Works	1920	James Charles BRAKE and	Birth
		1921	Christopher Roy BRAKE	Birth
	23 Somerset Street	1894	Ernest Window COLE	Birth
	24 Somerset Street	1889	William Charles COLE	Birth
		1899	Frank COLE	Birth
		1890	Alice Ellen COLE	Birth
		1892	Frederick COLE	Birth
	28 Stafford Street	1939	James & Alice BRAKE with family	Residence (1939 Register)
Bedminster Down	97 Weare Street	1959	Frederick COLE	Residence at time of death
	16 York Street ⁴⁰	1928	Alfred (Charles) Frederick COLE	Birth
Bedminster Down	33 Eastlyn Road	1983	Reginald Charles Alfred COLE	Residence at time of death
Bishopsworth	12 Conygree, Eastridge Drive, Highridge	2004	Irene Iris COLE (née DUNN)	Residence at time of death
St. Philips	Kingsland Rd, 1 Stephen Court	1924	Ernest Philip Charles COLE	Birth

⁴⁰ There were two *York Streets* in Bedminster/South Bristol. One ran to the south of *Feeder Road* from *Small Street* into what is now *Victoria Terrace*. The other ran eastward from *Kingsland Road* parallel to the railway tracks to join *Princess Street*. It is replaced by a road now called *Barton Manor*. Currently I have no indication of which was Alfred's birthplace.

Location	Address	Date	Resident (s)	Event
Temple	Avon Street, Jones Court No. 2	1889	James BRAKE	Birth
	3 Little Avon Street	1901	Charles & Alice COLE with William, Alice. Frank, Ernest, Fred & boy 2dy.	Residence (Census)
		1901	John James COLE	Birth
	34 Church Street	1901	Alfred & Elizabeth WINSTONE with James, Charles, Emma & James BRAKE plus a lodger	Residence (Census)
	Spring Street, 35 Victoria Place	1920	Reginald Charles Alfred COLE	Birth
	2 Tower Terrace	1911	Charles & Alice COLE with William, Alice, Frederick, Ernest, John & Frank.	Residence (Census)
	24 & 7 Tower Street	1911-1914	Charles & Alice COLE with family	Residence
Easton	14 Park Street	1911	Florence Annie BALL	Birth
Eastville	77 Robertson Road	1993	Florence Annie BRAKE/BALL	Residence at time of death
Knowle West	11 Lurgan Walk	1939	Ernest Window & Mary Ann Victoriaa COLE with Ernest Philip COLE	Residence (1939 register)
		1963	Ernest Window COLE	Death
	25 Ruthven Road, Filwood Park	1981	Mary Ann Victoria COLE	Residence at time of death
Redcliff (today Lawrence Hill Ward)	31 Aberdeen Street	1891	John & Hanna Maria JONES with James BRAKE	Residence (Census)
Southmead	43 Wilton Close	1933	Irene Iris DUNN	Birth
Temple Back	5 Harris Yard	1897	Mary Ann Victoria SMITH	Birth
Windmill Hill	154 Bath Road	1950	Valerie Christine BRAKE	Birth
Withywood	78 Fouracres	1980	Alice BRAKE	Death
Bath	Trafalgar Tavern, Calton Road	1922	Joyce Victoria DANIELS	Birth

Maps

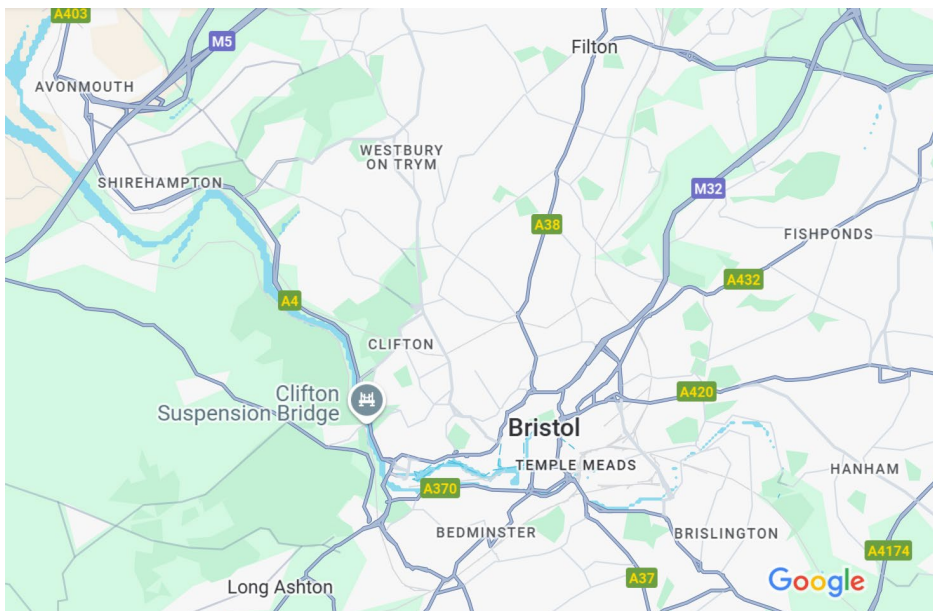
The root source of all the mapping referred to in these notes will be the *Ordnance Survey of GB*. However, several derivative on-line sources have been used. Apart from *GoogleMaps* and *Microsoft* the chief sources include the *National Library of Scotland* and *Know your Place* for historic data together with *Mapit* and *OpenStreetMap* for contemporary information.



Southern England (MS Autoroute)

Bristol

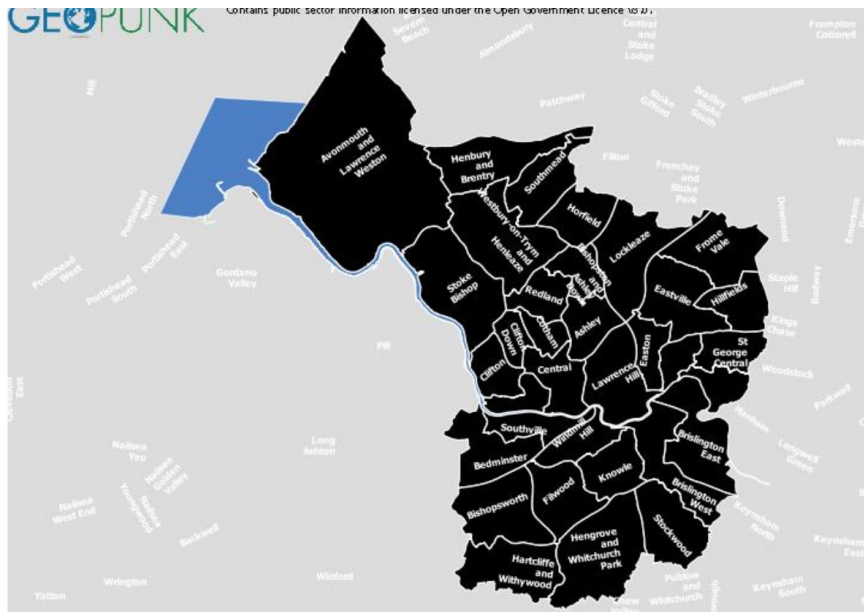
Bristol has changed considerably since many of the events described here so the locations outlined below are referenced in terms of the historic ecclesiastical parishes and the modern electoral wards. The former are taken as defined in *Know Your Place* and the latter can be verified from *Mapit* and, so far as extant residential locations are concerned, from the *Bristol City Council website*.



Bristol (Google maps)

Ship Shape

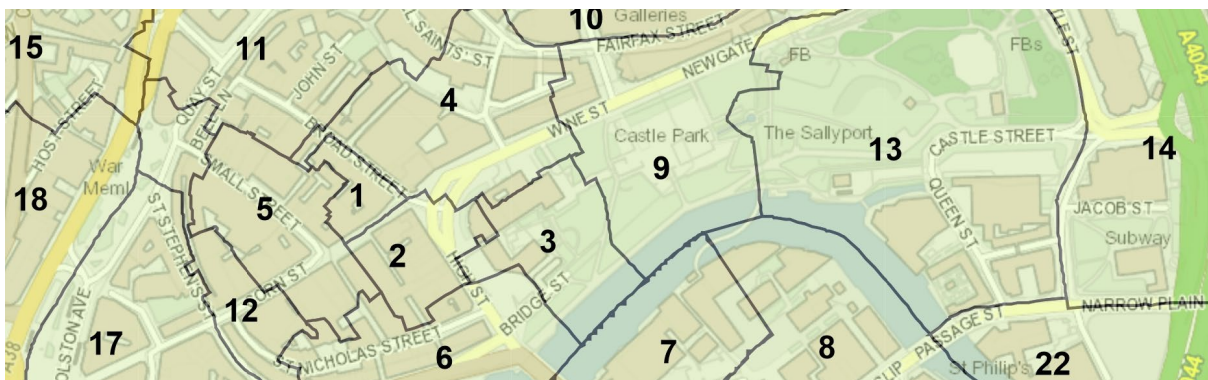
Electoral Wards



Bristol City Wards

Historical Parishes

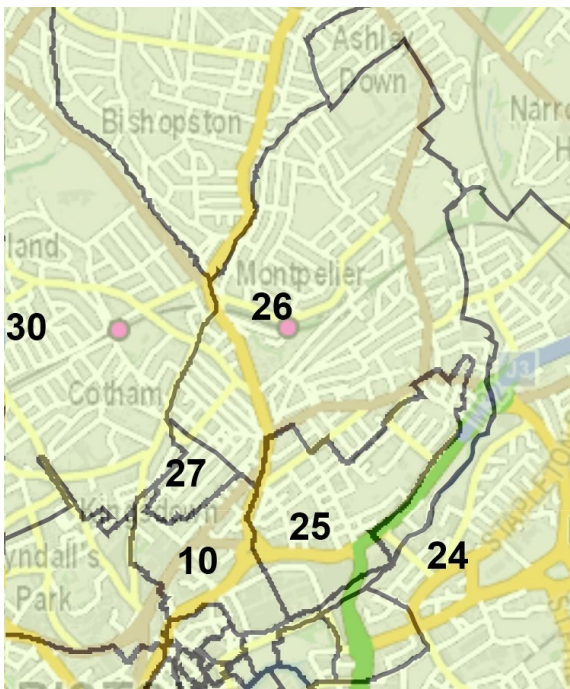
These maps (not to scale) show the historical Bristol parish boundaries as charted in *Know your Place*. The numbering is purely for reference in the key to these notes.



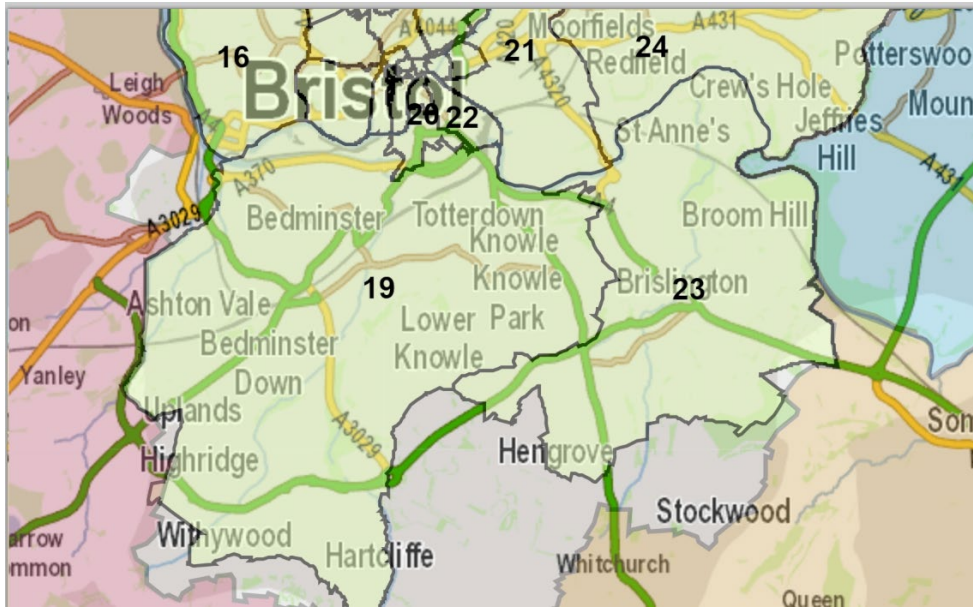
Inner Parishes



Northern Parishes



"Out" parishes



Southern Parishes

Historic Parishes key

1	St. Ewen
2	All Saints
3	St. Mary-le-Port
4	Christ Church
5	St. Werburgh
6	St. Nicholas
7	St. Thomas
8	Temple
9	St. Peter
10	St. James
11	St. John
12	St. Leonard
13	Castle Precicts
14	St Philip & St Jacob
15	St Michael
16	Clifton
17	St. Stephen
18	St. Augustine the Less
19	Bedminster
20	Redcliffe
21	St. Philip
22	Temple
23	Brislington
24	St. George
25	St. Paul
26	Outparish of St. Paul
27	Outparish of St. James
28	Stapleton
29	Horfield
30	Westbury-on-Trym
31	Henbury
32	Shirehampton

Residential locations within Parish and Ward

Historic Parish	Electoral Ward	Road/Street	District
Bedminster	Central	Cathay ⁴¹	Redcliffe
		Somerset Street ⁴²	Redcliffe
	Hartcliffe & Withywood	Fouracres, Withywood	
	Knowle	Somerset Road	Arnos Vale
	Southville	Bath Road ⁴³	
		Coronation Road	
		King Street ⁴⁴	
		Philip Street	
		Stafford Street	
		Victoria Grove	
		Weare Street (formerly)	
		York Road	
	Windmill Hill	Beaufoy Terrace ⁴⁵	
		Bath Road	
		Newport Street	
		New Walls Road inc. Kitchener Terrace	Totterdown
		Parson Street	
		Richmond Street	
		St John's Lane	Colour Works
Bedminster Down	Bishopsworth	Eastlyn Road	
Brislington	Brislington West	Sandy Park Road	
		Sandholme Road	"New Brislington"
Redcliffe	Central	Cathay ⁴⁶	Redcliff
		Chatterton Square	Redcliff
		(St) Thomas Street	Redcliff
		Ship Lane inc. Trott's Cottages	Redcliff ⁴⁷

⁴¹ Openstreet maps shows Cathay as a pedestrian way approximately aligned to the 19thC street of the same name. Other sources apply the name loosely to the area around.

⁴² Somerset Street formed a peninsular of historic Bedminster with Redcliffe on three sides.

⁴³ Bath Road crosses the modern wards of Southville, Windmill Hill and Knowle.

⁴⁴ King Street formerly ran from New Queen Street to Spring Street between and parallel to Princess Street

⁴⁵ The site formerly Beaufoy Terrace is now a park between Angers Road and County Street.

⁴⁶ Cathay exists now as a footpath roughly aligned to the original street of the same name.

⁴⁷ Ship Lane lies on the border between Redcliffe and historic Bedminster.

Historic Parish	Electoral Ward	Road/Street	District
St Philip & St Jacob	Central	Church Alley(/Lane?) ⁴⁸	Temple Way
	Lawrence Hill	Jacob Street ⁴⁹	Cabot/Temple Quay
		Unity Place & Street ⁵⁰	
St. George	Easton	Robertson Road	
St. James	Central	Eugene Street ⁵¹	
St. Philip's	Lawrence Hill	Aberdeen Street ⁵²	Philip's Marsh
		Baptist Mills	Lawrence Hill
		(Old) Bread Street	Temple Quay
		Kingsland Road inc. Stephen Court	
		Riches Lane ⁵³	
St. Werburgh		Baptist Mills	
Southmead	Southmead	Wilton Close	Southmead
Stapleton	Frome Vale	Snowdon Buildings; Manor Road/Blackberry Hill	Fishponds
Temple	Lawrence Hill	(Great & Little) Avon St. ⁵⁴ and Jones Court	Temple Way
	Central	Chatterton Square	
		Temple Street ⁵⁵	
		Tower Street ⁵⁶	
Westbury-on-Trym	Henbury & Brentry	Dowdeswell Close	
_____	South Gloucestershire	Conygre Grove	Filton

⁴⁸ Church Alley or Lane would now lay beneath Temple Way adjacent to P&J (Central Church)

⁴⁹ Jacob Street today is bisected by Temple Way.

⁵⁰ Unity Place consisted of three dwellings and was situated off Unity Street, on the north side, opposite Broad Plain.

⁵¹ Not to be confused with the Eugene Street that connects Little George Street and Little Avon Street and lies a little way north of Lawford's Gate.

⁵² Aberdeen Street formerly ran between Victoria Street (now called Albert Crescent) and Camwall Street

⁵³ Riches Lane lay in the vicinity of the site currently occupied by Kings Marsh House, to the south east of the Lawrence Hill roundabout,

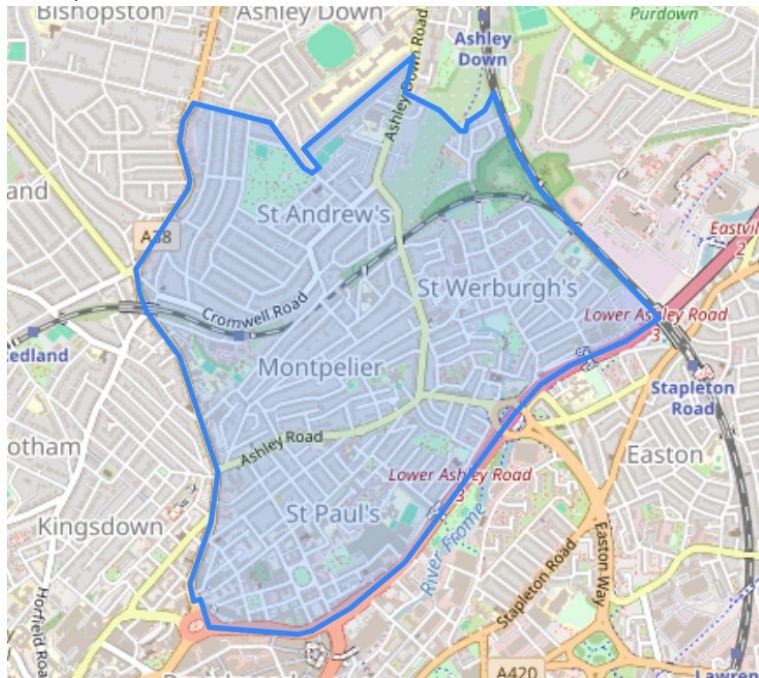
⁵⁴ The former Avon Streets (Temple), both Great and Little, are now buried beneath Temple Way, just to the north of the Temple Circus Gyratory. Not to be confused with the extant Avon Street (St Philip's) to the north of the river. Jones Court was squeezed in, off the East of (Great) Avon Street, between Tower Street and Rose Street. The present day Temple Way is also the boundary between Central and Lawrence Hill wards,

⁵⁵ Temple Street formerly ran the entire way from Bath Street in the north to Portwall Lane in the South and is still bisected by Victoria Street. No 114 probably lay in the northern portion.

⁵⁶ Tower Terrace (or Tower Street Terrace) was a spur to the north of Tower Street

Maps of family residences, ordered by Electoral Ward

Ashley ward



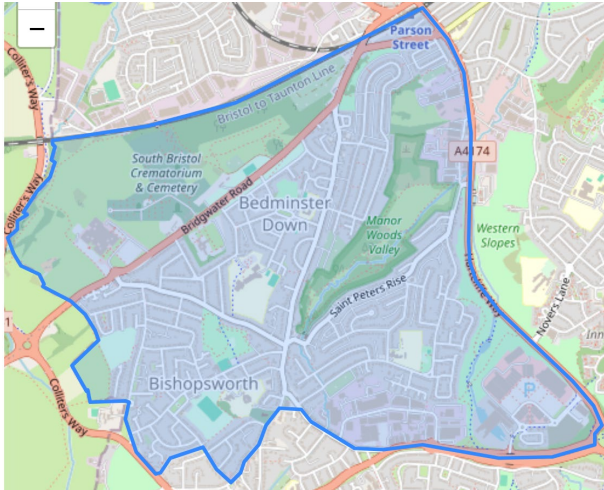
Ashley Ward (Mapit)

Richmond Road



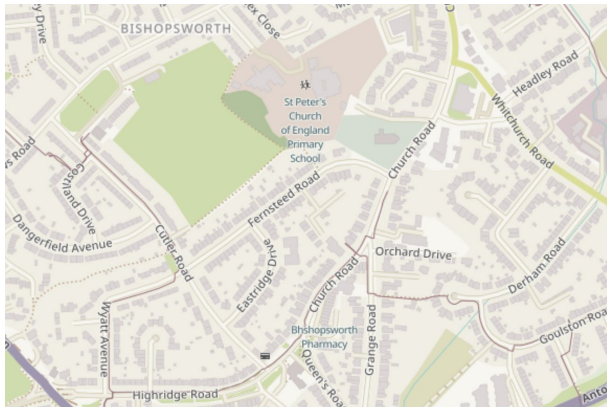
Richmond Road Montpelier (Open Street Maps)

Bishopsworth Ward



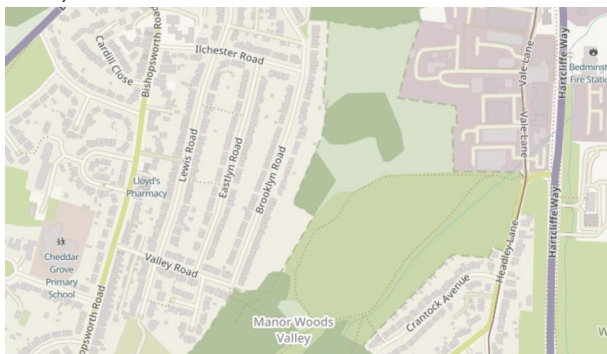
Bishopsworth Ward (Mapit)

Eastridge Drive



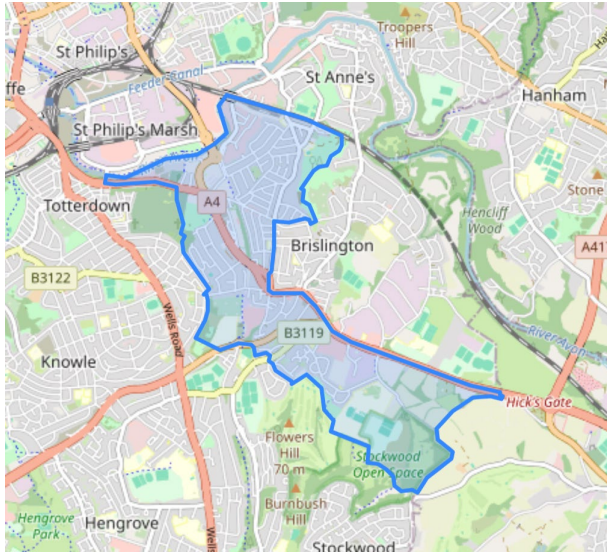
Eastridge Drive, Highridge (Open Street Maps)

Eastlyn Road



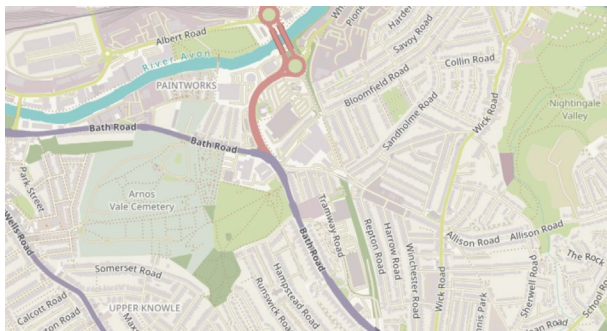
Eastlyn Road, Bedminster Down (Open Street Maps)

Brislington West Ward



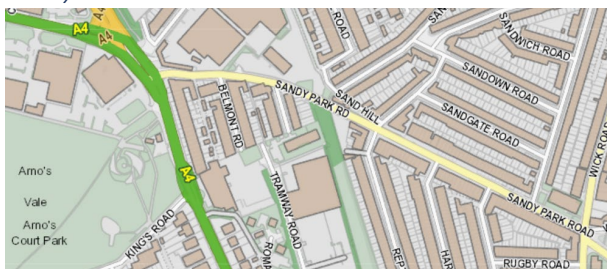
Brislington West Ward (Mapit UK)

Sandholme Road



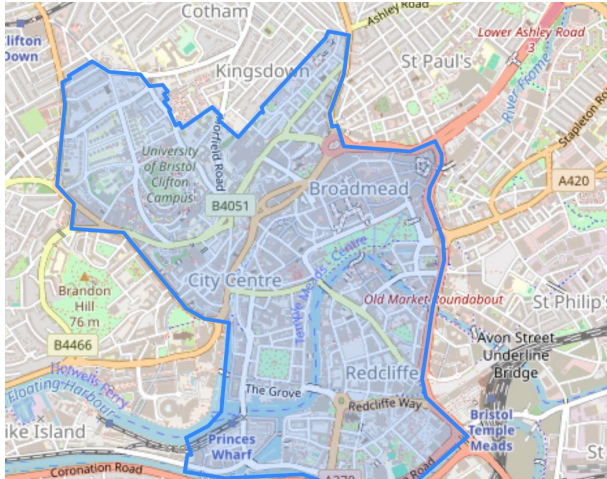
Sandholme Road (Open Street Maps)

Sandy Park Road



Sandy Park Road today (Know Your Place)

Central Ward



Bristol Central Ward (Mapit UK)

Kingsdown

The lower slopes of kingsdown fall into Central rather than Cotham Ward which covers the higher ground.

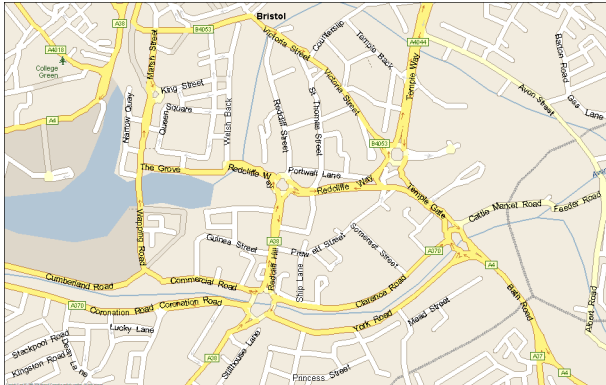
Eugene Street



Eugene Street & St. James Church (Know Your Place)

Showing Eugene Street (top L to the north of Marlborough Street) and St James Priory Church (bottom R. on Whitson Street)

Redcliffe



Redcliff & district (MS Autoroute)

Avon & Tower Streets



Avon & Tower Streets (Know Your Place)

Avon and Little Avon Streets making a junction with Tower Street before post-war redevelopment. The area is now beneath Temple Way.

Tower Terrace



Tower Terrace (OS 1885Bristol LXXVI.1.1)

Cathay & Ship Lane



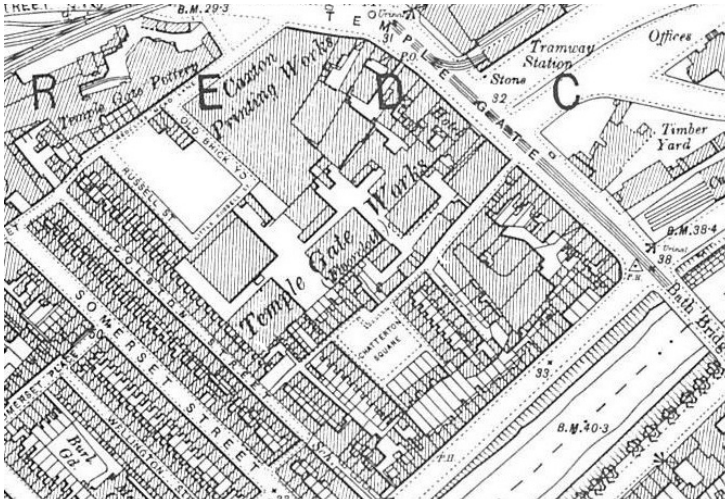
Cathay & Ship Lane (Know Your Place)

Ship Lane can be seen to the west of Mayor Street. Cathay joins the Lane at its northern end



Cathay today (Mapit)

Chatterton Square



Chatterton Square (Godfrey Maps OS 1902)

Chatterton Square to the east of Somerset Street and a stone's throw from Temple Meads Station.

Church Street



Church Street formerly (Know your Place)



Church Street today (Know Your Place)

Church street today is shown as following a similar path its pre-war self.

Somerset Street

*Somerset Street today (Know Your Place)**Somerset Street (Know Your Place)*

Temple Street



Temple Street (OS 6" 1888-1915 NLS)

Seen crossing Victoria Street.



Temple Street today (Know Your Place)

Thomas Street

*St Thomas Street today (Know Your Place)**Thomas Street (Know Your Place)*

Church Lane

*Church Lane or Alley? (Know Your Place)*

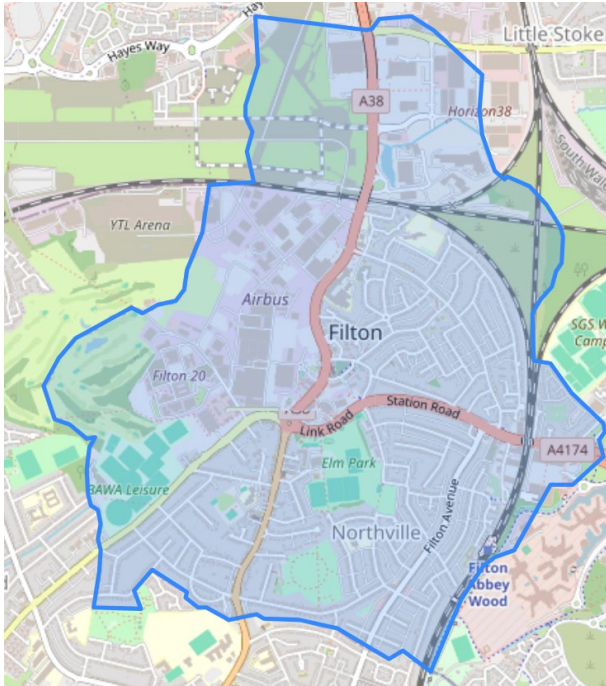
Now somewhere beneath Temple Way on the border with Lawrence Hill Ward.

Harris's Yard

*Former Harris's Yard (Know Your Place)*

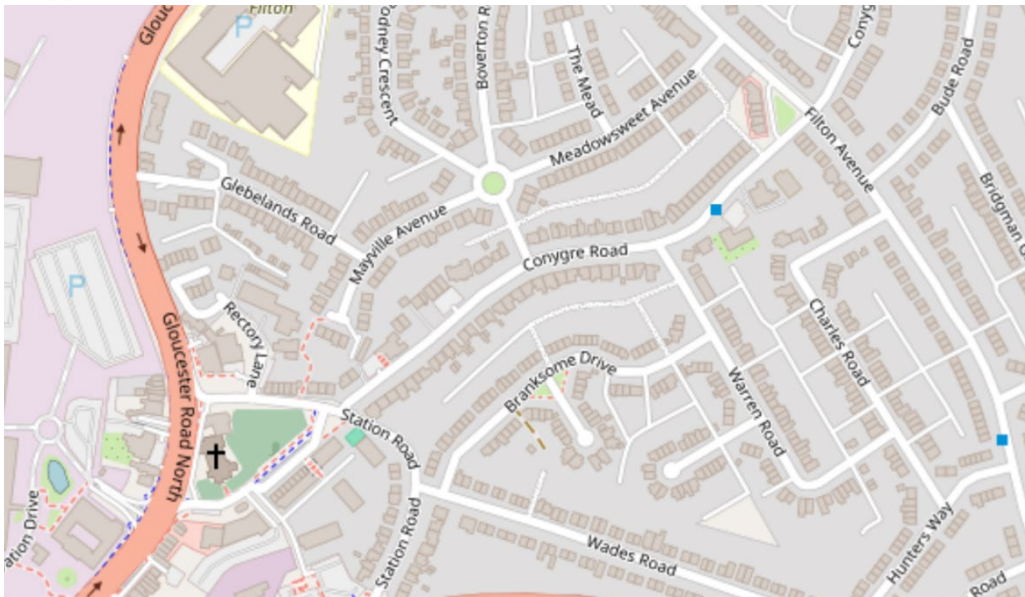
Showing the former position of Harris's Yard, now adjacent to Temple Way beneath Temple Back East.

Filton (S. Glos)



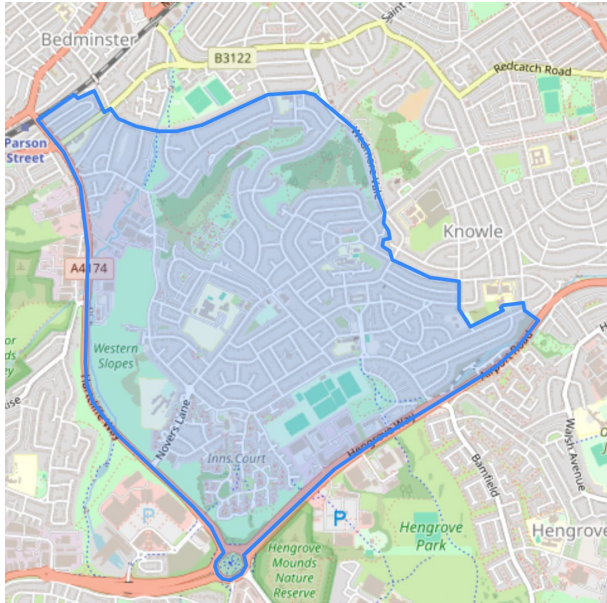
Filton, South Gloucestershire (Mapit)

Conygre Road



Conygre Road, Filton (Open Street maps)

Filwood ward



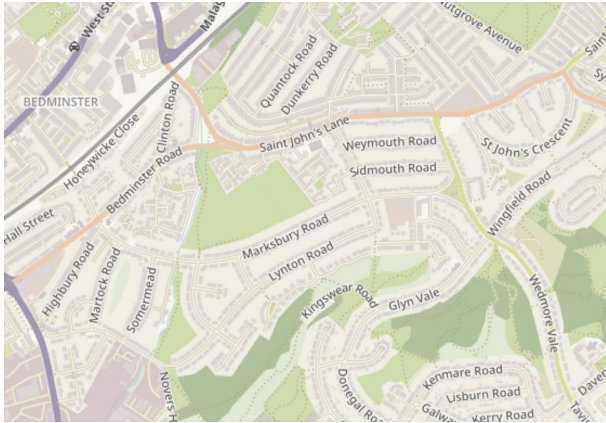
Filwood Ward (Mapit)

Lurgan Walk



Lurgan Walk, Knowle West Filwood (Know your Place)

Lynton Road



Lynton Road (Open Street Maps)

Parson Street

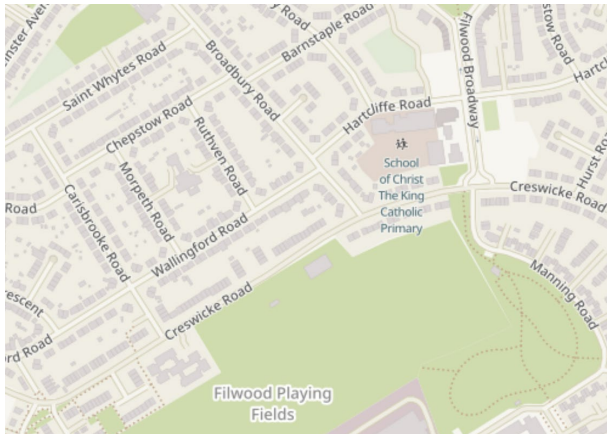


Parson Street today (Know Your Place)



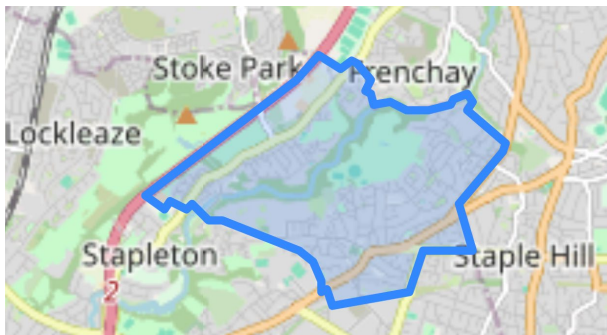
12 Parson Street (OS 1952 PLAN ST 5770 N E)

Ruthven Road



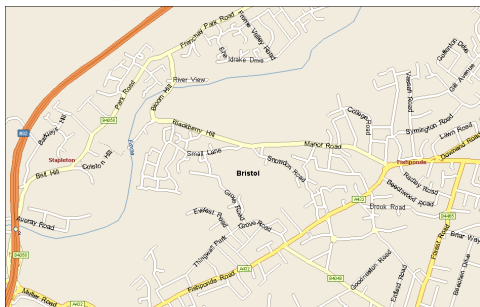
Ruthven Road (Open Street Maps)

Frome Vale Ward



Frome Vale Ward (Mapit)

Blackberry Hill

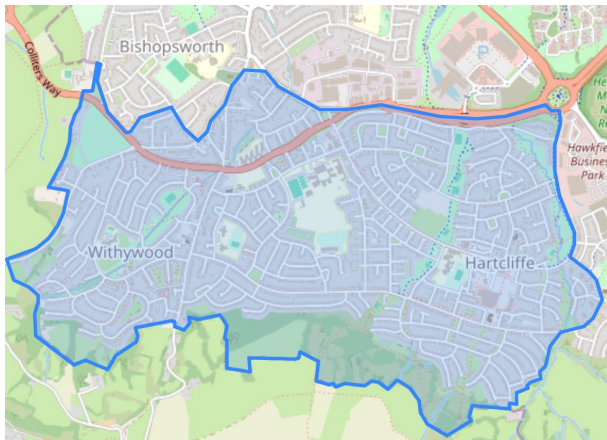


Blackberry Hill, Manor & Snowdon Roads. Fishponds, Stapleton (MS Autoroute)



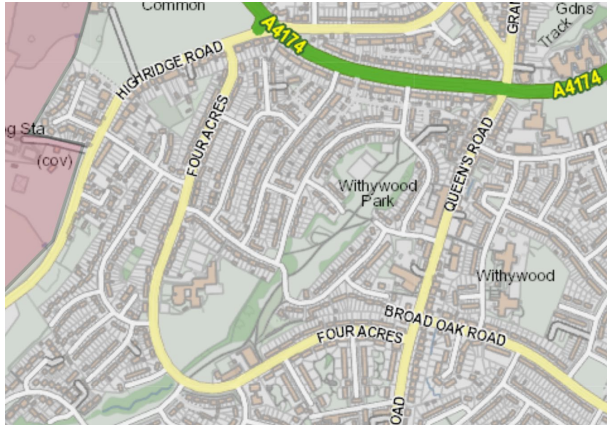
Stapleton Workhouse 1901 (www.workhouses.org.uk/Bristol/)

Hartcliff & Withywood Ward



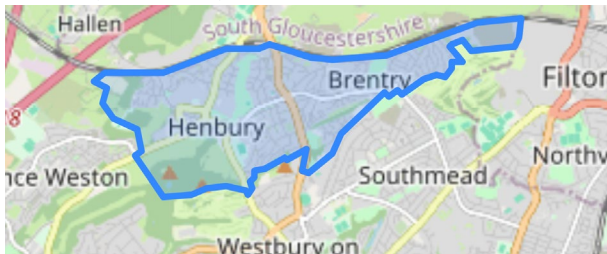
Hartcliff & Withywood Ward (Mapit)

Fouracres



Four Acres Withywood (Know Your Place)

Henbury & Brentry Ward



Henbury & Brentry Ward (Mapit)

Dowdeswell Close



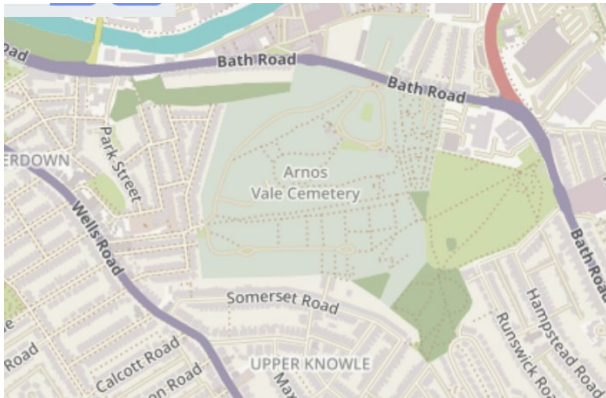
Dowdeswell Close, Henbury (Google Maps)

Knowle Ward



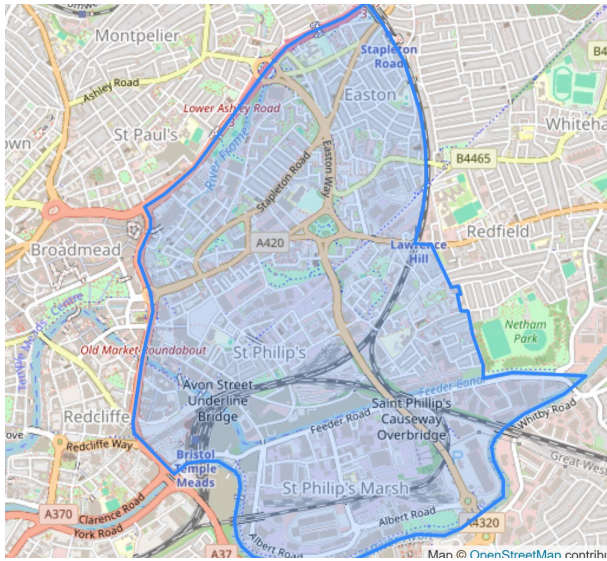
Knowle Ward (Mapit UK)

Somerset Road



Somerset Road, Upper Knowle (Open Street Maps)

Lawrence Hill Ward



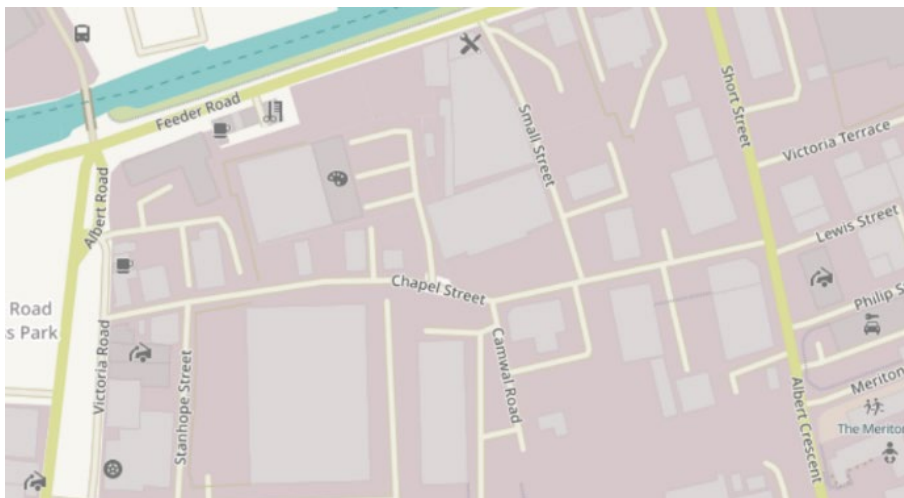
Lawrence Hill Ward (Mapit UK)

Aberdeen Street



Aberdeen Street (OS LXX VI.I 1886 Nat Li 1 Nat Lib Scot)

Formerly sited near the present day Camwal Road,



Camwal Road Today (Open Street Maps)

Industrial units occupy the former site of Aberdeen Street.

Baptist Mills



Baptist Mills today (Open Street Maps)



Baptist Mills 1890 (Bristol as it Was)

Jacob Street



Jacob, Old Broad & Unity Streets (Godfrey Maps OS 1902)

Kingsland Road



Kingsland Road (Know Your Place)

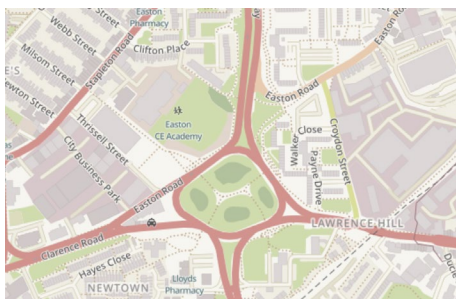
Park Street



Park Street (NLS OS Gloucestershire LXX. 13 1882)

Showing Park Street running south from Easton Road, which is un-named on this extract, to Park Row. This Park Street no longer exists but the location falls within the modern Lawrence Hill Ward rather than the Easton Ward.

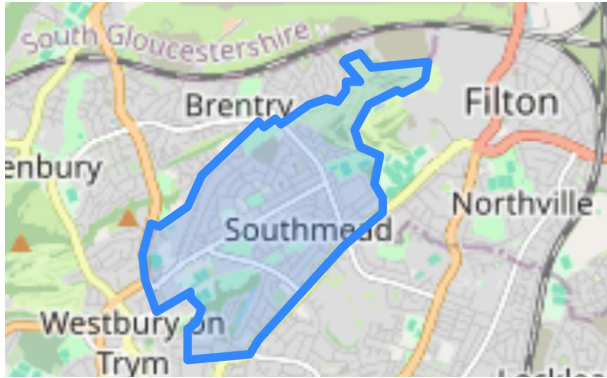
Lawrence Hill Roundabout



Lawrence Hill Roundabout (Open Street Maps)

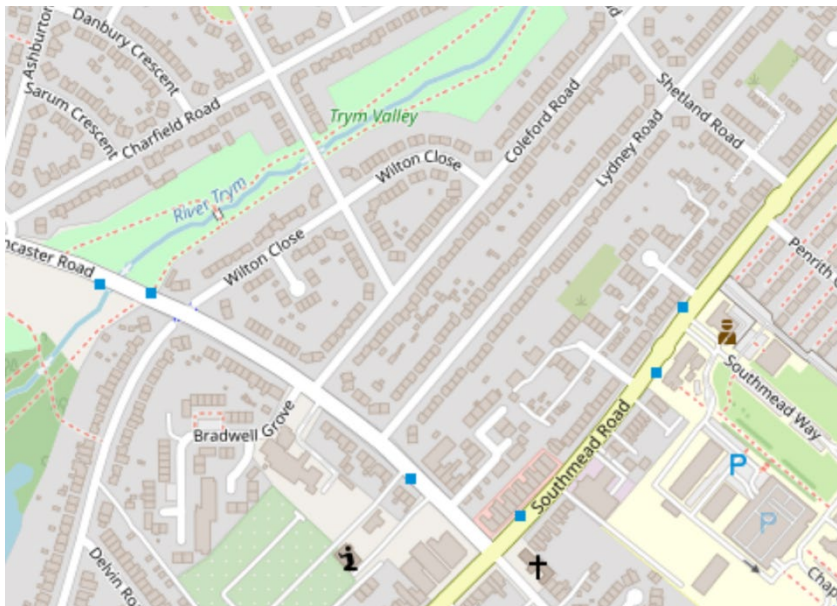
Showing the same area today, note Croydon Street in both maps but Park Street is no more.

Southmead Ward



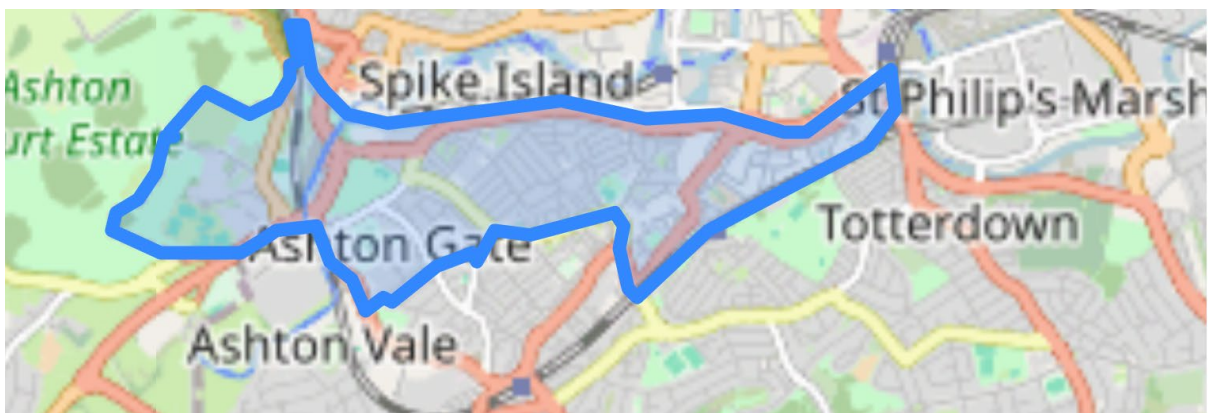
Southmead Ward (Mapit)

Wilton Close



Wilton Close, Southmead (Open Street Map)

Southville Ward



Southville Ward (Mapit)

Coronation Road



A370 Coronation Road (Open Street Maps)

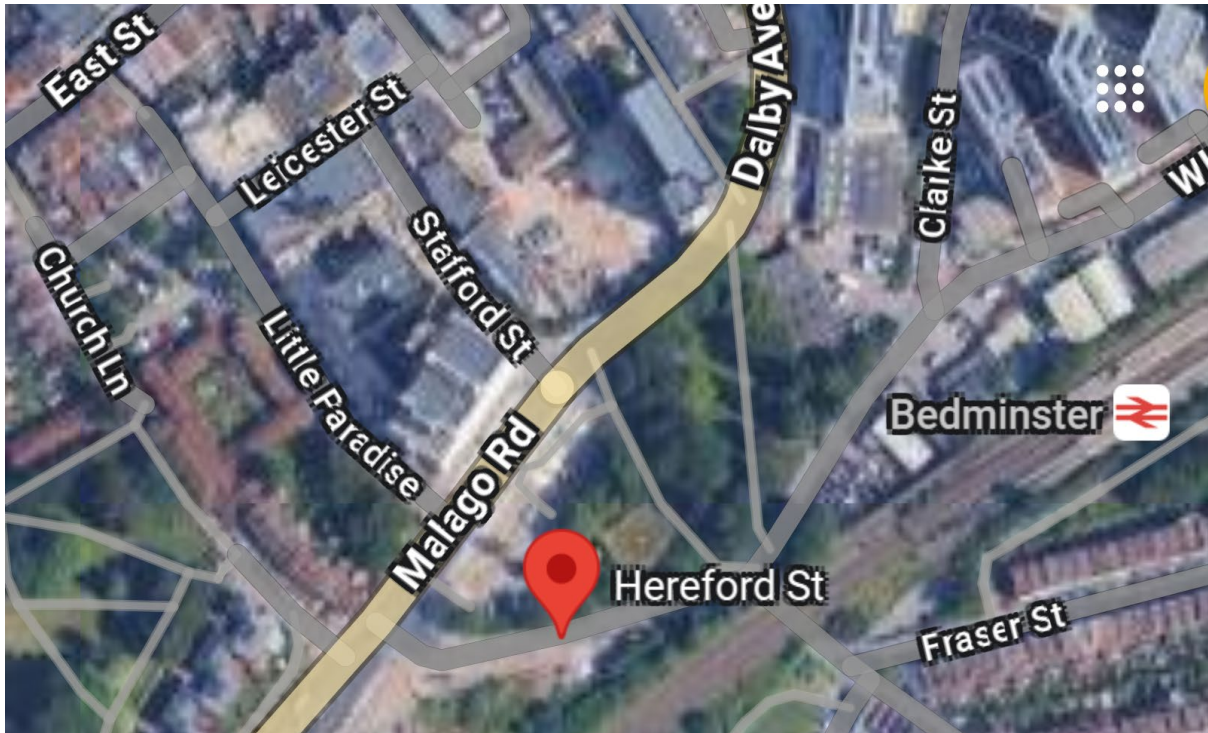
Wellington Terrace



Wellington Terrace, Coronation Road (OS LXXV.4.15 NLS)

Wellington Terrace, formerly sited to the west of New Charlotte Street.

Hereford Street



Hereford Street (Google Maps)

Hereford Street, now reduced to little more than a car park.

King Street



King Street, Southville (OS Bristol, Gloucestershire LXXV.4.20 1885, Nat Lib Scot)

Shows the former King Street to the south of Princess Street

Philip Street



Philip St. today (Know your Place)



Philip Street c 1880 (Know Your Place)

Stafford Street

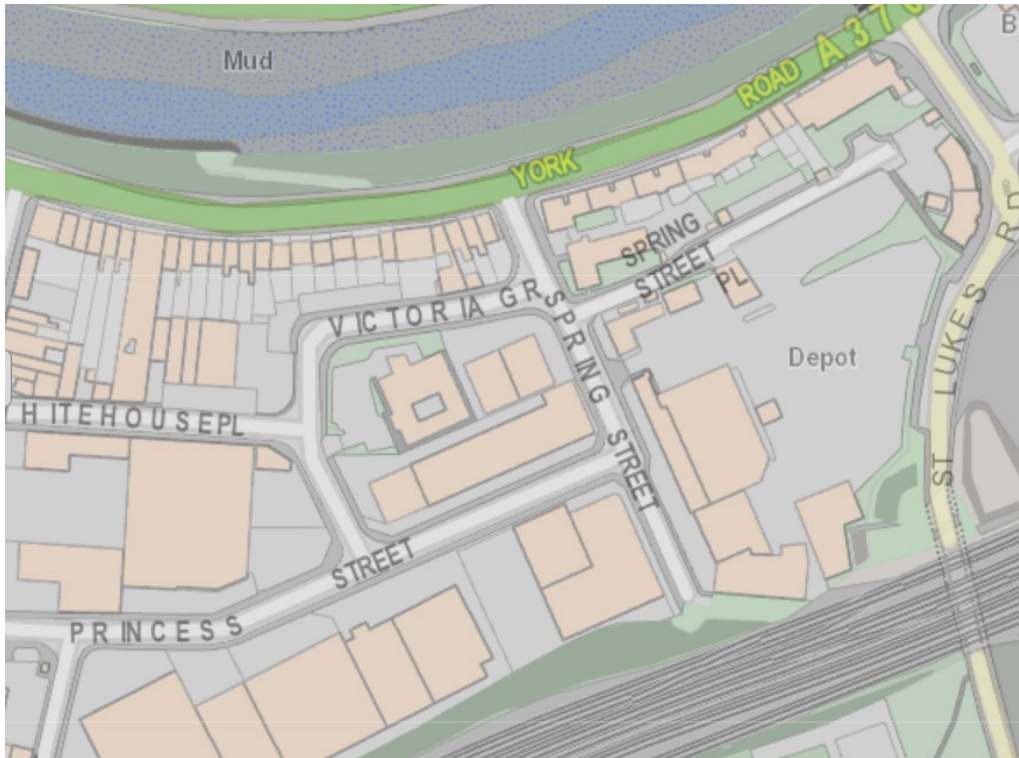


Stafford Street today (Google maps)



Stafford Street (OS LXXV.NE 1887 Nat Lib Scot)

Spring Street & Victoria Grove/Place



Spring Street today (Know Your Place)



Victoria Place, Spring Street (Nat Lib Scot)

Weare Street

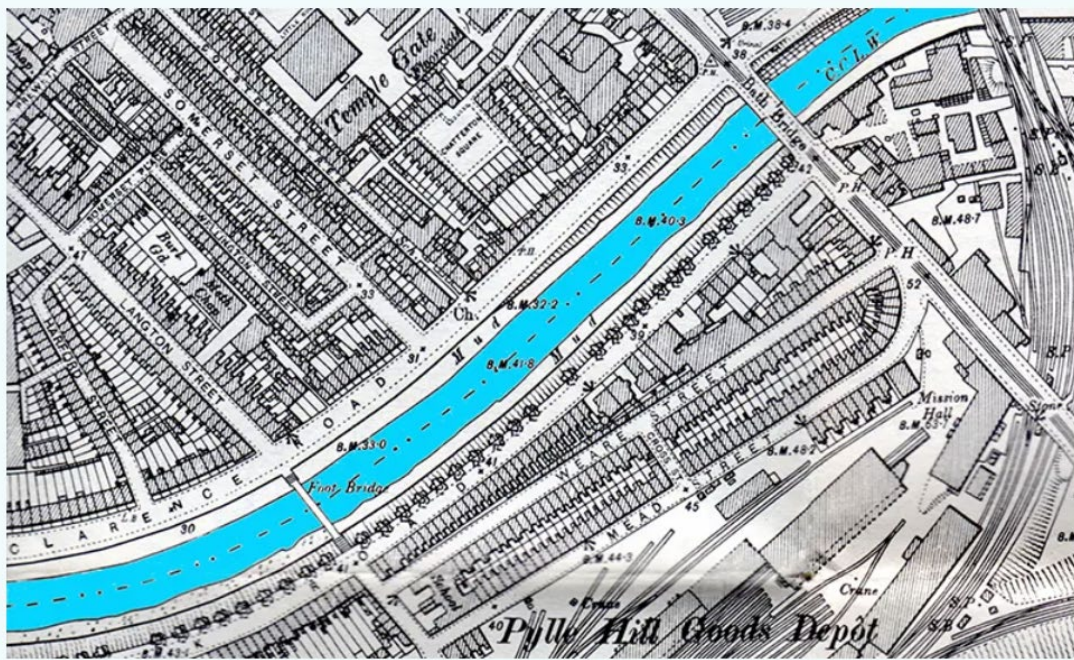


Image from 1902 Ordnance Survey map, reprint by Alan Godfrey Maps

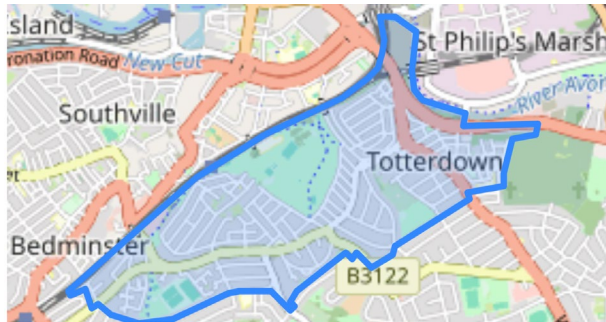
Weare St 1902 (Ray's Miscellany)

York Road



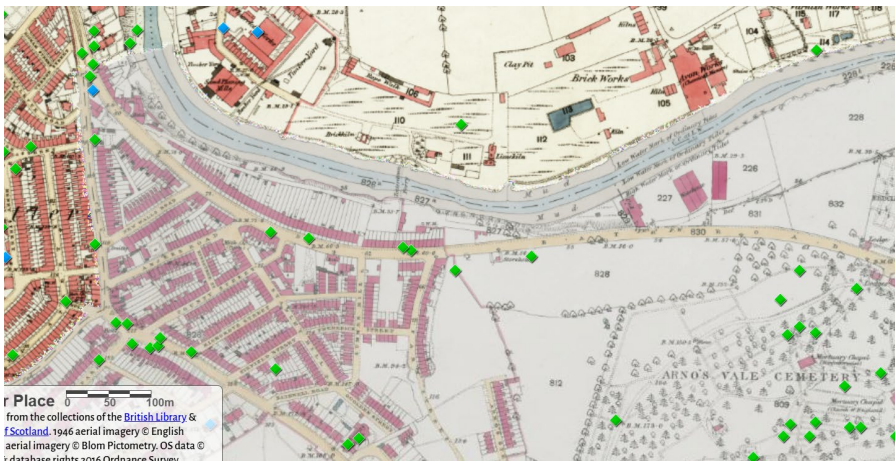
York Road, New Cut (Open street Maps) 1

Windmill Hill Ward



Windmill Hill Ward (Mapit)

Bath Road



Bath Road Totterdown (Know Your Place)

Kitchener Terrace, Bath Road



Kitchener Terrace, Bath Road (Know Your Place)

Kindly identified to me by Peter Read of the Knowle and Totterdown Local History Society

Beaufoy Terrace Bath Road



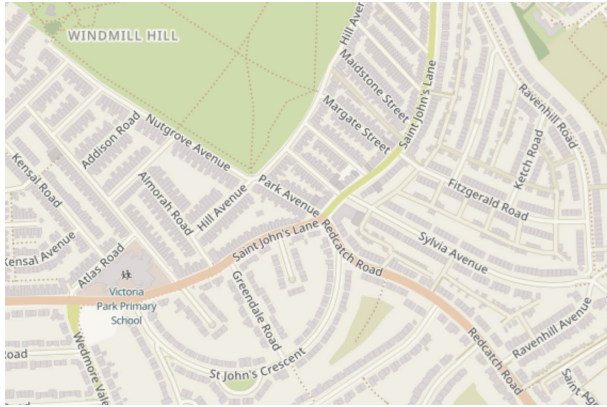
Beaufoy Terrace, Bath Road 1884 (Nat Lib Scot- OS Bristol LXXVI.1.17)

Former site of Beaufoy Terrace, also showing Cromwell Terrace on New Walls Road, see below.



Parkland superseding Beaufoy Terrace (Open Street Maps)

Greendale Road



Greendale Road, Bedminster (Open Street Map)

Greendale Road running south from St John's Lane, Victoria Park to the north.

Newport Street



Newport Street, today (Know Your Place)

Newport Street running up to Victoria Park, Windmill Hill. A stone's throw from Greendale Road.



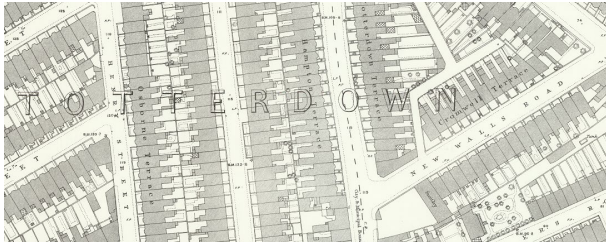
Newport Street 1900s (Streetlist.co)

New Walls Road



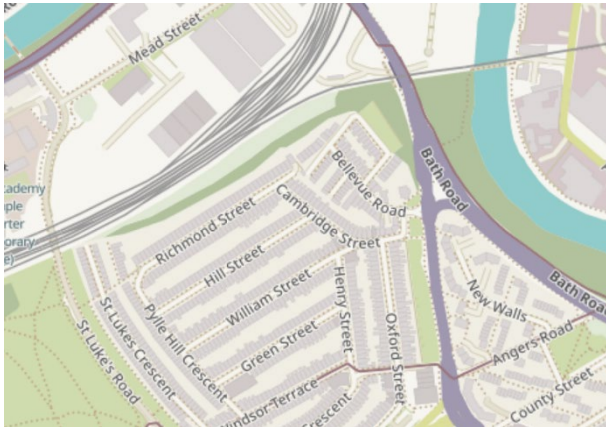
New Walls Road c 1880 (Know Your Place)

Cromwell Terrace, New Walls Road



Cromwell Terrace 1884 (OS LXXVI.1.17 NLS)

Richmond Street



Richmond Street. Totterdown (Open Street Maps)

St. John's Lane



St John's Lane, Cemetery & Malago Works today (Know your Place)



Malago Vale Colour Works and St John's Cemetery formerly (Know Your Place)

See the Locations tabulation above regarding Winford Cottage and the Colour Works. Note the two cottages shown by the railway tracks, separated from the Works by the Malago river.

Devon

Sheepwash



Sheepwash (Nat Lib Scot)

Thelbridge



Thelbridge (Nat Lib Scot)

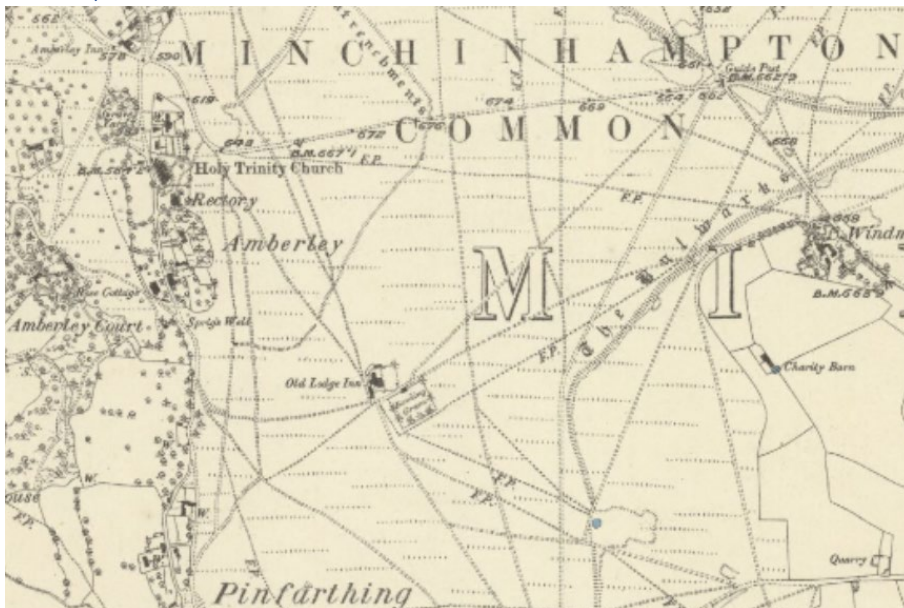
Worlington & Witheridge



East & West Worlington, Witheridge (Nat Lib Scot)

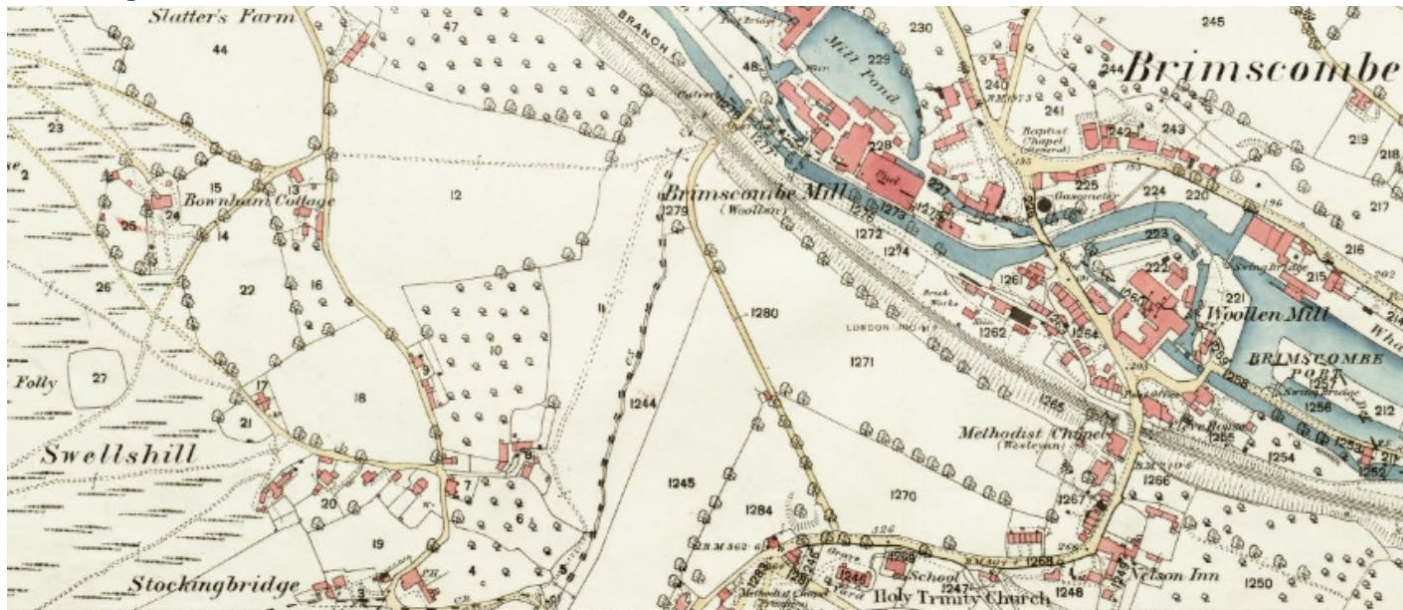
Gloucestershire

Amberley



Amberley (OS 1883 Gloucestershire XL IX SE Nat Lib Scot)

Rodborough



Swellshill, Brimscombe (OS 1884 Gloucestershire XL IX 8 Nat Lib Scot)

Swellshill, Brimscombe, to the south east of Rodborough.

Westerleigh



Westerleigh (Nat Lib Scot)

Hampshire

Alverstoke



Alverstoke, Gosport, Hampshire (Nat Lib Scot)



Alverstoke, inc Forton (OS 1876 Portsmouth Sheet 331)

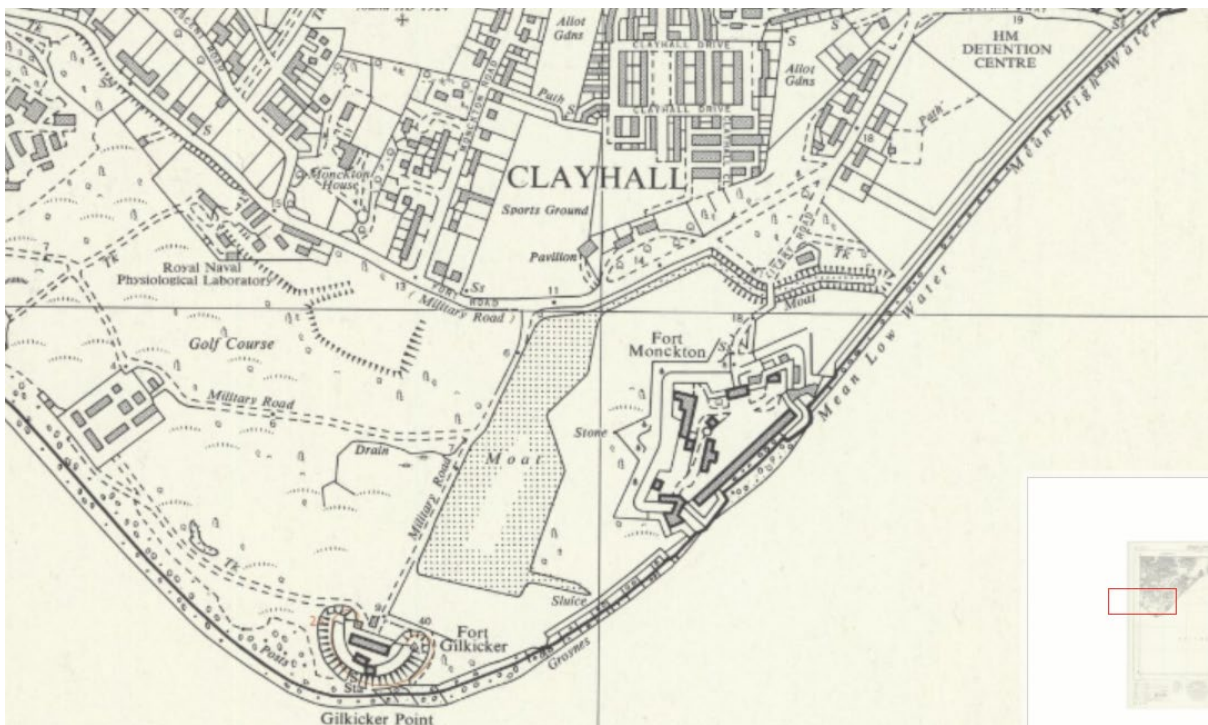


Alverstoke (OS 1870 Hants LXXXIII)

Forton

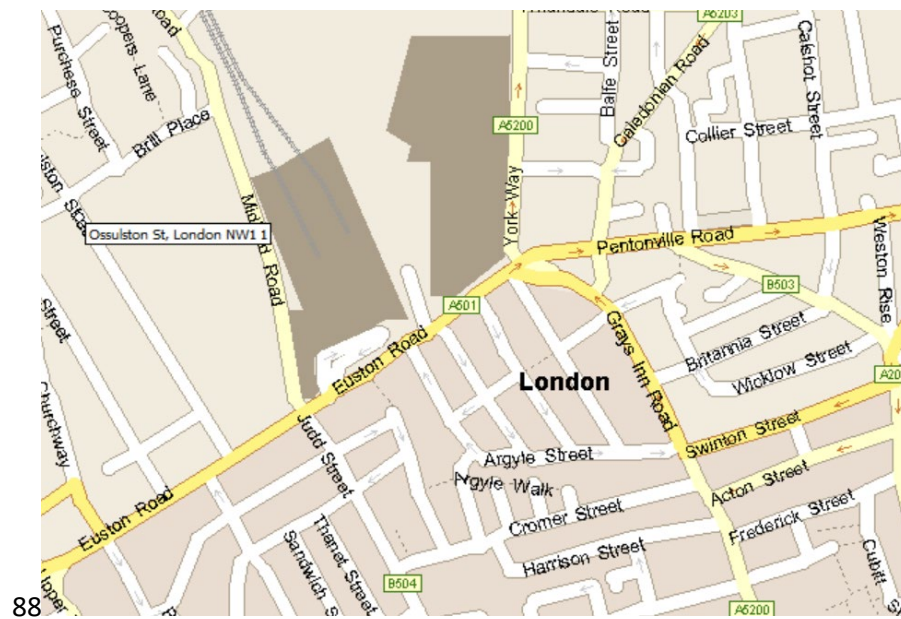


Forton (OS 1870 Hants LXXXIII)



Fort Monckton (OS 1969 SZ 99 NW Hants, NLS)

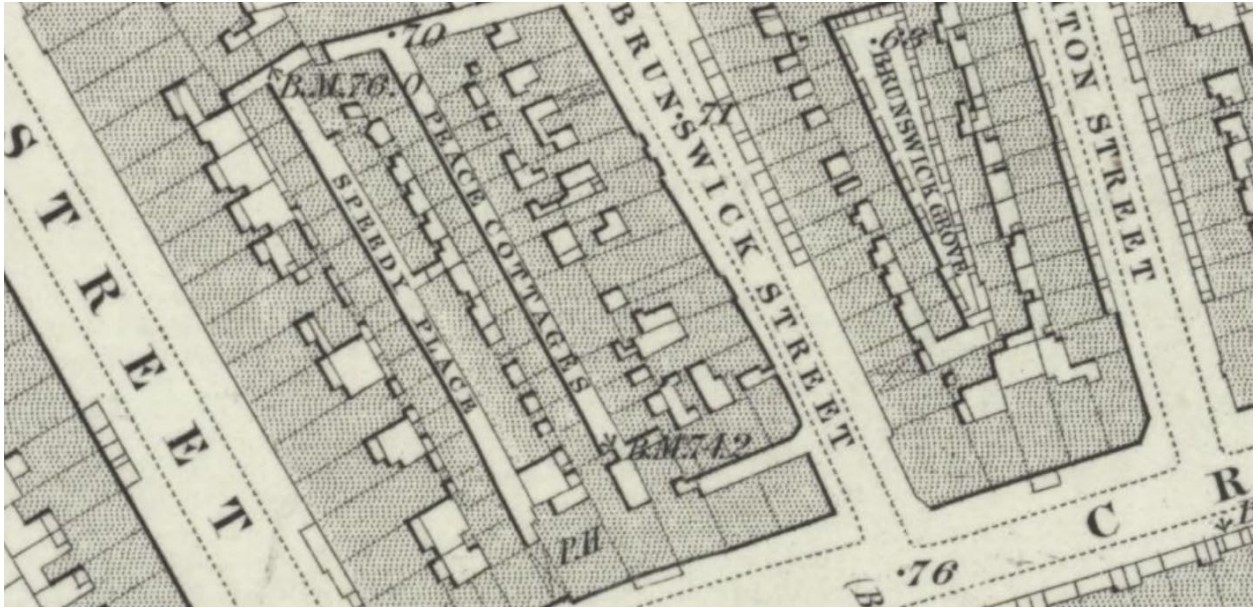
Middlesex
St Pancras



St Pancras today inc. Cromer St. (MS Autoroute)



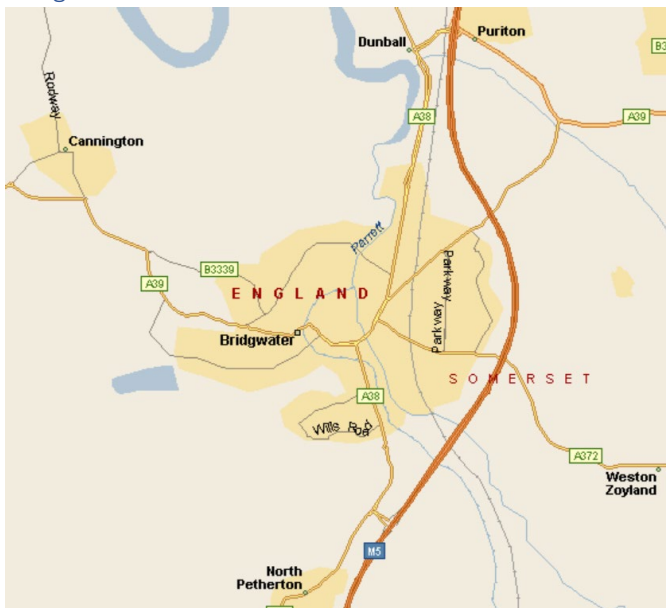
Cromer Street: OS 1871 St Pancras (NLS)



Speedy Place: OS 1871 (NLS) 1

Somerset

Bridgwater



Bridgwater today (MS Autoroute)



Bridgwater: OS 295 1883 (NLS)

South Bruham (Brewham)



South Brewham (OS Somerset LVI SE 1885. Nat. Lib. Scot.)

Bruton



Bruton (M5 Autoroute)

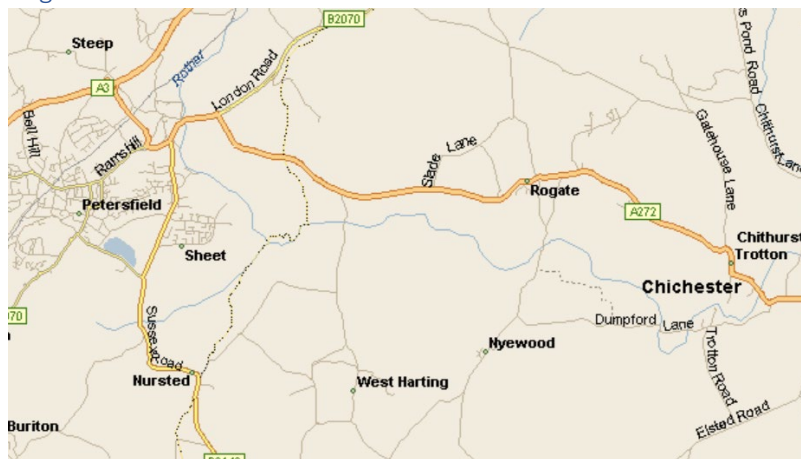


Bruton: OS 1908 (NLS)

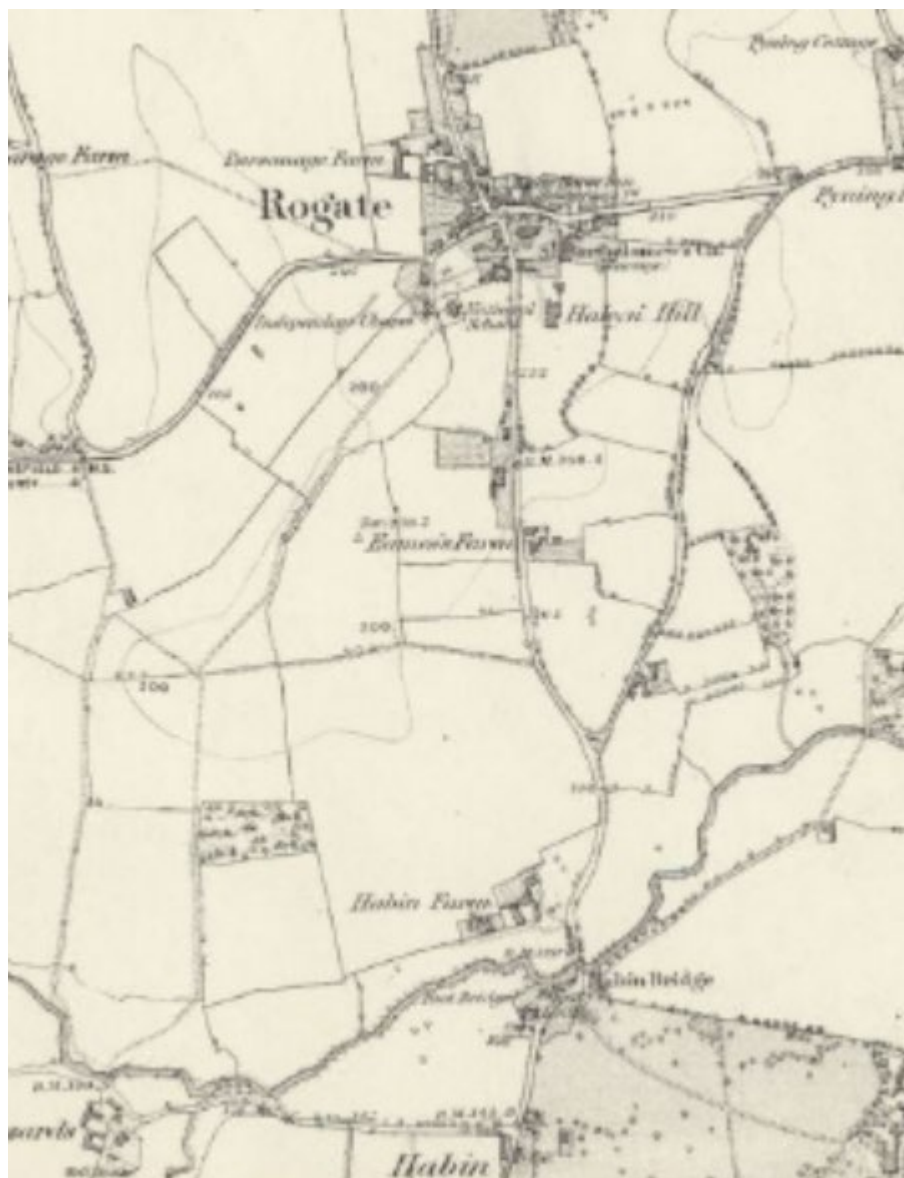
This is a detailed historical map of the Compton area. The map shows a network of streets including Ham Lane, Church Path, and a road labeled '30"'. Key landmarks include the Independent Chapel, Castlebrook, and a building labeled 'B.M. 40'. The map is densely populated with small symbols representing buildings and trees. A scale bar at the bottom indicates distances in feet (F.F.). The name 'Compton' is written in a large, stylized font in the upper right corner.

Sussex

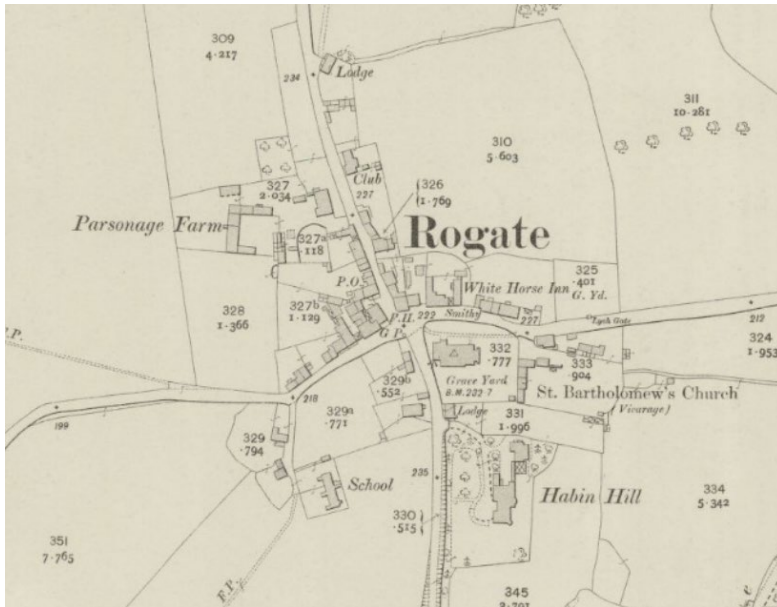
Rogate



Rogate (MS Autoroute)



Rogate & Habin (OS Sussex XXI.5 1910 NLS)



Rogate (OS Sussex XXI.5 1910 NLS)



Wiltshire

Swindon



Swindon: Milton Road & Regent Circus: OS 1953 (NLS)

Gazetteer

Bristol

Ashley Ward

Ashley was created as a ward in the city of Bristol in 1980. The ward covers inner suburb areas immediately north of Bristol city centre, containing the neighbourhoods of Montpelier, St Andrews, St Paul's and St Werburgh's. It extends to parts of Baptist Mills and Stokes Croft. Its southern boundary is Bristol's inner ring road; the south-eastern boundary is the M32 motorway and its extension, Newfoundland Road; to the north-east it is Filton Bank railway; and to the west is the A38 road (Stokes Croft, Cheltenham Road and Gloucester Road); to the north, the boundary winds along residential streets including Sommerville Road, Sefton Park Road and Stoney Lane.

The area is primarily older inner suburban residential neighbourhoods, with most households living in terraced housing or apartments

From Wikipedia

Montpelier

Montpelier occupies a hillside which rises from south to north, overlooking the city centre, with narrow streets that follow the contours. It is densely built with primarily Georgian and Victorian terraced housing, with some modern infill apartment buildings and larger villas.

The area now occupied by Montpelier was part of the Ashley estate from the early 12th century, and remained rural until the 18th century. Thomas Rennison built a fashionable lido here in the middle of the 18th century, and in 1786 Ashley Road was improved as a turnpike, with housing soon following alongside. Piecemeal building of individual villas and terraces of housing continued over the following decades, until its density increased rapidly with lower-middle class housing during the surge in Bristol's population in 1860s-70s.

From Wikipedia

Richmond Road



50 Richmond Road, Montpelier (Google Maps)

Bedminster (Historic)

Bedminster is a district of Bristol, on the south side of the city. The eastern side is known as Windmill Hill. To the south is Bedminster Down

Once a small town in Somerset, Bedminster was a manor held by King Edward the Confessor in the 11th century. The Royal Manor of Bedminster comprised all the land south of the Avon, from the Avon Gorge to Brislington. In 1154 it was given to the Lords of Berkeley, who kept it for 300 years. In 1605 it was purchased by the Smyth family of Ashton Court who remained the Lords of the Manor until the 19th century. In 1644, during the English Civil War, Bedminster was sacked by Prince

Rupert. When John Wesley preached there in the 1760s, it was a sprawling, decayed market town, with orchards next to brickworks, ropewalks and the beginnings of a mining industry.

Between 1804 and 1809 the New Cut was excavated through the northern part of the parish from Temple Meads to Hotwells, providing a new course for the river Avon, enabling the original course to be held at a constant level so that shipping could stay afloat in Bristol Harbour.

The population of Bedminster increased rapidly, from 3,000 in 1801 to 78,000 in 1884, mostly as a result of the coalfield and industries such as smelting, tanneries, glue-works, paint and glass factories. In the 1880s two major employers moved there – E. S. & A. Robinson (paper bag manufacturers) and W.D. & H.O. Wills (cigarette and cigar makers). The population overflowed to Windmill Hill, Totterdown, Southville, the Chessels and Bedminster Down. During this time, churches, public houses, shops and businesses were built, some of which still survive.

In World War II, Bedminster was one of several areas of Bristol that were heavily bombed during the Bristol Blitz. Post-war town planning relocated most of the heavy industry to the rural areas to the south of the parish.

From Wikipedia

[Bedminster Ward](#)

The current day Bedminster Ward is a much smaller area which does not figure in these notes.

[Bishopsworth Ward](#)

Bishopsworth is a suburban neighbourhood in the south of Bristol with a high proportion of council housing. Local facilities include shops and pubs, a public library, community arts centre and an indoor skate park. The electoral ward contains the Bedminster Down, Headly Park, Highridge and Uplands areas. Historically, as a civil parish separate from Bristol, Bishopsworth contained Hartcliffe and Withywood. Colloquially those are often still considered areas of Bishopsworth.

Bishopsworth was historically the tything⁵⁷ of Bishport in the parish of Bedminster in Somerset. The rural southern parts of Bedminster became the civil parish of Bedminster Without from 1894 to 1898. When that parish was abolished most of it became the new civil parish of Bishopsworth. Large parts of this were absorbed into Bristol in 1930 and 1933. The parish was abolished on 1 April 1951 and merged with Bristol.

The ward was created in 1974. In 2016 Withywood transferred to the Hartcliffe and Withywood ward.

From Wikipedia

⁵⁷ A tithing or tything was a historic English legal, administrative or territorial unit, originally ten hides. Tithings later came to be seen as subdivisions of a manor or civil parish.

Coneygree



Coneygree, Eastridge Drive (EAC Housing Care)

Coneygree is “Age Exclusive Housing”, 15 one and two bedroom flats under Bristol Social Care Authority.

Eastlyn Road



31-37 Eastlyn Road (Google Maps)

Brislington West Ward

Brislington is an area in the southeast of the city of Bristol and is the location of the historic Arnos Vale Cemetery. Other notable landmarks include Brislington House and the 15th-century St Luke's Church. During the 18th–19th century, it was regarded as a picturesque village and contained many country homes. The parish was historically part of the Keynsham Hundred in Somerset.

Brislington is also near to the site of the now demolished chapel of St. Anne's-in-the Wood, erected by one of the Lords de la Warr, whose family held the manor of Brislington from the late 12th to the mid-16th century. During the 18th and 19th century, Brislington was also a notable centre of the making of English delftware pottery.

Brislington House (now known as Long Fox Manor) was built as a private lunatic asylum for the insane. When it opened in 1806 it was one of England's first purpose-built asylums.

In 1866, Brislington became a civil parish. By the early 20th century, it was encompassed by Bristol, and much urban housing and industry developed. In 1933, the civil parish was abolished and absorbed into Bristol.

From Wikipedia

Sandholme Road



31 Sandholme Road (Google Maps)

Sandy Park Road



66 Sandy Park Road, Brislington (Google Maps)

Central Ward

Central is an electoral ward created ahead of the 2016 local elections. The ward covers much of the city centre, including Broadmead, Redcliffe, and Queen Square, an area bound by the New Cut river to the south and the inner circuit road to the east. To the north, it extends to include the western side of Stokes Croft and the Dove Street housing estate. It also extends into the west end, to include an area bound by Park Street to the south, Whiteladies Road to the west, and Kingsdown to the south. It therefore includes Bristol Royal Infirmary, Bristol Children's Hospital, and the core of the University of Bristol campus.

From Wikipedia

Kingsdown

Kingsdown is an area of Bristol, located on high ground immediately north of the city centre and south of Cotham.

Kingsdown remained rural until the 18th century, but around 1737 land on the southern slope was laid out to become Bristol's first planned suburb. The area was fully developed over the remainder of the century, and as a result Kingsdown has a mostly Georgian character.

From Wikipedia

Eugene Street

Eugene street lies towards the foot of the Kingsdown slopes. It is shown as fully built up in Roque's Map of Bristol³¹² in 1742. Today it has been completely re-developed,

Not to be confused with the Eugene Street in St Pauls (also St Jude's) Lawrence Hill Ward, BS5⁵⁸.

Redcliffe

Redcliffe, also known as Redcliff, is a district of the city of Bristol, adjoining the city centre to the northwest. It is bounded by the loop of the Floating Harbour (including Bathurst Basin) to the west, north and east, together with the New Cut of the River Avon to the south. Bristol Temple Meads station is located in Redcliffe.

The district takes its name from the red sandstone cliffs which line the southern side of the Floating Harbour, behind Phoenix Wharf and Redcliffe Wharf. These cliffs are honey-combed with tunnels, known as the Redcliffe Caves, constructed both to extract sand for the local glass making industry and to act as store houses for goods.

The parish church of St. Mary Redcliffe is one of Bristol's best-known churches, with the spire at a height of 292 ft (90m) making it the tallest building in the city.

Redcliffe was originally part of the manor of Bedminster, held by the Earls of Gloucester, divided from Bristol by the river Avon. Relatively deep water alongside the outcrops of red sandstone upon which St Mary Redcliffe sits encouraged the development of wharves.

In the 12th century, Robert Fitzroy gave the Knights Templar part of Redcliffe, which then became known as Temple Fee.

In the 13th century Redcliffe and Bristol underwent a rapid expansion, due to a 'major harbour improvement' (Broad Quay or St. Augustine's Reach). This involved the construction of a 'Great Ditch' which formed a new course for the River Frome through St Augustine's Marsh. This provided more space for ships to moor. In the same period a stone bridge, Bristol Bridge, was constructed. To achieve this, the river Avon was diverted through Redcliffe, along the line of the 'Portwall'.

In 1373, Redcliffe became part of Bristol to become the city and county of Bristol.

From Wikipedia

Avon Street, Tower Street & Tower Terrace

Now mostly lost beneath Temple Way. Not to be confused with the Avon Street nearby, still running to the north of the river.

A stub of Tower Street remains, but now re-developed.

⁵⁸ Yes I had difficulty in pinning down the two Eugene Streets!

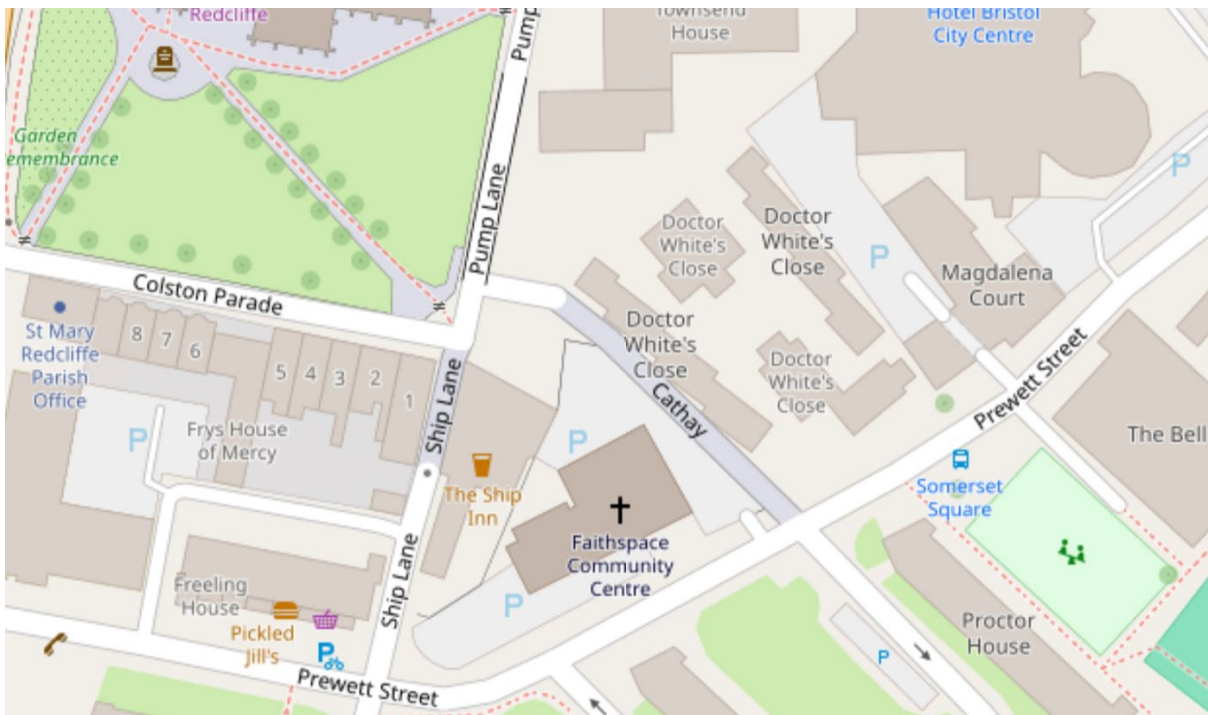
Cathay

Formerly Cathay was a street running from Colston's Parade to Langton Street.



Pre-war Cathay (Nat lib Scot OS seamless)

Currently Cathay is a pedestrianised way giving access to Dr White's retirement homes. Note the map indicates the current alignment is displaced slightly north of the original route,



Cathay today (Open street map)

Ship Lane

Very little of the pre-war structure of Ship Lane remains, though the Ship Inn still stands at the top (Pump Street) end. Colston Parade, Ship Lane and Pump Street joined at this cross roads, Cathay, as a street seems to have run to the east from the junction.



The Ship Inn, 1 Cathay, Redcliffe (Bristol Culture)

Chatterton Square

Only the name remains on the modern map and a Multi Storey Carpark occupies most of the site. One photo does give a possible glimpse of the former appearance of the area. The former location of the square is shown in the 1902 map in the previous section.



Chatterton Square (Old Gloucester Pubs & Breweries)

Church Street

Another location that has been totally rebuilt since the time covered in these notes. It is no longer residential in nature.

Temple Street

The former location of Temple Hospital, otherwise known as the Rev. Dr. Thomas White's Alms-house, founded in 1613. The street was the 1636 birthplace of Edward Colston.

Little however remains of any of the pre-war structures.

Not to be confused with Temple Street Bedminster (Filwood), connecting to Parson Street.



Z

A house in Temple Street, from a survey of the St Thomas church lands. 1816-1817 (P.St T/Ch/3/31)

Bristol Archives Building and house history: sources for research

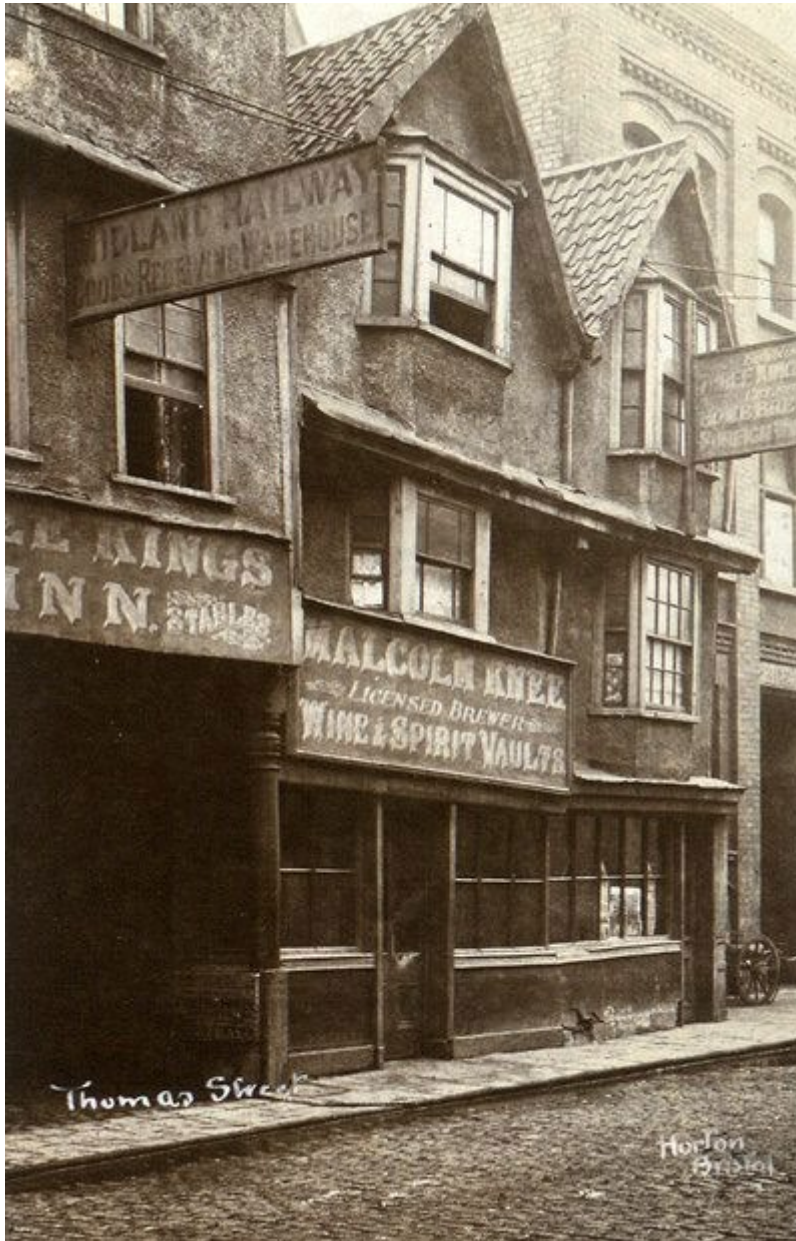
Thomas Street

Post war Thomas (or Saint Thomas) Street is a name on the map. Though the Church of St Thomas the Martyr survives, the current reality of the street bears little other relation to its former self. The images below may help to give a flavour of what went before.



Thomas Street, Courtesy of Bristol Museum & Art Gallery (Bristol 24/7)

Timber-framed buildings of 17th-century date with gable ends fronting St Thomas Street, these were destroyed by enemy action during the war.



Thomas Street (Pinterest.co)

The sites of nos. 55-60 Thomas Street were excavated in 1960 by Cotswold Archaeology and in Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Report No. 7 they summarised their findings. We learn that in the 18th century the properties were a mix of commercial and domestic use, including public houses at nos 55 and 60.

The early 19th century saw the establishment of an iron foundry at nos 56-57, which by the mid 20th century had expanded across the whole site, reflecting the early 20th-century industrialisation of the suburb.

Easton Ward

Easton is an inner-city area of the city of Bristol. Informally the area is considered to stretch east of Bristol city centre and the M32 motorway, centred on Lawrence Hill. Its southern and eastern borders are less defined, merging into St Philip's Marsh and **Eastville**.

The **electoral ward** of Easton includes parts of the localities of Netham and Whitehall, and a large part of Greenbank.

In the medieval period Easton lay within the Royal Forest of Kingswood in the manor of Barton Regis. The name Easton is probably derived from the Anglo-Saxon East Tun meaning East Farm. The earliest documentary reference to Easton is Chester and Master's 1610 Map of Kingswood, which depicts three settlements: Upper Easton, which was centred on Easton Road, Lower Easton, which was centred on St Marks Road, and **Baptist Mills**, on the east bank of the River Frome.

In the post-medieval period the area became increasingly industrial with large scale extraction of coal, clay and sand occurring across the area. In the 19th century most of Easton was developed for housing.

In the late 1960s and 70s large areas of Easton were demolished to make way for new roads (A4320 Easton Way and the M32 Motorway) and housing estates.

Robertson Road



77 Robertson Road, Eastville (Googlemaps)

The long straight Robertson Road marks the boundary between Easton and Eastville. It leads from Greenbank cemetery to Stapleton Road.

Filton (S. Glos)

Filton is a town in South Gloucestershire, 6 miles north of Bristol. Along with nearby Patchway and Bradley Stoke, Filton forms part of the Bristol urban area and has become an overflow settlement for the city. Filton has large areas of open space which include several playing fields, a golf course and the former Filton Airport (closed in 2012).

Filton has an aerospace connection dating back to the establishment of the Bristol Aeroplane Company. Other companies located around the former Aerodrome include BAE Systems, Airbus,

GKN, Rolls-Royce and MBDA. Other employers include the MOD, Viridor, Hewlett-Packard, Hewlett Packard Enterprise and the Royal Mail. Bristol Cars made hand-built luxury cars in Filton from 1946 until 2011.

At the start of the 20th century Filton was a small village, still detached from the city of Bristol to the south. Farming was the principal occupation. However, there was a large factory-like laundry in the village, opposite Filton House, owned by Samuel Shield. The Bristol to South Wales railway line passed through the village. There was a small station near the site of the current Abbey Wood station. A much larger railway station, known as Filton Junction, opened in 1910, after the alternate rail route from Bristol to London was finished. In 1907 the northern terminus for Bristol Tramways was moved out from Horfield to Filton. Tram production in the tramway sheds commenced in 1908. The manufacture of aeroplanes started in the Bristol Tramway sheds in 1910 and aero-engine production started in 1920.

Between the wars, Filton expanded rapidly to become a suburb of Bristol. Initially development was concentrated on the western side of the A38, in an area known as Filton Park. In the 1930s, the area on the eastern side of the A38 started to be developed. Eventually, Filton became part of the Bristol conurbation, although it remained, as it does now, outside the city boundary. During the 1920s and 1930s, two infant/primary schools and one secondary school were built in Filton to accommodate the growing number of school-age children in the area.

In the late 1940s, the main runway of Filton Aerodrome was greatly extended for the Bristol Brabazon project. Charlton village was demolished and the pre-war Filton bypass was severed.

From Wikipedia

[Conygre Rd.](#)

Named for one of the farms in Filton consumed by urban development. The story of Conygre House is outside the scope of these notes,



Conygre Road, Filton (Google maps)

Filwood Ward

Filwood is an electoral ward, first created in 1980. Lying in the south of Bristol. it includes the suburbs of Filwood Park and Inns Court, as well as a large part of Knowle West. Consisting primarily of residential neighbourhoods, Filwood Park and Knowle West originated as council estates in Britain's interwar housing boom. Inns Court was built in the 1960s. There are also small areas of 21st century housing in the ward. The housing is typically semi-detached or terraced. A significant proportion is social rented. Areas in the ward score highly on measures of deprivation.

From Wikipedia

Lurgan Walk



11 Lurgan Walk (Google maps)

The garage door may well be a more recent alteration since occupation by Ernest & Mary COLE.

Lynton Road



194 Lynton Road (Google maps)

Parson Street



12 Parson Street, Bedminster (Google Maps)

Frome Vale Ward

Frome Vale is an electoral ward in Bristol, lying northeast of the city centre. It includes the suburbs of Broomhilm, Begbrook and Fishponds, and also the Glenside campus of the University of the West of England. The river Frome crosses the area in a wooded valley through the parks of Oldbury Court and Snuff Mills.

Frome Vale is a very mixed area, with a split of housing types. The ward generally sits mid-table in rankings of measures of deprivation, except for the Gill Avenue housing estate, which ranks in the top 3% most deprived areas in England, and Blackberry Hill, which ranks in the top quartile.

Snowdon Buildings, Manor Road.



Snowdon Buildings, Fishponds Nat Lib Scot

Showing the site of the Stapleton Workhouse, which later became the lunatic asylum and finally Blackberry Hill Hospital or Snowdon Buildings before eventual demolition and re-development



The front of Stapleton Workhouse by Samuel Loxton (1887-1922).

From website of the Bristol Radical History Group

Hartcliffe and Withywood Ward

Withywood is a suburban neighbourhood of Bristol. It is situated on the southern border of the city, between Hartcliffe and Bishopsworth, just north of Dundry Hill. It is a large estate, begun in the 1950s.

Between Sherrin Way and The Coppice, runs the River Malago. This disappears into a culvert where the stream meets Four Acres.

For elections to Bristol City Council, the area is part of Hartcliffe and Withywood electoral ward.

From Wikipedia

Four Acres



Four Acres, Withywood (Google Maps)

Henbury & Brentry Ward

Henbury is a suburb of Bristol, approximately 5 miles northwest of the city centre. Formerly a village in Gloucestershire it is now bordered by Westbury-on-Trym to the south; Brentry to the east and the Blaise Castle Estate, Blaise Hamlet and Lawrence Weston to the west. To the north lie the South Gloucestershire village of Hallen and the entertainment/retail park Cribbs Causeway.

Henbury was historically a very large parish and the centre of a hundred of the same name. The parish extended to the River Severn and included King's Weston, Lawrence Weston, Hallen,

Charlton, Pilning, Northwick and Aust. In 1901, part of the civil parish was absorbed into Bristol, and further parts were absorbed into Bristol between then and 1933.

The Great House, Henbury was the home of the Astry family, and of the slave or manservant Scipio Africanus (see below). Nearby Henbury Court was built by Thomas Stock to replace the Great House. Henbury Court was demolished in the 1950s.

A large council housing estate was built in the area during the 1950s and 1960s to clear slums in central areas of Bristol such as Easton and St Paul's. At the time, these were extremely overpopulated. A landmark of the skyline in Henbury is the pair of high-rise tower blocks overlooking the estate.

The parish Church of St Mary the Virgin dates from approximately 1096. The churchyard contains the 18th-century grave of Scipio Africanus, the west African manservant of Charles William Howard, 7th Earl of Suffolk.

From Wikipedia

Dowdeswell Close



4 Dowdeswell Close, Henbury (Google Maps)

Knowle Ward

Knowle is a district in the south east of the city of Bristol. It is bordered by Filwood Park to the west, Brislington to the east, Whitchurch and Hengrove to the south and Totterdown to the north.

The settlement was mentioned in the Domesday Book as Canole. Knowle comes from the old English word for hillock.

From Wikipedia

Somerset Road



21 Somerset Road (Google Maps)

Somerset Road in Upper Knowle, or Totterdown, borders Arnos Vale Cemetery on its southern side.

Lawrence Hill Ward

Lawrence Hill is an electoral ward of Bristol, and includes the districts of Barton Hill, St Philips Marsh and Redcliffe, Temple Meads and parts of Easton as well as the Broadmead shopping area.

Lawrence Hill takes its name from a leper hospital dedicated to St Lawrence, which was founded by King John. This lay below what is now Lawrence Hill roundabout.

It is one of the most deprived electoral wards in the south west region of England.

From Wikipedia

Aberdeen Street



Aberdeen Street, looking towards Camwall Road, 1972 (Stephen Dowle, Flickr)

Aberdeen Street no longer exists, the site is now occupied by Camwall Industrial Estate.

Baptist Mills

Baptist Mills is so named from the mills that once stood there. A grist (flour) mill is recorded in this area in a document written in 1470, and again in 1610, when they are marked on Chester and Master's Map of Kingswood.

The mills were converted to brass mills by the Bristol Brass Company, formed in 1702 by Abraham Darby, Edward Lloyd, John Andrews, and Arthur Thomas. In 1706, further partners were admitted, the business becoming an early unincorporated joint stock company with a capital of £8000. While there, Darby recruited skilled 'Dutchmen' to operate a brass battery with trip hammers. He may also have recruited men skilled in sand moulding as opposed to the loam moulding hitherto used in England. Darby was the active partner in the business but later withdrew to concentrate on his new iron founding business at Coalbrookdale.



Baptist Mills, Bristol (Mapcarta)

Brass production at the Baptist Mills Brass Works ceased in 1814, and in 1839 parts of the former brass works were acquired by Joseph and James White, who established a factory manufacturing "Egyptian Black" pottery, Rockingham teapots and clay tobacco pipes. By 1861 the business was known as the Phoenix Pottery. The pottery closed at some point after 1891.

The last remains of the brass works were destroyed when Junction 3 of the M32 Motorway was constructed in the early 1970s. However, slag blocks made from waste from the works can be found in the area.

From Wikipedia



Baptist Mills (Bristol as it was)

Jacob Street

This historical street still exists, though bisected by Temple Way and largely without its pre-war buildings. Wikipedia confirms the mixed industrial and commercial use of Jacob Street in the mid 19th Century.

Kingsland Road

Kingsland Road, on the edge of the deprived area of The Dings, exists, with considerable re-development. I have not identified the site of Stephen Court.

Park Street

Park Street, Easton, no longer exists. On its former appearance I can add nothing to the map in the previous section.

Southmead Ward

Southmead is a northern suburb of Bristol, bordered by Filton in South Gloucestershire and Monks Park, Horfield, Henleaze and Westbury on Trym.

The River Trym rises in Southmead and flows south west through Badock's Wood, a Local Nature Reserve. There is a round barrow near the northern end of the wood and a Site of Special Scientific Interest, Pen Park Hole.

Southmead was a manor of the parish of Westbury on Trym. The manor house, mentioned in a document of 1319, was near the south end of what is now Southmead Road. Most of the estate of 313 acres was sold in the late 19th century. By 1888 Southmead was a small hamlet on Southmead Road. Southmead Hospital, formerly the Barton Regis Workhouse, was opened there in 1924.

Large-scale development of the area started in 1931, when the Bristol Corporation built 1,500 houses to the north of Southmead Road, partly to house families cleared from the slums of central Bristol, and partly to address the housing shortage at the time. A further 1,100 houses were built after the Second World War.

The central and south west parts of Southmead rank as deprived areas

From Wikipedia

Wilton Close



43 Wilton Close, Southmead (Google Maps)

Southville Ward

Southville is an inner city neighbourhood of Bristol, on the south bank of the River Avon.

Most of the area's houses were built in the late 19th and early 20th centuries for workers in the Bristol coal mining industry or the tobacco factories of W. D. & H. O. Wills. The headquarters of Imperial Tobacco, the world's fourth largest international tobacco company, used to be here, but moved to Ashton. Southville was also a centre for the tanning industry.

The area was bombed in the second world war, with many streets losing one or more houses. Southville was the unintended target of the many short-falling bombs aimed at the adjoining dock facilities. Post-war rebuilding is noticeable on many streets. Infilling of wartime damage is still continuing.

From Wikipedia

Coronation Road and Wellington Terrace

Coronation Road in Bristol, specifically the terrace of houses at numbers 69-78, dates back to around 1820 and showcases a formal late-Georgian architectural style, with the end houses designed as pavilions with features like clasping pilasters and acanthus capitals. While initially planned for the area around the New Cut in Bedminster, the houses on Coronation Road, part of the Southville area of Bristol, have a history intertwined with industrial development and wartime impact.

From Google AI



Coronation Road. Southville (Bristol 24/7)

Coronation Road marches along the south bank of the River Avon (New Cut) from Cumberland Basin to Bedminster Bridge. Wellington Terrace was located at the eastern end. The site is now occupied by a supermarket.

Hereford Street

Hereford Street runs from Malago Street to the river, with the railway following the eastern bank of that stream. In 1885 it was fully built up. More recently, with the housing gone, it has been devoted to car parking and community gardening,



Hereford Street 1885 (Nat Lib Scot. OS Gloucestershire LXXV.4.24)



Hereford Street Bedminster 2018 (Jaggery Geograph)

King Street

King Street, as a residential area no longer exists. It formerly ran from New Queen Street to Spring Street, between and parallel to Princess Street and the railway

Philip Street



Philip Street Slums 1968 (Media Storehouse.Com: Bristol Post)

Philip Street has been largely redeveloped. The 1886 housing which may have deteriorated to the slums pictured above is mostly gone. The north side now includes a number of industrial units while a city farm fronts onto a stretch of the south side

Stafford Street

The picture below shows how Stafford Street, Bedminster, was reduced to the state shown by the maps in the previous section..



Stafford Street during the blitz (Bristol Live)

Spring Street & Victoria Grove

Victoria Grove (formerly Victoria Place, Spring Street) may have been re-named to avoid confusion with another Victoria Place (elsewhere in Bedminster) which still retains that name. Victoria Grove has no residential properties today.

Weare Street



Wedding celebration in Weare Street possibly abt. 1950 (Know your Place Bristol, community layer)

Weare Street formerly ran between and parallel to York Road and Mead Street, not far from Bath Bridge. The street is not to be confused with Weare's (or Weir's) Buildings which, from the old OS maps⁵⁹, used to lay to the north and west of William Street, near Bedminster Bridge⁶⁰.

⁵⁹ Such as the 25" Gloucestershire LXXV.4 Revised: 1913 Published: 1918,

⁶⁰ See also <https://bristolandavonarchaeology.org.uk/event-reviews/the-1930s-slum-clearance-in-bedminster/>

York Road (New Cut)

York Road runs along the south bank of the River Avon (New Cut) from Bedminster Bridge to Bath Bridge,



York Road, New Cut (Google maps)

Surviving Victorian terraces here have been heavily restored.

Windmill Hill Ward

Windmill Hill is a hill, an inner suburban neighbourhood and an electoral ward in Bristol. It is located south of the River Avon, southeast of Bedminster, north of Knowle and west of Totterdown. Victoria Park occupies the eastern half of the hill. The area has mainly Victorian terraced houses

Windmill Hill is separated from the rest of Bedminster by the Bristol to Exeter line railway (including Bedminster railway station) and industrial estates, as well as the Windmill Hill City Farm. The River Malago runs through the western edge of Windmill Hill ward. The electoral ward created in 1980, covers a broader area than the hill itself. Since 2016, the boundaries have encompassed Totterdown, the south-eastern part of Bedminster, and the Ravenhill Road area of Lower Knowle.

From Wikipedia

Bath Road

This western end of the road from London to Bath and Bristol has it's own history. Much of it, including turnpiking and riot was well before the time of our narrative and need not concern us here.

Kitchener Terrace



Kitchener Terrace, Nos 190-286 Bath Road (Google Maps)

I have been shown the entry for Kitchener Terrace in Kellys Directory for 1902. The earliest OS map I have found which shows (but sadly does not name) Kitchener Terrace is dated 1904.

Beaufoy Terrace

The former site of Beaufoy Terrace, between Angers Road and County Street, on the south side of the Wells Road, is now an open park.

Greendale Road

Part of the estate development to the south of Victoria Park, Greendale Road is a turning off St. John's Lane.



6 Greendale Road (Google Maps)

New Walls Road & Cromwell Terrace

Today the triangular area between the Bath and the Wells roads has been redeveloped. Though the New Walls name is retained the road layout varies, Cromwell Terrace is no more.

Newport Street



16 Newport Street, Windmill Hill, Bedminster (Google Maps)

Richmond Street

Richmond Street in Totterdown, Bristol, was predominantly built in the 1860s to house railway workers. It is notable for being the first row of houses in the area, with some architectural evidence indicating cost-cutting measures during its construction, such as thinner rafters in some properties. While much of the area's Victorian housing was slated for demolition in the 1970s for a planned outer ring road, this section of the road was never constructed, preserving much of the street's character.

From Google AI overview



Richmond Street, Totterdown (Voices of the Past)

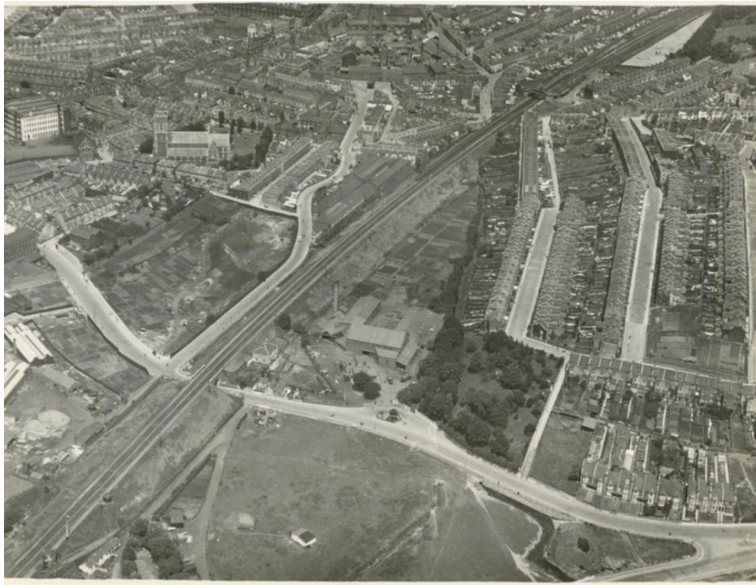


36 Richmond Street today (Google Maps)

St John's Lane

The cottages in the grounds of the Colour Works are listed with addresses in St. John's Lane as shown in the maps section above. The record from Know Your Place referenced there shows that the works produced "Umber, Barytes, Ochre & Oxides" but I have not traced any other on-line history of this particular enterprise,

The area is pictured in the panorama below from the Bristol City Archives. The cottages may be those shown in the lower centre of the picture adjacent to the road.



Malago Vale Works, St John's Church, Robinson's top left, c. 1920s-1930s

Devon

Sheepwash

Sheepwash is a village and civil parish on the southern border of Torridge, Devon. The parish lies about nine miles ENE of the town of Holsworthy, some eight miles south of Great Torrington and about ten miles north-west of Okehampton. It is surrounded clockwise from the north by the parishes of Buckland Filleigh, Highampton and Black Torrington. Its southern boundary follows the river Torridge and most of its other boundaries are along watercourses too. In 2001 its population was 254, lower than the 326 residents it had in 1901.

From Wikipedia

From the Middle Ages until the fire of 1743 which ravaged much of the village, Sheepwash market was perhaps the most important of its kind in all of North Devon. The hub of the market was the livestock auction which took place in the yard behind the Half Moon Inn.

After the great fire in 1743, the village remained largely empty for as long as 10 years, or so it is said. The sale of livestock moved to the larger towns of Holsworthy to the west and Hatherleigh about 5 miles to the east. The market eventually returned to the village, but it never regained its former reputation. Until the end of the 18th century there was a weekly market on Mondays augmented by a fair each Spring and Autumn.

From Devon Perspectives



Sheepwash Church Tower behind Thatched Roof (Devon Perspectives)

[Thelbridge](#)

Thelbridge is a village and civil parish in the county of Devon, 8½ NNW of Cridton. The local church, St David's has medieval origins but was completely rebuilt in 1872–1875. It is grade II listed and is in a Gothic style. The Thelbridge Cross Inn is a former coaching inn built of stone and cob and dates from the 1700s.

From Wikipedia

[West Worlington](#)

West Worlington is a small village in Mid-Devon, about 2 miles west of Witheridge. In the parish is the historic estate, formerly a separate parish, of Affeton, the ancient seat of the Stucley family. Through the parish flows the Little Dart River. The parish church is dedicated to St Mary. In 1885 the parish was merged for civic administrative purposes into the neighbouring small parish of East Worlington, and in 1919 it was merged into the ecclesiastical parish of East Worlington, the parish church of which is also dedicated to St Mary, to form a single ecclesiastical parish.

From Wikipedia



West Worlington (Flickr)

East Worlington

East Worlington is a civil parish and hamlet in the county of Devon. In 2001, the village had 241 inhabitants, 173 in 1901 and 194 in 1801. The civil parish also includes the smaller West Worlington. Both settlements have a "St. Mary's Church".



8

Church Cottage, Middle Cottage and Lower Cottage, East Worlington (Historic England, British Listed Buildings)

Witheridge

Witheridge is a village and civil parish in the North Devon district of Devon, England. In 2001 the population of the parish was 1162. Its name may be derived from the Old English for "Weather Ridge", which would fit with the village's somewhat exposed situation.



Witheridge: The Square (Geograph c.Martin Bodman)

From Wikipedia

[Gloucestershire](#)

Amberley

Amberley, Gloucestershire is a small village situated on the edge of Minchinhampton Common about two miles south of Stroud in Gloucestershire.

From Wikipedia



Amberley Gloucestershire 2014 (Flickr)

[Westerleigh](#)

Westerleigh is a clustered village and civil parish (which includes Henfield) in South Gloucestershire. It contains sources of the Frome and is 1 mile south of Yate.

In medieval times the village would probably have been prosperous, with the houses and church around a green. The discovery of coal in 1660 provided employment for the villagers, with further finds at Coalpit Heath and Parkfield. The mines closed in the last century, when the coal was exhausted.

By 1876 occupations in the village included farmers, a bootmaker, shopkeepers, innkeepers, butchers, a plasterer, a blacksmith, a wheelwright, a market gardener and a carrier. At the end of the 19th century many of the old houses were demolished. At the beginning of the 20th century, the railway and mining provided most of the work. (See Andrew Plaster, BAFHS Journal 151 March 2013 rev 2017).



Frog Lane Colliery in its heyday (BAFHS)

Hampshire

Alverstoke

Alverstoke is a village in the borough of Gosport, on the south coast of Hampshire. It stretches east–west from Fort Blockhouse, Haslar to Browndown Battery, and is centred 0.5 miles east of the shore of Stokes Bay and near the head of a creek which extends a mile westward from Portsmouth Harbour. Until the early 19th century, the parish of Alverstoke covered most of present-day Gosport. However, large parts of the parish were split off between 1840 and 1913.

By the early 19th century, as seaside towns became fashionable for polite society, an area known as Angleseyville was developed by the speculator Robert Cruikshank, and named in honour of the Marquis of Anglesey. The scheme was not a financial success, and was therefore only partially completed. Its St. Mark's Chapel had never become more than a chapel of ease to the local parish church only a quarter of a mile away, and was demolished by the early 20th century. Nonetheless, its small burial plot still contains 261 known burials, including many with high society connections:

Several of Palmerston's Follies are sited within the parish, including Fort Gilkicker, a 19th-century coastal battery fort, located at the eastern end of Stokes Bay. To the east is Fort Monckton.

The Grade II listed parish church of St. Mary is one of three Church of England churches in the parish, the others being St Faith's Church by Tribe Road and St Francis, Alverstoke between St Francis Road and Waterloo Road, Haslar. A Chapel dedicated to St. Luke also exists within the grounds of Haslar. St. Mary's is of medieval origin, but has been significantly rebuilt and altered over the years.

From Wikipedia



Alverstone c1890 (Hampshire Cultural Trust)

Forton

In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales described Forton like this:

FORTON, a village and a chapelry in Alverstone parish, Hants. The name is a corruption of Fort-town. The village is suburban to Gosport; stands outside of the fortifications, on the Gosport railway, at the upper end of a sort of lake of Portsmouth harbour; has a post office† under Gosport; and contains the railway terminus, the new military prison, and the royal marine barracks. ...

From Britain Through Time

Forton Barracks was a military installation near Gosport in Hampshire, which served first as an Army barracks and then as a divisional headquarters for the Royal Marines. It subsequently served as a Royal Navy training establishment. Today, the site is occupied by St Vincent College.

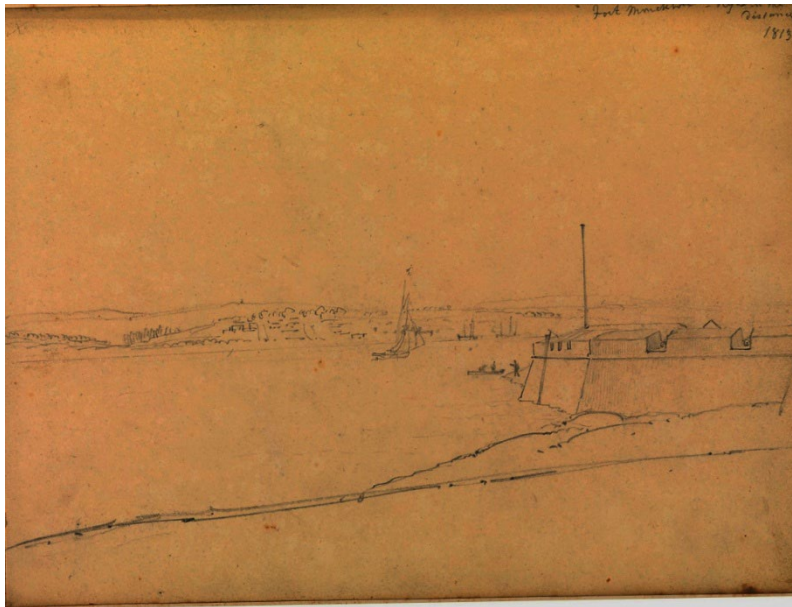
Towards the end of the 18th century the owner of Forton Mill sold an adjacent parcel of land to the Board of Ordnance, to serve as the site for an Army General Hospital. Forton Military Hospital was begun in 1797; by 1800, however, soldiers were being treated at the nearby Naval hospital at Haslar, so the decision was taken to alter the proposed hospital buildings to serve as a barracks instead. The Barracks opened in 1807, consisting of four tall pavilions connected by arcades (an arrangement very similar to that of the contemporary military hospitals at Plymouth and Deal). The pavilions faced the main entrance gate (which was flanked by officers' quarters) across a sizeable parade ground, believed for a time to have been the largest in the country. Over the next forty years the barracks housed a succession of different regiments.

From Wikipedia



St_Vincent's_College (geograph.org.uk)

Fort Monckton



*Fort Monckton, Ryde in the distance; by John Christian Sketch, 1813
: (Royal Mus. Greenwich)*

Fort Monckton is a historic military fort on the south-east shoreline of the Gosport peninsula, Hampshire. Built on the ruins of Haselworth Castle to protect Portsmouth Harbour at the start of the American War of Independence, it was rebuilt in the 1880s as a Palmerston fort.

From Wikipedia

North Devon Militia

During the summer of 1805, while Napoleon's 'Army of England' massed at Boulogne and threatened invasion, the [North Devon Militia] was camped at Woodbury and then moved to Lymptone Camp, where it joined Lt-Gen Charles Lennox's militia brigade. On 1 September the regiment was 665 strong under the command of Lt-Col Charles Hayne. On 15 September the brigade marched to Hemerdon camp, arriving on 20 September. This camp was broken up on 22 December and the regiment moved to Portsmouth where it was quartered in Portsea Barracks and brigaded with the East Devon and North Hampshire Militia.

The regiment spent the next two years in the Portsmouth area, at Gosport, Haslar, Portsea and Southsea Camp. It then spent the winter of 1807–8 in Bristol before spending a year at Weymouth, followed by over three years (May 1808 to November 1811) back at Plymouth. In 1809 another recruitment drive for men to transfer to the Line regiments was accompanied by balloting to bring

the Militia up to strength, and the regiments were allowed to obtain recruits 'by beat of drum' (as in regiments of the Line) and by volunteers from the Local Militia, which had replaced the Volunteer Corps.

From November 1811 to May 1814 the North Devons were stationed at Gosport, including Fort Monckton. The regiment moved to Dartmoor in June, but by then the war was over, the Treaty of Fontainebleau having been signed in April. On 16 June the warrant for disembodiment of the Devonshire Militia was signed. The regiment marched to Barnstaple to be disembodied on 30 July 1814.

From Wikipedia

[Middlesex](#)

[St. Pancras](#)

St Pancras is a large district in north London. Originally a medieval ancient parish it subsequently became a metropolitan borough which then merged with neighbouring boroughs. The area it covers now forms around half of the modern London Borough of Camden.

St Pancras Old Church lies on Pancras Road, Somers Town, behind St Pancras railway station. Until the 19th century it stood on a knoll on the eastern bank of the now buried River Fleet.

By the end of the nineteenth century, the ancient parish had been divided into 37 ecclesiastical parishes, including one for the old church, to better serve a rapidly growing population. There are currently 17 Church of England parishes completely contained within the boundaries of the ancient parish

In the 1790s Earl Camden began to develop some fields to the north and west of the old church as Camden Town. About the same time, a residential district was built to the south and east of the church, usually known as Somers Town. In 1822 the new church of St Pancras was dedicated as the parish church. The site was chosen on what was then called the New Road (now Euston Road). The two sites are about a kilometre apart. The old church was rebuilt in 1847. In the mid-19th century King's Cross and later St Pancras stations were built to the south of the Old Church.

From Wikipedia

[Cromer Street](#)

Cromer Street was formerly called Lucas Street and was renamed in 1818. In the earlier 1840s it was described as being occupied by a class of poor 'small tradesmen and artisan lodgers' in densely crowded lodgings. On it is the Church of the Holy Cross, which was built by Joseph Peacock and dedicated in 1888. 105 houses were built in the street in the early 19th century, but it has largely been rebuilt.

From Wikipedia

Speedy Place



The Boot, Cromer Street (Gasholder)

This short street adjoins the Boot pub on Cromer Street in the east of Bloomsbury. There was a trackway here in the nineteenth century leading to the predecessor of the Boot, the Golden Boot alehouse. The track is shown but not named on Cary's map of 1795.

Development of the area appears on the successive editions of Horwood's map, but Speedy Place does not feature even on the 1819 version. It appears on Greenwood's map of 1830 and was named after the family which kept the Boot pub.

(https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bloomsbury-project/streets/speedy_place.htm)

Somerset

Bridgwater

Bridgwater is a large historic market town and civil parish in Somerset. It lies at the edge of the Somerset Levels along both sides of the river Parrett, in level and well-wooded country. The town has been a major inland port and trading centre since the industrial revolution.

Historically, the town had a politically radical tendency. The Battle of Sedgemoor, where the Monmouth Rebellion was finally crushed in 1685, was fought nearby. The Chandos Glass Cone was built in 1725 as a glasswork firing kiln by James Brydges, 1st Duke of Chandos. After a short period of use for glassmaking it was converted for the production of pottery, bricks and tiles, which continued until 1939.

Shipping to Bridgwater expanded with the construction of Bridgwater Docks and reached a peak between 1880 and 1885; with an average of 3,600 ships per year entering the port. Dunball wharf was built in 1844 by Bridgwater coal merchants. In 1875, the Dunball Steam Pottery & Brick & Tile Works were built adjacent to the wharf. Bridgwater was the leading industrial town in Somerset. A major manufacturing centre for clay tiles and bricks in the 19th century, these, including the famous "Bath brick", were exported through the port. This industry collapsed in the aftermath of World War II. In the 19th century, Bridgwater was also home to a number of iron foundries. George Hennessey's Bridgwater Iron Works worked on bridges, railways and machinery for Brunel and Robert Stephenson. As trade expanded during the Industrial



Bridgwater Town Bridge (Wikipedia; Ken Grainger)

Revolution, Bridgwater was linked to Taunton by the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal (1827). Docks were subsequently built in the town, linked to an extension of the canal, with both opening in 1841. Bridgwater railway station, designed by Brunel is now a Grade II listed building. An end to the unequal competition between rail and canal came in 1867 when the Bristol & Exeter Railway purchased the canal.

From Wikipedia

Brewham (Bruham)

Brewham is a civil parish in Somerset consisting of the villages of **North Brewham** and **South Brewham**, on either side of the river in the Brue Valley 3 miles east of Bruton.

From Wikipedia



*South Brewham Village Centre 2009
(Geograph)*

Bruton



Bruton is a market town in Somerset, on the River Brue and the A359 between Frome and Yeovil. It is 7 miles south-east of Shepton Mallet, and 12 miles south-west of Frome.

The town is known for three long-standing secondary schools – King's School, Bruton (founded 1519); Sexey's School (founded 1889); and Bruton School for Girls (Sunny Hill) (founded 1900).

From Wikipedia

Bruton (Wikipedia: Nigel Freeman)

Compton Dundon

Compton Dundon is a village and civil parish in Somerset, lying beside King's Sedgemoor and the Polden Hills, 5 miles south of Glastonbury and 4 miles north of Somerton. The parish includes the small village of Dundon and the hamlet of Littleton.

From Wikipedia



Compton Dundon 1904 (Francis Frith)

Castlebrook

Adjoined to Compton Dundon, the chief landmark nowadays is the eponymous Inn.

From Wikipedia

Sussex

Rogate



Rogate is a village and civil parish within West Sussex, in the Western Rother valley. The village is 5.6 miles west of Midhurst and 5 miles east of Petersfield, Hampshire. The civil parish includes the villages of Rogate and Rake and the hamlets of Haben (or **Habin**), Fyning, Hill Brow, Langley, Durford, Wenham, Durleighmarsh and Terwick Common.

Habin Cottages 1987 (Historic England)

Wiltshire

Swindon

Swindon is a town with borough status in the historic county of Wiltshire. As of 2021 it is the largest town in the county. The town lies between Bristol, 35 miles to its west, and Reading, equidistant to its east.

Recorded in the 1086 Domesday Book, it was a small market town until the mid-19th century, when it was selected as the principal site for the Great Western Railway's repair and maintenance works. This led to a marked increase in its population. The new town, constructed for the railway workers, produced forward-looking amenities such as the UK's first lending library and a 'cradle-to-grave' health care centre.

The Anglo-Saxon settlement of Swindon sat in a defensible position atop a limestone hill. The town is recorded in the Domesday Book as a manor in the hundred of Blagrove, Wiltshire. The manors of Westlecot, Walcot, Rodbourne, Moredon and Stratton are also listed; all are now part of Swindon.

Swindon was a small market town, mainly for barter trade, until roughly 1848. This original market area, on top of the hill in central Swindon, is now known as Old Town.

The Industrial Revolution was responsible for an acceleration of Swindon's growth. Construction of the Wilts and Berks Canal in 1810 and the North Wilts Canal in 1819 brought trade to the area, and Swindon's population started to grow.

Between 1841 and 1842, Isambard Kingdom Brunel's Swindon Works was built for the repair and maintenance of locomotives on the Great Western Railway (GWR). The GWR built a small railway village to house some of its workers. In the village were the GWR Medical Fund Clinic at Park House and its hospital, both on Faringdon Road. The 1892 health centre in Milton Road housed clinics, a pharmacy, laundries, baths, Turkish baths and swimming pools. The Mechanics' Institute, formed in 1844, moved into a building that looked rather like a church and included a covered market, on 1 May 1855. The New Swindon Improvement Company, a co-operative, raised the funds for this programme of self-improvement and paid the GWR £40 a year for its new home on a site at the heart of the railway village. It was a ground-breaking organisation that transformed the railway's workforce into some of the country's best-educated manual workers. During the second half of the 19th century, Swindon New Town grew around the main line between London and Bristol.

From Wikipedia

Milton Road



The former Mark's Mission House stands at 23 Milton Road. A photo posted by an enthusiast and something of its story, written in the VCH, can be found on the internet where it can also be seen on Google street view.

Mark's Mission House, Milton Road (Born Again Swindonian)

From British History Online

Regent Circus

The premises from which the Bells ran their business were later occupied by the Co-op Bank. Today the area has been redeveloped as a leisure and retail complex. The photographer who captured the view of the Circus below would have had the shoe shop to his right.



Regent Circus 1903 (Frith)

Churches & events

This section focuses on the Churches and burial places which often provide an extant physical link with our forebears but are also linked by the records of their baptisms, marriages and burials.

People & places

The following two tables summarise the connections between individuals in our story and the churches and cemeteries described.

Selected Descendants of Francis COLE

This table summarises the events etc. connected with the family members discussed above.

Individual(s)	Baptised	Married	Buried
Francis COLE		1733 St David Thelbridge Devon	
+ Agnes PRIDHAM b. 1715	1715 St David Thelbridge Devon	1733 St David Thelbridge Devon	1786 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
_Francis COLE b. 1734	1734 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		1735 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
_James COLE b. 1736	1736 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon	1771 Oakford Devon	
+ Mary ELWORTHY [issue of James & Mary omitted]		1771 Oakford Devon	
_Francis COLE b. 1738	1734 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		1734 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
_Mary COLE b. 1741	1741 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		1821 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
_Elizabeth COLE b. 1744	1741 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		

Individual(s)	Baptised	Married	Buried
_Thomas COLE b. 1746	1746 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		1750 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
_Francis COLE b. 1750	1750 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		1782 [probable] St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
_John COLE b. 1753	1753 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		1775 [possible] St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
_Thomas COLE b. 1755	1755 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon		
Unknown spouse of Thomas COLE (b1755)			
__Thomas COLE b. 1772	1772 St Mary West Worlington, Devon		1772 St Mary West Worlington, Devon
__John COLE b. 1773	1773 St Mary West Worlington, Devon		
__William COLE b. 1777	1777 St Mary East Worlington, Devon	1802 St Mary East Worlington, Devon	
+ Sarah TAYLOR		1802 St Mary East Worlington, Devon	
__James COLE b. 1803	1803 St Mary East Worlington, Devon		
__Elizabeth COLE b. 1804	1804 St Mary East Worlington, Devon		

Individual(s)	Baptised	Married	Buried
___ William COLE b. 1806	1806 St Mary East Worlington, Devon	1824 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon	
+Elizabeth HAYWOOD b. 1803		1824 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon	
___ John COLE b. 1807	1807 St Mary East Worlington, Devon		
___ Thomas COLE b. 1780	1780 St Mary West Worlington, Devon	1812 St Mary Alverstoke Hampshire	1854 Temple Bristol
+ Orange Innocent DURRANT b. 1777	1777, St Lawrence Sheepwash, Devon	1812 St Mary Alverstoke Hampshire	1858 St John Bedminster Somerset
___ Orange Durant COLE b. 1813	1813 St Mary Alverstoke Hampshire		
___ Charles COLE b. 1815	1815 St Mary West Worlington, Devon	1840 Holy Trinity Bristol,	
+ Ann Thomas BABB b. 1817	1817 St Mary Bridgwater Somerset	1840 Holy Trinity Bristol,	
___ William COLE b. 1841	1841 Temple Bristol	1861 St John Bedminster Somerset	1894 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol
+ Eliza Ann CURTIS b. 1843	1843 St James the Great Westerleigh Gloucestershire	1861 St John Bedminster Somerset	
___ Lily Eliza Harriet COLE b. 1864	1864 St Luke Bedminster Somerset	1886 St John Bedminster Somerset	
+ Walter Lewis BELL b. 1864 [Walter & Lily's issue omitted]	1864 St Luke Brislington	1886 St John Bedminster Somerset	

Individual(s)	Baptised	Married	Buried
_____ Charles COLE b. 1866	1866 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol	1888 St Luke Bedminster	1888 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol
+ Alice WINDOW b. 1867 [Charles & Alice's issue shown separately]	1867 St Philip & St Jacob Bristol	1888 St Luke Bedminster	1914 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol
_____ Florence Mary COLE b. 1868	1868 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol		1889 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol Int. Arnos Vale
_____ William George COLE b. 1872	1872 St Philip & St Jacob Bristol		1899 Arnos Vale Bristol
_____ Ethel Emma Durrant COLE b. 1885	1885 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol		1939 Weston-Super- Mare, Somerset
_____ Charles COLE b. 1842	1842 St Philip & St Jacob Bristol	1864 St James Priory Bristol	1894 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol
+ Rebecca COBLEY b. 1840	1840 St Philip & St Jacob Bristol	1864 St James Priory Bristol	
_____ Alice Florence COLE b. 1868	1868 St Philip & St Jacob Bristol		1869 Arnos Vale Bristol
_____ Henry COLE b. 1844	1845 St Philip & St Jacob Bristol		1848 Temple Bristol
_____ Mary Ann COLE b. 1847	1847 St Pancras Old Church Middlesex	1875 St John Bedminster Somerset	
+ Henry Sharp b. 1845	1845 Holy Trinity Amberley Gloucestershire	1875 St John Bedminster Somerset	
_____ Edmund COLE b. 1817	1817 St Mary West Worlington, Devon		
_____ Agnes COLE b. 1758	1758 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon	1780 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon	1851 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon
+ John BURGESS [Issue of John & Agnes not shown]		1780 St John the Baptist Witheridge Devon	

Selected Descendants of Charles COLE

This table summarises the events etc, connected with the descendants of Charles, brother of Lilly. Their stories are dealt with in the Appendix to these notes.

Individual(s)	Baptised	Married	Buried
Charles COLE b. 1866	1866 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol	1888 St Luke Bedminster Somerset	1921 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol
+ Alice Window b. 1867	1867 St Philip & St Jacob Bristol	1888 St Luke Bedminster Somerset	1914 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol
_William Charles COLE b. 1889	1889 Temple Bristol		
_Alice Eleen COLE b. 1890	1890 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol	1919 St Paul Bedminster Bristol	
+ James BRAKE b 1889		1919 St Paul Bedminster Bristol	
__James Charles BRAKE b. 1920	1920 St John Bedminster Bristol	1948 Register Office Bristol	1958 Henbury cemetery
+ Florence Annie BALL b. 1911,	1911 St Lawrence Easton		
__Michael James BRAKE b. 1948			
+ Valerie R. BRINN b. 1949			
__Gillian Ellen BRAKE b. 1950			
+ Bernard William NOLAN b. 1950			
__Clare Ellen Nolan b. 1979			
__Gemma K. NOLAN b. , 1982			
__Andrew Charles BRAKE b.1957		1983 Register Office Bristol	
+ Kim Elizabeth WRIGHT		1983 Register Office Bristol	

Individual(s)	Baptised	Married	Buried
___ Christopher Roy BRAKE b. 1921		1948 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol	
+ Violet May GREGORY b.1923,		1948 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol	
___ Valerie Christine BRAKE b. 1950			
+ Keith L. GRIFFITHS b. 1952			
+ Graham V. HARDING b. 1952,			
_ Frederick COLE b.1892	1895 St Mary Redcliffe Bristol	1919 St Luke Bedminster Bristol	
+ Flossie BRAYWOOD b. 1897		1919 St Luke Bedminster Bristol	
___ Reginald Charles Alfred COLE b. 1920	1920 St Luke Bedminster Bristol	1941 St Mary Redcliff Bristol 1955 Register Office Bristol	
+ Joyce Victoria DANIELLS b. 1922		1941 ? Bristol	
___ Clifford William COLE b. 1947		1966 Register Office Bristol	
+ Christine Mary CHECKER b. 1949		1966 Register Office Bristol	
+ Irene Iris DUNN b. 1933,		1955 Register Office Bristol	
___ Gordon COLE b.1957			
+ Julie Angela MATHEWS b. 1960			
___ Linda Ann COLE b. 1959		1978 St Paul Bedminster Bristol	

Individual(s)	Baptised	Married	Buried
+ Shaun William Clive RICHARDS b. 1959		1978 St Paul Bedminster, Bristol	
Daniel Shaun RICHARDS b. 1982			
Joe William RICHARDS b. 1984			
Daniel Jonathan RICHARDS b. 1985			
James Samuel RICHARDS b. 1987			
Thomas Joseph RICHARDS b. 1989			
Jordan John RICHARDS b. 1990			
Alfred Frederick COLE b. 1928			
Valerie COLE			
Ernest Window COLE b. 1894		1920 St Silas, Bristol	
+ Mary Ann Victoria SMITH b. 1897		1920 St Silas, Bristol	1981 Greenbank Cem ^y . Bristol
Ernest Philip Charles COLE b. 1924			1942 Greenbank Cem ^y . Bristol
Frank COLE b. 1899			
John James COLE b. 1901			
+ Emily Rosina PALMER b. 1904			
John Raymond COLE b1932			
Shirley Joyce COLE b. 1936			
Joyce Lilian COLE b. 1940			
+ Roger HANCORN b. 1941			
Debra Susan HANCORN b. 1959			
+ Lilian May STENNER b. 1921			
Michael John COLE b. 1952			

Churches

This section focusses on the buildings and locations identified above.

Bristol

Bedminster, St. John the Baptist

The church of St John the Baptist, Bedminster had an eventful history. The earliest record dates from 1003 when it was the mother church to the most famous of Bristol's churches, St Mary Redcliffe. The latter was officially a chapel-of-ease to Bedminster until 1852. The Civil War saw the building burnt down by the order of Prince Rupert in 1645. It was not rebuilt until 1663. This church in turn saw its last service on 25th June 1854. After this it was demolished in favour of a new church on the same site, to a grand design by John Norton. The new church had a proud west tower, a lofty clerestoried nave of six bays, aisles, north porch, a slightly lower chancel to the west and a chapel or vestry to the east of this. The interior was luxuriantly appointed, with much use of carved foliage, wall shafts and string courses. The new building was consecrated on 30th October 1855.



and a chapel or vestry to the east of this. The interior was luxuriantly appointed, with much use of carved foliage, wall shafts and string courses. The new building was consecrated on 30th October 1855.

On the 24th November 1940 the church was burnt out by incendiary bombs and the church was to remain a ruin for another 27 years. The ruins were finally cleared away in 1967.

From churchcrawler.co.uk

Earl

1855 St. John the Baptist, Bedminster
(Archiseek.com)



Early 1900s Picture. Bristol Archives

Bedminster, St. Luke

Anton Bantock of the Malago Society writes as follows, in the Bristol & Avon Family History Society Journal in 2001, about the 19th Century changes in Bedminster and the provision of new churches, taking the separation consequent on the New Cut as a starting point.

“The transformation of Bedminster was rapid and traumatic. The population jumped from 3,000 in 1801 to 78,000 in 1884, as people from depressed rural Somerset flocked to the new coalfields for work. Almost overnight Bedminster became a powerhouse of heavy industry manned by a huge workforce packed into high-density terraced housing. Coal mining and smelting generated other industries: engineering, tanneries, glue-works, paint factories, glassworks. In the 1880s, E.S. & A. ROBINSONS paper-bag business and W.D. & H.O. WILLS’ tobacco business moved to new factories. The development was too rapid to implement the kind of urban infrastructure necessary to prevent slum conditions. The authorities faced public health problems of monumental proportions. In the filthy courts and alleys, the cholera epidemics of 1830 and 1846 caused more fatalities than anywhere else in Bristol.

“New churches were built in the parish: St Paul’s in Southville (1831); St. Peter’s, Bishopsworth (1843); St. Raphael’s, Cumberland Road on the north side of the New Cut (1858), and **St Luke’s in York Road (1861), while St John’s church was re-built in 1854.**

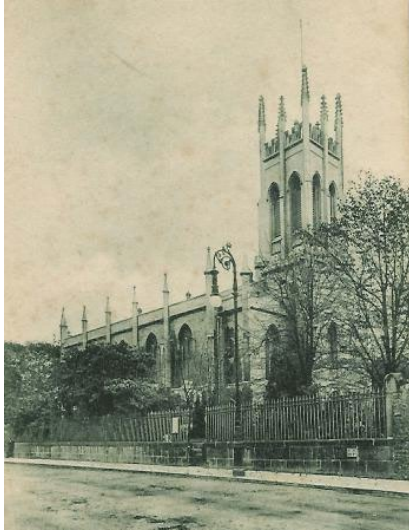
Both the ruined church of St John’s and the redundant church of St Luke’s have been demolished.

St Luke’s, York Rd, Bedminster (Bristol Bells)



Early 1900s, Bristol Archives

Bedminster (Southville) St Paul



St Paul Bedminster (Church Crawler)

Now the parish church of Bedminster, since the destruction of St John in the second world war, it also was blitzed. Services were transferred to its daughter church of St David until St Paul was reopened.

The site of St Paul was, in the 1820s, part of the garden of John Acraman. He sold the site at the price of £200 per acre, so he was hardly a true benefactor. The foundation stone was laid on 8th September 1829 by the Bishop of Bath & Wells and £3000 was given by the Church Commissioners from their New Churches Fund, the parish raising a similar sum. It was to be a chapel-of-ease to St John, as already were the churches of St Thomas, city and St Mary Redcliffe. The architect was Charles Dyer, who chose the typical Georgian Gothic style. He would later design the classical Victoria Rooms in Clifton. On 24th October 1831, just over two years later, the church was

consecrated. The church could accommodate 1780 worshippers and often topped the Sunday attendance figures for the city through the next hundred years. It became an independent parish church in August 1852.

The church as built had no chancel, but was a rectangular hall with galleries on three sides. The organ stood at the east end of the south gallery and the galleries themselves were supported on thin cast iron columns. Outside the church bristled with pinnacles, with eight crocket pinnacles atop the tower. The site is prominent and closes the view from Bristol's Centre along the floating harbour, where the Watershed and Arncliffe stand today.

In 1892 a general restoration was begun prior to the construction of a chancel to the designs of Vincent Voisey (or possibly John Bevan). It was in a correct local C15 Perpendicular style.

This church was blitzed on Good Friday 1941, the nave was burnt out and the chancel completely wrecked, the east wall collapsing. Services transferred to the recently closed St David. Rebuilding of the church was begun to the plans of Eustace Button in 1956 reusing much of the outer walls and the church was reopened on 22nd March 1958. Button's design simplified the detail to an overall "feel" of Gothic.

Further drama ensued here in 1990 when hurricane force gusts of wind brought down one of the corner pinnacles which fell through the roof. St David's was again brought back into use for services; the opportunity was also taken to remodel the west end of the church by filling in the upper level of the gallery to create parish rooms.

From Church Crawler

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Bedminster, St Silas

The parish of St Silas was formed in 1866 out of St Philip and Jacob, and St Luke, Barton. The church was consecrated in 1867, rebuilt and reopened in 1873 and destroyed in 1941. The parish was united with St Luke, Bedminster, in 1956.

From Wikipedia

Brislington, St. Luke



St Luke's Brislington (Wikipedia)

St Luke's Church was built in the 15th century. It is believed to have been founded by Thomas la Warr in around 1420, with the north arcade and aisle being remodelled in 1819 and the east end in 1874, by Benjamin Ferrey. It includes a bell dating from 1766 made by Thomas Bilbie. St Luke's has been designated as a grade II* listed building.

From Wikipedia

Easton. St Lawrence



Lawrence hill. Early 1900s (Bristol Archives)

The parish of St. Lawrence, Easton, was formed out of the parishes of St. Philip and Jacob and St. Matthew, Moorfields in 1883. It was united with St. Gabriel, Easton, in 1954, with St Gabriel to be the parish church and St. Lawrence to be demolished.

The church stood on Lawrence Hill between the Leadhouse Street and Wellesley street junctions³¹³. The area has since been engulfed by the Lawrence Hill roundabout.

Horsefair, St. James



Church of St James Priory, Horsefair, Bristol by Geoff Clark , Flickr 2013

The Priory Church of St James is a Grade I listed building in Whitson Street, Horsefair. It was founded in 1129 as a Benedictine priory by Robert, Earl of Gloucester, the illegitimate son of Henry I. The early nave from 1129 survived the Dissolution of the Monasteries. This was due to an agreement in 1374 between the Abbot

of Tewkesbury and the parishioners which stated that the nave would become the latter's responsibility. The tower was added around 1374. In 1540 the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII meant that St James Priory was surrendered to the crown. The priory buildings were demolished, keeping only the nave of the church. The south aisle was widened and rebuilt in 1698. The porch dates from the late 18th century, and the north aisle was rebuilt in 1864.

Before recent restoration the building was on the Historic England Buildings at Risk Register and described as being in very bad condition.

Until 1996 it was a Church of England place of worship. Today, it is an active church within the Catholic Diocese of Clifton

From Wikipedia

Redcliff, St Mary Redcliffe

St Mary Redcliffe is an Anglican parish church located in the Redcliff district of Bristol. The building was constructed from the 12th to the 15th centuries. It has been a place of Christian worship for over 900 years. The church is renowned for the beauty of its Gothic architecture and is classed as a Grade I listed building. It was famously described by Queen Elizabeth I as "the fairest, goodliest, and most famous parish church in England."

Little remains of the earliest churches on the site although a small portion of the fabric has been dated to the 12th century. Much of the current building dates from the late 13th and 14th centuries when it was built and decorated by wealthy merchants of the city. The spire fell after being struck by lightning in 1446 and was not rebuilt until 1872. Little of the original stained glass remains following damage in the English Civil War, with extensive new glass being added during the Victorian era. The bells in the tower provide full-circle English-Style change ringing.

Thomas Chatterton, whose father was sexton of St Mary Redcliffe, was born in the house next to the church in 1752. He studied the church records in a room above the south porch and wrote several works which he attempted to pass as genuine medieval documents. He committed suicide in London at the age of seventeen.

The upper part of the spire, struck by lightning in 1446, was reconstructed in 1872 to a height of 262 feet above the floor of the church. Funds for the spire rebuilding had been raised by the Canynge Society, the Friends of St Mary Redcliffe, which was formed in 1843.



St Mary Redcliff (thousandwonders. net)

Little of the early stained glass remains. In the west window of St John's Chapel, for instance, the medieval glass barely survived the destruction said to have been caused by Oliver Cromwell's men. The Victorian stained-glass windows were created by some of the finest studios of that period.

William Wailes produced a design for the seven-light east window following a competition launched in 1846; however, delays in raising the money caused delays in its installation. Controversy over the design meant that it was replaced with the current depiction of the Crucifixion by Clayton and Bell in 1904. The tree design in the window of the south transept was also by Wailes and was installed in 1854. In the north transept is a memorial window to Samuel Lucas who died in 1853, designed and installed by the St Helens Crown Glass Company which later became Pilkington. Another Wailes design depicting the Offering of the Wise Men was installed in the Lady Chapel, alongside one designed by Arthur O'Connor. The windows in the choir aisles are by Clayton and Bell who also

designed the memorial to Edward Colston which is in the north wall of the north transept. The stained-glass window commemorating the 17th century Royal African Company magnate was removed in June 2020 following the toppling of the Statue of Edward Colston.

The west window was obscured by the organ until the 1860s when it was moved to make way for a depiction of the Annunciation.

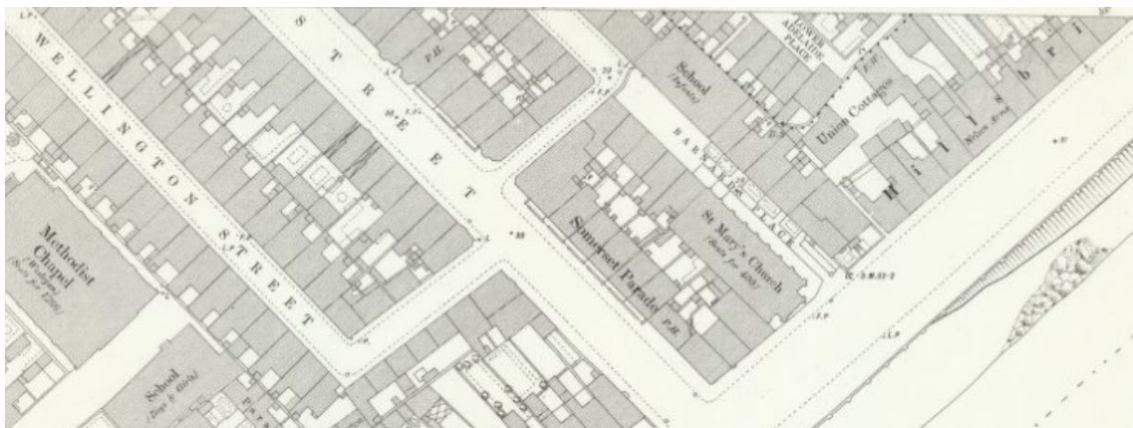
The tower contains a total of 15 bells, one bell dating from as early as 1622 cast by Purdue and two cast by Thomas I Bilbie of the Bilbie family from Chew Stoke in 1763. The remainder were cast by John Taylor & Co at various dates, from 1903 to 2012.

St Mary Redcliffe Mission Church

This Place of Worship was founded in 1879, and it has since been demolished.

St Mary's was a Mission of St Mary Redcliffe but, unusually for mission churches, had its own set of baptism registers covering the period 1882-1941. It stood in Barnard's Place which was the lower end of what was then Colston Street. The latter ran parallel to, and to the east of Somerset Street. St Mary's stood on the northeast corner of its junction with Clarence Road and can be seen on the Bristol Town Plans of 1884. An associated school room was first licensed for divine service in January 1879, and a licence issued for Barnard's Place itself on 29th January 1882. [Bristol Record Office: Ref P/St.MR/BP/2]

The fact that the registers end in 1941 suggests it was damaged during WWII bombing. Certainly, both the building, and the street it was part of, no longer exist in the present day, as their site is occupied by blocks of apartments, and car parking³¹⁴.



St Mary's Church, Barnard Place (OS Bristol, Glos LXXVI.1.11 Nat Lib Scot)

St Philip & St. Jacob



(St Philip & St Jacob Church, now Central (Bing.com images))

SS Philip and Jacob Church, sometimes referred to as Pip 'n' Jay, is a parish church in central Bristol. The church that meets there is now called Central. Its full name since 1934 is St Philip and St Jacob with Emmanuel the Unity. Reference to the original church of St Philip exists in records dating from 1174. Historically the 'Mother church of East Bristol', it serves the area known as The Dings.

St Philip and St Jacob identifies itself as the city's 'oldest place of Christian worship'. The church began as a small priory around AD 900. It was later

rebuilt by Robert, 1st Earl of Gloucester, who also built the nearby priory of St James'. All that remains of the original church is the font, although parts of the chancel and tower date from at least the 13th Century. The building was extended during the Middle Ages to include the present-day nave, the pillars of which are actually Victorian additions, possibly by William Armstrong.

The tower contains eight bells dating from 1738 and made by William Bilbie.

Around 1860 new plans were submitted by John Bindon, Richard Shackleton Pope and Thomas Shackleton Pope and accepted for the rebuilding of the church.

St Philip and St Jacob is one of the original parishes of Bristol. It includes the Old Market area and extended beyond the original city boundaries to include what are now the Bristol districts of Baptist Mills, Barton Hill, Lawrence Hill, Newtown, Russell Town, St Jude's, St Philips Marsh, The Dings and part of Easton. A growing population in the 19th century led to the building of ten new churches in the east of the parish, seven of which have now closed. In 1871 Greenbank Cemetery was opened as a burial place for the whole parish.

From Wikipedia

Andrew Plaster of the Bristol & Avon Family History Society identifies these new churches as follows: -Holy Trinity, Clarence Road (1834[sic]); St Luke, Barton Hill (1843); St Simon, Baptist Mills (1844); St Jude's, (1849); Emmanuel, The Dings (1862); St Silas, St Philip's Marsh (1866); St. Gabriel, Upper Easton (1870); St Lawrence, Lawrence Hill (1883); Christ Church, Russell Town (1886) and All Hallows, Easton (1901).

Holy Trinity, St Philip's

Built 1829-32 by Rickman & Hutchinson this church was consecrated and opened for public worship on the 17th of February, 1832.



Holy Trinity Church; St Phil. (now deconsecrated. (Flickr- So Sad About Us)

It became a venue for Rock concerts etc. and is now "Trinity Community Arts Centre". I

The interior has been subdivided at gallery level into two floors, and various rooms created above and below the galleries in the aisles. Closed in 2001 the building languished but has reopened since 2004 as a Community Centre.

*From Wikipedia & Church
Crawler*

Temple, Holy Cross

Temple Church, also known as Holy Cross Church, is a ruined church in Redcliffe. It is on the site of a previous, round church of the Knights Templar, which they built on in the 12th century. In 1313 the Knights Hospitaller acquired the church, following the suppression of the Templars, only to lose it in 1540 at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries. By the early 14th century, the church served as the parish church for the area known as Temple Fee. From around the same time, the rebuilding of the church on a rectangular plan started. This was completed by 1460, with the construction of a leaning west tower.

The parish of Temple Fee had come into being by 1308. Temple Fee and Redcliffe Fee were distinct parishes, physically separated by a "Law Ditch". Both were absorbed into Bristol by the city charter of 1373. Temple parish merged into St Mary Redcliffe parish in 1956.



Temple (Holy Cross) Church (Wikipedia)

The church was bombed on 24/25 November 1940 in the Bristol Blitz, leaving it an empty shell. The damage was severe and, although the arcades still stood, they were very unsafe and have since been removed. The wrought-iron parclose screens to the side chapels did survive and are today in the Lord Mayor's Chapel. The sword rest by William Edney is now preserved but broken up into sections and re-erected in other churches. The 15th century candelabrum, with its central statue of the Virgin Mary also survived, albeit a little dented, and now hangs in the Berkeley Chapel of Bristol

Cathedral. Temple Church also contained a peel of 8 bells, which were moved to the Cathedral's north-west tower after the bombing.

A free-standing bell tower seems to have existed until the early 15th century, further to the west. The present, leaning, west tower was built in stages, and completed between 1441 and 1460. The highest stage is at a different angle to the vertical to the lower stages, as the masons attempted to correct for the subsidence of the lower stages. The top of the tower leans 5 ft 5 in from the vertical. It is 114 feet high. The lean is popularly attributed to the foundations of the tower being built on top of woolsacks but is most likely due to the soft alluvial clay underneath being compressed.

The church is a Grade II listed building.

Parish records for Temple Church, Bristol are held at Bristol Archives including baptism, marriage, burial and burial in woollen registers. The archive also includes records of the churchwardens, charities and vestry. The archive of records for Temple Church is fragmented because the records were kept within the church when it was bombed.

London

St Pancras Old Church

St Pancras Old Church is a Church of England parish church in Somers Town, Central London. It is dedicated to the Roman martyr Saint Pancras and is believed by many to be one of the oldest sites of Christian worship in England. The church is situated on Pancras Road in the London Borough of



An anonymous pen-and-ink sketch of the south-east view, circa 1840 (Wikipedia)

Camden, with the surrounding area and its international railway station taking its name. St Pancras Old Church, which was largely rebuilt in the Victorian era, should not be confused with St Pancras New Church (1819–1822) about 940 yd away, on Euston Road.

Originally, the parish of St Pancras stretched from close to Oxford Street almost to Highgate. In the early Middle Ages there was a centre of population in the vicinity of

what is now known as the old church. However, in the 14th century the population abandoned the site and moved to what is now Kentish Town. The reasons for this were probably the vulnerability of the plain around the church to flooding (the River Fleet, which is now underground, runs through it) and the availability of better wells at Kentish Town.

The church subsequently fell into disrepair. Towards the end of the 18th century, services were only held in the church on one Sunday each month. 18th and early 19th century urban expansion led to the construction of the capacious St Pancras New Church on what was then the "New Road" (Euston Road, about one km away). The old building lost its status as the parish church when the New Church was consecrated in 1822, becoming a chapel of ease.

After the Reformation the isolation and decay of the church made it a tempting resort for Catholics: indeed, it was said that the last bell which tolled for the Mass in England was at St Pancras. St Pancras (and to a lesser degree Paddington Church) were the only places in London where Roman Catholics were permitted to be buried.

As it stood in the early 19th century, the church consisted of an unaisled nave, a chancel without a chancel arch and a western tower. The south porch had served as a vestry since the 18th century. By 1847 the Old Church was derelict, but in view of the growth of population in the southern part of the parish, it was decided to restore it. (Victorian restoration of churches is not what we understand today by the phrase building restoration.) The architect of the alterations was Alexander Dick Gough. The old tower was removed, allowing the nave to be extended westwards, and a new tower was built on the south side. The south porch was removed, and a new vestry was added on the north side. The whole exterior of the church was refaced or reworked. The enlargement and the addition of galleries increased the capacity of the church from about 120 to 500. The building is grade II listed.

From Wikipedia

Devon

Sheepwash, St. Lawrence

The parish church, dedicated to St Lawrence, was completely rebuilt in 1880. I have no image of the church or its surroundings, as the place may have been, in 1777 when Orange Innocent DURRANT was baptised there.

Thelbridge, St. David

The parish church, of medieval origins, was completely rebuilt in 1872-5. It's appearance in 1733 when Agnes PRIDHAM married Francis COLE can only be a matter of conjecture.

West Worlington, St. Mary



West Worlington Church of St Mary, a beautiful 15th century Mid-Devon church

The description in *Devon Churchland* opens with the following....

The church is a doozy, with a probable thirteenth century tower, fourteenth century chancel and fifteenth century rest. That twisted spire takes the grand prize, covered in oak shingles (sometimes called shindles down thisaway) as it is.

Witheridge, St John the Baptist

It is possible there was a timber church here in the Saxon period, but the first building we know of was a Norman church built around AD 1250. Almost nothing remains of the Norman church beyond 3 nave pillars and part of the north chancel wall.



St John the Baptist, Witheridge (A Church Near You)

The church was rebuilt in Perpendicular Gothic style during the 15th century, but it was not until 1568 that it gained the striking west tower that makes it such a local landmark. Notable also are the exquisitely carved late 15th-century octagonal font and the magnificent 15th-century pulpit

(From Britain Express)

Gloucestershire

Amberly, Holy Trinity



AMBERLEY, Holy Trinity - Nat. Churches Trust 2018

Holy Trinity Church is one of very few remaining churches created with a cast iron internal floor and column structure. The church was built in 1836 in a Gothic style to the designs of the Cheltenham architect Robert Stokes. The building has an interesting two-tier structure. The upper floor is the church. This is accessed by the principal flight of steps at the west end, a ramped access on the north side and steps to the choir and clergy vestries at the east end. The lower floor, an under-croft or semi-basement, originally provided two school rooms but is now the Parish Room or village hall. Access to the Parish Room is via steps adjacent to the principal church steps.

(National Churches Trust)

Westerleigh, St James the Great



St James the Great, Westerleigh (Jaggery of geograph.org.uk 2017)

Westerleigh is an ancient church which up to 1886 was a chapelry annexed to the cure of Pucklechurch. On 3rd August 1886, by an Order-in-Council, it was created "a district chapelry".

*From the National Archives
(Bristol)*

The C of E Church Heritage Record adds that the building is grade 1 listed.

Hampshire

Alverstoke, St. Mary

Wikipedia tells us that the original church was entirely replaced by the present structure, when rebuilt 1863–85. The COLE marriage and baptism of 1812 and 1813 would have taken place in the medieval building for which I have no image and little information.

Somerset

Bridgwater, St Mary



St Mary's Parish Church, Bridgwater (Ken Grainger 2008 geograph)

The Church of St Mary, in Bridgwater, Somerset was rebuilt in the 13th century and has Grade 1 listing. It has a north porch and windows which date from the 14th century. During the 15th and 16th centuries chapels were added, modifying the nave, and the chancel was extended.

In July 1685, during the Monmouth Rebellion, the Duke of Monmouth watched from the tower

as the forces of King James II assembled, at Westonzoyland, under the command of the Earl of Feversham, prior to the Battle of Sedgemoor.

The spire, which was built in 1367, is 114 feet 7.5 inches high and sits on top of the 64 feet tower. The spire was split by lightning in 1814 and repaired the following year. On the face of the tower is a clock installed in 1869 replacing earlier clocks which had been on the tower since 1393. Within the tower were originally eight bells. The oldest bell dated from 1617 with further bells being added through the 17th and 18th centuries. The Tenor, added in 1868, was cast by John Taylor & Co. An additional five bells were added to the peal in 2020.

Between 1849 and 1851 major renovation work, by Dickson and Brakspear of Manchester, included the removal of the galleries and box pews. They were replaced by regular pews. Between 1877 and 1878 further alterations were made and in 1888 the walled-up arch between the nave and the tower was opened. In 1902 a vestry was added. In 1937 more alterations were made and the decoration of the Sanctuary simplified.

The interior of the church includes a 13 feet by 8 feet painting of the Descent from the Cross, of Spanish or Italian origin. This was given to the church in 1775 by Anne Poulett, the Member of Parliament for Bridgwater. Apparently captured when a Spanish warship was taken a prize, the artist is unknown. The painting has however, controversially, been attributed to Murillo or Annibale Carracci. St Mary's Church also possesses an octagonal 16th century oak pulpit.

From Wikipedia

[St Mary's Church, Bruton](#)

Like many Somerset churches, it has a very fine tower; less usually it has a second one as well. It has been designated a Grade I listed building.



St Mary's church from the south-west (Wikipedia)

The first church on the site was founded by Ine of Wessex in the 7th century, this grew into an Augustinian priory, becoming Bruton Abbey shortly before the Dissolution of the Monasteries. The church, within the grounds of the abbey so strictly a chapel of it, was always in effect the parish church of the town.

The earliest parts of the present building are the north aisle and north tower, dating from circa 1350, and the crypt under the chancel from the same period. Together, these three parts formed the

original church before it was greatly expanded in the 15th century. In 1445 the construction of the more massive west tower was begun, followed by a new south aisle and central nave. The roof and clerestory were begun in 1506 and finished in 1523. Alterations in the 15th century were also made to the existing north aisle, with new tracery.

The chancel was rebuilt in 1743 by Nathaniel Ireson for Sir Charles Berkeley as a shallow tunnel vault with Rococo styling, another unexpected note, possibly on the site of an older chancel. In 1875, the now former rood screen stood under the main tower arch, supporting the organ. It now stands in the north tower, and dates back to 1620. It is Jacobean in design.

The Bruton branch of the Berkeley family have a long association with the town and the church. William Berkeley left Bruton for America becoming colonial governor of Virginia. The church has links with Bruton Parish Church in the restored area of Colonial Williamsburg in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA.

From Wikipedia

Cemeteries

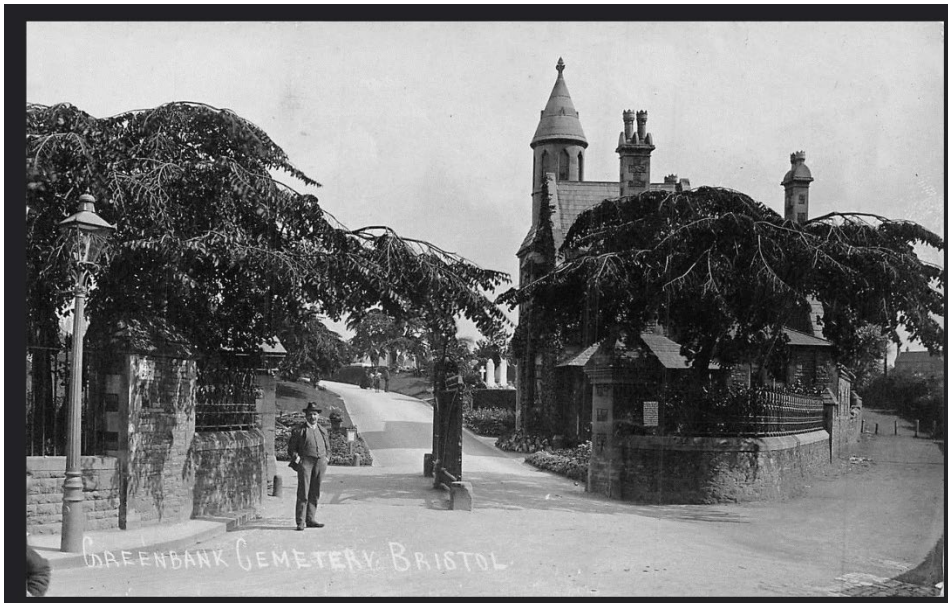
Arnos Vale



Arnos Vale (Trip Advisor)

The cemetery has a website at arnosvale.org.uk. It is described in detail in their publication by the Friends of Arnos Vale³¹⁵.

Greenbank



Greenbank Cemetery (Burials & Beyond)

This location is well described by “Burials & Beyond” at their site under the title of “A Day at Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol”. Their opening words, talking of “a large Victorian Garden cemetery, [which] like so many others, has suffered from years of neglect” are a preface to something far more fascinating.

Henbury



Henbury Cemetery (Find A Grave, photo JohnM)

Located on Kings Weston Road, Henbury cemetery was opened in 1923.

Loos



Loos Memorial (CWGC)

The Cemetery, maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, is also described in Wikipedia-

The Loos Memorial is a World War I memorial forming the sides and rear of Dud Corner Cemetery, located near the commune of Loos-en-Gohelle, in the Pas-de-Calais département of France. The memorial lists 20,610 names of British and Commonwealth soldiers with no known grave who were killed in the area.

Acknowledgements

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Peter Read	Knowle & Totterdown Local History Society
Ray Thomas	Ray's Miscellany (https://brisray.com)
Vicki Walker	Stonehouse History Group

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FISHER Janet & Derek Bygone Bristol: Lawrence Hill Easton Whitehall

MELLOR Penny & Mary Wright Kingsdown, Bristol's Vertical Suburb

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Flickr

Forces War Records

Free BNMD

Gloucestershire Places of Worship

Graces Guide

GRO: *Records of Births Marriages and Deaths from the General Register Office are denoted by the abbreviations BC, MC or DC and the year of registration.*

Mapcarta

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Notes

End Notes

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