

The daughters of Rev Robert Wilkinson and St Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe

The Roughton parents appear to have had no further connections with Lightcliffe or Halifax living as they did in Coventry. Sarah Roughton nee Wilkinson was buried on 26th May 1853 followed by her husband John Roughton on 19th September 1855. Both were interred in the London Road Civic Cemetery, Coventry.

But their youngest daughter Lydia Ann Roughton - who was granted probate in her father's will - did maintain a connection with her aunts in Halifax. Indeed, she was living with them in 1851. In 1855 her eldest aunt Mary Wilkinson died and was buried in St Matthew's churchyard on 29th September 1855 in plot HH*8.

West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813-1985 for Mary Wilkinson				
Lightcliffe, St Matthew > 1855				
Mary Wilkinson No. 964.	Halifax	Sept. 29	72	A. Maude Vicar of Misfield

Prerogative & Exchequer Courts of York Probate Index, 1688-1858 Image	
View transcription	
Vol 239 418 Wilkinson Mary of Halifax Spinster	Prob. £ 800/- since 1800-1850

And then after Ann Walker's death her widowed aunt Lydia Fenton must have moved to Halifax as the 1861 census return records: -

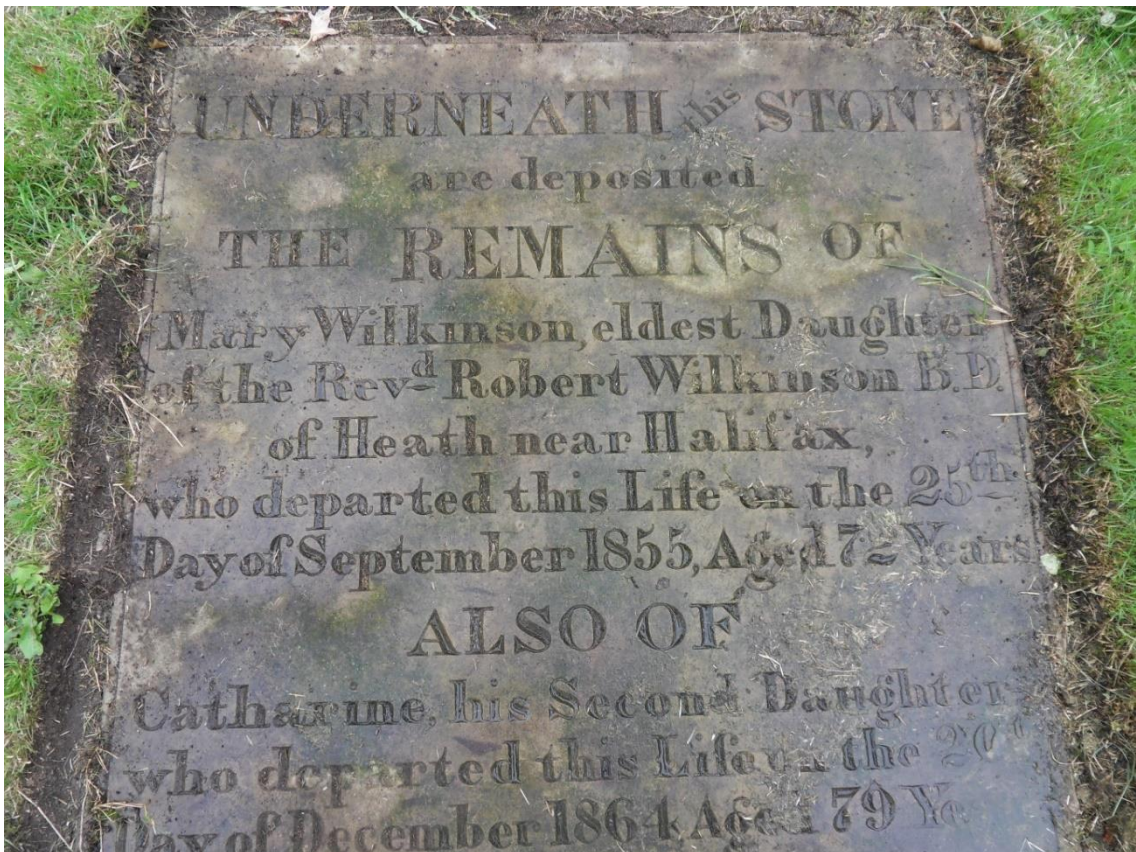
1861 census

Catherine Wilkinson	Head	75	Landed Proprietor
Lydia Fenton	Sister	65	Widow Annuitant & Land Holder
Lydia A Roughton	Niece	41	Landed Proprietor
Sarah A Milner	Servant	50	Cook
Sophia Forner	Servant	23	House Maid
Address 2 Savile Row, Halifax			

Catharine Wilkinson died aged 79 on 20th December 1864 and was buried in St. Matthew's churchyard on 27th December 1864 alongside her older sister Mary in plot HH*8. The funeral service was once again conducted by Charles Musgrave.

West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813-1985 for Catharine Wilkinson				
Lightcliffe, St Matthew > 1865				
Catharine Wilkinson No. 1525.	Halifax	Dec: 27	79	Charles Mewgrave
		1865		

The easy to read inscription on the Wilkinson grave, plot HH*8.



Catharine Wilkinson's probate record reads: -

Date 2nd March 1865

Wilkinson Catharine otherwise Catherine

Effects under £1500.

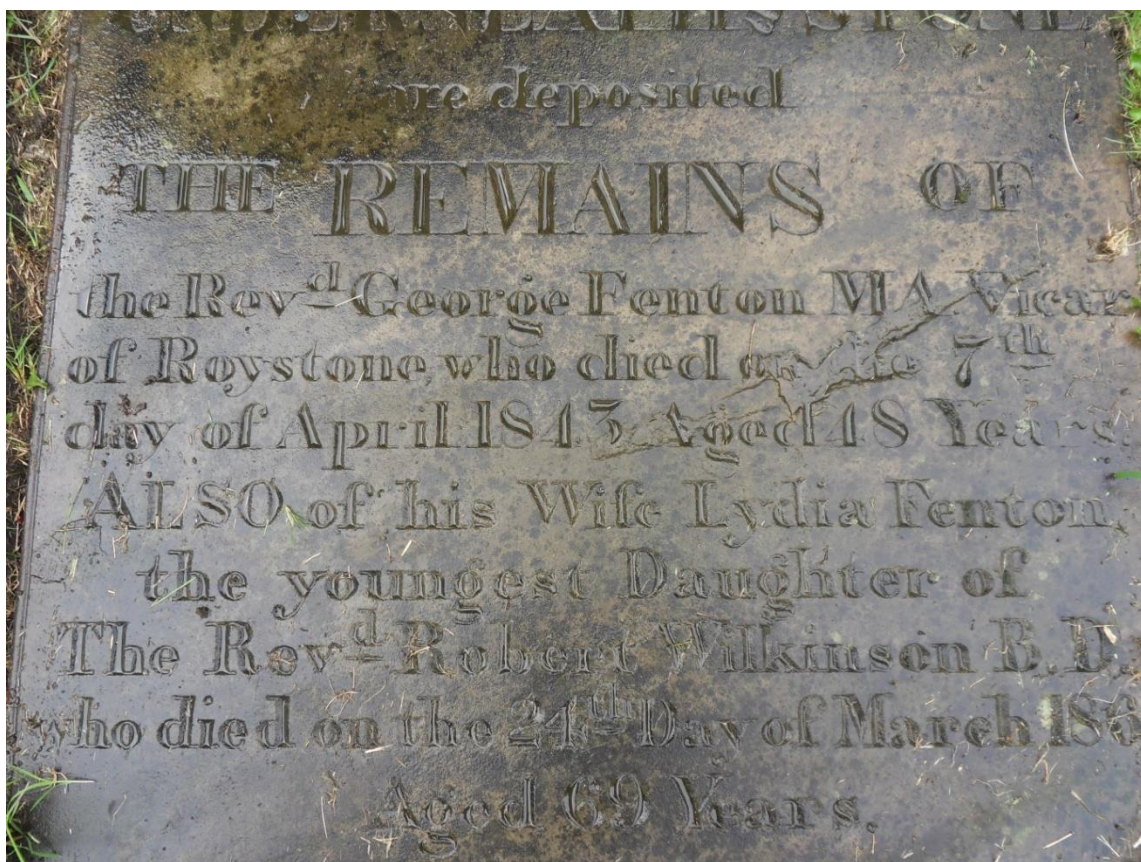
Resworn at the Stamp Office January 1872 under £3000.

The Will with a Codicil of Catharine otherwise Catherine Wilkinson late of Halifax in the County of York Spinster deceased who died 20 December proved at Wakefield by the oath of Lydia Fenton of Halifax aforesaid Widow the Sister One of the Executor

Lydia Fenton nee Wilkinson, companion to Ann Walker and then her Housekeeper, died on 24th March 1865 at Halifax. She was buried alongside her husband Reverend George Fenton on 30th March 1865 in St. Matthew's churchyard in plot HH*7. Again Charles Musgrave presided over the funeral.

West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813-1985 for Lydia Fenton				
Lightcliffe, St Matthew > 1865				
<i>Lydia Fenton</i>	<i>Halifax</i>	<i>March</i> <i>30</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>Charles</i> <i>Musgrave</i>
No. 1535.				

The matching inscription on the adjacent Fenton grave, plot HH*7



Date 15 June 1865

FENTON Lydia

Effects under £800

Resworn at the Stamp office under £3000.

The Will with a Codicil of Lydia Fenton late of Halifax in the County of York Widow deceased who died 24 March 1865 at Halifax aforesaid was proved at Wakefield by the oath of Lydia Ann Roughton of Halifax aforesaid Spinster the Niece one of the Executors.

Niece Lydia Ann Roughton who was baptised on 21st Jul 1819 at Holy Trinity, Coventry died on 31st August 1868 in Coventry where she was buried. Her probate record reads :-

Dated 17 November 1868

ROUGHTON Lydia Ann

Effects under £3000

Resworn at the Stamp Office January
1872 under £4000

The Will with a Codicil of Lydia Ann Roughton formerly of Halifax in the County of York but late of Coventry in the County of Warwick Spinster deceased who died 31 August 1868 at Coventry aforesaid was proved at the Principal Registry by the oaths of Thomas Adam of Halifax aforesaid Gentleman and Charles Emmett of Halifax aforesaid Gentleman the Executors

The Executors Thomas Adam and Charles Emmett would appear to be attorneys. Thomas Adam and his family had also been neighbours of the Wilkinson sisters in Savile Row, Halifax.

Presumably Reverend Robert Wilkinson left his estate to his daughters who in turn granted probate to each other and then this niece Lydia Ann Roughton. She also figures in her father, John Roughton's probate which remained unadministered until June 1871. This might explain why the three probate records above were all resworn in January 1872.

The Wilkinson family may not have lived in Lightcliffe but ten of them - both parents, four young children, three adult daughters and a son in law - were buried there.

This concludes what has been discovered linking the family of Reverend Robert Wilkinson, Ann Walker's family from Crow Nest and Anne Lister of Shibden Hall with St. Matthew's churchyard, Lightcliffe.

D.M.Barker
March 2018