

The Ashworths of Strawberry Hill and Clough House

In the previous article

The Gibsons and Firths of Slead Hall

it was explained how Abraham Firth Macaulay and his sister Anne Ashworth née Macaulay inherited the original Gibson property Slead Hall situated between Brighthouse and Hove Edge and the original Firth property Clough House in Huddersfield. They were the children of Thomas Macauley, a surgeon, and his wife Ann Firth.

This article will concentrate on Ann(e) Macaulay who was baptised at Scalby, near Scarborough on 12th May 1781.

She married Richard Johnson Daventry Ashworth of Manchester on Boxing Day 1801 in St.Peter's Church, Huddersfield. Richard Ashworth was born about 1772 the son of John Ashworth and Susanna Child. When his parents married on 20th January 1755 at Birstall, the bride was from Roberttown, and the groom was from Batley. John Ashworth had been born in Rochdale on 17th May 1732. A 1922 newspaper article notes that the Ashworths were an old Rochdale family who resided at Ashworth Hall. Obviously some crossed the Pennines.

John and Susanna Ashworth brought up their family, firstly at Sunny Bank, Batley and then at Elland Bank, Halifax. They were active Baptists who were responsible for the building of Elland Particular Baptist Church. Most, if not all their sons, and many of their grandsons attended either Cambridge University or Oxford University with most of them going on to become vicars.

Richard and his older brother Philip Howard Ashworth were the exceptions. Although they both went to Cambridge University Philip seems to have run the family's malting and corn dealing businesses in Elland whilst Richard became a barrister.

NAME:	Richard. Ashworth
COLLEGE:	EMMANUEL
ENTERED:	Michs. 1790
MORE INFORMATION:	Adm. pens. at EMMANUEL, Oct. 13, 1789. Of Yorks. [Probably s. of John, of Elland, Yorks.] Matric. Michs. 1790; Scholar; B.A. (18 th Wrangler) 1794. Adm. at the Middle Temple, Feb. 6, 1794. Called to the Bar, 1802.

This fits with the profession recorded on Richard and Ann(e)'s marriage record. Perhaps, understandably, he did not always use his full name

No. 67 *Richard Ashworth* of the *Parish*
Middle Temple in the City of London Esq^r
& Miss Ann Macaulay of Clough House Esq^r's *Parish* were
 Married in this Church by *License*
 this *Twenty-sixth* Day of *December* in the Year *One Thousand Eight Hundred*
 and *One* By me *William Robinson Curate*
 This Marriage was solemnized between Us { *Richard Ashworth*
Ann Macaulay
 In the Presence of { *Abraham Firth Macaulay*
Philip Howard Ashworth

Notice the witnesses Ann's brother Abraham Firth Macauley and Richard's older brother Philip Howard Ashworth.



Clough House was on the Halifax Old Road which led from Huddersfield to Halifax via Grimescar and Ainley top.

Despite their Yorkshire roots Richard and Ann lived at Strawberry Hill, Manchester presumably because of his career as a barrister. They had at least ten children. 'Richard Ashworth of Strawberry Hill, Manchester and Clough House, Huddersfield' is recorded on one much later newspaper report. Perhaps they divided their time between the two properties. This may also explain why when he died on 5th August 1828 aged 56 at 'Strawberry Hill, Manchester' he was brought to St. Matthew's churchyard for burial on 12th August 1828 in plot GG*6. He has a *Lancashire Wills & Probate* record dated 16th February 1829.



It would be nearly thirty-five years before his wife Ann(e) née Macaulay joined him. She died in Wales on 8th July 1863 aged 82. Burial took place at Lightcliffe on 17th July 1863.



**SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
RICHARD JOHNSON DAVENTRY ASHWORTH
OF STRAWBERRY HILL NEAR MANCHESTER
WHO DIED AUGUST 5TH 1828 AGED 56 YEARS**

HE FELL ASLEEP IN JESUS

**ALSO ANNE ASHWORTH WIDOW OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED JULY 8TH 1863 AGED 82 YEARS**

THE MEMORY OF THE JUST IS BLESSED

Anne Ashworth 27 September [1863]

Effects under £450

The Will of Anne Ashworth late of Bramwith Hall near Doncaster in the County of York Widow deceased who died 8 July 1863 at Penmaenmaur in the County of Carnarvon was proved at the Principal Registry by the oath of William Evans Ashworth of Southport in the County of Lancashire Gentleman the Son the surviving Executor.

After her death sale notices like this started appearing in various newspapers.

Leeds Intelligencer 29th August 1863

PRELIMINARY NOTICE – The Trustees of the late Mrs Anne Ashworth intend to offer for SALE BY AUCTION, in Lots, in *October next* unless previously disposed of by private contract, the following portions of the TRUST ESTATES, viz, :-

Lane End in Golcar, (Farm buildings and Land)

Ridings Do. (Several Closes of Land)

Laverack Hall, Hipperholme (Farm buildings and Land)

Pond Farm Do. Do.

And Land and Houses at Honley, near Huddersfield, occupied by Mr. Geo. Durrans

Plans and Particulars are in course of preparation, and when ready will be duly announced. Information may be had of Mr. GEO.CROWTHER, Land Agent and Surveyor, 35, New Street, Huddersfield : or

Messrs. BAXTER, ROSE & CO.,

6, Victoria Street, Westminster

By 7th November 1863 there was more detail in the *Huddersfield Chronicle* and the auction dates had been moved to 25th and 27th November 1863.

GOLCAR, HONLEY, HIPPERHOLME-CUM-BRIGHOUSE, SOUTHOWRAM, ELLAND-CUM-GREETLAND, AND BARKISLAND.

VALUABLE FREEHOLD ESTATES to be SOLD BY AUCTION by Mr. THORNTON (by order of the Trustees of the late Mrs. Anne Ashworth, and the Trustees of the late Richard Johnson Daventry Ashworth, Esq.), at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Golcar-hill, and at the Royal Hotel, Brighouse, in the county of York, on Thursday and Friday, the 26th and 27th days of November, 1863, (unless previously disposed of by Private Contract,) at Four o'clock in the afternoon of each day, punctually, in the following or such other Lots as may be agreed upon, and subject to such conditions as will be there and then produced, the following FREEHOLD ESTATES.

FIRST DAY'S SALE.

Thursday, 26th November, 1863, at the Rose and Crown Hotel. Golcar Hill

Some of the numerous properties and parcels of land advertised in more detail below belonged to Richard J.D. Ashworth. Presumably he inherited some of them from his father John, the maltster and corn dealer who owned land and property around Elland as well as in Halifax and Rochdale.

27th Nember, 1863, SECOND DAY'S SALE, at the Royal Hotel, Brighouse.

**ESTATES OF THE LATE MRS. ANNE ASHWORTH.
HIPPERHOLME - CUM - BRIGHOUSE
POND.**

Lot 44—All that valuable Plot of BUILDING GROUND, at the junction of the roads leading from Bonegate and Brighouse, being the southern end of a Close of Land, called the Broom Close, part of the Pond Farm, in the occupation of Joseph Parkinson, containing 780 yards.

Lot 45—Another Plot of BUILDING GROUND, to the north of and adjoining Lot 44, containing 1,706 yards.

Lot 46—Another Plot of BUILDING GROUND, being an excellent site for a villa residence, north of and adjoining Lot 45, containing 2,570 yards.

Lot 47—Another Plot of Villa LAND, north of and adjoining Lot 46, containing 3,325 yards.

Lot 48—Another Plot of Villa LAND, north of Lot 47, being the residue of the Broom Close, containing 4,580 yards.

Lot 49—All that valuable Close of LAND, called Middle Broom Close, containing 2a. 0r. 32p.

Lot 50—Another valuable Close of LAND, called Granny Close, containing 1a. 3r. 38p.

Lot 51—All that Close of valuable Grass LAND, called Pond Close, on the north side of and adjoining Granny Hall Lane, and bounded by the estate of Charles Harold Macaulay, Esq., containing 2a. 2r. 19p.

Lot 52—All those Two Parcels of LAND, parts of two Closes called Upper Dry Hey, and Lower Dry Hey, on the east side of and adjoining the public road, presenting a most eligible site for a villa residence, containing 1a. 3r. 34p.

Lot 53—Two other Parcels of LAND, parts of the Upper and Lower Dry Heys, containing 3,860 yards.

Lot 54—The RESIDUE of the Upper Dry Hey and other part of the Lower Dry Hey, containing 2,660 yards.

Lot 55—The MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE, Barn, Mistal, Sheds, Outbuildings, and Yard, called Pond Farm, containing

A. R. P.
0 0 25

And the following Closes or Parcels of Land, viz.:

Garden	0	1	15
Residue of Lower Dry Hey.....	0	1	35
Croft	0	3	2
Ing	1	3	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3	2	9

LAVERACK HALL.		3 2 9
Lot 56—All those Three excellent Closes of Arable, Meadow, and Pasture LAND, part of the Laverack Hall Farm, in the occupation of Charles Appleyard, viz. :—		
Far Meg Royd	A. R. P.	2 0 31
Near Meg Royd		1 1 35
Bottom Meg Royd		2 2 37
		6 1 24
Lot 57—Also, all those Two other Closes of Arable and Pasture LAND, viz. :—		
Upper Chew Ing	A. R. P.	3 0 12
Lower Chew Ing		1 1 23
		4 2 0
Lot 58—All those Two valuable Closes of Meadow and Pasture LAND, viz. :—		
Sweet Ing	A. R. P.	2 3 17
Lower Sour Ing.....		1 0 34
		4 0 11
Lot 59—The MESSUAGE or DWELLING-HOUSE called Laverack Hall, Barn, Mistal and Stable, Carpenter and Blacksmith's Shop, Outbuildings and Yard, containing		
	A. R. P.	0 1 5
Fore Croft		1 0 39
Back Croft.....		1 3 25
Upper Sour Ing		1 2 26
		5 0 15
<p>The Pond Farm is situate about 500 yards to the north-west of Brighouse, on a gentle eminence, presenting beautiful sites for the erection of villa residences, and from its dry and healthy soil, and magnificent scenery, is destined to become the fashionable "West End" of the town, now rapidly spreading on every side—close at hand there are three excellent turnpike roads ;—the river Calder and Canal, and Brighouse Station of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, are distant only a quarter of an hour. The Pond and Laverack Hall Estates are in a picturesque and most respectable neighbourhood, the latter adjoining upon the domain of Evan Charles Sutherland Walker, Esq., and its charming scenery.</p>		

Another newspaper article helpfully explains the name Laverack Hall.

ROMANCE OF PLACE NAMES

Laverack Hall, found here as in many other Yorkshire parishes, tells of the day when melodious larks were called laveracks or laycock

The sale notices above are interesting for a number of reasons. The Pond Farm tenant Joseph Parkinson was the father-in-law of Elizabeth Wilkes Cordingley, Anne Lister's lady's maid.

Read

The Cordingley Parkinson story

Then there is the useful information that 'The Pond and Laverack Hall Estates' were next to the 'domain of Evan Charles Sutherland Walker'. By then he had inherited the vast Crow Nest estate from his mother and his aunt, Ann Walker. More research needs to be done but it seems likely that Evan Charles Sutherland Walker bought some of the Ashworth properties including Laverack Hall. But then he put everything up for sale in 1867 as explained in

Elizabeth and Ann Walker's inheritance

By 1869 Abraham Turner was residing at Laverack Hall so he may have bought it from ECSW.

Read

Turner Family History, Part 1 John Turner(1797 – 1857)

The last owner of Clough House, John Scholes, had to sell the house and estate to a property developer who built two villas in the old garden. Then Clough House itself was demolished in January 1899 to allow for the widening of Halifax Old Road.

Next read about Ann Ashworth née Macaulay's brother in

The Macaulays of Slead Hall

D.M.Barker

December 2022