Some missing memorials part 2

The Naylors of Southowram

There are two missing memorials to members of this Naylor family. However, we do know more about them and even have portraits of John and Mary Naylor. The family story will be told in

The Naylor family of Brookfoot Southworam

The first memorial Arthur Blackburn transcribed said:-

IN MEMORY OF MARY, WIFE OF JOHN NAYLOR OF HIPPERHOLME WHO DIED JUNE 16TH 1834 AGED 72 YEARS.

AN ISRAELITE INDEED.

ALSO OF THE ABOVE JOHN NAYLOR WHO DIED JANUARY 22ND 1859 AGED 95 YEARS. SOUTHOWRAM.

The second memorial inscription is dedicated to a granddaughter and her parents. From the dates the memorial the inscription below was on may have been over the first plot the family bought. Were the two plots and so memorials together? We will probably never know.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF MARY
THE DAUGHTER OF SAMUEL AND MARTHA NAYLOR OF LIGHTCLIFFE
WHO DIED APRIL 20TH 1816 AGED 1 YEAR.
OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

ALSO OF MARTHA WIFE OF THE ABOVE SAMUEL NAYLOR WHO DIED DECEMBER 23RD 1818 AGED 37 YEARS.

IN LIFE TO COPY THEE I'LL STRIVE
AND WHEN I THAT RESIGN
O MAY OUR DUTIOUS CHILD SURVIVE
TO LAY MY BONES BY THINE

ALSO OF THE ABOVE NAMED SAMUEL NAYLOR WHO DIED AT OTLEY ON THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 1867 AGED 75 YEARS.

The Oates family

Joseph Oates, a delver from Southowram, married Rebecca Nicholson from Hipperholme, on 23rd August 1795. Their son John was baptised at Southowram on 15th November 1795. There probably was not time to baptise little James Oates before he and his mother died in the spring of 1798.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF JAMES
THE SON OF JOSEPH OATES OF CLAY ROYD IN SOUTHOWRAM
WHO DIED APRIL 3RD 1798 IN HIS INFANCY.

ALSO TO REBECCA WIFE OF THE ABOVE SAID JOSEPH OATES WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE MAY 16^{TH} IN THE SAME YEAR AND IN THE 23^{RD} YEAR OF HER AGE.

ALSO TO THE MEMORY OF THE ABOVE SAID JOSEPH OATES WHO DIED MAY 11TH 1803 AGED 31 YEARS.

ALSO OF JOHN OATES SON OF THE ABOVE WHO DIED MARCH 7^{TH} 1869 AGED 73 YEARS.

Smith, Collins and Barber

The people on the three-named-missing ledger stone were written about in the article

The Marsdens of Hove Edge part 1.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN SMITH
OF SUTCLIFFE WOOD BOTTOM
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE AUGUST 20TH 1823
AGED 63 YEARS

LET FRIENDS FORBEAR TO MOURN AND WEEP WHILST SWEETLY IN THE DUST I SLEEP THIS TOILSOME WORLD I'VE LEFT BEHIND A GLORIOUS CROWN I HOPE TO FIND

ALSO OF CHARLES COLLINS WHO DIED AUGUST 20TH 1864 AGED 40 YEARS

ALSO OF HENRY BARBER WHO DIED DECEMBER 6TH 1868 AGED 71 YEARS

Little Frederick Standeven

He was the 4th child of John William Standeven, a worsted manufacturer, and his wife Mary Ann née Cockford. At the time of the little boy's death the family lived at No 1 Green Bank, Hipperholme.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF FREDERICK CLARKSON STANDEVEN WHO DIED 24TH JULY 1888 AGED 6 MONTHS.

William Sykes, a mason, his wife and a grandson.

William Sykes was baptised at St. Matthew's on 28th November 1819, and then in Lightcliffe churchyard with one of the missing memorial inscriptions. Being a mason, it is tempting to think that this was an elaborate inscription. William was the son of Henry Sykes and his wife Mary. They had a number of children baptised at Lightcliffe, some of whom were buried there as their parents eventually were. Henry, originally from Southowram, was a gardener of Harley Head and then a mason. He and his wife were recorded as being of German House when they died in 1851 and 1845.

Their son William Sykes was a journeyman mason when he married Martha Stewart on 15th September 1845 in Leeds. She was from Crayke near Easingwold. They had four daughters. The second daughter Amelia Ann Sykes married Ezra Schofield. Hence a son was named William Ezra Sykes Schofield when he was baptised at St. Matthew's on 28th July 1872. In 1881 this grandson and a younger brother were living with their grandmother Martha Sykes in Booth's Buildings, Lightcliffe whilst the rest of the Schofield family were in York. Perhaps he never returned to live with his parents. Announcing his death, the *Brighouse News 25 August 1899* reported

SCHOFIELD Aug 12th, aged 27 years, William Ezra Sykes Schofield, Harley Head, Brighouse

He was buried in the churchyard on 15th August 1899. Two years later his maternal grandmother joined him on 6th December 1901.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM SYKES OF LIGHTCLIFFE WHO DIED OCTOBER 6TH 1870 AGED 51 YEARS.

IN THE MIDST OF LIFE, WE ARE IN DEATH.

ALSO OF WILLIAM EZRA S SCHOFIELD GRANDSON OF THE ABOVE WHO DIED AUGUST 12^{TH} 1899 AGED 27 YEARS

IN SUCH AN HOUR AS YE THINK THE SON OF MAN COMETH

ALSO OF MARTHA WIFE OF THE ABOVE WILLIAM SYKES WHO DIED DECEMBER 4TH 1901 AGED 87 YEARS

HE GIVETH HIS BELOVED SLEEP.

The Taylor (and Sucksmith) family

The long memorial, transcribed below, appears to commemorate members of a Taylor family but on closer inspection and after some research it is now clear that the last three named were all Sucksmiths admittedly Taylor Sucksmiths. It is a complicated story which is told in

The Taylor Sucksmiths

Basically, the memorial begins with Jonas Taylor, then his young son Fred Taylor followed by two young grandchildren who were Sucksmiths and finally his widow. She was originally a Sucksmith who first married Jonas Taylor and then John Shoesmith (Sucksmith). Confusing, yes!

AFFLICTIONS SORE LONG TIME I BORE
PHYSICIANS WERE IN VAIN
BUT DEATH DID EASE WHEN GOD DID PLEASE
AND FREED ME FROM MY PAIN.

ALSO OF FRED SON OF THE ABOVE SAID AND SARA TAYLOR WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE SEPTEMBER 29TH 1850 AGED 3 YEARS AND 2 MONTHS.

LILY TAYLOR BORN NOVEMBER 12TH 1869
DIED NOVEMBER 26TH 1869

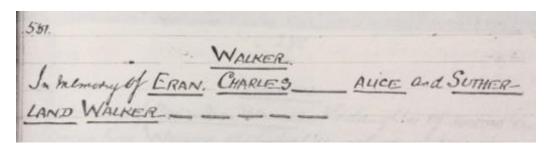
ALSO OF FRED TAYLOR WHO DIED APRIL 29TH 1870 AGED 1 YEAR AND 11 MONTHS.

FAREWELL YOU LITTLE BLOOMING BUDS
JUST BURSTING INTO FLOWER
WE GIVE YOU UP BUT OH
THE PAIN OF THOSE LAST PARTING HOURS
WE GIVE YOU UP FOR HE WHO SAID
'LET CHILDREN COME TO ME'
OUR CHILDREN ARE NUMBERED WITH THE DEAD
THAT THEY IN HEAVEN MAY BE.

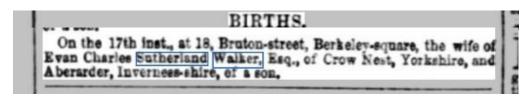
IN LOVING MEMORY OF SARAH WIDOW OF THE ABOVE JONAS WHO DIED AUGUST 18TH 1905 IN THE 80TH YEAR OF HER AGE.

Baby William Sutherland Walker

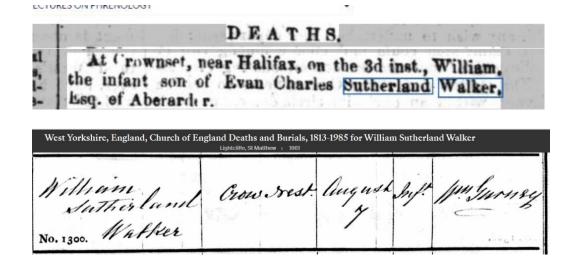
Arthur Blackburn had trouble reading this memorial inscription for the infant son of Evan Charles Sutherland Walker and his wife Alice Sophie née Tudor. Little William Sutherland Walker was their first-born. In this landowning Walker family of Crow Nest, Lightcliffe the eldest sons were nearly always called William. Another son would be given the name William Tudor Sutherland Walker, he lived to adulthood.



Baby William's birth was announced in the *Morning Advertiser 20 June 1861* and other newspapers.



But then a few weeks later in the *Highland Sentinel 10 August 1861* the little boy's death was announced. He was buried in St. Matthew's churchyard on 7th August 1861 but where?



The most likely spot is near the tomb of his grandfather George Mackay Sutherland – blue rectangle. In an area [ringed] that seems to have been part of a larger area reserved for possible future Sutherland Walker burials. No other family members were ever buried at Lightcliffe and eventually two of little William's siblings – but not the son baptised William Tudor Sutherland Walker - gave permission for the area to be used for other burials.

10a Cannon Hill Lane,
Wimbledon,
LONDON S.W.20.
2nd April, 1935.

Dear Sirs.

In consideration of the Parochial Church Council of "St Matthews" Church Lightcliffe in the Ancient Parish of Halifax with the approval of the Vicar and Church wardens undertaking to keep the Grave of the Infant Son of the late Evan Charles Sutherland (at one time known as Evan Charles Sutherland-Walker) and the Headstone thereof in good order and to so maintain them in perpetuity WE and each of us consent to the portion pf the Graveyard of the said Church containing one hundred and twenty nine and one third square yards (in which portion the said Grave is situate) and reserved by the said Evan Charles Sutherland Walker for the exclusive use as a Burial Ground or Cemetery for him and his Family in a Document entitled "Sentence of Consecration" and dated the 8th day of March 1867 under the hand of Robert Lord Bishop of Ripon and in which Document the plot of land so reserved is shewn upon a plan attached thereto and edged round with a red border line being thrown into and merged with the Graveyard of the said Church to be used as part thereof for the purpose of burial of persons entitled to be so buried therein but reserving nevertheless out of such consent the Grave of the said Infant son of the said It is a condition of the above Evan Charles Sutherland. consent that it involves no personal responsibility on our part

Yours faithfully,

ALIC SUTHERLAND MARION GEE.

To/ The Parochial Church Council and
The Vicar and Churchwardens of
St Matthews Church,
Lightcliffe.



It is not known whether the memorial inscription that Arthur Blackburn tried to transcribe was written on a chest tomb, like his grandfather's, or on a flat ledger stone. Whatever it was appears to have been broken and perhaps partly buried by the time the transcription was attempted. Presumably it said something along the lines of following

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM SUTHERLAND WALKER

THE INFANT SON OF EVAN CHARLES AND ALICE SUTHERLAND WALKER perhaps with some dates.

In time as research is done into more families we may discover more Blackburn-transcribed-memorial inscriptions which we cannot find. They will then be added to the 'missing memorials' list. And it is possible, but less likely, that some of these missing memorials may be found lurking under the churchyard turf!

D.M.Barker

April 2023