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This is the full report of the memorials before inclusion in the above journal.

Bonn Square, Oxford

The memorials

By Sharon Clough

Most of the memorial stones from the site were not in their original location. A number were incorporated into a wall at the north side of the site. Further ones were found laid flat below the ground surface, in some cases reused as levelling surface for a path. The exceptions were grave memorial 28 the Pratt and Cudd family, memorial 41 the May family, memorial 46 also possibly commemorating more of the Pratt family, memorial 47 Low and Bunting family, memorial 48 Elliot family and memorial 50 Hopkins family. These lay over brick shaft graves which were no further disturbed. Therefore there are no memorial stones with an inscription that can be confidently linked to skeletal remains that were recovered.

Headstone and ledger typology

The shape and outline of memorial stones have been categorised by Harold Mytum (2000) and the memorials from Bonn Square have been thus assigned.

Table: memorial types

Headstone type	Quantity
4100	1
4300	1
4500	13
4600	2
4700	3
4708	1
Bedstead type	7
Broken	9
Ledger type	
0100	8
0105	
5107	1
Single-break	2

There were 41 headstones and 12 ledger stones, of these 6 were made of limestone, 6 of slate and the remainder (41) were of a sandstone.

A headstone is the most common form of memorial found in Britain. In the late 17th and earlier 18th century monuments had a simple flat top. An alternative was the 'bedstead' type, which mirrored the tops of contemporary chair and bedsteads (Mytum 2000). These were found at Bonn square with slight variation amongst them. From the dated inscriptions on the memorials they range from the mid 17th century to the mid 19th, spanning both phases of church. Headstones generally increased in size during the late 18th and 19th centuries, this related to the social importance of monument visibility.

Symbols and decoration

Few of the memorials had decoration beyond the lettering. Memorial 13 had a winged cherub, a popular symbol for the soul passing to heaven, with bows of vine or ivy. Memorial 27 had a

garland or bow of a floral design and 47 had a flower in each corner of the text panel. A flower denotes the frailty of life, and were common flourishes to the perimeter of a memorial. Memorial 20 on removal from the earth (which preserved the lower half) was found to have been painted white, with the incised lettering painted black. From the remaining inscription it commemorates a child (or two). White was commonly used for child coffins and unmarried women (as found at Christchurch Spitalfields vault, Cox 1996).

Lettering

Styles of lettering have changed overtime and with popularity. The most common type was Roman with 13 inscriptions in this style and one that had Gothic style as the first inscription and Roman for all subsequent. Roman italic style was found on 6 inscriptions, whilst 2 had the elaborate copperplate. A single inscription was in relief, Roman style, all the rest were incised.

The inscriptions

25 memorials had some inscription remaining. However, due to the level of erosion many of these are partial and in some cases only a few letters. The content is mainly demographic, name, age at death, date of death and relationship to others commemorated on the same stone. The occasional further detail relates to status or occupation with praise or religious reference. Taking the most legible inscriptions, further details of these individuals lives' have been explored.

The people commemorated on the inscriptions are listed in the table below and further details can be found in the catalogue.

Table: Those commemorated on the memorials

Name	Date died	Age	Other
Catherine Holloway	?	?	D of Joesph
John Nourse	Sept 16 1762	96	
Eliz (abeth) Wooton	?	infancy	
Richard Pratt	Apr 14, 1822	10	S of Will and Lucy
Ann Cudd	June, 1843	46	Sis of Richard Pratt
Ann J B Cudd	Dec 31, 1847	16	D of Ann Cudd
Walter Pratt	Nov 30, 1851	69	
Rich Pratt Cudd	Jan 4, 1834	Infancy	S of Josh and Ann Cudd
Sarah	28 March, 1794	40	Wife of...
John May	1816		
Ann May	1810	63	
Pratt family Possibly - William, Ann, Samuel, Elizabeth, Joseph, Lucy	?	?	?
Richard Low	Nov 13 1767	27	
Richard Low	Mar 23, 1768	18 months	Son of Richard and Mary Low
James Bunting	9 Apr, 1870	33	
James Edward Bunting	May 29, 1833	9	Son of James Bunting
Mary Elliot	Nov 1744		Wife of Thomas
Thomas Elliot	Dec 14, 1760	73	
Sarah Elliot	20 Jun, 1763	38	

Henry Elliot	May 8, 1771	55	Husband of Sarah
?William Ledwell	Nov 15, 1716	50	Son of Thomas and Mary Ledwell
Thomas Ledwell	?	?	Son of Thomas
Mary Ledwell	Jul 22, 1711	34	
M.....AS Ledwell	?	?	
Anna Hopkins	Sept 14, 1810	53	Wife of Richard
Hesther Hopkins	Dec 3, 1813	13	d. of Anna and Richard
Richard Hopkins	Jul 21, 1822	76	
Richard Hopkins	Dec 11, 1829	45	Son of Richard
5 infant children of R Hopkins	?	Infancy	
William Bunting	Jan 28, 1814	18	
Elizabeth Bunting	Apr 5, 1812		
Christopher Hatton	24 June, 1666		Married to Margaret for 51 years
Ann Wade	May 1718	62	
Maria Wade	Sept 1837	37	D. of Ann
William Wade	Jan 22, 1838	49	s. of Ann
Caleb Coiton (or Colton)	Sep 10, 1738	70	Post Master of Oxford

Using the Parish register for St Peter Le Bailey a search was undertaken to find these individuals and other relatives. Although the register ran from 1585, it is doubtful all burials were recorded as it did not become compulsory to record births, marriages and deaths until 1837. The register did confirm the majority of these individuals and filling in some of the missing details. Further it recorded on occasion the names of the women making the 'affidavit' for burial (legally confirming that the burial was in woollen clothing) which had become compulsory attire after the Burial in Wool Acts 1666-80 which remained in force until 1814 but was generally ignored after 1770.

Interestingly the originating parish is declared against some names such as 'Lucy Pratt of St Giles, Oxford'. Usually you were buried in the parish in which you lived. As there are several different parishes mentioned in the register all within the immediate area surrounding St Peter Le Bailey it is possible there was a preference or necessity to be buried here. The register also records that some of the named people were buried in the church, which given these are from ledger stones it is most likely they are in situ. Then the earlier church must have been over this area.

It has been possible using documentary sources to further examine the lives of some of these people. The 'Freemen of the city of oxford 1663-1997' holds lists of those who were officially apprenticed. The following people are most likely to be those named on the memorials due to name and date association:

- Thomas Elliot son 1 of Henry Elliot, Butcher 1 April 1709
- Henry Elliot son 1 of Thomas Elliot, Butcher 2 Oct 1741
- Richard Hopkins app of Richard Hopkins, Coal Merchant 31 Oct 1806
- John Pratt app of Henry Carr, Butcher 20 May 1816
- John Pratt son 1 of John Pratt, Butcher 10 Jul 1857

Queen street in Oxford had a row of single storey dwellings known as Butchers shambles, which is the road which lies immediately to the east of the church.

Further details of some individuals; Walter Pratt married in 1843 and is recorded in 1841 in the Freemen and electors list as a Gentleman of St Aldates street. John May in 1794 is recorded in the occupations list as a Victualler (Balloon).

Caleb Colton (or Coiton) had his occupation inscribed on the memorial, postmaster of Oxford. However, it appears this was not the only job he did in his life of 70 years. According to the register he died in 1733 and was from St Martin's parish (Carfax tower today). His woollen shroud was confirmed by Elizabeth Cooke of St Thomas. Although not confirmed, it is assumed that Ann Colton, who died March 12 1733 was his wife and her shroud was presented by Jane Cook also of St Thomas. In the baptism register is a record of a Caleb Coltton, son of Richard, Mar 19 1664. Also recorded are siblings of Caleb, Richard (eldest) born 1662, Marthea 1667 and Preselea 1669. In the Oxford Council Acts 1666-1701 March 12 1694 in the comments on fines imposed by the council "Will. Huntley and Caleb Colton are to have £10 each of Dr. Wilkinson's money". Caleb is also recorded in 1699 as a 'Leather searcher'. In 1696 there is a further reference to Caleb Colton again to do with monies owed, this time by the Mayor himself (see Appendix for the full account). There is a record of a Caleb Colton of 9 St Aldates street paying the Window tax in 1696. This was a tax imposed for those who had 10 windows or more. Therefore we can assume he was a fairly well off gentleman. Postal services in Oxford began in 1635, with the Landlord of the Cross Keys in Queen street appointed postmaster in 1673. Though no record of when Caleb Colton became postmaster has been uncovered it is assumed to be some time early 1700s. It was a responsible job as the post was mainly government mail, and therefore he would have been a man of some standing in the community.

The most exciting find was the memorial to Christopher Hutton dated 1666. This was the earliest dated stone and the inscription entirely in Latin.

Anno Domini 1666
mense junni
die 24
Christophorus Hattonus /ex illustri
familia oriundus; cu/m Magarita eius
UXOR insignis Ma/trona post annum
matrimonij qui/nquagesimur primum
Sub hoc m/armore requiescunt
a laboribus suis

Beati enim mortui qui in Domino
moriuntur opera enim illiorum
Sequuntur illos; Apoc.14

This translates as "Christopher Hatton, born of an illustrious family, with Margarita (Margaret), his wife, notable matron for fifty-one years of matrimony. They rest from their labours beneath this stone.
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, their works follow after them (Revelation 14)"

The biblical reference (Revelation 14, 13) in Latin from the Vulgate version is : et audivi vocem de caelo dicentem scribe beati mortui qui in Domino moriuntur amodo iam dicit Spiritus ut requiescant a laboribus suis opera enim illorum sequuntur illos
Which translates as:

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

The burial register confirms that he died in 1666 and his death registered June 25. It has the variant spelling of his surname 'Hation'. The inscription reference to an 'illustrious family' and the fact he had a memorial stone at this time purports he was a man of some standing. In Wood's life and times (Clarke 1891 vol 2 p80) June 29 1666 he records F (funeral), old Mr ...Hatton died and was buried in S. Peter's Church in Baylive (sic) under the communion table <Arms>:- '...a chevron.. inter 3 wheatsheaves....'. The communion table (or Altar) was the most prominent and desirable place to be buried in the church as it meant you were the closest to God. The reference to a coat of arms suggests a family with a title.

There was a Christopher Hatton who was granted a Baronage in 1641 by Elizabeth I. He was her Privy Councillor and later Comptroller of the Household. He went on to be Privy Councillor for Charles I. He was born 1602 and died 1670 and buried in Westminster Abbey. He was related to the Christopher Hatton who was Lord Chancellor in 1587 who died with no sons. It is this illustrious family that our Christopher Hatton was related as the coat of arms described by Wood is the very same of the more famous Hattons. With the lineage often passing to kinsmen, not directly to first sons there were plenty of opportunities for other Christopher Hattons to be born.

Recorded in the burial register are other Hattons. Christopher Hatton (son of Christopher Hatton and Margaret his wife) died 20 Nov 1615 and Christopher Hatton (snr) died 29 April 1616 and Margaret daughter of Christopher Hatton died 26 March 1617.

Table: details from the burial register

Name	Date died	Age	Other
Mr Christopher Hatton	Jun 25 1666		
Jane Ledwell	May 16 1716		Wife of Thomas
William Ledwell	Nov 15 1716		
Thomas Ledwell	22 Jul 1717		Of Allsant (Allsaints)
Thomas Ledwell	Apr 13 1727		Buried in church. Presented by Mary Waine
Ann Colton	Mar 12 1733		Of St Martin's . Presented by Jane Cook of St Thomas
Caleb Colton	Sep 15 1733		Of St. Martin's. Presented by Eliz Cooke of St. Thomas
Mary Elliot	Nov 13 1744		Buried in church. Presented by Eliz Freeborn
Joseph Holloway	Jun 3 1754		
Thomas Elliot	Dec 19 1760		Buried in church
John Nourse	Sep 20 1762		
Sarah Elliot	Jun 22 1763		Wife of Henry. Buried in church
Richard Lowe	Nov 16 1767		Buried in church
Richard Low	25 March 1768		Son of Richard and Mary
Samuel Pratt	Sep 12 1788		
Sampson Pratt	29 Dec 1790	1yr 5 months	
Sarah Taylor	Apr 1 1794	44	
Anna Hopkins	Sep 19 1810	53	
Elizabeth Bunting	Apr 14 1812	59	
Joseph Pratt	Dec 18 1812	39	
William Bunting	Jan 28 1814	48	
Hester Hopkins	Dec 7 1814	13	
Lucy Pratt	Apr 10 1818	66	Of St Giles Oxford
Lucy Pratt	Aug 25 1819	35	Of St Giles Oxford
William Pratt	Jan 18 1821	78	Of St Aldates
Richard Pratt	Apr 19 1822	40	Of St Aldates
Richard Hopkins	Jul 24 1822	76	

Richard Hopkins	Dec 15 1829	44	
Maria Wade	Sep 1837	37	Daughter of Ann
William Wade	Jan 28 1838	49	Of Gaswork, St Ebbes
Ann Cudd	Jun 13 1843	49	Of Summertown
James Pratt	Nov 23 1843	33	Of Paradise st.
Ann Jane Betty Cudd	Dec 31 1847	16	
Walter Pratt	Nov 30 1851	69	

Appendix

Council Acts 1696 Sept 18-

'This house taking into consideration many affronts that have from time to time been offered to the magistracy of this place by Caleb Colton, Thomas Bowyer, John Applebee, Thomas Warkeland and others and in particular the said Colton and Applebee when the mayor went lately the franchises, had the Impudence by force to stop the Mayor's Boate which the[y] also stopped the Chamberlains boate and threatned Mr. Kendricke (who apprehended himselfe in danger of his life and flew for it) that the[y] would through him into the water unless he would instantly pay Mr. Slatford the sallery belonging to the Townclerke and other sumes, And when some time after the accon was discourse of and condemned by some of our Justices the said Applebee to their faces told them that could he have met with the said Mr. Kendricke he would have throwed him into the water himselfe, The said Colton and severall of his accomplices haveing att the same time black their faces and habited themselves that (as the[y] hoped) it should not be knowne who were the Authors and Actors in those and other Indignities, they then offered other instances of there behaviour, were att our late elleccion for mayor some of the members they charge with Abusive language and odious untruths, others the[y] struct as the[y] did one of our constables. And in the night time of the said Day the said Bowyer cam to the Mayor's house and after calling him several abusive names threatned his life. Now it being apparent that the lenity and impunity hitherto used hath only hardened them in their contempt of authority and that the peace of this place cant be preserved without a severe punishment of these others the offenders some whom dared to affront our Hon. High Steward, who though out of his usual marcy he has not as yett been pleased to punish them as they deserve yett this house think itt an arraignment and reflection on the Government of this place that the said offenders have nott yett been punished according to their demeritts, this House therefore out [of] a sense of their duty to our Hon. High Steward out of a due care for the preservacon of the publik peace and to discharge the trust reposed in them do unanimously order (51 persons being present)' that counsel be forthwith consulted how to punish the said offenders with utmost severity either by indictments in the Crown office or disfranchisement or otherwise; all expenses are to be paid by the City and management of the affiar is left to Mr. Ald. Townsend, Sir Rob. Harrison, Ald. Eustace, Mr. Hunsdon, Mr. Wood and Mr. Rawlins.'

References

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