The Old Village Burial Ground
That old resting-place for our friends
Is but a patch of grass and old tombs,
Showing the sacred spot at the end,
Of the dear old villager’s last home.

*Thomas Morris, old Dulwich Resident* (1907)
Foundation:
The Burial Ground was established by Edward Alleyn as an integral part of the foundation of his College of God's Gift. Alleyn had acquired the manor of Dulwich in 1605, and a chapel and burial ground were intended to benefit the inhabitants of the small hamlet then situated within the parish of St Giles, Camberwell as well as the residents of the College.

Dulwich fell within the diocese of Winchester, which at the time of the planned consecration was vacant, and it seems that Alleyn applied to the Archbishop of Canterbury, George Abbot (1562-1633), to conduct the inaugural service. The Burial Ground was consecrated on the same day as Christ's Chapel, between 9am-12noon Sunday 1st September 1616. A record of the Consecration states that the "Honourable Edward Alleyn appeared before his Grace and stated that it was his intention by the grace of God and the King's license, to convert his residence into a college for the poor, and which residence, being two miles from the parish church at Camberwell, he was unable, without danger and difficulty, especially in rainy weather and in winter, to repair with his family to the said church either conveniently or at the proper time to attend divine service and that near to the said house within the hamlet was a certain spot enclosed with walls, destined for a cemetery or burial place for those who die at the said house or within the hamlet etc."

Edward Alleyn c1626 (DPG)

The party moved from the newly dedicated Christ's Chapel, down the village street to the spot designated as the cemetery where the Archbishop consecrated the piece of ground "adjoining the royal road leading from the village of Camberwell to a certain residence lately built by Edward Alleyn in the village or hamlet of Dulwich entirely enclosed with walls,"
measuring in width from east to west, eighty-six feet of thereabouts, and in length north to south one hundred and fifty feet or thereabouts”.

Location: The site of the Burial Ground might have been chosen for a number of reasons. Although it was usual to place a cemetery next to a church, in Dulwich’s case, more than a place of worship was to be established. There was to be a schoolhouse, a picture gallery, a hall, and accommodation for the poor scholars, the poor brothers and sisters, the Fellows and the Master and Warden. Alleyn may therefore have decided that the space adjacent to the future College would be better served by using it as a school playground, kitchen garden, stables and place for outbuildings. He might also have considered the presence of a cemetery next to his alms houses and school might be seen as insensitive.

The land for the Burial Ground was taken from the northern section of ‘Carter’s Gardens’, which was described in 1605 as ‘woodland’ and, as such unploughable. It had been tenanted (since 1610 or earlier) by Henry Collins. There had been a road junction of sorts here from medieval times, with the footpaths along today’s Court Lane and Calton Avenue leading off into the fields. The road through Dulwich Village itself was no more than a muddy track.

Fees and Funerals:
The consent of the Master of the College was required for burials and fees were set. In 1740 the charges were ‘all under 6 years of age 2/-, and all above 7/6. After paying the Minister 2/6 and the Sexton 2/- the remainder of the fees were applied to purchase books "for ye Publick Library of ye College" In 1760 the charge for a flat stone placed over a grave was set at 30/-, and a like sum for head and feet stones. Of this amount, 17/- went to the Master, 10/6 to the preacher and 2/6 to the gardener.

Walter Greening writing in 1905 noted the Dulwich funeral custom was seen as rather High Church. He remarked: “Some half century ago…a College funeral was an event somewhat out of the common, and to many of the more puritanical-minded savoured somewhat of papistical practice. It was the custom for the Master, fellows and choristers, after walking in procession through the College cloisters, arrayed in their gowns and surplices, to precede the coffin and mourners thro’ the village, and singing verses of the 90th Psalm. To the well-known chorale of ‘St. Ann’.”

Burials:
There are no visible gravestones or vaults dated before 1720 but several hundred people must have been buried here in the previous 100 years and over 3000 by the time the burial ground closed. The first burial was on 18 October 1616 – Ann Allen ‘a Poor Sister from the new almshouses’ The burial records in the Dulwich College Archive tell us who they were but we do not know the position of their graves. Some of the most notable burials must surely be the thirty-five Dulwich victims (out of a total of forty-two) of the Great Plague of 1665 who were buried in unmarked graves. The death rate in Dulwich was the same as the City with about 1 in 6 of the population falling victim of the disease.
A high proportion of those buried were children including several nurse children sent to Dulwich to be cared for in the period c1700-1820. Other burials in unmarked graves include several gipsy women from the camp in Norwood, famed for their fortune telling, including ‘Old Bridgett, the Queen of the Gypsies’ who died in 1768. Samuel Matthews, the ‘Dulwich Hermit’, buried in 1803 and described in the register as ‘a quiet inoffensive and strictly honest man’, was found murdered in the cave he had constructed in Dulwich Woods and where he had lived for most of the previous 30 years.

Further details of burials in unmarked graves are given after the list of monuments.

**Body Snatchers and Cage:**
Despite the walls, it appears quite easy to have entered the cemetery. In 1804, the College thought that the next door neighbour’s pigs were getting in, which she denied. Writing in 1911, Tom Morris says that his father (who lived in the White House which stood at the corner of the Village and Calton Avenue) was often paid to watch - for 2-3 weeks - the graves of those who had just been interred. He recalled an incident from around 1830: "One night they had nearly dug down to the coffin of one body, and was surprised by the housekeeper of the Rev Dr Butt who lived in a house in Court Lane. She had been at a servants' party in the village, and on returning home had evidently disturbed these body-snatchers, for when the grave-digger went to his duty the following morning he found the grave had been opened and almost to the depth of the coffin. Those who had relatives and friends interred there were
never certain if their bodies would remain in their final resting place". The practice generally ended after 1832 with the passing of the Anatomy Act, which allowed the next of kin to permit the dissection of bodies for medical purposes.

In 1841 the cage at the corner of the burial ground, where those charged with minor offences were held, was taken down. The stone dated 1760 with quotations from the bible and thought to relate to the cage is now opposite in Calton Avenue.

Extension and closure:
The burial ground was extended twice to provide more space to cope with a growing population. The second time in 1821 further land to the north (about 32’) was added and some thin slivers of land towards Court Lane and Dulwich Village. The oldest part, approximately 86’ E/W x 150’ N/S, would have been the larger portion from the centre to the southern end.

The burial ground was closed by Order of Council dated 24 September 1857 following the 1852 Burial Act which required burials in the Metropolis to be discontinued for the protection of public health. The order for Dulwich took effect from 10 October 1858 and provided the following regulations:

- in family vaults and brick graves each coffin be separately entombed in brick or stone work properly cemented,
- in family earthen graves a layer of one foot and six inches of earth be left between each coffin, and that no new grave be opened except in ground which has never hitherto been buried in.

A number of burials took place up to 1862, presumably on unused land. After that year the ground was closed. However, several people having ancient rights were buried in existing vaults after this date such as the two Isabella Schroders, in 1863 and 1868, Mary and Elizabeth Goodman in 1877 and 1898 and three members of the Boobyer family, the last being Lydia Lock in 1918. No one else is recorded as being interred there since.

Later history:
In 1867, in order to improve its appearance, the College Governors had the upright headstones levelled, and the overgrown grass and weeds removed. New planting was added, the wall on the village side lowered and some railings (and gates) formerly around the Old College installed - with new ones to match. There had always been a problem with water flowing down Court Lane and flooding freshly dug graves and this was probably the reason for the damage to some of the graves which have slipped and cracked. The railings on the east side were removed in WW2 and not replaced until the 1990s when English Heritage provided a grant for their re-instatement following outbreaks of vandalism. Twelve of the tombs are Grade II listed, as are the fine 18th century wrought-iron gates.
Main Sources:

Original records: Dulwich College Archives (DCSA) possess the most useful sources including: Burial registers vol 1, 1616-1757; vol 2, 1757-1807; vol 3, 1789-1830 (register of fees and notes on internments); vol 4, 1737-1854; vol 7, 1855-1955 (including funerals for those buried elsewhere).

The transcript of Dulwich College Chapel registers by S W Bickell, O Hardman and T L Ormiston (1930) covers baptisms, burials and monumental inscriptions 1616-1837 and an index; copy in the Society of Genealogists Library. Another copy which was in the Minet Library could not be traced in 2016. Burials between 1616 and 1837 are included in the Greater London Burials Index (GLBI) available on the Find My Past website.

The list of monuments on pages 176-181 of the 1930 transcript explains that it was taken from one in the office of the Estates Governors where there was also a plan (not traced) of the tombstones. A photocopy in private possession gives the date as 15 June 1867 and includes a list of stones not found after the alterations dated 8 July 1867. The numbers assigned in 1867 run from the entrance at the north down the east side, up the west side and back to the entrance; these have been used since. Inscriptions up to the 30th June 1837 as could still be read in 1930 were added in the typescript.

Measured drawings by students of the Brixton School of Building are kept in Box M3/308 with 3 binders of manuscript record sheets with some rubbings, photographs and drawings by members of the Dulwich College Archaeological Society from the survey carried out between 1970 and 1973 under the supervision of John Cottle. Post 1837 inscriptions and some additional stones (lettered A…, mostly footstones) were included. A copy of their 1973 plan is in Southwark Local History Library. There is a typescript in DCA (M4/84) by Dulwich NADFAS, compiled in 1985, of information from the first binder (monuments 1-41). Inscriptions up to 1918 with an index of names were entered onto a spreadsheet by Caroline Sherlock in 2005; descriptions of the tombstones were omitted, and copies deposited in Southwark Local History Library and DCA. A quarter of the tombstones identified in 1930 cannot now be recognized, and are not recorded on the Dulwich Estate’s most recent plan of 2008. Photographs and descriptions of listed monuments are on Historic England website.

Dulwich College Archives has an office copy of the Sentence of Consecration 1821 and the Order in Council 1857 closing the burial ground (Lawyers’ Envelopes 45-47) as well as the College Governors’ Minutes 1867 describing the improvements.

General history: A leaflet was published by the Dulwich Society in 2016. An article on its history by Brian Green is in the Dulwich Society Journal, Summer 2006. The consecration of the burial ground is fully described in William Young’s The History of Dulwich College, 1889, vol 2, pp 23-9.
Wrought iron gates, watercolour by Guy Miller, 1926 (Southwark Collection)
**Grade II listed monuments:**

**Entrance Gates:** according to the listed buildings record by Historic England (formerly English Heritage) these date from 1728 and were made by George Buncker. They are described as made with ‘Decorative wrought-iron with elaborate overthrow’. Pevsner says they are early 18th century and Buncker was responsible for the Old College Gates of the same date. They were moved to the site in the 1860s.

**(8) Monument to James Thompson:** A stone tomb chest dated 1788, it has a brick stylobate with 3 steps and a stone base. The tomb chest has smooth ashlaring, with vermiculated corner quoins and a moulded lid. The recessed oval inscription panels are recessed.

**(11) Monument to Richard Shawe:** The monument is a stone tomb chest dated 1818. It is signed by stonemason Day of Camberwell (either R Day, active from 1822-51, or D Day, who finished production in 1822). The design recalls the style of Soane and sits on a brick plinth. There are 3 upper stages, the lowest has blocked segmental-arched openings on the returns, topped by a vermiculated band. The second is in the form of a pedimented box, the tympana filled with floral scrolls, and the corners with pilasters formed from Greek key motifs. The chest itself, located on the 2 step stylobate, has tapering and angled corner pilasters which are fluted; capitals with honeysuckle shoulders; drapery between each corner pilaster and a Greek meander pattern to cap which is ornamented with a wreath in low relief.

**(21) Monument to Lieutenant-Colonel William Ranken:** A stone tomb chest dated 1831, with a stucco-faced plinth. The chest has angled corner pilasters terminating in shields. Enclosed by railings, the base has a stone inscribed "Entrance to vault". There are rosettes on the corners of the inscription panels.

**(22) Monument to John Willes:** A stone tomb chest dated 1818, it has a brick plinth and the stone base is treated as a vermiculated band with a stylobate of 3 steps. Soanean in character, the tomb has Roman sepulchral motifs used in a highly idiosyncratic manner. The returns resemble a Roman stele, with a scallop shell inserted in a segmental pediment, a motif repeated on the long sides. The tapering corner pilasters have honeysuckle shoulders and inverted torches in low relief carving.

**(26) Monument to John Graham:** A stone tomb chest on a high and very plain stone base dated 1796. It has a flat-arched vault entrance to the west return. The sarcophagus has corner balusters of very mannered proportions. The very plainness of the base, together with some battering, suggests an Egyptian pylon as does the exceptionally bare treatment of the ashlaring to the base.

**(41) Monument to Anne Burgess:** A plain tomb chest dated 1808 located on a brick plinth enclosed by spearheaded railings. The corner uprights are topped by thick, bulbous spears. The returns to the base have blocked segmental-arched openings.
(46) **Monument to Unidentified tomb:** A stone tomb dated early C19 sits on a low brick plinth. Soanean in style, it has a stylobate of 3 steps and a shallow domed canopy supported by angled corner piers with acanthus capitals. Under the canopy there is a broad scrolled bracket resembling an open book.

(49) **Monument to Emily Kingsley:** A stone Tomb chest dated 1823 with plain inscription panels. Enclosed by iron spearheaded railings, the corner uprights terminate in ‘smouldering urns’, two of which are missing.

(54) **Monument to Anne Flint:** A stone sarcophagus dated 1807 located on a high brick base. There are tapering and reeded corner pilasters and incised inscription panels. It is enclosed by railings, the uprights of which terminate in crescent moons.

(57) **Monument to Louise Schroeder and John and Isabella Bustard:** A stone sarcophagus dated 1824, with tapering corner and inscription panels, set on high base. The sarcophagus is topped by a central boss and there are spear headed railings.

(98) **Monument to Henry William Atkinson:** A stone tomb chest dated 1780, it has fluted corner pilasters and an angled lid.

(104) **Monument to Thomas Force:** A large stone slab dated 1827 is set on a low base and surrounded by tall railings with two levels of spear heads.

*Plan of Burial Ground with monument numbers – drawn by Patrick Darby 2016*
List of monuments in numerical order

(1) 1830-47, William Adams: Headstone 82” x 29”
William Adams 4th son of John and Elizabeth Adams of Dulwich; died 1 January 1847, in 27th year; Also Mr John Adams, father of William, died 1 July 1847, aged 59.

(2) 1830-47, Abel Adams: Flat stone nearly buried. 73” x 29”.
Abel Adams of Dulwich; died April (unreadable).

See also Grave 63.

(3) 1823, Sperring family: Large flatstone.
Mrs Elizabeth White, [born Sperring] wife of Mr George Thomas White of Dulwich; she died 13 June 1822, aged 41. Also her mother, Mrs Mary Sperring, who died 10 May 1823, aged 77, wife of Robert Sperring. Also John Sperring, who died 1 September 1824, aged 49? [aged 43 on GLBI] son of Mary Sperring. Also Mr Robert Sperring, who died 14 January 1825, in 74th year, husband to Mrs Mary Sperring. Also Robert Sperring, their son who died 15 November 1844, in 61st year. Also Mrs Margaret [H] Parker, who died 18 August 1855, aged 67, cousin to Robert Sperring.

The younger Robert Sperring was a Village butcher. He built what was the post office [relocated 2015] as a butcher’s shop in 1832 having already occupied the previous shop on the site. Mary Ann Sperring owned the draper’s shop opposite.

(4) 1830, Harriet Butler: Headstone
Harriet Butler late of Binfield, Berks, died 23 July 1830, aged 26.

(5) 1789, Elizabeth Denn: Headstone

Her Will dated 5/7/1787 (proved 11/2/1789 – TNA PROB 11/1175) refers to her as of Dulwich, Widow.

(6) 1807, Thomas Coleman, aged 66. Headstone

Several other Coleman were buried in Dulwich between 1772 and 1813. [seen 1973, missing 2008]. According to Edwards’ Companion from London to Brighthelmstone (1789), “Coleman’s Stage Coach sets out from the French Horn 9 a.m. & 4 p.m. to the Spread Eagle, Gracechurch Street”. When Dulwich Court Farm was divided into three holdings in 1785, Thomas Coleman took one of them (51 acres). He also subsequently had two fields (12 acres) by “the Gypsy House”, and two houses, a blacksmith’s shop, and small meadow adjoining north of the village Forge. Coleman’s Will dated 8/9/1807 (probate granted 2/1/1808 – TNA PROB 11/1472) refers to him as of Dulwich, Farmer, and mentions his wife Sarah, his son James, and his daughter Ann Maria Kesterton (as well as Thomas Tuck of Dulwich, Butcher).
(7) 1855, Martha and John Webster. Headstone. Martha Webster died 28 October 1847, aged 77 and her husband, Mr John Webster died 15 July 1855, aged 86.

Monument to James Thompson - photograph by John East 2016

(8) 1788, James Thompson: This is a stone tomb chest of smooth ashlar, with vermiculated corner quoins and a moulded lid. It has a brick stylobate with three steps and a stone base and recessed oval inscription panels on the two long elevations (Listed Grade II).

Youngest son of Peter Thompson Esq and Mary his wife, late of Poole, Dorsetshire, died 20 August 1788, aged 15. Also Peter Thompson Esq, late Major of the 1st Royal Surrey Regt, died 26 May 1814, aged 78.

Peter Thompson (1735-1814 occupied what became Dulwich Lodge (‘House adj. East of Surrey Lodge’) in Half Moon Lane (and 16 acres, in succession to Brass Crosby) from 1787 to 1792, then moved to Pond House (with a 3-acre garden, held with another 37 acres formerly Northcroft, Woodside Grove, and Great Borne) where he stayed until 1807. He was court martialed in 1812 for false certification of musters, i.e. putting more names on the company roll than were soldiers. He was under the impression he was allowed to do what was allegedly a long standing custom ‘sanctioned by senior officers’. Nonetheless Major Thompson was dismissed from the army but the court martial appealed to the Prince Regent for clemency as Thompson had ‘erred unintentionally’ and had already undergone a long term of imprisonment and had been an officer for 54 years ‘with honour and credit and irreproachable character’. However the Prince Regent confirmed the sentence but changed ‘dismissed’ to ‘removed’, a lesser charge which stopped him from being shamefully
cashiered. Various insurance policies he held with the Sun Fire Office from 1788 to 1794 show Thompson also having an interest in a stave merchants premises in Rotherhithe, a hairdressers in Dulwich, and tenanted property in Poole, Dorset.


William Hargreaves, died 15 November 1789 of St Saviour Southwark, in his 33rd year.

The burial register gives Hargrave as his surname and aged 30 at death. See also footstone 79A.

(10) 1817, Sarah Campbell: Few words of inscription only legible in 1970.

Sarah Campbell relict of Duncan Campbell Esq of [Glendervet?], Argyll and of...& daughter of the late John Hall Esq of Whit... died 4 March 1817, aged 66.

![Monument to Richard Shawe - photograph by John East 2016](image)

(11) 1816, Richard Shawe and Mary Ann Smith: The monument is a stone tomb chest dated 1818. It is signed by stonemason Day of Camberwell (either R Day, active from 1822-51, or D Day, who finished production in 1822). The design recalls the style of Soane and sits on a brick plinth. There are three upper stages, the lowest has blocked segmental-arched openings on the returns, topped by a vermiculated band. The second stage is in the form of a pedimented box, the tympana filled with floral scrolls, and the corners with pilasters formed from Greek key motifs. The chest itself located on the two step stylobate has tapering and angled corner pilasters which are fluted; capitals with honeysuckle shoulders; drapery
between each corner pilaster and a Greek meander pattern to cap which is ornamented with a wreath in low relief. (Listed Grade II).

Richard Shawe Esq Of Casina Dulwich, died 11 August 1816, aged 61. Also Mary Ann Smith, died 21 January 1854, in her 59th year, only daughter of Richard Shawe Esq of Casina and wife of Bogle Smith Esq of Lavender Hill.

According to the burial fees book, the vault was measured at 9’ 3” x 7’ 9”, possibly the largest in the cemetery and at £16 charged the most expensive, half going to the Minister and half to the College.

Richard Shawe was a wealthy lawyer, who had successfully defended Warren Hastings, the former Governor-General of Bengal, on corruption charges in the House of Lords. The case lasted seven years, 1788-95. He was well paid for this and by 1797 he had sufficient wealth to employ one of the leading architects of the time, John Nash, to design his new house on Herne Hill, Casina House. He also employed Humphrey Repton as his landscape designer - he was responsible for the water garden, the remnants of which survive as Sunray Gardens today. He died in 1816.

Casina House, 1775

In 1803 Shawe purchased 3 acres of land, roughly adjacent to the Half Moon Tavern. In 1806 he married the eldest daughter of his neighbour at this property, a city merchant named Nathaniel Bogle French. He built a small house on the property for her called Springfield
Cottage – later extended by Sir Charles Barry for John Crace, the well-known Victorian decorator, as Springfield House (demolished 1890).

In his will of 1811 Shawe left this house to his wife, because he knew she detested the thought of remaining at Casino after his death. Whether or not she actually moved to Springfield Cottage when he died in 1816 is unclear.

![Richard Shawe’s bookplate](image)

(12) **Adenson [Adamson]**. No date, 2 children. 4 Adamsons 1769-73 recorded on GLBI. Headstone 84” x 25”, no tomb 1970.

(13) **1788, Tuck. Tawke. Charlotte Tawke**, Headstone. Recorded on GLBI.

The will of Charlotte Tawke Tuck, Dulwich Spinster, dated 10/9/1788 (probate granted 14/11/1788 – TNA PROB 11/1172/82) mentions her brother Christian Tuck and her cousin Rebecca Tawke, who in 1789, according to Edwards’ *Companion*, ran a boarding school for young ladies. Rebecca was lessee at 61 Dulwich Village, which was Camden House according to William Darby, and was there until at least 1811.

(14) **1780, Louisa Ellis**: Headstone

(15) **1796, Silk**: Headstone 51” x 29” [seen 1970, missing 2008]

*Richard Banks Silk, died 12 December 1796.*

GLBI gives his age as 1, and also records Sarah Silk, died 1798, aged 34.

(16) **1809**, Small flat tomb. [listed under Brook in 1930 list]

*Thomas Osmand Late of the Bank of England, died 28 March 1809.*

Aged 62 in GLBI.
(17) 1831, William Shillam: Headstone [Shellam on 1930 list]

Aged 75 in GLBI.

(18) 1813, Mary and John Cosham: Headstone.
Mary Cosham died 1810; her husband, John Cosham died 31 January 1813, aged 57.

(19) 1795, John and Ann Hughes: Headstone.
John Hughes died 1795, aged 64; Ann Hughes died 1815, aged 86.

John Hughes was the village blacksmith. In 1765 he built a wooden framed shop in middle of row opposite the old Crown inn, later adding 2 brick built cottages next door of which No 76 survives.

(20) 1819, John, Elizabeth and Mary Shaw: Headstone
Mr John Shaw of Dulwich died 3 October 1791, aged 54; “By a sudden st[roke he fe]ll/And never spo[ke his s]orrow[s to reveal”]. Mary, his daughter died 9 May 1798, aged 28; Elizabeth his wife died 18 December 1819, in her 78th year? [GLBI says 75:]

John Shaw was a wheelwright whose premises (which he built) were in Boxall Row where the garage (Park Motors) is today.

Monument to William Ranken - photograph by John East 2016
(21) 1831, Monument to Lieutenant-Colonel William Ranken and family: Stone tomb chest. Dated 1831 [1858 on 1930 list]. Stucco-faced plinth. Chest has angled corner pilasters terminating in shields. Enclosed by railings, the base has a stone inscribed "Entrance to vault". There are rosettes on the corners of the inscription panels (Listed Grade II).

Lieutenant- Colonel William Ranken, of the East India Company, died 20 October 1831, aged 66; his daughter, Mary, died 14 June 1872, aged 73; John William Ranken, of Christ Church, Oxford, only child of Charles Ranken Esq and Cecilia his wife, of his hamlet, died 2 September 1835, aged 20 “after a few days illness”; Cecilia Ranken died 26 August 1851; Charles Ranken Esq died 7 October 1858, in his 70th year.

Colonel Ranken served in the Bengal Army and was a cousin of Charles Ranken, who leased Belair from 1829 until his death in 1858. Born in Bengal, Charles was a wealthy solicitor with many aristocratic clients. He purchased the Knight’s Hill Estate which was sold to Dulwich College after his death and in 1847 became President of the Law Society. His wife, Cecilia, who was said to be an excitable, talkative woman, had her portrait painted by the fashionable artist, George Richmond. The death of their only son John badly affected her mental and physical health. Charles’ cousin, Mary, Colonel Ranken’s daughter, lived with them. A spinster, Mary was very active in the village, persuading the Master of Dulwich College to establish the infant’s class which is now Dulwich Infants’ School and founding several other charities in the area. [see the Dulwich Society’s Belair, pp 9-11 and Dulwich Society Newsletter, Autumn 2005].

Monument to John Willes watercolour by Anne Savage, 1970 (with kind permission of the Governors of Dulwich College)
1818. John Willes: This is a stone tomb chest dated 1818. It has a brick plinth and the stone base is treated as a vermiculated band with a stylobate of 3 steps. Soanean in character, the tomb has Roman sepulchral motifs used in a highly idiosyncratic manner. The returns resemble a Roman stele, with a scallop shell inserted in a segmental pediment, a motif repeated on the long sides. Tapering corner pilasters have honeysuckle shoulders and inverted torches in low relief carving (Listed Grade II).
John Willes Esq, (1734 – 1818) died 10 August 1818, in his 84th year, buried 18 August. He married first [Rachel] the only daughter and heiress of …Wilcocks Esq [her uncle the] Bishop of Rochester …surveyor in that ancient city & second Ann only daughter and heiress of [Thomas] Wright Esq Alderman of London. He survived his second wife by 10 months.

Willes was a successful Whitechapel corn merchant, who is best known in Dulwich for building College Place (now known as Belair House) in 1785. He married two wealthy heiresses, but they had no children. When his first wife died he married Ann, the only surviving child of Alderman Thomas Wright, the builder of Bell House in College Road. [see Dulwich Society Newsletter, Autumn 2007]

![College Place (now Belair House) circa 1830](image)

(22A) Edward Batten:

*Edward Batten Esq: of Dulwich, son of Edward Batten Esq of Courland House, Clapham Surrey. Died 31 March 1855. Also Emily Sarah Batten, died 26 May 1858, aged 20.*

(23) 1766, William Levens: Headstone.

William Levens died 9 July 1772, aged 71. The grave is dated 1766, when [his wife?] Alice was buried. Levens was the village builder and carpenter. He adapted part of the pub, the French Horn (then called the Bricklayer’s Arms), for James Allen’s Reading Schools in 1741 – the site was next door to today’s Pedder Estate Agents. In the 1770s he was employed by Robert Boxall (licensee of the Greyhound Inn) to construct the cottages at Nos. 84-86 Dulwich Village (still there), behind them, a row of six even smaller cottages and the wheelwright’s shop in Boxall Row occupied by John Shaw (grave 20). Although the houses in Boxall Row were replaced in the 1890s the street layout mirrors the original.
(24) 1836, James and Elizabeth Horsburgh: Large tomb. Captain James Horsburgh lived in Herne Hill, was Hydrographer to the East India Company and died 14 May 1836, in his 74th year. His wife Elizabeth died 23 September 1829, in her 41st year.

James Horsburgh (1762–1836) the hydrographer and chart maker and ‘nautical oracle of the world’, was born in 1762 in the coastal town of Elie in Scotland. James himself described his parents as ‘pious, and respectable, but not opulent’. At the age of sixteen he started as a cook and cabin boy in the North Sea coal ships. Seafaring was a dangerous business in more ways than one: he was captured by a French privateer and imprisoned in Dunkirk; he was stranded in Diego Garcia following the wreck of his ship; and later in London he avoided the press-gang by pretending to be Danish. After a passage to India in 1783, he decided he wanted to stay in India rather than return to England and swam from the ship back to Calcutta, narrowly avoiding being swept out to sea. Once on dry land he became a rigger in the shipyard of a fellow townsman from Elie and began working his way up through the East India Company.

While working on ships trading between India and China, Horsburgh gained experience of shoals, winds, and currents in the China Sea and developed an interest in scientific observation, teaching himself drawing, etching and studying late into the night when in port. Most of his voyages were between India and China but he periodically travelled to Europe, continuing on to the West Indies before returning to India. All this time he was meticulously compiling charts and sailing directions. They were so accurate that Horsburgh was criticised for inadvertently aiding opium smuggling. He replied that ‘As they will continue that vile trade we may as well afford the means of preserving their lives’. The East India Company published his charts together with Observations on the Eastern Seas, an equally important editing of the data he collected to provide context and background. On his trips back to England over the years Horsburgh had been introduced to the scientific circle which included Sir Joseph Banks, Nevil Maskelyne, and Henry Cavendish and he capitalised on the connections. For Cavendish he maintained continuous barometer registers, taken every four hours, by day or night, at sea or in harbour. He retired in Canton in 1804 and returned to Britain for good the next year, his retirement briefly delayed by his unsuccessful attempts to initiate a boat survey in the China Sea. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1806.

His time in the China Seas had not made him wealthy so in retirement he published his extensive collection of charts which his friends had persuaded him to hang on to and not leave behind with his successors. In particular, the snappily titled Directions for sailing to and from the East Indies, China, New Holland, Cape of Good Hope, and the interjacent ports, compiled chiefly from original journals and observations made during 21 years’ experience in navigating those seas, was published to acclaim. In 1810 he became hydrographer to the East India Company, responsible for supervising the engraving of charts sent back to London by marine surveyors in India and examining the journals of returning ships for data to refine oceanic navigation charts. He continued to revise his sailing directions, subsequently known as the India Directory, which became the standard work for oriental navigation.
Having served extensively on long voyages overseas, Horsburgh did not marry until late in life. In 1805, the year he returned to England, aged 43 he married 17-year-old Elizabeth Longworth and they settled in Saville Row, Walworth. Their first daughter, Jane Frances, was born in 1808 and Elizabeth, followed in 1815. Three years later 37 Herne Hill had been built for them, held on a 78-year lease (later renumbered 131; Denesmede is now on the site). James was born in 1821 when Horsburgh himself was 59. He was devoted to his family but sadly, Elizabeth died in 1829.

Horsburgh died in 1836 at the age of 74. When the news reached Canton a subscription was opened for a memorial to him, resulting in the construction of the Horsburgh lighthouse the oldest in Singapore. Horsburgh Island in the Cocos (Keeling) Islands is also named after him but his lasting memorial was the incalculable number of lives his charts were said to have saved. With the demise of the East India Company many of Horsburgh’s charts were issued as admiralty charts. St Paul’s Church, Herne Hill, contains a fine memorial to him. Both he and his wife are buried in the burial ground.


John and Georgiana had 12 children. He was an ensign in the St. Catherine militia in 1805, a lieutenant in 1807, and attorney-at-law in 1807 and died of influenza in England.
Monument to John Graham - photograph by John East 2016

(26) 1796, Graham family: This stone tomb chest is on high and very plain stone base. There is a flat-arched vault entrance to west return. The sarcophagus has corner balusters of very mannered proportions. The very plainness of the base, together with some battering, suggests an Egyptian pylon as does the exceptionally bare treatment of the ashlaring to the base (Listed Grade II).

John Graham, late of Fleet Street, died 17 May 1796, aged 40; also his daughter, Mary Graham, died 2 July 1796, aged 4 years 6 months; also Mary Anne Graham, died March 1815; also his wife, Betty Graham, died 18 August 1839, aged 73; also Jane Graham, wife of Christopher Graham of New Bridge Street, and daughter of John Graham, died 6 April 1806, aged 31, GLBI; also Percival North Esq, died 13 February 1818, aged 86; also Elizabeth North, relict of above, died 10 March 1821, aged 85; also Percival Graham, son of John Graham, died 8 March 1815, aged 21.

Percival North was a grocer of New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, who from 1788 to his death was the lessee of ‘The Elms’ near The Green Man/Grove House (and 53 acres, on both sides of Dulwich Common). His Will (TNA PROB 11/1602) mentions Christopher Graham, also a grocer of New Bridge Street, but omits to explain how, if at all, they were related.

Transcript from burial fees register p 147. “Mr North’s Vault (near Mr Palmer’s) in which Mrs Graham was buried April 11 1806, is the same size with Mr Test’s & holds eight persons, Mr North having made it a course of two bricks higher”
(27) Jones family: Large flat tomb. 
Mary Jones, wife of B S Jones Esq of Herne Hill, died 9 April 1823, buried 15 April aged 58 [48 on GLBI]; Mary Bicknell, daughter of B S Jones and wife of Elhanen Bicknell Esq died 9 April 1827, aged 38; Benjamin Scott Jones Esq, Asst Secy. East India Docks, died 28 February 1830, aged 81; Lt Col. E W Jones, son of B S Jones, 13th Regiment Infantry, died 25 October 1833.

The burial fees account book confirms that £12. 12 shillings was paid on May 16 1823 by ‘Captain Jones R. N., son of Mary Jones, for the erection of a vault to hold six persons. 8’ 6” long by 7’ broad’.

Mary Bicknell was the second wife of Elhanan Bicknell, art patron and businessman. He was a partner in the shipping firm of Langton & Bicknell who owned a large fleet of whalers. They monopolised the Pacific sperm whale fishery business from the 1820s until the mid-1840s. As well as being an astute businessman, Elhanan had a natural gift for judging paintings and modern sculpture and between 1820, and his death in 1861, he built up a huge collection of contemporary art. It included works by Turner, Gainsborough and Landseer. He married Mary in 1817 and they moved to Carlton House, No. 5 Herne Hill, in 1819. They had one son, Henry Sanford Bicknell, also an art collector. Unlike Mary, both Elhanan and Henry are buried in West Norwood Cemetery.


(29) 1767?, Miller: Possibly, D Miller in GLBI [headstone very old 1930, seen 1973, missing 2008]. Dorothy Miller, a Poor Sister of the College, was punished several times between 1759 and 1761 for drunkenness, on the last occasion she was set set in the Stocks for two hours and had one week’s pension deducted.

Sittings Book, 1761 (with kind permission of the Governors of Dulwich College)
(30) **1794, Thomas Green:** Headstone very old 1930.

*Thomas Green. Died 13 September 1794, aged 79.*

Thomas Green occupied a small house on the north side of Dulwich Common, between ‘Glenlea’ and ‘Ryecotes’, from before 1782 until 1790, as well as 12 acres ‘at will’ on the south side of the Common. His Will dated 5/9/1794 (probate granted 27/9/1794 – TNA PROB 11/1249/287) describes him as “of Dulwich Court Farm … Gentleman”. He was probably under tenant of Thomas Coleman, who is mentioned in Green’s Will, and who was the lessee of part of Dulwich Court Farm.

(31) **illegible** [old marble sunk down 1930, missing 1973 and 2008]

(32) **illegible** [old marble sunk down 1930, missing 1973 and 2008]

(33) **1829, Constable:** Mary Ann buried 1829, aged 38 and Harriet buried 1827, aged 6, are recorded as buried in Dulwich.

The family were farmers, who ran Court Farm. The patriarch of the family was Colonel (his name, a variation of ‘Cornel’, not his rank) Constable. Before it was amalgamated with other fields in 1890 to form Dulwich Park, Constable's Farm (formerly Dulwich Court Farm) was known as one of the best kept farms in south London. According to the local 'authority', Tom Morris, writing in 1909, Constable was first established at the farm in the 1820’s, as ploughman for the then lessee Mr Johnson, stayed on as his caretaker, and then, "possession being nine points of the law", refused to vacate after several years residence. The story is almost certainly untrue, as indicated by the fact that the College granted a lease of the farm to Constable, comprising the farmhouse, outbuildings, and 76 acres, in 1842. He also farmed a considerable amount of land on the other side of Lordship Lane, and is shown in the 1851 census as farming 200 acres in all. That census also lists his (second) wife and most of his 6 sons and 3 surviving daughters who helped him full time on the farm. Tom Morris describes him as wearing “a broad brim beaver hat, high shirt collar, no neckerchief, and a smock frock. He always carried a ‘spud’ tied to a long handle to pick up the weeds as he passed through the fields.” On his retirement Constable was granted an 'outdoor' pension by the College, and lived on to the great age of 93 (not 96, as given by his obituary in the South London Press in February 1877). [Constable was buried in Nunhead Cemetery, so this is an example of a family separated in death by the closure of the Village Burial Ground.]

(34) **Thomas Long:** died 1816, aged 60 (GLBI) headstone 1930

*Thomas Long: died 1816, aged 60*

(35) **Thomas Long:** died 1800, aged 18 (GLBI) [headstone 1930, missing 1973 and 2008]

(36) **Charles Catling:** headstone 1930, [missing 1973 and 2008]

Died 1804, aged 25; and Elizabeth, died 1806, aged 27 (GLBI)

(37) **Eleanor Elizabeth Willcox:** died November 1845; also Harriet Ann Willcox headstone
(38) 1768, Clark: Headstone 1930 [missing 1973 and 2008].

The date could be a misreading for 1788, and the name Clarke. The Will of Richard Clarke, late Biscuit Baker, now Gentleman, of Dulwich, was proved on 6/3/1788 [TNA PROB 11/1163].


(40) 1835-49, William Stubbersfield: Headstone.

William Stubbersfield son of Nicholas and Mary Stubbersfield of this hamlet, died 21 August 1825, aged 25; also Mary Stubbersfield, mother, died 5 August 1835, aged 65; also Ann Stubbersfield, died 16 February 1849, aged 38.

Nicholas Stubbersfield, the occupier in 1823 of the cottage (now ‘The Bothie’) lying behind ‘Brightlands’, was an original member of the Dulwich College School Association, founded in April 1841, having himself been a Poor Scholar of the Old College. At the time of the 1841 Census he was described as a gardener, living with his (second) wife, another Mary, and daughters Mary and Rosamund. Stubbersfield became a grocer, and for a while moved away to Newcastle, but by the time of the 1861 Census he had returned to the property with a new wife (yet another Mary, twenty-two years younger than her husband) and his spinster sister-in-law Elizabeth Hillier. Stubbersfield died, aged ninety, on 19th April 1876, and was buried in West Norwood Cemetery.
(41) 1808, Parnell and Burges families: A plain tomb chest dated 1808 is located on a brick plinth enclosed by spearheaded railings. The corner uprights are topped by thick, bulbous spears. The returns to the base have blocked segmental-arched openings (Listed Grade II).

Elizabeth Parnell, who died 2 November 1742, aged 62. Buried with her husband, John Parnell who died July 1749, aged 77, her son, James and daughter Ann [one Parnell burial recorded in the GLBI 1758] and Elizabeth Burges who was probably her daughter; she married Benjamin Burges in 1722 and died 1 December 1780, aged ?78. Also buried here is Benjamin Burges, died ?1770, aged 71 and the children of Elizabeth and Benjamin Burges: Benjamin who died 24 October 1763, aged 19 and Catherine, who died 24 April 1764, aged 21, Elizeus, who died 27 June 1811, aged 63 and James who died in 1789, aged ?49.

The 12 persons buried here are probably related through Elizabeth Parnell. The monument was erected in 1808 when James’ wife, Ann died on 15 December, aged 71. James was a victualler and Elizeus was an apothecary both in Lambeth.

(41A) 1745, Henry Toby Malyn: died 1743/5, aged 1 year 4 months

(42) 1848, Harriet Bonham: Headstone.

Harriet was probably wife of James Bonham custodian at the Picture Gallery and lived above the French Horn Inn. Also John and Mary Bonham.

(43) 1841, Peter G Lohman: born at Revai [?] 3 October1779/81, died Dulwich 2 May 1841. Headstone

(44) 1826, Barwick: headstone 77” x 30” broken 1970,

Gravestone missing 2008.

(45) 1830, Wheels: Headstone.
Ann Eliza born and died 1830 and William Henry, born 1831, died 1832.

Children of Edward Wheels, insolvent debtor 1839, when described as unemployed, formerly of Dulwich, stage and glass coach master. Aptly named flymaster and coachman.

(46) No name, no date. [Unidentified 1867; large raised canopy open below 1930;]
A stone tomb dated early C19 sits on a low brick plinth. Soanean in style, it has a stylobate of 3 steps and a shallow domed canopy supported by angled corner piers with acanthus capitals. Under the canopy there is a broad scrolled bracket resembling an open book. (Listed Grade II)
(47) **Henry Attwood:** Headstone in 1930, missing 2008. Died 1822, aged 23 (GLBI)

(48) **Stone family:** Small tomb in good condition 1930. Dated 1853 on 1930 list. 
*Robert Stone Esq, died 9 June 1820, aged 71, nine years a magistrate; also Mary Ann Stone, his wife, and Robert Stone their third son who died 5 November 1812 aged 5 years and 11 months.*

Robert Stone was one of the Justices of the Peace for Surrey, and lived in Effra House, Brixton (Gents Mag). Between 1791 and 1806 he bought the Heathrow Estate in four parts; it was then known as Effra Farm. It comprised some 70 acres south of Coldharbour Lane on the east side of Effra Road and the north-east side of Dulwich Road. The value of the land was greatly enhanced by the layout of Effra Road in 1810 by the Lambeth Inclosure Commissioners, and again a few years later by the building of St. Matthew's Church. Stone divided the northern part of the area into plots and granted long leases. A few detached houses (none of which now survives) were then built. Robert Stone died in 1820, leaving a widow and seven children, all minors. His estate was so heavily burdened with debts that his executors refused to act, and his affairs were finally settled under Chancery supervision by a private Act of Parliament. The southern portion of the estate was bought by the Westminster Freehold Land Society in 1855, and what are now Effra Parade, Chaucer Road, Spenser Road, Shakespeare Road and Milton Road were laid out on a much humbler scale than the northern portion of the estate. (Survey of London)
Monument to Emily Kingsley

(49) 1823, Monument to Emily Kingsley and family: A stone Tomb chest dated 1823 with plain inscription panels. Enclosed by iron spearheaded railings, the corner uprights terminate in ‘smouldering urns’, two of which are missing (Listed Grade II).

Emily Kingsley, died 15 December 1823, aged 11 years 6 months; Jane Kingsley, her sister, died 21 January 1836, aged 21; their father, Charles Kingsley Esq of Dulwich, died 25 January 1836, aged 52; Elizabeth Mainwaring, his sister-in-law, died 12 February 1843; Jane Kingsley, relict of the late Charles Kingsley Esq, died 11 March 1853, aged 73. [Date of tomb on 1930 list 1853] “This tomb is erected to the memory of her beloved husband and children by Jane Kingsley” – inscription on west face.

Charles Kingsley was a member of the East India Company; he died four days after the death of his only surviving child.

(50) illegible: Headstone down 1930 [missing 2008]


Robert Lulman had been the First Commissioner of the Sick and Hurt Office, responsible for sick and wounded seamen and prisoners of war until retiring in 1798 because of ‘a paralytic affection of his thigh’. On behalf of the king in 1780, he signed an agreement with the French concerning the exchange of prisoners. He was a doctor of physic and medicine, the local surgeon and lived at ‘Blew House’ on Dulwich Common. [1930 list has Lueman].
(52) **No name, no date:** Large flat tomb.

(53) **1807, Reverend Thomas Jones:** Large tomb in good condition 1930.

The lengthy inscription on his monument records that he died on 18 July 1807, aged 51. After his funeral, the undertaker left eight shillings for the boys for singing before the coffin [burial fees register]. Although laid to rest on a vault for one person, 8ft x 2ft ‘in the clear’, 9’6” x 3’ 6’’ ‘out & out’, also buried here is the Reverend William George Judgson MA, a ‘revered relative’ of Thomas Jones and Fellow of Trinity Cambridge; he died on 5 March 1825, aged 45. Also Mary Atchison, who died 17 December 1827, aged 70. She was the mother of William Judgson by her 1st husband, Mr James Judgson of Market Drayton Salop, and mother of Captain Thomas Atchison Royal Artillery, late Colonel Lancashire Artillery Militia by her 2nd husband Mr William Atchison of Stourbridge. She was daughter of George Kendall Esq of Acklington Park N[orthhumber]land later of Stourbridge and granddaughter of Edward Kendall Esq of the Austrey Estate near Tamworth and Old Swinford near Stourbridge. Her grandmother was Miss Cotton of Haigh Hall, south of Wakefield related to the Cottons of Combermere, Cheshire.

*Rev, Thomas Jones ((Master and Fellows of Trinity College Cambridge)*
Rev Thomas Jones (23 June 1756 – 18 July 1807) was Head Tutor and a senior fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge for twenty years and an outstanding teacher of mathematics and astronomy. Byron was one of his pupils but he is notable as a mentor of Adam Sedgwick. A bust of him by Nollekens is in Trinity College Chapel. Judgson was Senior Bursar of Trinity College.

Jones was born at Berriew, Montgomeryshire, in Wales. On completing his studies at Shrewsbury School, he was admitted to St John's College, Cambridge on 28 May 1774, as a 'pensioner' (i.e. a fee-paying student, as opposed to a scholar or sizar). He was believed to be an illegitimate son of Mr Owen Owen, of Tyncoed, and his housekeeper, who afterwards married a Mr Jones, of Traffin, County Kerry, Thomas then being brought up as his son. 
[see Wikipedia and the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography for further information]

(54) 1801, Monument to Anne Flint: This is a stone sarcophagus on a high brick base. It has tapering and reeded corner pilasters, and incised inscription panels. The uprights of the metal railing enclosure railings terminate in crescent moons (Listed Grade II).

Monument to Ann Flint – photograph by John East 2016

Mrs Ann Flint, widow of Mr William Flint of London Bridge, Southwark, died 18 September 1801; mother of Catherine Palmer (died 1837) who is buried here with her husband, Clarkson Palmer (died 1847) and his sister Kitty Palmer (died 1846).
A transcript from p 147 of the burial fees register says. "Mr Palmer’s Vault in which Mrs Flint was buried Sept 24 1801 is the same size as Mr Dalbiac’s near which it stands and holds 4 persons. It is 8 ft 6 by 7ft 4”

Blanch quotes a poem by W. C. Bennett about us not knowing anything about Kitty:
The full text of the poem is on the internet (Haithi Trust) - "Kitty Palmer. The sole inscription on an old headstone in Dulwich Churchyard", in William Cox Bennett. *Poems.* (1862) pp 463-4. He describes the churchyard as "shaded by green elms", and "sweet the thymy turf". Bennett lived in Greenwich and says he came through Dulwich often.

But ‘Kitty Palmer’ - not a word
Beyond, - the mossy-head stone’s showing;
Not even a date; it seems absurd,
To care for one, one can't be knowing;
Yet I can't help it; she lies nigh
The quiet road I travel often,
And always, when I pass her by,
T’wards Kitty there, my heart will soften.

There's nothing there her age to say;
Young? old? all’s hid by time's thick curtain;
Was she a babe, scarce born a day?
A girl? a woman? all’s uncertain.
Was she maid, wife, or widow? Well,
That knowledge - we must do without it;
We know there's nothing here to tell,
And that's all we can do about it.

What conquests were hers? Did she reign,
A child, but in her home’s affections,
Or, older grown, seek, not in vain,
Heart-triumphs, for sweet recollections?
Was she vain? humble? foolish? wise?
O were you wicked with your eyes,
A plague to men? I hope not Kitty.

Did children make her smile or sigh,
A blessed or afflicted mother?
Did she at weddings laugh? or try
By death-beds, sobs in vain to smother?
At her grand-children's christening, eyes,
Half tears - half laughter, did she show now?
Or weep their flight to Paradise
From cradles here? ah, who can know now?

Yet still my fancy will go on
About this long-gone Kitty dreaming,
She, freed from all we think upon
Of worldly toils and cares and scheming;
Whatever she was, here her rest,
How pleasantly those green elms shade it!
How calm and throbless is her breast
However wild or sad life made it!

As here I see her lie, forgot
By all who used to hate or love her,
By all but she who makes this spot
So sweet with thymy turf above her,
I cannot come to picture her
But as a sweet one life could render
With smiles to heaven, - one fit to stir
In me but thoughts serene and tender

So I think of her - think her fair,
And, on the painted sunshine gazing,
See laughing eyes and golden hair,
All beauty that one should be praising;
A happy girlish wife, before
My sight she lives, to fancy giving
Content more calm - more sweet, since more
Undimmed by fears - then do the living.

For we are things that know no peace,
Poor slaves of care and toil and pleasure,
Of wants and hopes that never cease;
For calm content, we have no leisure;
But hers no more are sin and death,
All we must fear - with which we’ve striven;
Earth’s must be still unquiet breath;
She breathes but Heaven’s, we trust – forgiven.

So is that all we can know about it? Who was Kitty Palmer? She was christened on 4 October 1773 at St Matthew’s Church in Friday St in the City of London and it’s interesting that she was christened Kitty, not Catherine. It was unusual at that time to use a diminutive as the baptismal name but Kitty was never known by anything other than Kitty from her baptism to her will. Her parents were Thomas Palmer and Mary (nee Blagg) from Nottinghamshire, Thomas was a haberdasher. Kitty had a sister, Mary, and a brother Thomas, who both died before she was born. She also had three surviving brothers: Clarkson, William and Charles. Kitty never married but was able to live comfortably on an income provided by her father. She seems to have divided her time between Marylebone and Brighton, living in both Manchester Square and Bryanston Square in Marylebone and with her brother Clarkson and his family in Pavilion Parade, Brighton.

She died on 3 October 1846 in a large Georgian townhouse in Marylebone, just around the corner from her brother’s house, though her will also gives her address as Brighton. She died aged 73 and the cause of death was ‘paralysis of the left side’ which may have been a stroke;
the death certificate indicates she had been having medical treatment for 4 weeks prior to her death. She outlived her brother but knew the sadness of losing her sister-in-law, with whom she was close given the terms of her will, and her nephews. One of her brother’s servants, Hannah Mand, was present at the death and arranged the formalities and of course, her burial was here in Dulwich. So, Bennett’s poem is not entirely accurate. We know she died a ‘maid’ or spinster, though she had a long and comfortable life living with her brother and his family.

*Fairfield, Dulwich Village – circa 1890*

As for the other occupants of the vault, we do not know much about them. Ann Flint, née Harrow, was born c.1734 and married William Flint of London Bridge on 30 May 1773, having given birth to her daughter Catherine four years before (though William is named as the father on the birth certificate). Ann died aged 71, leaving all her estate to her daughter Catherine, and was buried on 24 September 1801, the first person buried in the vault. Catherine Palmer, née Flint, was born on 26 May 1769 and married Clarkson Palmer at St Olave’s Church on 13 June 1797. She was 28, he was 32. She died at their home in Brighton on 16 June 1837 aged 67 and was laid to rest in the vault with her mother. Her husband (and Kitty’s brother) was Clarkson Palmer, the fourth soul in the vault. He was born on 23 October 1764 and christened at All Hallows Church, Bread St, in the City of London. At the time his father was in a haberdashery business with Jacob Clarkson so it looks as though Clarkson was named for his father’s business partner but the business went bankrupt in 1767. Clarkson also became a haberdasher and seems to have been very successful. Five years before his marriage to Catherine Flint he was paying land tax jointly with her mother, ‘widow Flint’, at Borough in St Olave’s; perhaps he married the boss’s daughter as on 13 June 1797 he married Catherine Flint at St Olave’s Church, Southwark by licence which may have been a symbol
of social status as it cost more than having the banns read. They lived at Menival, later known as Fairfield, in Dulwich Village, a large house near the site of the current Fairfield.

They later lived on Dulwich Hill and at Hill Lodge, Champion Hill. Clarkson Palmer paid for the vault on 4 January 1802, following the death of Ann Flint, his mother-in-law, the previous September. The vault was for four people and to be ‘the same size as Mr Dalbiac’s’, an interesting way of specifying the dimensions. He paid £6 10s to the College and seems to have paid an equal amount to the ‘minister’. When Ann Flint, was buried in the vault in 1801, a further 5 shillings was paid to the minister. Clarkson and Catherine had two sons. Clarkson was born on 23 August 1802, christened on 27 August 1802 at the Chapel but died on 26 November 1832, aged 30 and was buried on 1 December 1832. Henry was born on 7 August 1805, christened at the Chapel the next day but died 27 February 1823, aged 17. So Clarkson and Catherine buried both their children, not an unusual occurrence at that time but poignant nonetheless, and neither boy is buried in the vault despite having their funeral services at the College chapel.

On 9 September 1812 Clarkson Palmer became a freeman of the worshipful company of Glaziers ‘by redemption’, meaning he was not a member of the craft but had paid for his freedom. He could do this because he was a haberdasher in the City, he did not need to be a glazier. On Boxing Day 1818, 32-year-old Eliza Chambers stole 2 pieces of ribbon valued at 7 shillings, from Clarkson’s shop at London Bridge. Two of his male shop assistants gave evidence at the Old Bailey and Eliza was sentenced to transportation for seven years, though effectively it was a life sentence as she would be unlikely to be able to afford to come back to Britain. Clarkson also had a business on the south side of London Bridge, at Borough and paid rates at both premises. In the 1841 Census he was living at Pavilion Parade, Brighton, with three servants: Hannah Mand (born 1801), Elizabeth Wilkins (born 1796) and Lucy Marshall born (1811), his wife having died four years earlier. Clarkson himself died on 12 June 1847 at 105 Gloucester Place, Marylebone aged 82 and was buried in Dulwich on 20th June 1847.

(55) **1779, Test, E T 1753, T T:** E? Headstone 1930 [missing 2008]

Test died 1753; Thomas Test Esq. died 1779 [Lyson’s and GLBI] other members of the Test family were buried in Dulwich in 1754 and 1760, but no Christian names given in the burial register. See grave 62 for Thomas and M Ann Test.

Thomas Test, a Wine Merchant (based in St Mary-at-Hill, London) in 1751 and later (in 1768) a Cooper, was lessee of a house and 9 or 10 acres on the south side of Ireland Green (now Half Moon Lane) from 1746. (The Lease Packet in DCA refers to ‘House adj. 68 Half Moon Lane’, which William Darby referred to as Surrey Lodge. Test’s Will dated 1773 (probate granted 3/3/1779 – TNA PROB 11/1051) mentions his son Thomas Test and his grandchildren Thomas Test, Potter Test and Ann Test.
(56) 1843, William English Esq: Large flat tomb.

English died on 28 February 1843, aged 63. He lived on of Denmark Hill and was a surgeon for the East India Company; his papers 1799-1801 and 1821-43 are in the National Maritime Museum.

(57 and 58) 1824, Monuments to Schroder and Bustard families: The stone sarcophagus (57), to the Schroders and Isabella Bustard, is dated 1824. It has tapering corners, inscription panels, and is set on a high base. The sarcophagus is topped by a central boss and there are spear headed railings (Listed Grade II).

The Schroders who are buried in the burial ground are Johann Friedrich Schröder and his family. In the tomb which is dated 1824 with Johann Friedrich (died 1852) are his son, John Frederick who died on 8 May 1830, aged 25, two of his daughters, Louisa (baptised 20 November 1808 in Barking, died 29th March, buried 5 April 1824 in Dulwich) and Isabella, (born 1810 died 1862) who died aged 15 and 53 and respectively, his mother-in law, Isabella Bustard, (1745-1838) who died aged 93, and two of his sisters-in-law (monument 58): Dorothy Bustard (1785-1851) and Jane Gill (6 February 1783-1864). The Bustards lived in Dulwich and in January 1820 Jane Bustard, Isabella’s sister, had married Francis Gill (1788-1824), a merchant who was also a partner in J H Schröder but he died four years later. Jane lived in Pond House with just two servants and no children. Johann Friedrich’s wife, Isabella who died aged 90, does not appear to be buried here.
Johann brought his family to Dulwich for the same reason many German families lived in this area at that time: proximity to the City, other German families and the healthy air. Johann Friedrich Schroder was born in 1780 and was already a merchant in the highly successful family firm in Hamburg, then a vital place for any merchant involved in foreign trade, when he came to London in 1800 aged 20. Almost the first thing he did was to join the freemasons at Pilgrim Lodge No. 238, a prestigious German-speaking lodge who used the Schroder masonic ritual from back in Germany. He brought family money with him and set up his firm of J. F. Schröder & Co. in Throgmorton St, where he was joined in 1804 by his brother, Johann Heinrich Schröder. The present asset management company of Schroders dates its foundation from the formation of this partnership.

Johann Friedrich Schröder (Schroder Archive)

Johann Friedrich quickly became a member of Lloyd’s, enabling him to carry out lucrative shipping underwriting alongside his commodity trading and small-scale financial services businesses. Within two years of arriving in London he had married Isabella Bustard (1778-1868), eldest daughter of the senior partner in the City firm Richard Bustard & Marwood. Like many Hamburg merchants, Johann Friedrich specialised in sugar trading and rented eight warehouses in the West India Docks, where Canary Wharf is now. J F Schroder & Co also acted as a merchant bank almost from the start, accepting bills from the Rothschilds and Brandts among others and also developing trade in the Baltics. By 1813 the business was doing well and Johann Friedrich moved his wife and young family to Dulwich leasing Dulwich Lodge in Half Moon Lane from Dulwich College. Before then the family had lived
‘above the shop’ in Old Broad St and the move to Dulwich would have been an improvement in living accommodation as well as being closer to his wife’s mother who lived in Dulwich. Dulwich Lodge was a substantial house in Half Moon Lane set in 26 acres and came with the right to sit in pew number one in Dulwich College Chapel. Johann Friedrich’s firm went from strength to strength and traded all over the world, dealing in commodities such as cotton, rice and tobacco with Russia, South America and the US and acting as a merchant bank worldwide, though nearly always with a firm with which Schröder had a family connection.

The Schröders had a son, John Frederick (20 August 1804-1830) and three daughters: Louisa (1808-1824), Isabella (1810-1863) and Harriet (18 August 1811-1812). Sadly, they buried three of their children and their fourth child also died before her father so this branch of the Schroder family died out. The brothers were in business together until 1817 when Johann Heinrich, who was much more ambitious than his brother, Anglicised his name and set up his own firm, J Henry Schroder, from which the present day Schroders descended.

When Johann Friedrich’s only son, John Frederick, died in 1830 he dissolved his company and by 1835 was said to be ‘vey opulent and retired from the business’. He then travelled extensively throughout Europe, using letters of introduction from the Rothschilds. Without a City firm he no longer needed to be close to town so in 1834 he bought Northbrook House in Hampshire where he died in 1852, aged 72, though it seems he still held the lease for Dulwich Lodge and also had a house in Hastings. He kept very close links with all his family both here, in Germany and throughout Europe, making them many bequests in his will.

(59 and 59A) 1834, Boobyer family [also spelt Bobbyer and Boobbyer]:
James Boobyer died 4 February 1834, aged 60, late of Lordship Lane, leaving a wife and family; Edward Dickinson, died 8 June 1853, aged 3 months and 15 days, James’ infant grandson; James’ widow Sarah Boobyer, died 8 August 1872, in her 81/4th year [aged 83 on death register]; also Amelia, his eldest daughter, died 18 April 1901, aged 82.

James Boobyer was granted a building lease on seven acres formerly part of Dulwich Court Farm in 1824, for which an arbitrator jointly appointed by the College and William Johnson, the tenant of what was left of the farm (a different William Johnson from the one mentioned above) awarded Johnson compensation. (DCA, BC:95 – Miscellaneous.)

(59A) 1918, Lydia Lock: Flat stone in good condition 1930.
Also Lydia Lock, their 3rd daughter, died 31 January 1918, aged 88.

Lydia Lock is thought to be the last to have been buried in the burial ground.

(60) 1823, Page family: Flat stone 1930.
Sally Page, wife of Samuel Page Esq, died 8 August 1823, aged 50; Samuel Page Esq, died 2 April 1852, aged 80, resident of Dulwich upwards of 30 years; also Mary Ann Page, wife of Samuel, died 27 December 1884, aged 77, interred Kensal Green Cemetery; also Alfred
Harrison Page, youngest son of Samuel and Mary Ann Page, died 13 December 1888, aged 57, at [Olinda?], Norfolk, Virginia, USA. [buried at Elmwood cemetery, Norfolk, Virginia].

(61) 1798, Dalbiac, Maria and James: Flatstone 1930, missing 2008. Brick outline only partially visible 2016.

GLBI records Maria Dalbiac, born 1762, buried 1798, and James Dalbiac born 1750, buried 1824. A transcript from p 147 of the burial fees register says “Mr Dalbiac’s Vault according to the measurement of Mr Lee the bricklayer is 8 feet 6 inches by 7 ft 4in which at 4 [shillings].6 [pence] superficial measure p foot is £13.1 shilling. I did not take the odd shilling. It is built for 4 persons and was erected Dec 1798 and stands at the South East End of the Burying Ground.”

The Dalbiacs came from Albi (hence d’Albiac) in the South of France and were Protestants. Situated on the river Tarn, Albi was the centre of the Cathar religion which was ruthlessly suppressed by Pope Innocent III in the thirteenth century, leading to the Dalbiacs fleeing to Nimes. However, Protestants, or Huguenots as they were also known, were persecuted there too and sadly most of the Dalbiac family were murdered but in 1681 two brothers survived to flee to England hidden in hampers, becoming two of around 50,000 Huguenots who found the freedom to practise their religion in England and introducing the word refugee into the English language. The two Dalbiac brothers ended up just outside the walls of the City of London, in Spitalfields. As weavers they had the ability to earn their living anywhere, unhampered by having to leave behind property or land and they joined the thriving Huguenot weaving community in Spitalfields, working and worshipping in a French-speaking ready-made support group. One of the brothers, Captain James Dalbiac, had a grandson called James who was born in 1750.

James Dalbiac’s house, 20 Spital Square, Spitalfields
James grew up at 20 Spital Square in a beautiful weaver’s house built for his grandfather, Captain James, who was a maker of silk and velvet and a fine upstanding member of the community, becoming a trustee for the courthouse and taking eighty of his workers to defend the king by resisting the (Catholic) Young Pretender, Bonnie Prince Charlie. When James grew up he also took his civic responsibilities seriously, paying for extra watchmen to patrol Spital Square. He married Maria Bernard c1779 and moved to Dulwich Common; many of the prosperous Huguenot businessmen were assimilating into British society, anglicising their names and moving out to the suburbs. The Dalbiacs had four daughters: Maria (1780-) married William Brien in 1801, Matilda (10 May 1789-) married Archibald Buchanan in 1819, Caroline (23 July 1795- 4 February 1821) married Christopher Hodgson in 1811 and Louisa married James Ochterlony Lockhart Mure in 1822 so his name died with him but his brother Charles’s family line survives. James’s cousin, Susannah, wrote a diary which still exists:

![Susannah Dalbiac’s diary](image)

Susannah Dalbiac’s diary which mentions staying home to make tea for ‘Cousin James’ and Cousin James going to town before dinner. See also Susannah Dalbiac’s almanac. [notes by SOC]

**(62) Test:** Tomb stone in good condition 1930.

*Thomas Test, died 7 April 1794, aged 66, also M Ann Test, died 23 April 1828, aged 77, daughter of Thomas and Mary* (Mary died 16 April 1789 GLBI). See also Grave 55.

Thomas Test, son of Thomas Test, inherited his father’s Dulwich property in 1779. A letter to the College from Nathaniel Bogle French written later in 1794 referred to Test’s ‘unhelpful’ response the previous year to French’s request to alter his frontage by taking in the footpath so as to extend his ha-ha. “He has now gone where I trust he will stand the test of enquiries conducted upon another footing …”
A transcript from p147 of the burial fees register says “Mrs Test’s Vault according to the measurement of Mr Lee the bricklayer is 9 feet by 9 which at 4 [shillings].6 p[ence] foot superficial measure is £18.4.6 – I did not take the odd 4.6. Mr Vanderesch’s Vault is exactly the same: -they hold 6 persons each. Mr Test’s Vault was erected April 1789 – and Mr Vanderesch’s May 1789.”

(63) 1773, Rose Adams: Headstone old 1930
Rose Adams died in 1773 (GLBI).

(64) 1782, William Middlecott: Headstone old
William Middlecott [I] of this hamlet, died 3 June 1795, aged 56; his wife Mary, died 14 March 1806, aged 65. There is a Middlecott recorded in the burial register for 1782. 65.

(65) 1829, Middlecott family: large flat stone, 1930 list.
Mr John Middlecott, of this hamlet, [son of William and Mary] died 19 December 1827, aged 52; his brother, William II, died 8 August 1829, aged 56; Henry, son of William II and Mary, died 11 November 1829, aged 5 years and 5 months; Mary wife of William II, died 11 August 1842, aged 53; Ann, wife of William III, died 10 November 1849, aged 40; William and Agnes Middlecott, children of Ann and William III, died infants. 1782]. William Middlecott I of this hamlet, died 3 June 1795, aged 56; his wife Mary, died 14 March 1806, aged 65.

For 100 years from the 1770s to the 1870s, members of the Middlecott family ran the Greyhound public house on a site between today’s Aysgarth Road and Pickwick Road. The first lessee was Mrs Middlecott. She had four sons and two daughters and, after her death, her son William took over, and he was followed by his son, also William – the latter was originally a coal merchant before he took over the pub in around 1840. He sold the pub in 1876. [Pubs of Dulwich and Herne Hill, 2016]
(65A-G): Footstones AP 1782, SP 1806; B: MC 1810, JC 1813; C: EA 1830; D: HB 1830; E: MAN 1840; F: SR 1836; G: EF 1828, JF

(66) 1729, No name: Old flatstone 1930 [missing 2008]

(67) No name, no date. Long flat tomb 1930.

(68) 1769, No name: Old stone 1930.

(69) 1810, Mansham: Headstone 1930 [missing 2008]

(70) 1766, John Roos [GLBI, not Ross as on 1930 list]. Headstone 1930 [missing 2008]

(71) 1853-6? Bloxam: Headstone 1930. [Mary Bloxam died 1830, aged 69 GLBI].

(72) 1804-20, Goodman: 10 people with surname Goodman are recorded in the burial register between 1798 and 1828, including Francis Goodman I who died in 1809 and Francis Goodman II died 1821, aged 36. Many of the others were young children. In 1804, the burial register noted against Mary, daughter of Francis and Phyllis Goodman aged 20 that ‘this unfortunate woman drowned herself in a pond in Dulwich’ a suicide certified as ‘lunacy’ by the coroner.

For about 80 years, the Goodman family ran the Crown public house, on the site of the present Crown and Greyhound in Dulwich Village. The first was Francis, lessee from 1791. Headstone 1930. See monument 114 for later burials.

Rev. Edward Smedley (Wikipedia)

(73) 1836, Smedley: Large flat tomb.
Rev. Edward Smedley MA, born 12 September 1788, died 2 June 1836, aged 47.

Edward Smedley was the second son of Edward Smedley (for 46 years one of the ushers of Westminster school). He was educated at Westminster and Trinity College Cambridge (B.A. 1809; M.A. 1812). He became Fellow of Sidney College (1812) where he resided before his marriage in 1815. Smedley won the Seatonian prize in 1813, 1814, 1827, and 1828. He held minor clerical offices in London and wrote for the British Critic, which he edited from 1827. In 1822 Smedley undertook the editorship of the *Encyclopedia Metropolitana*; in 1827 he retired with his family to Dulwich after becoming deaf.

(73A-E) Footstones

(73A) 1845, AC, 1848, JC, 1849, EC, 1849, JC.

(73B) 1817, CP.

(73C) 1838, ER, 1838, HR, 1851, RC.

(73D) 1853, ESB.

(73E) EF 1805, TF 1832, AMF 1838 [see Force Grave 107].


(76) 1800, Sambourne and Powis: Headstone 1930.
*Mr Henry Sambourne, died 20 December 1784; Mrs Esther Sambourne, wife of Henry, late of Lambeth, Surrey, died 20 February 1800, aged 65; also Charles Powis Esq, late of Kennington, Surrey, died 3 April 1824, aged 69, surgeon [65 on 2005 spreadsheet]; Catherine Powis, widow of Charles, died 18 April 1832, aged 72 [probably daughter of Henry Sambourne].* 

*Mr William Stephenson: buried 16 September 1787, aged 86, formerly of the Precinct of the Savoy, late of Dulwich. of the Savoy, late of Dulwich.*

According to William Darby, William Stephenson built ‘The Laurels’ and ‘The Hollies’ (60 and 62 Dulwich Village) in 1767. There is a 1769 letter in the DCA from his wife Ann, on his behalf, asking permission to cut down trees in from of those houses, between Hughes’ workshop and Whitaker’s field gate, when the building was still going on. Ann must have
predeceased her husband. His recorded date of burial (28 September) on the 2005 spreadsheet is wrong and given as 16 September on the transcript. It must have been earlier than 20/9/1787, as that is the date of the first of several affidavits of handwriting sworn in connection with the application for probate, granted on 24/9/1787 – TNA PROB 11/1157/165.

(77A) 1810, Bartlett. Headstone 1930.
Mary wife of Mr James Bartlett of this hamlet farmer died 26 November 1810 in her 62\textsuperscript{nd} year, Also husband of the above, James Bartlett died 26 October 1824, aged 72.

(78) 1819, Maddison: Headstone 1930.
Sarah Maddison died 1812, aged 28; John Maddison died 1819, aged 73; Elizabeth Maddison died 1822, aged 70; John Jupe Maddison died 1826, aged 2. (GLBI)

According to William Darby, “John Maddison built one of the three houses on the site of Barclays Bank”. See Graves 79F - JM & EM.

(79) 1750, Mr James Knight: Old headstone 1930 [missing 2008]
Mr James Knight: died 20 August 1750, aged 56; also Mrs Elizabeth Style, his daughter, died 1 February 1751daughter, died 1 February 1751.

(79A-F) footstones


(79B) 1881,W.

(79C) 1791, S & 1798, S & 1819, S: John, Mary and Elizabeth Shaw, see Grave 20

(79D) E & T 1808

(79E) 1816, AJ & 1829, AH: Anna Jellicoe, died 1816; Anthony Highmore, died 1829. See also Grave 82

(79F) 1819, JM & EM: John and Elizabeth Maddison, see Grave 78.

(80) 1834, Beamsley: Headstone 1930 [missing 2008]

Joseph Beamsley died 1834 [GLBI; 1843 on 1930 list], aged 50.
His wife, Elizabeth was the village postmistress at the old Post Office (now Gail’s)

(81) 1719?, Taylor Flatstone 1930 [missing 2008]

(82) 1816, Ann Jellicoe: Headstone.
Anna Jellicoe, died 1816, aged 50; Anthony Highmore, died 1829, aged 70 (GLBI) See also 79E. Anthony Highmore, son of Anthony Highmore (a draughtsman/painter) was the author of works on a variety of legal subjects, and was Secretary of the London Lying-in Hospital. He supported the abolition of slavery.

(83) 1813, Ridley: Headstone 1930

Robert Ridley, died 1813, aged 69.

Ridley was a Dulwich tenant from 1786. He occupied one of several cottages – “a small timber house … very old”, according to the College Surveyor in 1803 – on the north side of Dulwich Common, approximately where ‘The Willows’ and ‘Northcroft’ now are, as sub-lessee of Alexander Glennie. He must have been succeeded by his son of the same name, who is mentioned from 1813 to 1842. In 1821 his neighbour George Harris wrote to the College asking it to restrain Ridley from erecting a ‘hovel’ close to Harris’ entrances – “the lowest form of dwelling, and occupier”.

(84) 1830? Bartlett: Headstone 1930.

Many Bartletts were buried in the years 1781-1836. See also Graves 103, 109 and 110.

(85) 1818, Thomas Paul: Headstone.

Mr Thomas Paul died 6 November 1818, aged 45, Citizen and Liveryman of the City of London.

(86) 1795, Maria Paul: Flatstone 1930.

Maria Paul died 1795, aged 33.

(87) Wood family: Headstone 1930.

Mrs Sarah Wood, wife of Thomas Wood of this parish, died 4 July 1823, aged 64; Henry Wood, her son, died 15 July 1824, aged 28; Mr Thomas Wood, died 8 April 1844, aged 88, 18 years in the College.

One of the poor brethren in the almshouse, his will of 1843 is in TNA.

(88) 1814, Samuel Harmer: Headstone 1930.

He died 1814, aged 46.

(88A footstone for 87) SW 1823, HW 1824, TW 1844

(88B footstone for 88) SH 1814)
(89) 1808, William Dudman and his wife, Elizabeth: Headstone.

William Dudman, died 13 July 1808, aged 68 [GLBI, 66 on 1930 list]; his wife, Mrs Elizabeth, died 6 March 1831, aged 84.

The will of William Dudman, gentleman of Dulwich, dated 1808, is in TNA. Little is known about William and Elizabeth Dudman but they had a large family several of whom were still living in Dulwich in the 1850s. The 1851 census confirms that their descendents were not particularly wealthy as they lived in Garden Row, a row of small cottages behind the Greyhound Inn.

(90) 1800, Mrs Elizabeth Figg. Headstone 1930.

She died 28 October 1800 and her husband, Mr James Figg, died 12 January 1828, aged 62. James Figg carpenter of Dulwich, 1801 (TNA Discovery deeds). The Dulwich Chapel Register records the baptism on 7/6/1835 of William, son of James Figg, of Dulwich College, but that was presumably a later generation of the Figg family.

(91) 1843, William Andrews: Slate headstone 1930. (Italian, on 2005 spreadsheet)


(92) 1836 Mary Deborah Long: Flatstone.

She died 6 March 1836, aged 72.

(93) 1805, Lee and Jenkins families: Flatstone 1930.

Mary Lee, wife of Mr James Lee of this parish, died 15 August 1804, aged 70; [66 on 1930 list] Mr James Lee, died 25 May 1805, aged 80; also Charlotte Jenkins, died 1808, aged 23 months; Mr William Jenkins of this parish, died 8 November 1828, aged 72; his son, Mr Thomas Jenkins, died 1 November 1834, aged 24.

A transcript from p 147 of the burial register says “Mr Lee’s the Bricklayer’s Vault is the same size as Mr Dalbiac’s; viz: 8 feet 6 inches by 7 feet 4 inches which at 4.6 superficial measure p foot is £13.1. It is built for 4 persons (Mrs Lee’s coffin was dug up & put into it, when Mr Lee was buried) is on the right hand of the Burying Ground as you enter, near the not far from Mr Vanderesch’s, has brick on side, & was erected June 1 1805”.

(94) 1794, William Johnson Cousins: Old headstone

Son of Francis Cousins of St Mary’s Lambeth, died 8 June 1794, aged 3 years 2 months.

(95) 1784, Johnson: Flat tomb 1930.

Mrs Mary Johnson, wife of Mr William Johnson of St Saviour Southwark, died 15 July 1784, aged 47; Miss Sophia Johnson, her daughter, died 11 January 1773, aged 3.
William Johnson was lessee of Fairfield (formerly Menival), described in 1789 (in Edwards’ Companion) as “a neat red brick house” then known as Pond Place, with about 21 acres of land. Probate of his Will (TNA PROB 11/1390), in which he is described as ‘Gentleman of Dulwich’, was granted on 9/4/1803.

(96) 1819, Suft: Flat tomb.
Caroline Suft, died 12 July 1819, aged 20; Mrs Elizabeth Bedwell, her grandmother, died 21 August 1819, aged 79.

Mrs Bedwell, who was widowed by 1796, was the occupier of Oakfield, at the junction of College Road and Dulwich Common (opposite the Mill Pond).

(97) 1809, Suft: Headstone 1930.
Elizabeth Maria Suft, died 5 January 1809; R[obert] F[rancis] Suft, died 13 March 1814? [GLBI 1813, aged 60] and will in TNA dated 1789, proved 31 March 1813 says deceased, address then Lambeth Terrace, Lambeth, formerly of Dulwich; Rosanna [GLBI Jane] Suft, daughter of R F Suft, died 18 January 1816, aged 27; Anna Maria Suf, daughter of R F Suf, died 21 September 1817, aged 22.

Monument to Henry Atkinson - photograph by John East 2016

(98) 1789, Vanderesch and Atkinson families:
Winde William Vanderesch of Essex Street in the Strand, buried 9 May 1789, aged 65, his sister, Elizabeth Vanderesch buried 4 June 1789, aged 62; also Elizabeth [Vanderesch] of Chelsea, buried 23 April 1816, aged 79 [GLBI]. Henry William Atkinson Esq., buried 13
September 1834, aged 82; his wife Susannah, buried 21 May 1837, aged 79; his son Sir Jasper Anderson, buried 6 October 1856, aged 66.

Stone tomb chest with fluted corner pilasters and an angled lid. Tomb and railing good 1930 (Listed Grade II).

A transcript from p 147 of the burial fees register says “Mrs Test’s Vault according to the measurement of Mr Lee the bricklayer is 9 feet by 9 which at 4.6 p foot superficial measure is £18.4.6 – I did not take the odd 4.6. Mr Vanderesch’s Vault is exactly the same: -they hold 6 persons each. Mr Test’s Vault was erected April 1789 – and Mr Vanderesch’s May 1789”.

Of the men of means who made Dulwich their home in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, none made his fortune quite so literally as did Henry William Atkinson, who lived at ‘Ryecotes’ on Dulwich Common (demolished 1966, now the site of Ryecotes Mead) from 1783 to 1798. Until it was taken over by the Government in the 1840’s, the Royal Mint was under the control of the Company of Moneyers, an ancient guild constituted along the same lines as the Goldsmiths, Mercers, etc. The Company's jealously-guarded province was the manufacture of the nation's coinage under licence from the Crown, a monopoly which was itself a source of great wealth for those associated with it. Two families, those of Atkinson and Vander Esch, dominated the Moneyers at this time, and in Henry William (born 1752) the two dynasties were combined. Henry William was the son of Jasper Atkinson and Ann Van der Esch [Burke’s Landed Gentry]. He entered the Mint as an apprentice in 1770 and was elected a Fellow of the Company of Moneyers in 1777.
On his marriage Atkinson moved to Dulwich. He and his wife Susannah raised a large family at Ryecotes, several of whom were themselves later to achieve eminence. They included Sir Henry Esch Atkinson, who became Governor of Tasmania, and Maria, who married Sir William Elias Taunton, a judge of the King's Bench. After moving from Dulwich, Atkinson took up lodgings in the Mint itself, becoming Provost of the Moneyers and dying in 1834, aged 82. His widow, Mrs Susannah Atkinson died in 1837, aged 79.

Another son, Sir Jasper Atkinson (1790-1856), whose name is prominently carved on the family vault, also became Provost, and remained so until the Royal Mint was put under direct State control.

(99 and 100) 1808, Mrs Elizabeth Tristram, Mr William Tristram and their sons William and Fredric Tristram: described as headstone in 1930; 100 as head tomb
Elizabeth Tristam died 26 September 1808, aged 47; William died 13 November 1820, aged 65, his sons William died 30 September 1837, aged 22 and Fredric died 17 June 1843, aged 26. 99.

William Tristram was the village builder in the late C18 and early C19. He occupied a yard in the centre of Dulwich Village where Shepherds (and Mitchells’ Place behind) stands today.
Originally known as Tristram’s Yard, the site changed its name depending on the builder who occupied it. The mid C19 saw it called Lloyd’s Yard, and from the late C19 until the 1990s it was known as Mitchell’s Yard. Thus there has been a builder’s yard in the village for over 200 years.

(101) 1782, Andrew Powis: Headstone 1930
Andrew Powius died 5 June 1782, aged 55, of this parish, gent; his wife, Susanna, died 22 April 1806, aged 85.

(102) 1825, Thomas Hope: Flat stone ‘burnmice’ [burnished] died 21 May 1825, in his 73rd year, of Walworth, (“Demot”, 1930 list); his wife, Susanna, died 24 April 1831, aged 78.

A note in the back of the 1789-1807 burial register, pp118-9 in 1930 transcript says: ‘Mr Hope’s vault adjoining Susanna Powis, whose relation married Mr. Hope, holds two corpses, no persons buried here yet, 10 Aug. 1818, “and Mr. Hope particularly desires that no person may be buried in it except himself and his wife.”’

Inscription on Thomas’ Hope’s tomb – photograph by John East 2016

(103) 1827, Gregory Bartlett: Tomb and railing, 1930.
Gregory Bartlett, died 2 March 1848, aged 69; his wife, Barbara, the 6th daughter of James Henderson of Morpeth, Northumberland, died 5 July 1827, in her 46th year, leaving her husband and 11 children.
Gregory was the village bookseller, stationer with shop where Pedder now stands. He was also census taker. Bartletts were a large family. See also Graves 84, 109 and 110

![Thomas Force monument - photograph by John East 2016](image)

(104) **1818, Thomas Force:** A large stone slab dated 1827 is set on a low base and surrounded by tall railings with two levels of spear heads. (Listed Grade II). See also Graves 73E and 107.

*Thomas Force, son of William and Mary Force, born 11 November 1812, died 29 July 1827 (recorded as ‘drowned’); Millicent Weeks, his aunt, died 3 April 1843, aged 63; Mr William Force, his father, died 25 July 1859, aged 78; Mrs Mary Force, William’s wife, died 27 October 1861, aged 84.*

According to William Darby, William Force built one of the three houses on the site of Barclays Bank (the other two were built by William Tristram and John Maddison) in 1821. In 1835 he erected the four tenements now known as Garden Row, behind The Greyhound, and in 1840 spent £1,050 on a house next to The Greyhound and another £1,000 in building seven tenements on part of the garden.

(105) **1845, Collins:** Headstone 1930.

(106) **1838, Rowley:** Headstone, 1930.

(107) **1832, Force:** Headstone 1930. See also Graves 73E and 104.
Elizabeth Force of Dulwich, died 26 March 1805, aged 63 [65 GLBI]; Thomas Force, her husband, 65 years an inhabitant of Dulwich, died 12 April 1832, aged 81; Anna Maria Force, their daughter, died 16 July 1838, aged 54.

(108) 1847, Cary Partridge: Headstone 1930.  
Cary Partridge wife of Mr William Partridge of Dulwich, died 10 February 1847, aged 39.

(109) 1832, Scott and Bartlett family: Headstone recently done up, 1930 [missing 2008]  
Mrs Rebecca Scott, died 8 May 1832, aged 90; Also Mr James Bartlett, of this hamlet, died 26 March 1844, aged 67; Louisa Ann Bartlett, his wife, died 18 January 1864, aged 91; Hannah Louisa Bartlett, their granddaughter, died 119 November 1853, aged 4 months. See also Graves 84, 103 and 110.

(110) 1854, Mrs E S Bartlett: Headstone, 1930. She died on 22 May 1854, aged 33. See also Graves 84, 103 and 109.

(111) 1840, Mrs Mary Agnes Hogan: Headstone 1930. She died on 19 February 1840, aged 46.

(112) 1836, Mrs Sarah Redman: Headstone 1930.  
Mrs Sarah Redman 30 years almswomen of this College, died 7 June 1836, aged 64 [GLBI; 1930 list has 61] see also Grave 113.

(113) 1829, Mary Redman: Headstone 1930. She died in 1829, aged 51 [GLBI] see also Grave 112.
(114) 1829, The Goodmans & the Crown Inn: William Goodman, son of Thomas and Mary Goodman of this parish, died 18 January 1829, aged 2 years and 3 months; Thomas John Goodman, died 29 March 1830, aged 3; Eleanor Phyllis Goodman, daughter of Thomas and Mary, died 8 March 1853, aged 18; Thomas Goodman, their father, died 6 December 1860, aged 62; Mary Goodman, his wife, died 30 May 1877, aged 78; Elizabeth Hannah Goodman, their daughter, died 5 November 1898, aged 68.

The Crown Inn was built in around 1720 and stood on the site of the current Crown and Greyhound. It was substantially rebuilt around 1803 and further work was carried out in 1853. The pub mainly served the local farm workers and servants in the big houses. The farmers and the rich residents drank at the Greyhound Inn over the road.

The Goodman family were the landlords from 1791 to 1877. Francis Goodman first rented it at £16 a year. He was followed by his son Tom 1799-1860 whose family vault is here. When he died his wife Mary took charge and, when she retired in the late 1850s, their son, also called Tom [1832-79, buried in Islington] took over. Mary died in 1877 and Tom sold the pub on the same year. The old pub was demolished for redevelopment in 1894. See grave 72 for probable earlier burials.
The memorial says:

The Family vault
Thomas & Mary Goodman
of this Hamlet 1829
Thomas Goodman
Died 6th December 1860
Aged 62
Also
Mary wife of the above
Died 30th May 1877
Aged 78
In life beloved, in death lamented
Other Graves:

Between 1700-1800 the burial records record the deaths of several ‘nurse children’ and some tragic deaths, eg 1761 ‘a poor woman who was drowned’; 1782 Mrs Berry ‘burnt in her room’; 1797 Richard Moore ‘who cut his throat’ and other suicides which the coroner put down as ‘lunacy’; in 1804 Valentine Gilson, ‘a German aged 21 shot himself through the head with a pistol’, and on the following day the 20 year old Mary Goodman, who drowned herself in a pond in Dulwich, was also buried (see grave 72). In 1814, John Brown ‘Mr Rankin’s black servant’ was noted.

In his History of Camberwell, Blanch lists seven notable people buried in the burial ground at Dulwich including Old Bridget, the ‘Queen of the Gypsies’ (mentioned by Pepys), and Samuel Matthews, the Dulwich hermit. Others are:

1727: John Eggleton, a player (Blanch p 386)
John Eggleton (1698-1727) was an actor and manager at Lincoln’s Inn Fields Theatre where he worked from around 1717 to around 1726. In 1721 he married the actress Jane Giffard who was known for playing the Queen in Hamlet, Emilia in Othello and Chaucer’s Wife of Bath. While in France, where it was said he squandered a small inheritance, Eggleton took on the title of Baron Eggleton. He was said to be a pleasing actor and performed many times with his wife and also with Boheme and like Boheme he played the summer fairs. He took a ‘wild road’ in life and he died aged only 29. He was buried here in Dulwich on 19 February 1727. His wife was much admired as an actress, having ‘a great share of merit’ but being also ‘diffident’. It was also said of her ‘she was unfortunately too much addicted to the bottle’. She originated the role of Lucy Lockit in John Gay’s Beggar’s Opera in 1728 and is portrayed in the role in Hogarth’s painting of the premier of the Beggar’s Opera. She also originated many other John Gay roles and wrote her own ballad opera, The Maggot, which was premiered at the Theatre-Royal, Lincoln’s Inn Fields, in 1732.

1731: Anthony Boheme, famous tragedian (Blanch p386), actor, Lincoln’s Inn Fields
We know Anthony Boheme died in 1732 but we don’t know when he was born and other records are very scarce. He was possibly in his forties by the time his name first appears in theatrical records. In 1718 he played Decius in Cato at Lincoln’s Inn Fields, having joined the company from Southwark fair, and he continued to play both Southwark and Bartholomew fairs during the summers of 1720–22. He seems to have been a comedian when playing at the fairs though he turned principally to tragic roles on joining the Lincoln's Inn Fields company and was described as a pillar of the company, becoming known as a ‘dignified and accomplished tragedian’. Though there were often rumours that he was about to decamp to the rival Drury Lane theatre, he spent pretty much the whole of his acting career at Lincoln’s Inn Fields. Many of his roles were Shakespearian, including the Ghost in Hamlet, Shylock in The Jew of Venice (a version of The Merchant of Venice), Ulysses in Troilus and Cressida, Julius Caesar, Brabantio in Othello, Titus Andronicus, and Macbeth. His Lear was ‘full of antique grandeur and pathos, - it was, perhaps the only character in which the former young
sailor’s quarter-deck walk was not discernible’. Other standard roles he undertook were Oedipus and Theseus in Phaedra and Hippolytus and Tamerlane though he seldom created roles in the manner of Alleyn or Burbage. Those he did originate are no longer in the standard repertory: Lord Gracebank in The Chimera, Holly in The Fair Captive, Omar in Sesostris, and O’Brien in Hibernia Freed. He met Anna Seymour, who had already had a celebrated career at Drury Lane, when she played Lucia in Cato at Lincoln’s Inn Fields in 1718. They married in 1723 when Anna was 31 but sadly she died a few months later and in 1727 Boheme married Sarah Duell. Little is known about his second wife, just that she was also an actress at Lincoln’s Inn Fields. His final performance appears to have been in October 1731 and he died in early January 1732. The Daily Journal of Monday 11 January 1732 reported that he had been interred at Greenwich the previous night: ‘The Pall was supported by Mr Quin, Mr [Lacy] Ryan and 4 other Comedians’, [Oxford Dictionary of National Biography] but the Dulwich Chapel records shows him being interred in the burial ground on 19 January 1732.

1768: ‘Old Bridgett, the Queen of the Gypsies’ and other gypsies recorded eg 1800, 4731. ‘Old Bridget’, the ‘Queen of the Gypsies’ died on 6 August 1768. She lived in Norwood and was the niece of the most famous ‘Queen of the Gypsies’ Margaret Finch. According to James Caulfield in his 1819 book ‘Remarkable Persons’ Margaret was born at Sutton, in Kent and “after travelling the whole of England in the double capacity of gipsy and thief, finally fixed her place of residence at Norwood. She adopted a habit, and afterwards a constant custom, of sitting on the ground with her chin resting on her knees, which caused her sinews to become so contracted, that she could not extend herself of change her position... The singularity of her figure, and the fame of her fortune-telling, drew a vast concourse of persons from the highest rank and quality to that of the lowest class in life. Norwood, and the roads leading to it; on a fine Sunday, resembled the scene of a fair; and, with the greatest difficulty only, could a seat or a mug of beer be obtained, at the place called the Gipsy-house.”

Margaret died on 24 October 1740 at the age of 108 and was buried in Beckenham Parish Church. She was succeeded by Bridget who was herself followed by her niece, another Margaret.

1803: Samuel Matthews, the Dulwich Hermit.
A fine description of him has been added to burial register for 2 January 1803: ‘Aged 64. This unfortunate person, who, notwithstanding a few eccentricities, which were usually ascribed to a slight mental derangement, universally bore the character of a quiet, inoffensive and strictly honest man, was found murdered in a cave of his own construction in Dulwich Woods, which we the exception of an interval of a year and a half, he had been in the habit of occupying for the last 30 years of his life, having no other place of residence.’

Old Matthews, as he was called, was a jobbing gardener. His wife had died in 1780 and ‘withdrew even further into mother nature’. It seems he persuaded the Master and Warden of
Dulwich College to give him permission to dig a cave on the estate and retire to it, away from the rest of the world. According to reports at the time, he wished to live "in that part of the manor abutting in the rear on the College wood and in front of Sydenham Common." Records suggest that this was close to the Toll Gate in College Road. Samuel did not dig very deeply and he built around the refuge he had "chosen mud walls, thatching them with such fern, furze and bracken as the common afforded." For years, he "performed under-gardener's work in the gardens of some of the neighbouring gentlemen, by whom, for his inoffensive and gentle demeanour, he was much liked." Each night, he returned to his cave to sleep. One night in 1798 a gang of gypsies from some neighbouring encampment crept into his cave, dragged him out and beat him so savagely that he was left for dead. His right arm was broken and he was robbed of twelve shillings (60p). He recovered and fearful of another attack took lodgings in Dulwich Village.

Samuel Matthews, (Museum of London)

According to one report, he "became weary of social intercourse" and returned to the woods and this time dug himself a proper, deeper cave. Narrow at the entrance it allowed him only enough room to crawl in and once inside the widened part he kept a board as a "front door" which he held in position with his feet while he slept. Feeling insecure from attack, he went out only to the Village for his food, continued with his work and became known as the Wild Man of the Woods although he remained mild and gentle and continued to be regarded as an honest if eccentric character. Samuel Matthews attracted a lot of visitors, particularly on Sundays. He sold them a light home-brewed beer since they must have been very dry travelling such long distances.
Christmas Day and Boxing Day, 1802, fell on a Saturday and a Sunday and although he was found dead on Monday, December 27, it was probable that he was killed over the weekend for money he did not possess. The killers had burrowed underneath his makeshift "front door" to attack him.

The coroner summoned a jury to the French Horn, a pub which stood in what is now Dulwich Park, and the jury having viewed "the body now lying before us" and "harkened to the evidence" returned a verdict of murder by some person or persons unknown.

Several persons who tenanted a gypsy encampment nearby were under suspicion. Bow Street Runners were sent to "endeavour to collect every possible information that may lead to the detection of the murderers." A gypsy chimney sweep named Sprague was arrested but acquitted for lack of evidence. On January 10, two weeks after the body was found, the Dulwich vestry "resolved that the sum of £25 be paid by the parish officers towards apprehending the person or persons guilty of the murder of the late Samuel Matthews."

In February, 1809, there was a report about Isaac Evans, a resident in the Lewisham Workhouse. Called on by the local parson to confess his sins to Almighty God, he confessed to the murder on his deathbed.
There are also records of deaths from the plague outbreaks of 1625, 1665-66.

**1625 Plague deaths:**

07 June    Richard Barnes – a ‘poor brother’
10 July    Jane Cox
02 August    Owen Lambert
15 August    Henry Cousins

**1665 Plague deaths:**

*Weekes Family:*

31 August    Nicholas Weekes - miller
31 August    wife of Nicholas Weekes
31 August    daughter of Nicholas Weekes
01 September    George Weekes (son)
02 September    Hannah Weekes (daughter)
04 September    Robert Weekes (son)

*Bonnicke Family:*

06 September    Jane Bonnicke
12 September    Ralph Bonnicke
14 September    Child of Bonnicke
30 September    Sarah Bonnicke (daughter)
06 November    John Bonnicke (son)

*Caine family:*

18 November    Charles Caine
18 November    Mary Caine (daughter)

*Others:*

12 September    Thomas Collins buried Camberwell
04 October    Jane Jennings
05 October    Thomas Starkey – a poor man of this village
08 October    woman lodger at Vallantin Daniells
09 October    woman lodger of Goodman Bodger
17 October    Rachel Jennings - daughter of Widow Jenkins
23 October    child of Widow buried Camberwell
09 November    another man of Col Lytcott
14 November    another child of Widow Scaldwell
16 December    John Harley - scholar

**1666 Plague deaths:**

5 February    Robert Savage – kitchen boy
13 March    James Forest - poor scholar
20 May    a maid of goodwife Laito