

Joseph Hunt (c.1748-1819) was buried on 25 July 1819. The service was conducted by the Rev. James Manning, Minister at Georges Meeting.

Joseph Hunt is listed in an early trade directory of 1785 as the owner of “a paper hanging manufactory” in Fore Street, Exeter; The Universal British Directory 1792-1798 lists him, again in Fore Street, as a “paper-stainer”. The term paper-stainer refers to a person who prints wallpaper. In the late eighteenth century, before the printing of wallpaper was mechanised, this was a skilled task, involving the carving of wooden blocks and their use to print regular patterns on lengths of paper. Joseph is known to have trained apprentices to the trade.

By 1809 the business had expanded and Joseph was trading with Thomas Kingdon as Hunt & Kingdon. In addition to the wallpaper business they now owned a carpet warehouse and a druggists.

Thomas was married to Mary (possibly Kingdon) and they had four daughters. Susanna (1776), Edna (1778), Mary (1779) and Elizabeth (1780). Susanna married the Rev. George Chapman, vicar at Micheldever in Hampshire. Mary married Joseph Davy from Gloucestershire. At the time of Joseph's death Edna and Elizabeth were unmarried.

Joseph Hunt was a wealthy man with the profits from his business invested in stocks and shares and in property. He owned land and buildings in St Sidwells in Exeter and in Dawlish. He left his daughters each an income from a trust to be set up by his executors. Edna inherited all his personal possessions and household goods together with the properties in Exeter and Dawlish.