

No Memorial

Thomas Moor WILLCOCKS	buried 23 November 1827
Eliza/Elizabeth WILLCOCKS	buried 20 August 1832
Ellen WILLCOCKS	buried 20 August 1832
James WILLCOCKS	buried 20 August 1832
Thomas WILLCOCKS	buried 31 August 1832

Thomas WILLCOCKS (buried 31 August 1832) was the father of the four children named above.¹ His date of birth is not known but the Burial Register states that he was 44 years old when he died.

Unfortunately, there are no known memorials/transcriptions for this family and nothing has been found in the Accounts Book, except for the young Thomas where it states "30 November – Opening grave for child of T Willcocks 8/- paid".² The Accounts Book was closed in 1830 which is the reason for no entries in respect of the other children and their father.

Thomas WILLCOCKS was a Piano/Organ Maker and lived and worked with his family in Gandy Street, Exeter, in the parish of St Paul.³ According to the Burial Register, his wife was named Elizabeth. As their son was named Thomas Moor WILLCOCKS, it could be assumed that she was Elizabeth Moor but I have not found a marriage.



An advert for Thomas's business appeared in the Exeter and Plymouth Gazette (2nd August 1828; see left).

Thomas was reported to have died after a long illness.⁴ There was no mention of his children who had died a short time beforehand.

The children of Thomas and Elizabeth

James was born on 28 August 1824 and baptized on 19 April 1827.⁵

Ellen was born on 10 March 1823 and baptized on 19 April 1827.⁵

Thomas Moor was born on 15 July 1826 and baptized on 19 April 1827.⁵

Eliza/Elizabeth was born on 29 June 1828 and baptized on 27 July 1828.⁶

It is likely, though not confirmed, that Thomas and the three younger children, Ellen, Thomas Moor and Eliza/Elizabeth died in the Exeter Cholera epidemic. Several deaths in Gandy Street were recorded by Thomas Shapter, but names of those who succumbed have not been discovered.⁷

Sources

1. Burial Register held by EDGT

2. Accounts Book held by EDGT

3. Exeter Pocket Journals 1827, 1830, 1831,1832 (Devon Heritage Centre)
4. Exeter and Plymouth Gazette. Saturday 8th September 1832.
5. England, Select Births & Christenings 1538-1975 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
6. Non-Conformist & Non-Parochial Registers 1567-1970 RG4 Piece 1085 Page 38 of 52 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
7. Shapter, T. 1849. The history of the Cholera in Exeter 1832. John Churchill, London.

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