

William WILCOCKS buried 11 July 1845

No memorial

William WILCOCKS was baptized on 19 December 1790 in Exeter.¹ His parents were William WILCOCKS and Elizabeth (nee CAMPION).²

On 31 August 1815, William married Maria MEERING at West Morden, Dorset. The record shows that William was living in Blandford.³ Maria's surname is shown as MURING in error). It has not been possible to discover his employment nor why he was living in Dorset at that time. Maria was the daughter of John MEERING and Elizabeth nee CARTER. She was baptized in Morden on 27 January 1793 (the record shows her as Mary in error).⁴

William and Maria had three children who were all born in Dorset:-

Maria, who was born 26 December 1815 and was baptized on 24 January 1816. (*her mother is shown as being called Sarah*).⁵ *This error is confirmed in later family records.* In 1838, Maria married James Nichols in Exeter.⁶ James died in 1871 in Exeter.⁷ Maria died on 29 October 1884 at her home, 10 Richmond Road, Exeter.⁸ The couple had no children.

William John, born circa.1817 (*shown as Wilcox on 1841 Census*). In 1839, he married Mary Ann Phillips on 5 November 1839 at the Parish Church, Alphington, Exeter. Mary Ann's father was Samuel Phillips, a Yeoman. The marriage was witnessed by Elizabeth Wilcocks and Joseph Carter.⁹ William and Mary Ann had only one child, also named William (see 1861 Census). Mary Ann died on 2 September 1852 and was buried in St Ida's Churchyard at the village of Ide, near Exeter.¹⁰ It is possible (though not confirmed) that William died in 1865 – this is the only death, in or near Exeter, of a William Wilcocks between 1865 and 1885.¹¹

Elizabeth, born circa 1821.¹² In 1858, she married John Pasmore at St Thomas, Exeter.¹³ Elizabeth and John had one child, Martyn Wilcocks Pasmore, who was born in 1860 in Newton St Cyres.¹⁴ John died on 20 October 1870 at Newton St Cyres.¹⁵ Elizabeth died on 22 July 1884 at her home, Norton House, Newton St Cyres.¹⁶

The 1841 Census shows William and Maria living with their daughter, Elizabeth (aged 20), in Albion Place, Heavitree, Exeter.

William died on Friday, 4 July 1845, and was buried on 11 July 1845. He is shown as GENTLEMAN.¹⁷ His death certificate shows cause of death as "Liver Disease with hydrothorax".¹⁸ His obituary in the Exeter & Plymouth Gazette, dated 12 July 1845, reads, "July 4, at his residence, Albion Place, Heavitree, William Wilcocks Esq., aged 55 years".¹⁹

In the 1851 Census, Maria is shown as living at St David's Hill, Exeter with her daughter Elizabeth (Bessie). There was no need for Maria to be employed as she is shown as an Annuitant, *i.e.* receiving payments through an annuity. Elizabeth is shown as 'Proprietor of Houses'.

William and Maria's only son was, according to the 1861 Census, a Farmer living at Pengelleys, in the parish of Exminster with his mother, Maria, and his son, William, aged 19 years.

Maria died on Monday, 26 January 1887 at 10, Richmond Road, Exeter. The newspaper report of her death states, "Wilcocks – Jan 26 at the residence of her daughter, No.10 Richmond Road Exeter, Maria, widow of Mr Wm Wilcocks late of Heavitree, aged 87".²⁰

Sources

1. Non-Conformist & Non-Parochial Register 1567-1970, RG4 Piece 0965 Page 87 of 191 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
2. England, Select Marriages 1538-1975 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
3. Dorset, Church of England Marriages & Banns 1831-1921 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
4. England, Select Births & Christenings 1538-1975 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
5. Dorset: Blandford Forum (ind) Non-Conformist Births & Baptisms (www.findmypast.co.uk)
6. England & Wales Registration Marriage Index 1837-1915, 2nd Quarter 1838, Vol.10, p.197 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
7. England & Wales Deaths 1837-2007, 3rd Quarter, Vol.5b, p.68 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
8. England & Wales National Probate Calendar Index of Wills 1858-1995 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
9. Devon Marriages (www.findmypast.co.uk)
10. UK & Ireland Find A Grave Index (www.ancestry.co.uk)
11. England & Wales Deaths 1837-2007, 1st Quarter, Vol.5b, p.90 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
12. 1841 Census (www.ancestry.co.uk)
13. England & Wales Civil Registration Marriage Index 1837-1915, 2nd Quarter, Vol.5b, p.108 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
14. 1861 Census (www.ancestry.co.uk)
15. England & Wales National Probate Index of Wills 1858-1995 (www.ancestry.co.uk)
16. Great Western Railway Shareholders 1835-1932 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
17. Exeter Dissenters' Graveyard Burial Ledger (Devon Heritage Centre)
18. Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages (GRO)
19. Exeter & Plymouth Gazette 12 July 1845 (www.findmypast.co.uk)
20. Western Times 30 January 1880 (www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk)

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Yvonne Hensman
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