

No Memorial

Jonathan Glyde 1741-1810

Ann Glyde buried 1826

Ann Portbury (nee Glyde) 1774-1795

Samuel Glyde 1775-1797

Sophia Glyde 1784-1786

George Glyde 1788-1789

Jonathan Glyde was baptised at Mint Meeting on 2nd July 1741¹ and was the son of James Glyde and Gertrude Lavington who had married in 1726.² Jonathan was the tenth of their eleven children, all of whom were baptised at Mint Meeting, but only five survived to adulthood.

The Glydes were merchants with strong ties through marriage and trade to other prominent dissenting families in Exeter. James Glyde was a chandler and freeman of the City of Exeter as his father had been before him and his brother Samuel was a goldsmith and several times warden of the Goldsmith's Guild. Samuel was married to Mary Tozer, sister of the Rev. Abraham Tozer who was minister at Bow Meeting for 40 years. Mary's sister Frances Tozer married William Kennaway who would later purchase Wynard's Almshouse thereby becoming the landlord of the Dissenter's Graveyard. Gertrude's family were also merchants and dissenters. Her father Jonathan Lavington was a sergemaker and her cousin Rev. John Lavington was a minister at Bow Meeting; two of his sons also became Presbyterian ministers. Another cousin, Jane Lavington was married to Richard Parminter and their descendants would later build A La Ronde near Exmouth.

In 1756 when he was fifteen Jonathan Glyde was apprenticed to George Cayme, a glover of Yeovil in Somerset³. On 20th June 1773 Jonathan married Ann Cayme at St John the Baptist church in Yeovil;⁴ she was probably the daughter of his former master George Cayme (no baptism has been found for her but the witnesses at the wedding were George Cayme and William Brett, who was the business partner of George's son William⁵).

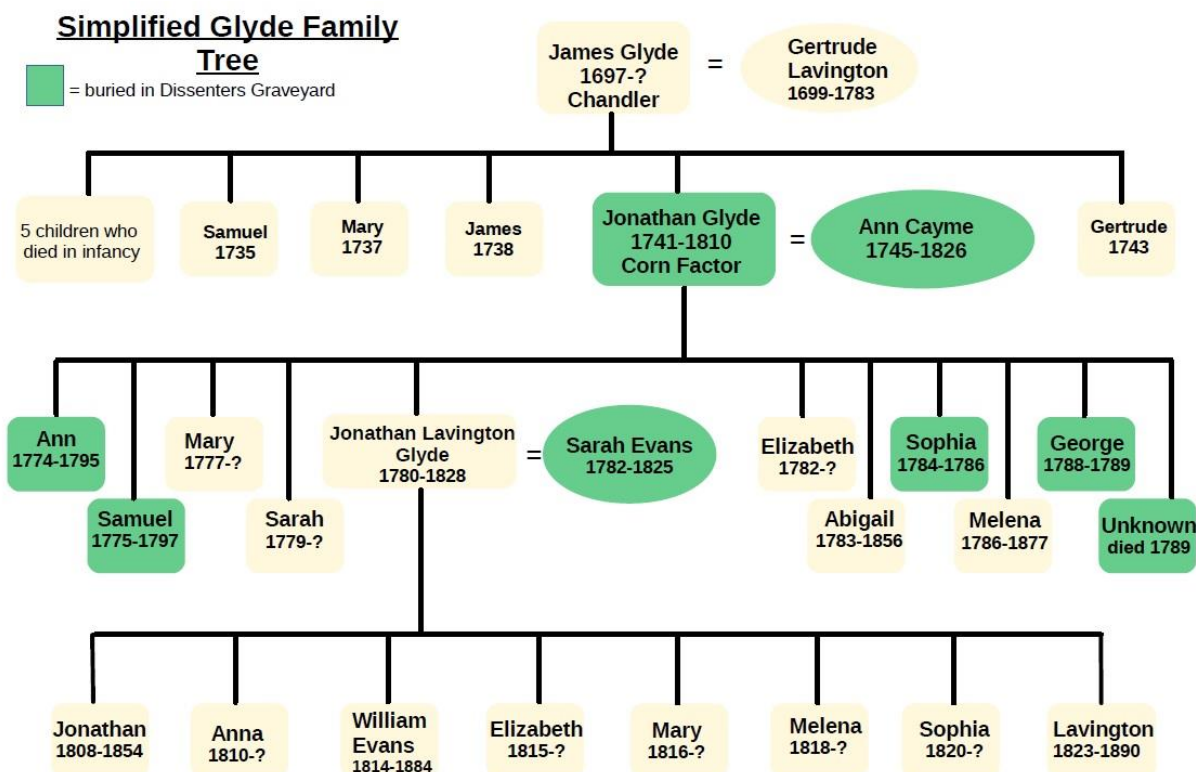
Jonathan and Ann settled in St Thomas parish, Exeter, where Jonathan had a business as a corn factor (someone who buys and sells corn on behalf of others). He appeared in The Universal British Directory for Exeter 1791: "*Glyde, Jonathan, Corn Factor, St Thomas*".⁶

Soon after their wedding Ann was expecting their first child, this was a daughter named Ann after her mother; she was baptised on 21st April 1774 at Bow Meeting (where all their children would be baptised)⁷. The next year they had a son, Samuel, who was baptised on 17th May 1775. After this the children arrived at regular intervals; Mary was baptised on 1st September 1777, Sarah on 2nd April 1779, Jonathan Lavington on 22nd November 1780 (his unusual second name was a tribute to Jonathan's mother), Elizabeth on 10th January 1782 and Abigail on 17th May 1783. Next came another daughter, Sophia, who was born on 24th June 1784 and baptised a couple of weeks later on 12th July. Sadly Sophia died aged only one and a half and was buried at the Dissenter's Graveyard on 10th January 1786, she was the first of the family to be buried there and the ledger records the payment of 8 shillings for breaking the ground for her grave.⁸

Later the same year Ann gave birth to another daughter, named Melena, who was baptised on 28th September 1786. She was followed by another son, George, who was baptised on 21st February 1788.

Jonathan and Ann may have had another child who died early in 1789. The account book of the

Dissenter's Graveyard reads "1789..March 3^d Mr Jon Glydes Infant Childs Grave opening" at a cost of 4 shillings⁹. Possibly this child died before he or she could be baptised. A few weeks later little George died, aged 14 months, and was buried on 13th April¹⁰ - "Opening Grave another Child of Mr Jon Glyde's 4/- paid 16 Apr 1789."¹¹



Jonathan's eldest daughter, Ann, married Gregory Potbury (or Portbury), a druggist, on 30th September 1794 at St Thomas church¹². As she was a minor (under 21) the consent of her parents or guardians was required and this is noted in the marriage register. However she died less than a year later and was buried at the Dissenter's Graveyard on 14th June 1795¹³. The account book reads "Rec'd: opening Robert Kennaway's cave for Mr Glyde's daughter Portbury 10/- paid 18 June 1795."¹⁴ Why she was buried in Robert Kennaway's cave and not with her own siblings is unknown.

In 1797 Jonathan's eldest son Samuel died aged 22 and was buried at the Dissenter's Graveyard on 15th August¹⁵. This meant that Jonathan Lavington was now the only surviving son of Jonathan and Ann and on 9th May 1805 he married Sarah Evans at Ottery St Mary¹⁶, they lived in Exeter and went on to have 8 children. His sister Abigail married Robert Cayme on 20th April 1808 at St Thomas¹⁷ and they settled in Yeovil where they had 5 children. Robert's father was William Cayme so he and Abigail were almost certainly first cousins.¹⁸

Jonathan Glyde died in 1810 aged 69; he was buried at the dissenter's graveyard on 9th May.¹⁹ He had run a very successful business and was able to leave his wife and children well provided for. Besides household goods, furniture and plate he left legacies totalling over £4500.²⁰ His wife Ann continued to live in St Thomas until her death in 1826. She was buried at the Dissenter's Graveyard on 4th February.²¹ Ann had written her will in 1822 leaving the bulk of her estate to her son and £150 to each of her four unmarried daughters. To her married daughter Abigail Cayme she left the interest on £200 "for her sole and separate use independent of her husband"²²; perhaps she had good reason to be wary of her son-in-law's financial

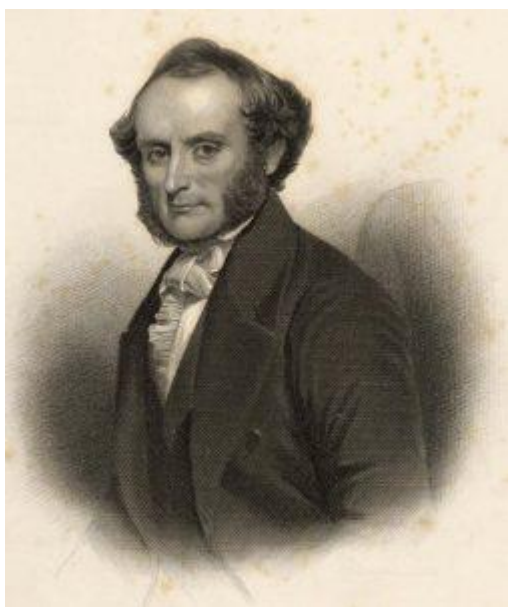
dealings as he was declared bankrupt in 1828.²³

Abigail Cayme (nee Glyde) died in 1856 and was buried on 15th July at Martock in Somerset²⁴. In 1861 her husband Robert, now recovered from his bankruptcy, was a railway proprietor living in Brixham with his son William who was a chemist.²⁵

None of Abigail's sisters married; in 1841 Sarah, Elizabeth and Melena Glyde, along with four of their nieces and a servant, were living at York Buildings, off Sidwell Street.

Their brother Jonathan Lavington Glyde may have taken over the family business from his father. His wife Sarah died in 1825 and was buried on 29th October at Castle Street Chapel.²⁶ On 24th April 1828 he married Rachel Arden at St Thomas church²⁷ but the marriage was to be short-lived as Jonathan died on 20th June the same year and was buried at Castle Street Chapel on 28th June.²⁸

Jonathan Lavington's sons had interesting careers; the eldest son, also called Jonathan, was the minister of Little Horton Lane Chapel in Bradford²⁹, his brother William Evans Glyde also moved to Bradford and was a cloth manufacturer and, until his retirement in 1865, a colleague of Titus Salt.³⁰ Both Jonathan and his brother William were buried at Undercliffe Cemetery in Bradford. Their younger brother, Lavington Glyde, emigrated to Australia in 1849, went into politics and eventually became Treasurer of South Australia.³¹



Rev. Jonathan Glyde



Lavington Glyde

More information about the careers of Rev. Jonathan Glyde and his brothers can be found on the website of the Undercliffe Cemetery Charity in this link:
www.undercliffcemetary.co.uk/about/history/jonathan-glyde/

S Taylor January 2018 – updated July 2021

Picture Credits: Rev. Jonathan Glyde – from www.undercliffcemetary.co.uk;
 Lavington Glyde – State Library of South Australia [B 1288/5]

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