

Mortimer (Family 1)

No memorial

There are records of ten Mortimer (or Mortimore) burials in the graveyard. Some of these are for unnamed children and of the rest it is only possible to identify five through other records. There seems to be at least two Mortimer families represented and there is no evidence that they were related. There are additional burials, some of which are unnamed children, who cannot be linked to these families or other records.

Mortimer (Family 1)

John Mortimer was buried in 1800 aged 82¹ and his great granddaughter was buried in 1850 and is commemorated on Memorial 20².

John Mortimer was the head of a large family and while it is not possible to definitely link family members to the recorded burials it is very interesting to note that for two generations at least, most of the children were baptised as Non Conformists mainly in Bow/Georges Meeting.

John Mortimer was born in 1716³ and was known as John Mortimer of Cullompton. In 1738 he married Sarah Togood⁴ and they had at least four children, Mary, Ann, Thomas and Edward (1757-1822).

His son, Edward Mortimer, married Sarah Melhuish in Exeter Cathedral in 1784.⁵ They had five children, although only two survived into adulthood:

John, baptised at Bow Meeting in 1785⁶ who appears to have died in 1787, there is a burial record of John, son of Edward Mortimore buried at Mary Major Church.⁷

William born in 1790 and baptised at Bow Meeting in the same year.⁸ He possibly died in 1806 aged 16 and is buried at Holy Trinity Church⁹.

Edward was born in 1791.¹⁰ He married Elizabeth Hill in 1824 at Holy Trinity Church in Exeter, the witnesses were Ann Nowell and Jno Clogg.¹¹ This couple do not seem to have had any children and the only possible further reference to them was in the 1841 census where an Edward Mortimer was recorded as a labourer and living with his wife Elizabeth in Mary Arches Street.¹²

Another John was born in 1793 and baptised in 1797 in Bow Meeting.¹³ He married Mary Middleton in 1818 at St Sidwells Church with John and Elizabeth Middleton as witnesses.¹⁴

The last child was Sarah/Sally born in 1795 and baptised in Bow Meeting in 1797.¹⁵ She continued the non-conformist links by marrying Henry Hill of Cullompton in 1824 in Holy Trinity

¹ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Registers 1567-1936

² England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Registers 1567-1936

³ Devon, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials 1538-1812

⁴ Devon, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials 1538-1812

⁵ England Selected Marriages 1538-1973

⁶ England and Wales Non conformist and Non Parochial Register 1567-1936

⁷ Select Deaths and Burials 1538-1991

⁸ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

⁹ Select Deaths and Burials 1538-1991

¹⁰ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

¹¹ England Selected Marriages 1538-1973

¹² Census 1841

¹³ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

¹⁴ England Selected Marriages 1538-1978

¹⁵ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

Church Exeter.¹⁶ Both their children, Edward born in 1825¹⁷ and Sarah born in 1827¹⁸ were baptised in the Presbyterian Chapel in Cullompton. Henry Hill is described as a bookseller in the baptism record and as Clerk to the Presbyterian Congregation when he died in 1832.¹⁹

Edward senior died in 1822²⁰, but does not seem to have been buried in the Dissenters' graveyard. When his will was proved in 1824 he was described as a woolcombe maker of Holy Trinity Parish and administration was given to his wife Sarah who was a Presbyterian who worshipped at George's Meeting.²¹ Sarah Mortimer (Melhuish) is recorded in the 1841 census as living in Cullompton with her daughter, Sarah, who was by then a widow.²²

John Mortimer and his wife Mary (nee Middleton) had eight children between 1820 and 1834 all of whom were baptised at Bow/George's Meeting. In the baptism records he is usually described as fuller, or occasionally a tucker. Their children were:

Elizabeth born 17th June and baptised at Bow Meeting 4th October 1820 by James Manning.²³ She died in 1850 and is commemorated on memorial 20 in the Graveyard.

William born 14th September 1821 and baptised 30th December.²⁴

John born 29th June 1823 and baptised 20th July.²⁵

Edward born 13th January 1825 and baptised at George's Meeting House 9th June. Residence was given as Trinity Parish and father's profession as Tucker.²⁶

Jane born 14th April 1827 and baptised 13th May.²⁷

James born 21st October 1829 and baptised 25th December 1829.²⁸

Harry born 17th May 1833 and baptised 8th March 1835.²⁹

Frank born 6th Feb 1835 and baptised 8th March 1835.³⁰

In the 1841 Census, the family were living in James Street which was off South Street opposite the Meeting House.³¹ An advert of 1838 for a new organist for the Meeting House lists John Mortimer of James Street as Clerk of the chapel.³² In later census records the family have moved to Bartholomew Street.³³

¹⁶ England Select Marriages 1538-1973

¹⁷ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Registers 1567-1936

¹⁸ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Registers 1567-1936

¹⁹ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Registers 1567-1936

²⁰ Select Deaths and Burials 1538-1991

²¹ Will IR Proved 1824

²² 1841 Census

²³ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

²⁴ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

²⁵ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

²⁶ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

²⁷ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

²⁸ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

²⁹ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non parochial Records 1567-1936

³⁰ England and Wales Non Conformist and Non Parochial Records 1567-1936

³¹ 1841 Census

³² Exeter Flying Post 30/08/1838

³³ 1851 Census

Most of John and Mary's eight children married and had children but do not seem to have had continuing non-conformist links. The exceptions were Elizabeth their oldest daughter who died in 1850 and was buried in the Graveyard as already mentioned and Frank their youngest son who died in 1871 when he was 34. There is no information about where he was buried.

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