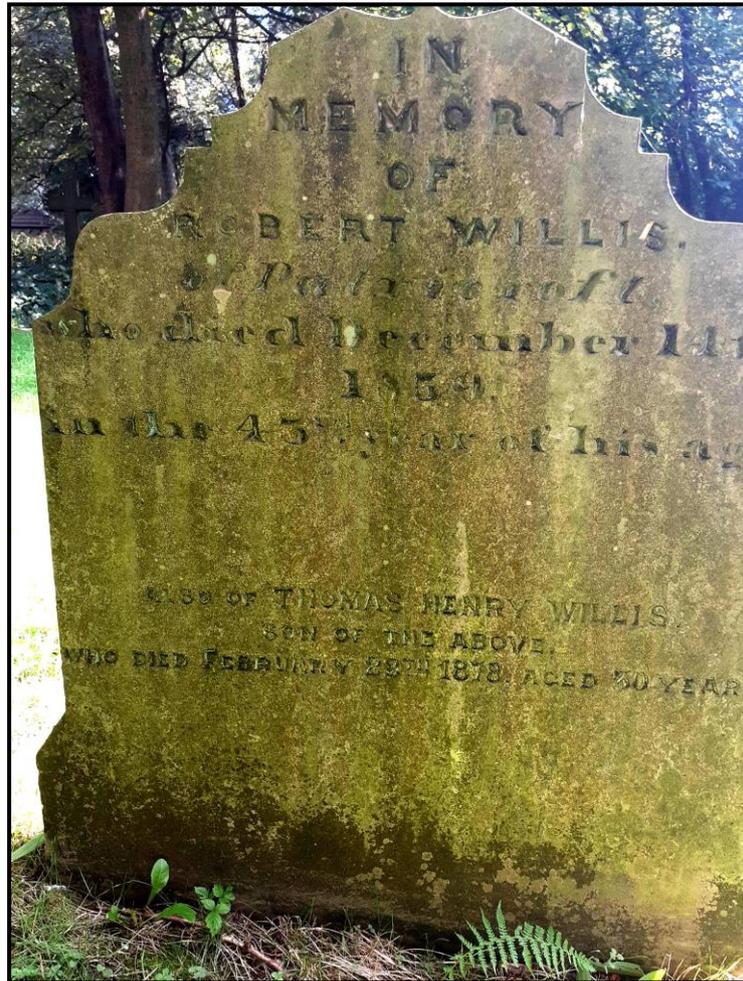


Robert WILLIS



ALSO:

Thomas Henry Willis 1847 - 1878

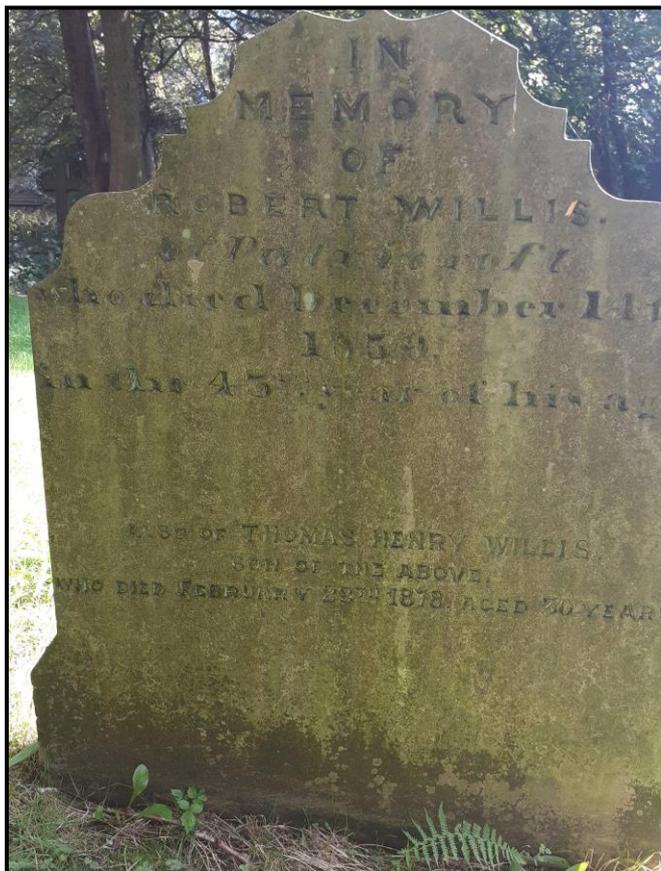
Born: c. 1816

Died: 14 December 1859

ENGINEER



Robert WILLIS



In memory of
ROBERT WILLIS
of Patricroft
who died December 14th
1859
in the 43rd yr of his age
Also of **THOMAS HENRY WILLIS**
son of the above
who died February 28th **1878** aged 30 yrs

1839:

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1839. Marriage solemnized in the Cath & Parish Church in the Parish of Manchester in the County of Sancaster.

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
491	March 29 th	Robert Willis Elizabeth Longworth	full full	Bachelor Spinster	Mechanic	Store street Store street	Thomas Willis Robert Longworth	Manager weaver

Married in the above Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church of England by me, Amos Taylor, M.A.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Robert Willis and Elizabeth Longworth in the Presence of us, David Swirley and Ether Deun.

1841 census: Green Lane, Eccles.

Robert Willis	20	Mechanic
Elizabeth	20	
Robert	1 month	

1841: Baptism of Robert Longworth Willis at St. Mary, Eccles, on 30 May 1841.

1843: Baptism of Euphenia Willis at St. Mary, Eccles, on 26 February 1843.

1844: Baptism of Mary Willis at St. Mary, Eccles, on 20 October 1844.

[Mary died on 11 January 1857, aged 12 years, of Fever on the Brain. She was buried on 14 January at Barton Wesleyan Methodist Church].

1846: Baptism of Martha Anna Willis at St. Mary, Eccles, on **4 January 1846**

1850: Birth of Elizabeth Harriot Georgina Willis in **May 1850**. Baptised at St. Mary, Eccles, on 20 October 1850.

1851 census: Low Road, Hunslet, Yorks.

Robert Willis	Head	M	33	Engineer, empl. 32 men	b. Scotland
Eliz th .	Wife	M	29		b. Barton, Lancs.
Robert Longworth	Son		9	Scholar	b. Do.
Euphemia	Daur.		8		b. Do.
Mary	Daur.		6		b. Do.
Martha Anna	Daur.		5		b. Do.
Thomas Henry	Son		2		b. Hunslet, Yorks.
Eliz. Harriot Agnes	Daur.		10 mo.		b. Do.
Euphemia	Mother	W	50		b. Scotland

+ 1 servant

1851: Death of Elizabeth Willis, wife of **Robert**, mechanic, on **31 July 1851**. She died in Leeds, aged 29, in Child Birth, and was buried at Barton upon Irwell Wesleyan Methodist on Barton Road, on 3 August.

1852:

1852. Marriage solemnized <i>at the Parish Church</i> in the parish of <i>Norton</i> in the County of <i>York</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
172	March 14 th 1852	Robert Willis Mary Ann Sawdon	34 35	Widower Spinster	Engineer Housekeeper	Bradford Norton	Deceased Deceased	
Married in the <i>parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <i>established Church</i> ^{by licence} by me, <i>Edw. Jay</i>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>Robert Willis</i> <i>Mary Ann Sawdon & her marks</i>			in the Presence of us,	<i>Eliza Lambert</i> <i>Theresa Lambert</i>		

1853: *Manchester Courier*: 18 June 1853.

IN the Matter of the Petition of **ROBERT WILLIS**, at present and for twelve months last past residing at Winton, near Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, mechanic; and for nine months previous thereto residing in Manchester-road, in Bradford, in the county of York, mechanic; and for three months previous thereto residing in Goole, in the county of York, mechanic; and for five years and three months previous thereto residing in Hunslet, near Leeds, in the county of York; and during the first four years of such last-mentioned period working as a mechanic, and for the remainder of such period carrying on business, at Hunslet aforesaid, as engineer and millwright, in partnership with Joseph Beckett Pullan, under the firm of "Pullan and **Willis**," an insolvent debtor. Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Lancashire, at Manchester, acting in the matter of this petition, will proceed to make a final order thereon at the said court, on Monday the eleventh day of July, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shown to the contrary.

RICHARD TWEMLOW, } High
JOHN SMITH, } Bailiffs.

1857: *Manchester Courier*: 28 March 1857.

KNOWIT.
TESTIMONIAL OF RESPECT.—Last evening the workmen in the employ of Messrs. James Nasmyth and Co., engineers, assembled at the Bird-in-Hand, Patricroft, to present to their manager, Mr. **Robert Willis** (on the occasion of his leaving Manchester to proceed to an appointment at Hull), a very chaste silver cup, of the vase pattern, with two handles and cover, on a black and ormolu pedestal, enclosed with glass shade. The centre of the cup is embellished with a suitable inscription, expressive of the feelings which have prompted so generous a gift. The testimonial was manufactured by Mr. Simmons, silversmith, St. Ann's-square, and forms an unique ornament for the sideboard, &c.

1859: Death of **Robert Willis**, aged 42 years, on **14 December 1859**. He was buried at St. Mark's on 17 December 1859.

N o	Robert Willis	Worsley	Dec: 17 th	42 years	Thomas Beckley P.C.
No. 584					

WILLIS Robert. 15 February. The Will
Effects under £800. with a Codicil of Robert Willis formerly of
Liverpool but late of Stott's-buildings Liver-
pool-road Patricroft both in the County of
Lancaster Engineer deceased who died
14 December 1859 at Patricroft aforesaid was
proved at **Manchester** by the oaths of David
Swirles of Parr's-buildings Patricroft aforesaid
Engineer George Duchart of 2 Devonshire-
street Hulme Manchester in the said County
Engineer and Mary Ann Willis of Stott's-
buildings aforesaid Widow the Relict (during
Widowhood) three of the Executors.

Thomas Henry WILLIS

1847: Baptism of **Thomas Henry Willis** at St. Mary, Eccles, on **14 November 1847**.

18	November 14. 1847	Thomas Robert Willis	Leeds	Engineer	E. Jones
	11. 1/2	Henry Elizabeth			Off: Minister
No. 349					

1861 census: Liverpool Road, Barton.

1871 census: 5 New Street Barton.

Thomas Higham	Head	M	31	Baker	
Mary Anne	Wife	M	32		
Thomas Henry Willis	Vis.	S	23	Pattern maker	b. Hunslet

1873: Marriage of **Thomas Henry Willis** to Eunice Hurst at St. Matthew, Manchester, on **7 January 1873**.

1873. Marriage solemnized at <i>the parish church</i> in the parish of <i>St. Matthew, Manchester</i> in the County of <i>Lancaster</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
338	Jan 7. 1.	Thomas Henry Willis	25	Bachelor	Pattern Maker	Scholes Court	Robert Willis	Manager
		Eunice Hurst	24	Spinster	—	Chester Road	Thomas Hurst	Labourer
Married in the <i>parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by <i>Banns</i> or after <i>Banns</i> by me, <i>T. R. Bently</i>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>Thomas Henry Willis</i> <i>Eunice Hurst</i>	in the Presence of us,		<i>Elizabeth Wilson</i> <i>Harriet Power</i>			

1878: Death of **Thomas Henry Willis** on **28th February 1878**, aged 30 years. He was buried at St. Mark's on 5 March 1878.

<i>Thomas Henry Willis</i>	<i>Barton</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>J. Carter.</i>
No. 635		<i>5th</i>	<i>years</i>	

Beatrice WILLIS

On the reverse side of this headstone is the inscription –

Sacred to the memory of
BEATRICE the dearly beloved wife of
ROBERT WILLIS of Levenshulme
 who died April 7th **1930** aged 54 yrs
Peace perfect peace

This poses a particular problem because of the name Robert Harris. Clearly, this cannot refer to the Robert Willis on the face side of the stone, because the years are all wrong. Robert had died in 1859, aged 43 years. The best thing to do is to work backwards. So, we find in the **1911** census,

Robert Willis	Head	35	Married	19	2	2	0	Grocer (Dealer)	Employer	Lancashire (Eccles)	050
Beatrice Willis	Wife	35		10						Lancashire (Patricroft)	050
Eunice Willis	Daughter	9						School		Lancashire (Weaste)	065
Robert Willis	Son	5						School		Lancashire (Gorton)	
Samuel Johnson	Wife	56	Married	03	3	1	2	Plumber	Worker	Lancashire (Eccles)	050
Eliza Johnson	Sunt	58	Married	33						Lancashire (Irlam)	050

1911 census: 1 Brook Avenue, Levenshulme. 4 rooms in the house. Married 10 years. 2 children.

Robert Willis	Head	M	35	Grocer (Dealer)	b. Eccles
Beatrice	Wife	M	35		b. Patricroft
Eunice	Daur.		9		b. Weaste
Robert	Son		5		b. Gorton

The name Eunice now is of interest. And so we move back 10 years:

1901 census: 581 Eccles New Road, Pendleton.

Robert Willis	Head	M	25	Grocer/Shopkeeper	
Beatrice	Wife	M	25		
Eunice	Mother	W	52	(Sick)	b. Irlam

[Robert and **Beatrice** had married in the 3rd qtr. of **1900**].

Marriage: **24 September 1900** St Andrew, Eccles, Lancashire, England

Robert Willis - 25, Grocer, Bachelor, 581 Eccles New Road, St. Luke's Weaste

Bertha Ledsham - 24, Spinster, 46 Cannon Street, Eccles

Groom's Father: **Thomas Henry Willis**, deceased, Pattern Maker

Bride's Father: Edwin Ledsham, Pattern Maker

Witness: William Knowles; Jessie Harding Robson

Married by Banns by: W.H. Jerome

When we look at the age of Eunice above (52), it reveals that she was born about **1849**. And then we look at the marriage above of **Thomas Henry Willis**, we find that he married a Eunice in 1873, aged 23, and therefore born in 1849. The young Eunice (9) was the granddaughter of **Thomas Henry Willis** and Eunice (née Hurst). This Robert (aged 35 in 1911) was the grandson of the first **Robert Willis**. The location of Levenshulme is further confirmation of these facts.

Fortunately, **Beatrice** left a **WILL**:

WILLIS Beatrice of 1 Brook-avenue Levenshulme **Manchester**
 (wife of Robert Willis) died 17 April 1930 Probate **Manches-**
ter 20 November to the said Robert Willis grocer.
 Effects £505 1s.