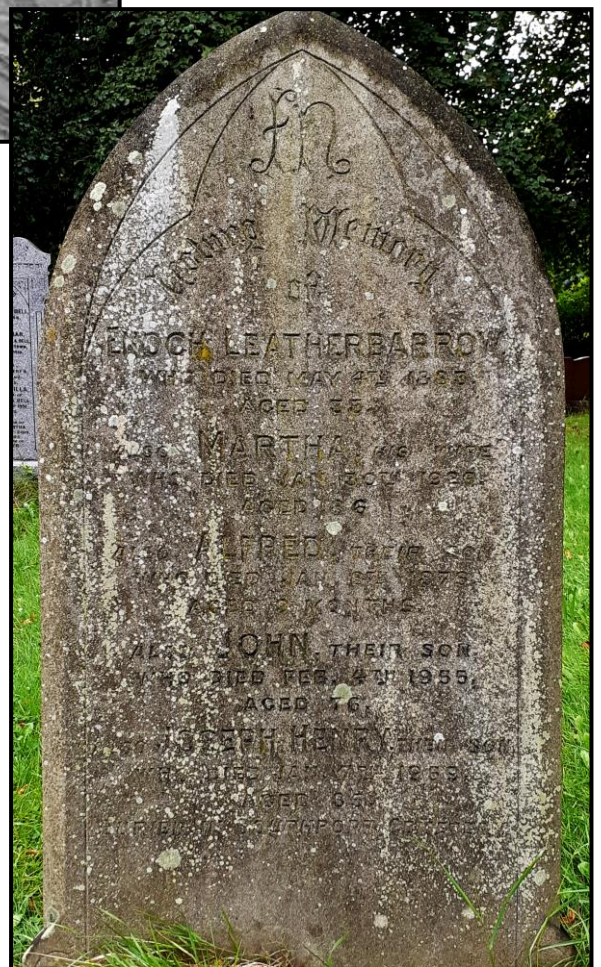


Enoch LEATHERBARROW



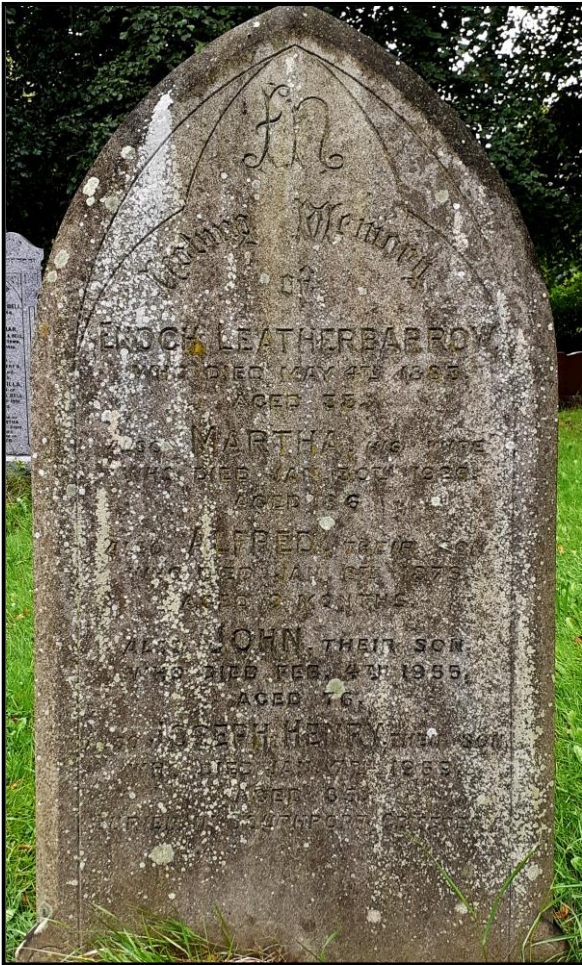
Born: 1851

Died: 4 May 1883

*ORPHANED AGE 8
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL BOARDER
MINER*



Enoch LEATHERBARROW



What makes a memorial stone an intriguing one, inspiring a certain amount of curiosity, and worthy of some research and investigation? It could be the location of the stone, or its size, or its material - or maybe a combination of these features. Or even more, a particular date, or some other inscription/monogram? Or maybe, an uncommon name (first and/or surname) or even an age?

In this particular instance, it was a combination of some of these factors, but in particular the two names inscribed at the top of the stone. The inscription reads:

In loving memory of **ENOCH LEATHERBARROW** who died May 4th 1883 aged 33. Also **MARTHA** his wife who died January 30th 1929 aged 86. Also **ALFRED** their son who died January 8th 1876 aged 9mths. Also **JOHN** their son who died February 4th 1955 aged 76. Also **JOSEPH HENRY** their son who died January 7th 1959 aged 85, buried in Southport cemetery. (L1370)

The name Leatherbarrow is little known in this area and the name Enoch must have been rare. So, research was required - and what a very sad story was unearthed.

Enoch Leatherbarrow was born in **1851**, at least according to the national censuses. He was the son of **Joseph Leatherbarrow** and **Jane** (née **Griffiths**). They were married at the Collegiate Church of Manchester (Cathedral) on 7 April **1828**. **Joseph** was a Spinner and both were of that parish. In fact, Jane had been born in Shropshire on 28 July **1811**, a daughter of Job (a Labourer) and Sarah in Treflach, Oswestry. She was soon baptised at St. Oswald's on 4 Aug 1811. Joseph was By **1841**, Job was living and working in Chorlton as a Gardener. **Joseph**, on the other hand, was born in Bedford, Leigh, on 6 July **1810**. By **1841**, living at no.1 Court, Jenkinson Street, Chorlton on Medlock, with his wife Jane and 5 children - Robert 12, (bp. 24 August 1828); Susan 10, (bp.2 January 1831); Job 4, (bp. 16 July 1837); Thomas 2; and John 1. Where baptisms are shown, they were at Manchester Cathedral. [The name Susan should have been Sarah Ann - Ed.]

MARRIAGES solemnized in the Parish of <u>Church of Manchester</u>	
in the County of <u>Lancaster</u> in the Year 18 <u>28</u>	
<u>Joseph Leatherbarrow</u> Bachelor of <u>this</u> Parish	<u>Spinner</u>
and <u>Jane Griffiths</u>	of <u>this</u> Parish
<u>Spinner</u>	
were married in this <u>Church</u> by <u>Banns</u> with Consent of	this <u>Seventh</u> Day of
<u>April</u> in the Year One thousand eight hundred and <u>Twenty Eight</u>	
By me <u>Wm Wain</u> <u>Chaplain</u>	
This Marriage was solemnized between us	<u>Mark of Joseph Leatherbarrow</u>
	<u>Mark of Jane Griffiths</u>
In the Presence of	<u>John Seal</u>
	<u>Mark of Thomas Wills</u>
No. 580.	

Sadly, there is no trace of a copy of the **1851** census for Manchester which has the name of any member of the family. This can only be the result of some damaged documents that have not been recovered.

What we do know is that 3 other children were born after 1841 - Joseph (alias Griffiths) born 4 Sep 1844; **Enoch** born **1851**; and

Daniel born 1853. No baptism records have been found for the other children.

So, all appeared well at home by this stage. The next census, of **1861**, started to show some significant changes within the family. Firstly, **Enoch** was recorded as being a Boarder at an Industrial School, 25 Ardwick Green, aged 10. And then by **1871**, Enoch was again a Boarder, this time with John (a collier) and Agnes Taylor at 4 Boothstown Lane, aged 20. John Taylor too was a Collier - and Enoch was accompanied by Daniel, his younger brother, aged 17. How can this be accounted for? The answer lies in tragic circumstances which befell the family.

The first such tragedy appeared in an article in the *MANCHESTER WEEKLY ADVERTISER* on Saturday 17 September **1859**, under the headline:

A LOST MAN FOUND DEAD

On Monday an inquest was held before Mr. E. Hertford, gent., the city coroner, at his court, Ridgefield, touching the death of Joseph Leatherbarrow, labourer, late of Jenkinson Street, Chorlton upon Medlock. A fortnight ago last Sunday, deceased went into Taylor's Beerhouse, Jenkinson Street, and had some drink; and whilst there, he promised to help them on the following morning to load some manure, but he did not fulfil this promise. Deceased left the beerhouse about half past eight, and was never seen afterwards. He appears to have been of dissipated habits, and according to the evidence of his son, to have broken up the home in order to sate his craving for drink. From the beerhouse, he would appear to have gone to the hayloft of Taylor, where his body was discovered, in a putrid state on Sunday morning last, by Henry Froggatt, a carter who went into the loft for some hay. From the position in which the body was found, some trusses of hay must have fallen on the deceased and suffocated him. VERDICT - Died from accidental suffocation. Deceased was fifty years of age.

Joseph had been found dead on 11 September and the inquest was held the following day. To make matters worse, a second tragic event occurred. **Enoch's** mother, Jane Griffiths, died on 12 September **1859** (the day after the event above!) at the Union Workhouse in Withington, aged 48. The death certificate stated that she was a Widow and had been a Cotton Spinner. She officially died of 'Phthisis - pulmonary haemorrhage'. So **Enoch** was in fact orphaned at the age of 8.

At this point, it is of interest to mention just a few details of what happened to some other members of the family. Their eldest son, Robert, born 1828, was sent to trial on 30 May 1851 for stealing 20lbs lead worth 7 shillings from the property of John Shaw. Robert's description was sallow skin, brown hair and his height was 5ft 2ins. John, born 1840, married Elizabeth Rogers at Manchester Cathedral on 23 June 1861. By 1869, they had emigrated to Portland, Maine, USA, where they had eight children. Thomas, born 1839, was sentenced to a period of imprisonment for housebreaking in 1862; then a further 3 years for a similar crime in 1866; followed by 1 month for an assault; and finally, in 1870, a further 7 years for housebreaking again, and this time the term was served at Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, where, according to the 1871 census, he was a baker, and was described as an imbecile, along with numerous other offenders. Sadly, on 14 June 1891, he too died at the Union Workhouse in Withington, aged 52 - just like his mother.

It is a regrettable fact in light of this story that, in the 1871 census, where names of individuals in institutions were recorded, whether hospitals, prisons or hotels, the final column was headed: If (1) Deaf and Dumb; (2) Blind; (3) Imbecile or Idiot; and (4) Lunatic. The enumerator had to write "the respective Infirmities against the name of the afflicted Person; and if so from Birth, adding 'from Birth'."

This, therefore, was the background to **Enoch Leatherbarrow**, a truly sad and depressing upbringing. And so we find that, by **1871**, he and his brother were working as colliers at Mosley Common. However, a brighter picture began to emerge just a year later. His younger brother, Daniel, who was with him in 1871, married Sarah Green at St. Mark's on 23 April 1874 and they were to have nine children.

1872. Marriage solemnized at <i>St. Mark's Church</i> in the <i>Parish of Worsley</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.
191	<i>May 9th</i>	<i>Enoch Leatherbarrow</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Collier</i>	<i>Worsley</i>	<i>Joseph Leatherbarrow</i>	<i>Spinner</i>
		<i>Martha Hilton</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>Spinner</i>		<i>Worsley</i>	<i>David Hilton</i>	<i>Farmer</i>

Married in the *Church of St. Mark's* according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after *Death* by me, *Chas. Spencer, Curate*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *Enoch Leatherbarrow* in the Presence of us, *Joseph Lovatt*
Martha Hilton *Isabella Alice Hilton*

And, just over 12 months after the census was taken, **Enoch** married **Martha Hilton** at St. Mark's Church, on 9 May **1872**. Enoch was 21 and Martha 28. His job was that of a Collier and his father, though dead, was given as a Spinner. They were married by Charles Spencer, Curate.

By the time of the **1881** census, all would appear to have been going well for the young family. Enoch was employed in that hazardous work in the mines at Mosley Common. They were residing at 11 Mosley Common, next to the King William pub, and his occupation was Coal Miner and Clogger.

Enoch Leatherbarrow	Head	M	30	Coal Miner and Clogger	
Martha	Wife	M	37		
Joseph H.	Son		7		b. Boothstown
William	Son		4		b. do.
John	Son		2		b. Tyldesley
Mary J.	Daur.		2wks.		b. do.

The birthplaces would indicate that they were first living in the Boothstown area, until about 1877/8, and then they had moved to the address in Tyldesley. Joseph Henry, the first born, died only in 1959, aged 85, in Southport, and left his small estate to the Rev. Joseph Stanley Leatherbarrow, his son, who died as recently as 1989 in Worcester, aged 81.

In addition to the four children above, they also had a son, Alfred, who died in 1876, aged 9 months, and Enoch, who was born on 12 February 1884, and died in 1983, aged 99. All must have seemed well at that time. But a glance at the parish burial records shows that **Enoch Leatherbarrow** was buried here on 8 May 1883, aged only 32. His abode was Mosley Common, and the officiating priest was W. G. Ketchley. So what was the story?

An article in the *Bolton Evening News* on Tuesday 8 May **1883** reported the following incident:

FATAL ACCIDENT

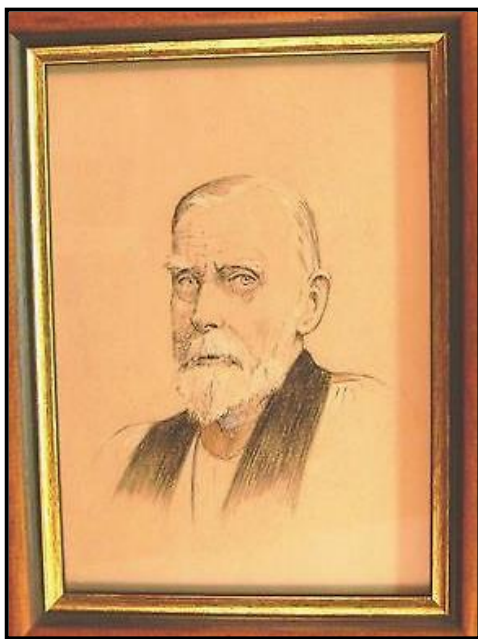
On Monday afternoon Mr. J. Edge held an inquiry at the Red Lion, Tyldesley, relative to the death of Enoch Leatherbarrow, a collier, who was killed in the Mosley Common pit of the Bridgewater Trustees on Friday. Mr. Martin, sub-Inspector of Mines, was present. The evidence showed that the deceased was drilling a hole for the purpose of putting in a shot when a fall of coal and dirt took place, striking Leatherbarrow on the neck, and covering his head. Jno. Peers and Daniel Roscoe went to his assistance, but when recovered life was extinct. The Coroner remarked that there were more colliers killed in

ones and twos by falls of earth than were killed in explosions. There might be explosions where perhaps 20 or 30 men were killed at one time, but in accidents of the kind that he had named there were double the number of colliers killed than one would think owing to their taking place one or two at a time. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

Enoch Leatherbarrow was buried in the churchyard in the south-west corner, facing the War Memorial. His widow, Martha, was also buried there. She died in January **1929**, aged 86, as were Alfred and John, sons.

Enoch Leatherbarrow was associated with many of the poorer sides of Victorian society. His father became a drunkard; his mother died in a workhouse; he was orphaned at the age of 8; two siblings were imprisoned; he was a boarder at an industrial school; he became a miner, and was one of many thousands of workers who died of industrial injuries in those conditions.

In the census of **1901**, four of his children were living with their mother, Martha, at 9 Cecil Street, near Regent Road, Salford. His son William (24) was an engineer's clerk; his son John (21) was an assistant herbalist; his son Enoch (17) was a warehouseman's assistant; and his daughter Mary Jane (20) was a cotton mill winder. All were at this point unmarried. In the same census of that year, his eldest son, Joseph Henry (27) was an officer at the Ardwick Green Industrial School and was an engine driver. Then, on 23 July 1902, he married, at age 29, Ann Pickup (33) at Ordsall Wesleyan Chapel, Dock Mission, New Park. By this stage, Joseph Henry was a Mechanical Engineer and was working and living at the Infirmary, Scarisbrick New Road, Southport. He died there in 1959, aged 85, but his name has been etched into the stone here in his memory.



They appear to have had just the one son - Joseph Stanley Leatherbarrow, who attended the University of Manchester and gained a BA. (2nd cl. History) in 1929. He next went to Wells Theological College in 1930 and was made Deacon in 1931. He was Curate of Prestwich, Diocese of Manchester, from 1931. His address was *Prestwich Rectory, Manchester*. A fine achievement for his grandson. He was sometime Rector of Martley, Worcestershire, and was the author of a book about the county. He also wrote *The Lancashire Elizabethan Recusants* (Manchester, Chetham Society), 1947. A collection of records attributed to him can be found at Worcester Archives under reference BA10366. He had once been the Vicar of St. Mark's, Bolton, 1937-1944, and Vicar of St. Peter's, Swinton, 1948 to 1959. St Mark's Church was demolished in early 1973. Letters after his name are MA, PhD, FSA, FRHS. (Picture left)

demolished in early 1973. Letters after his name are MA, PhD, FSA, FRHS. (Picture left)

Enoch's son, his namesake Enoch, born on 12 February 1884, was in 1939 a Cotton Trade Salesman, living at 682 Bolton Road, Swinton, with his second wife Lillian (aged 52) and their son Walter N., aged 23. It is pleasing to note that **Enoch's** own children all made their way in life, in a way that would have made him very proud. And all from such humble beginnings.

