

Treasures of the Archives

George Romney's sketch book

George Romney was born in Beckside, Dalton-in-Furness, 1734. He was one of the most fashionable artists of his day, working as a portrait, landscape and historical painter. George Romney's portraits of the eighteenth century gentry and their children are among the most widely recognised creations of his age.

The Lake District, landscape never ceased to influence his eye for composition and colour. He moved in 1762 to London where there was an insatiable market for portraits of the landed gentry to fill the elegant picture galleries of their country houses. Romney was a most influential figure; considered one of the founding fathers of neo-classicism and a harbinger of romanticism. He was keen to develop his talents as a history painter but his lack of European experience was the main obstacle in realising his full artistic potential. In 1773 he embarked on a grand tour of Italy and the years that followed his return were the period of his greatest success.

(Barrow Archive and Local Studies Centre, Ref. Z241)



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(Barrow Archive and Local Studies Centre, Ref. Z558)

Cumbria is renowned around the world for the beauty of its landscape. However, trade with the rest of the world was a cornerstone of the Cumbrian economy from the 18th century and its coastal towns supported varied industries that were key to this.



The plan shows the proposals for new wet dock areas at Whitehaven Harbour – planned in an attempt to reverse the harbour’s declining fortunes. It’s recognisably Whitehaven, but as you’ve never seen it before.

The darkened colours reflect the long and interesting life of this map, drawn in 1752 or possibly even earlier. This plan shows mine workings under the town with recognisable features of Whitehaven town centre superimposed on top. The town was both literally and metaphorically built on the coal mining industry which enduring into the 1980s.

(Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre, Refs.YSH 7/9/3 and TNCB 24-4)



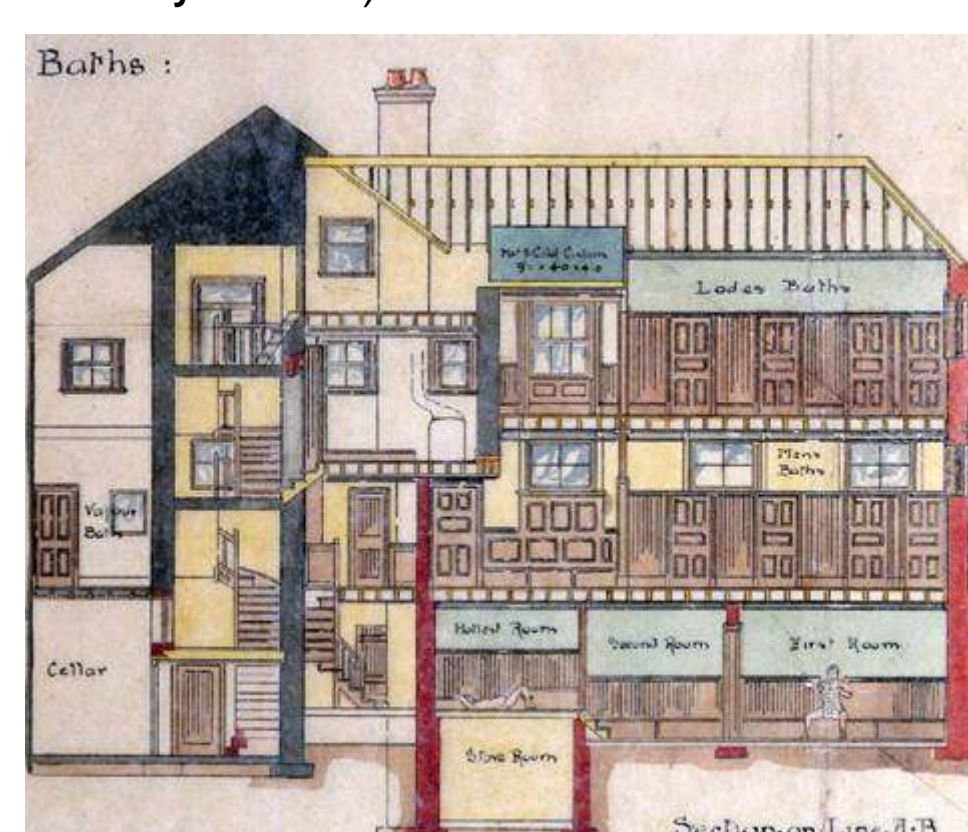
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Grand Designs

James Stockdale's research papers relating to George Fox, founder of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and Swarthmoor Hall, including a sketch of Marsh Grange.

(Barrow Archive and Local Studies Centre, Ref. DDHJ 4/2/1/15)



Architectural plans

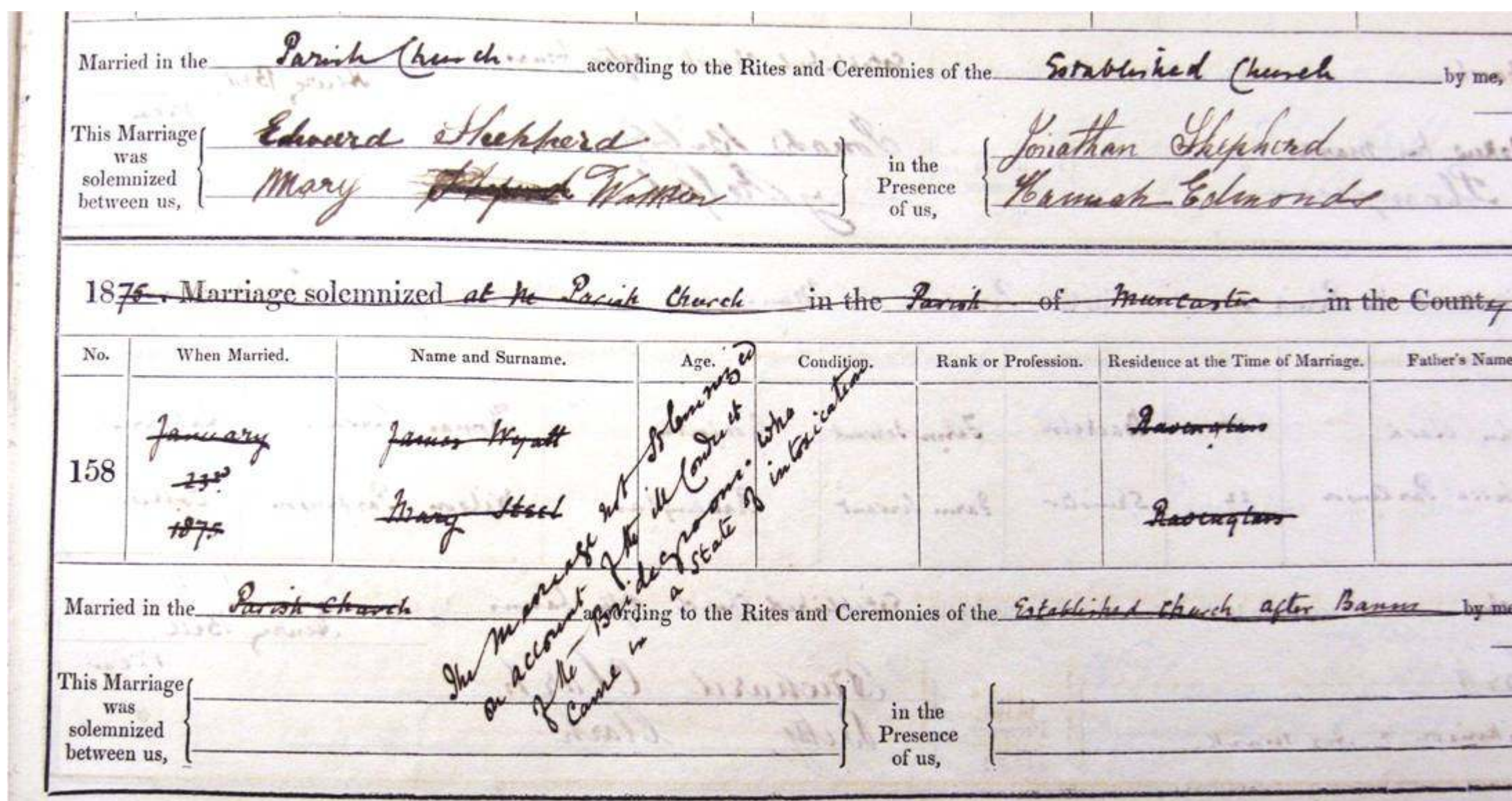
The proposal for Whitehaven Public Baths in 1883 is typical of plans preserved amongst local authority records, whilst the drawing of premises for the Amalgamated Society of Engineers in Barrow forms part of the archives



Treasures of the Archives

The Parish Chest

What all archives have in common are the people - and their contents can give us the clues as to how communities and individuals lived and worked, and their aspirations and achievements over by-gone centuries. Many people visit Cumbria's Archive Centres to study our parish records: the information they provide can be very useful and sometimes most revealing.



Parish of St Michael's, Muncaster

True love is not always a smooth path. An extract from the marriage register of Muncaster church records that the marriage did not take place due to the ill conduct of the bridegroom who came to the church a state of intoxication! (Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre, Ref.YPR 5/18)

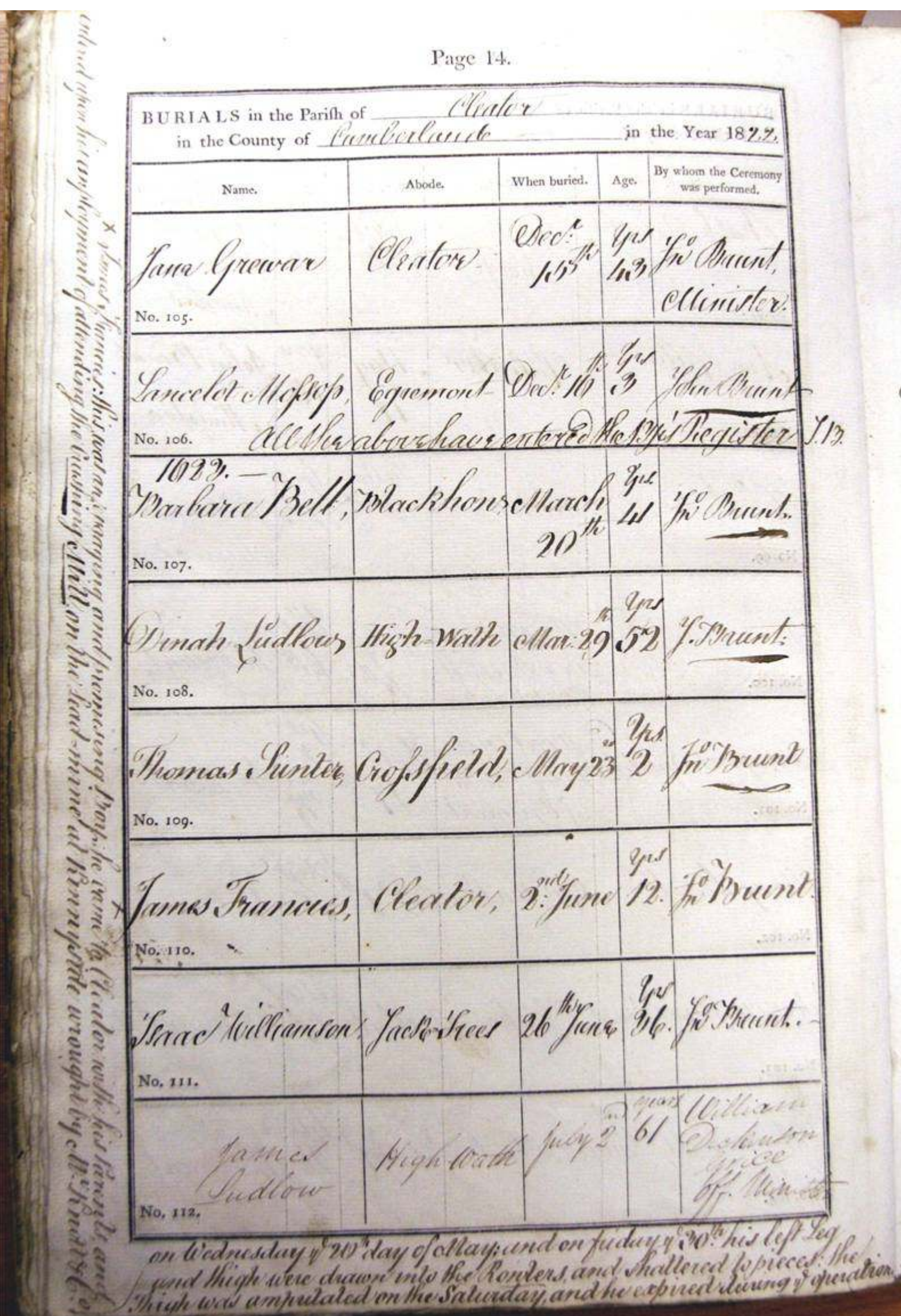
Parish of St Mary's, Crosthwaite and Lyth

Pew order from 1669 showing the importance of social status in the church at that time. Estates, marital status and gender all dictated where you got to sit. Whilst this practice was not unusual, it is very rare to find documentary

Parish of St Leonard's, Cleator

A terrible tale is told in Cleator's burial register in 1822. A young labourer, James Francis, had his leg shattered in the machinery of the crushing mill at the lead mine at Kinniside. He died during surgery to remove the leg – aged just 12 years old.

(Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre, Ref.YPR 24/5)



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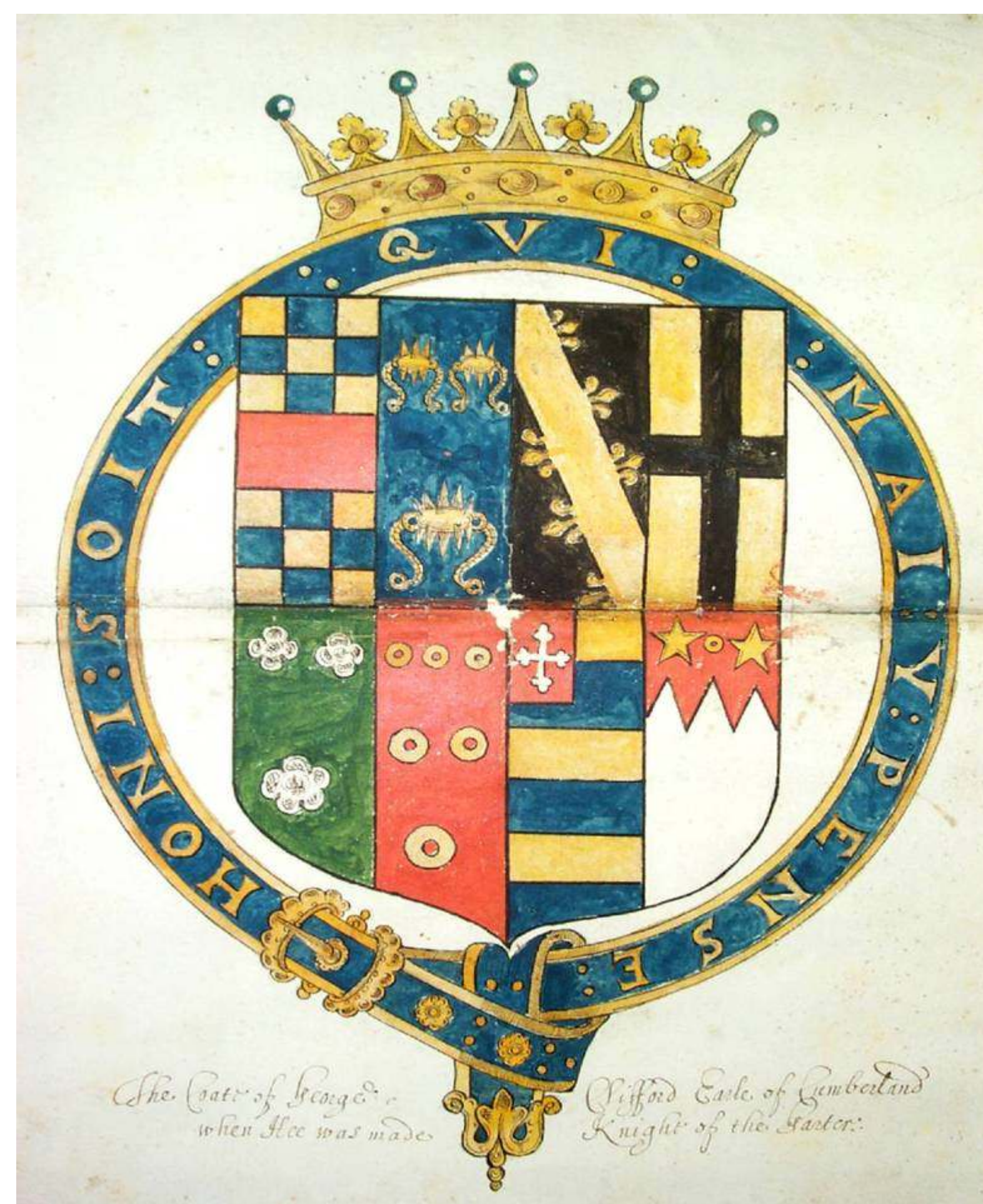
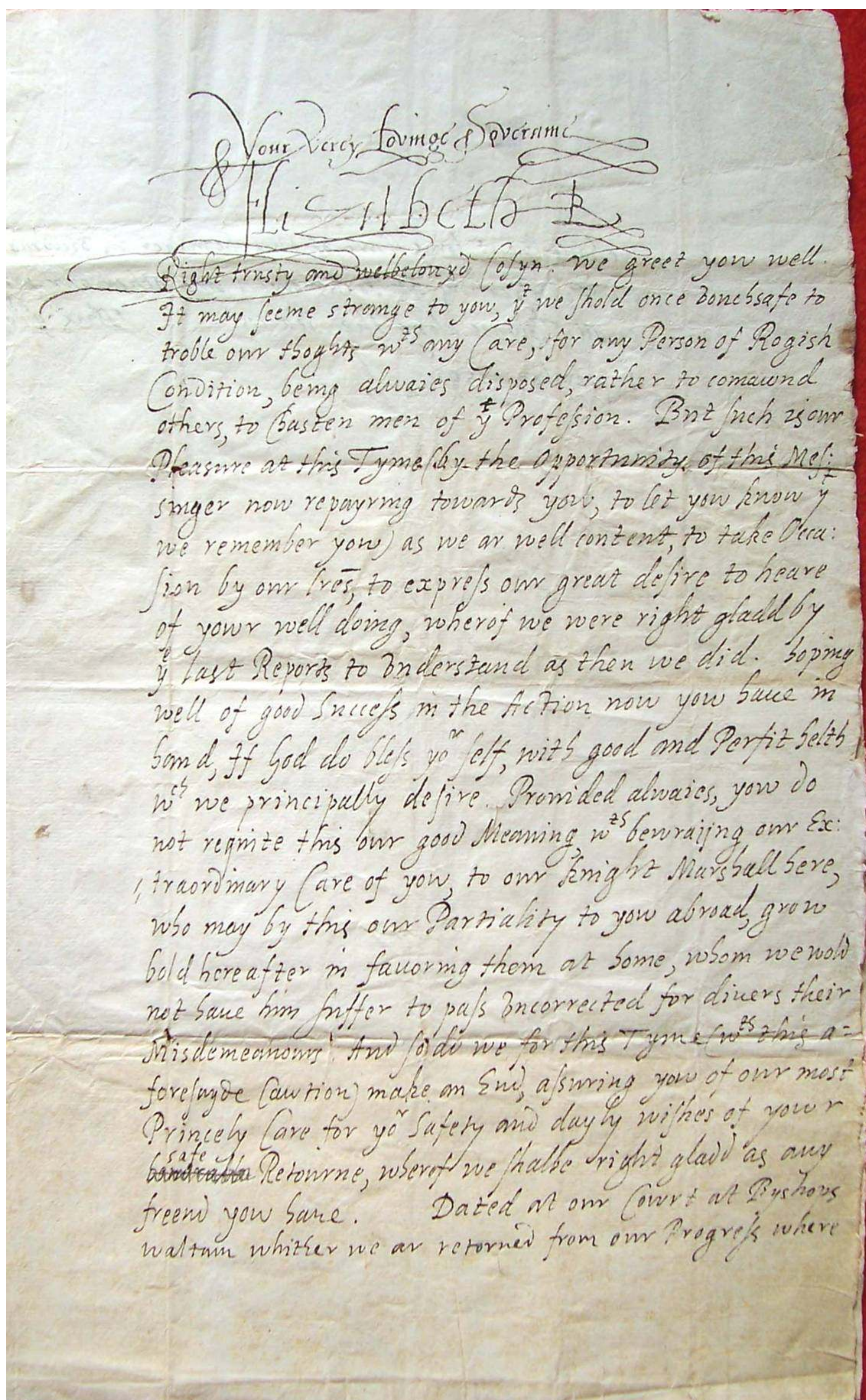
The Power of the Tudors in Cumbria

Book of the Coats of Arms of the Veteripont and Clifford families 1650

Lady Anne Clifford's love of heraldry is shown to great effect in which the coats of arms of each of her Clifford and Veteripont ancestors are painted in full colour and impaled with those families into which they married.

The image on the right shows the Coat of Arms of George Clifford, 3rd Earl of Cumberland.

(Kendal Archive Centre)

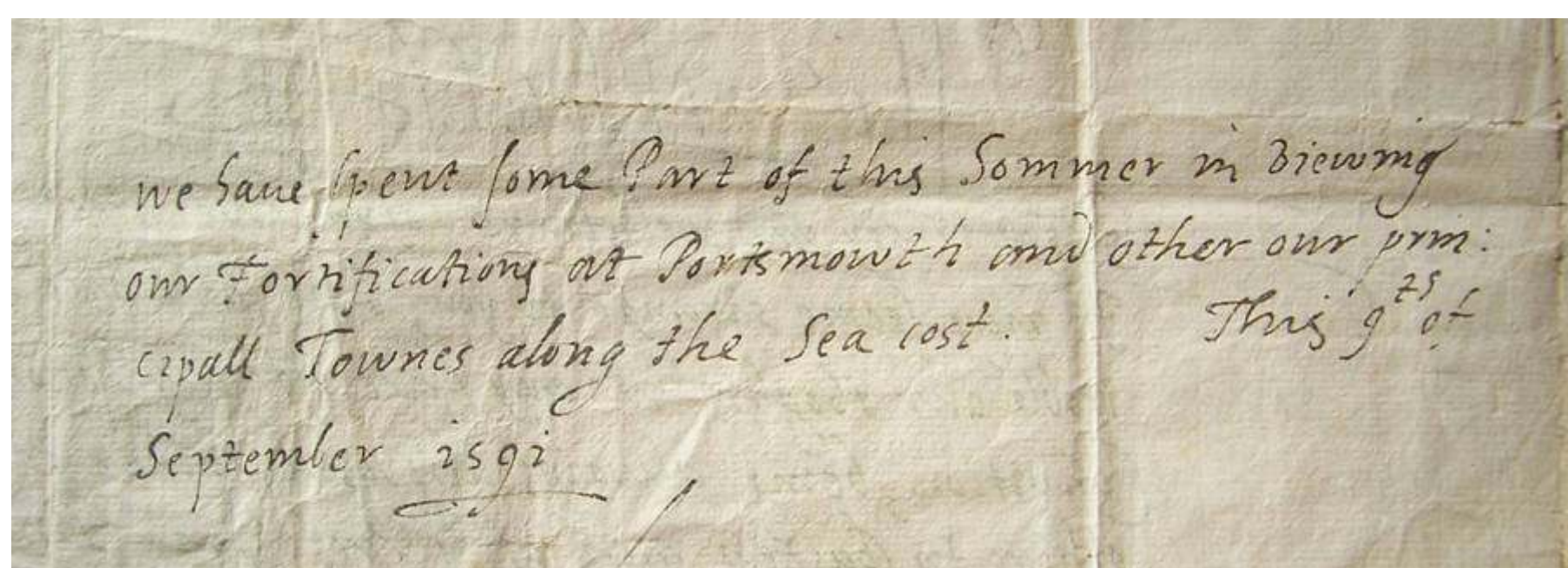


Letter from Queen Elizabeth to George, 3rd Earl of Cumberland, September 1592

George Clifford rose high in the Queen's favour And this flattering letter reflects the high regard in which he was held. 1592 appears to have been an important year for George, for it was in that year he was appointed the Queen's personal champion at the Tiltyard and created a knight of the Garter. He was also appointed Warden of the West Marche, the border between England and Scotland and Governor of Carlisle.

In this letter Queen Elizabeth is enquiring after the success of his voyages against the Spanish fleet which he undertook between 1586 and 1598. These voyages were to prove a strain on George Clifford's marriage to Margaret Russell and a drain on his resources. The debts accrued were a major factor in his decision not to leave the Westmorland and Craven estates to his only surviving daughter, Anne Clifford but to his brother Francis and his heirs male.

The letter was written at Bishops Waltham where the Queen was inspecting the defences at Portsmouth and other coastal towns on the South coast.



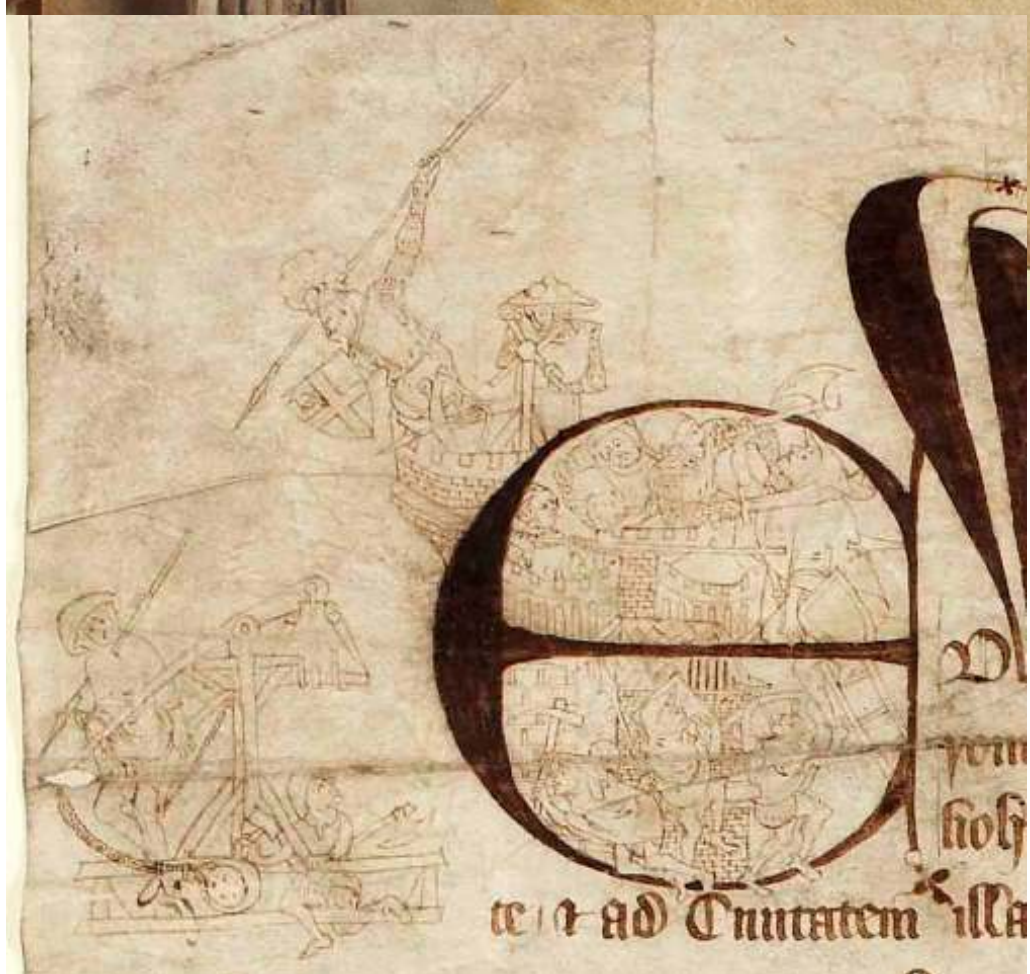
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Ancient rights and titles

Lanercost cartulary 1252-1370

A cartulary is a register of records. This cartulary was produced by the Augustinian monks at Lanercost Priory and provides a detailed record of all the lands which were given to the Priory. The cartulary is beautifully illustrated with drawings of the Priory itself; other churches in the district, people engaged in agricultural work; animals; the bridge over the river Eden at Warwick; a plough and many coats of arms.

(Carlisle Archive Centre, reference DZ 1)



Edward II grants rights to the City of Carlisle 1316

(Carlisle Archive Centre)

The charter was granted to the mayor and citizens of Carlisle as thanks for their

help in successfully defeating the Scottish invasion of England in 1315. These events are shown in the top left hand corner of the charter. Sir Andrew de Harcla, Governor of Carlisle, is on the city walls about to throw a spear at the Scots who are attacking the city.

Ulverston Market Charter, 1280

20 September 8 Edw. I, by Edward I to Roger of Lancastre of a market every Thursday and an annual fair on the eve, the day and the morrow of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 7, 8 and 9 September at his manor of Ulverston; Given at Karleol [Carlisle].

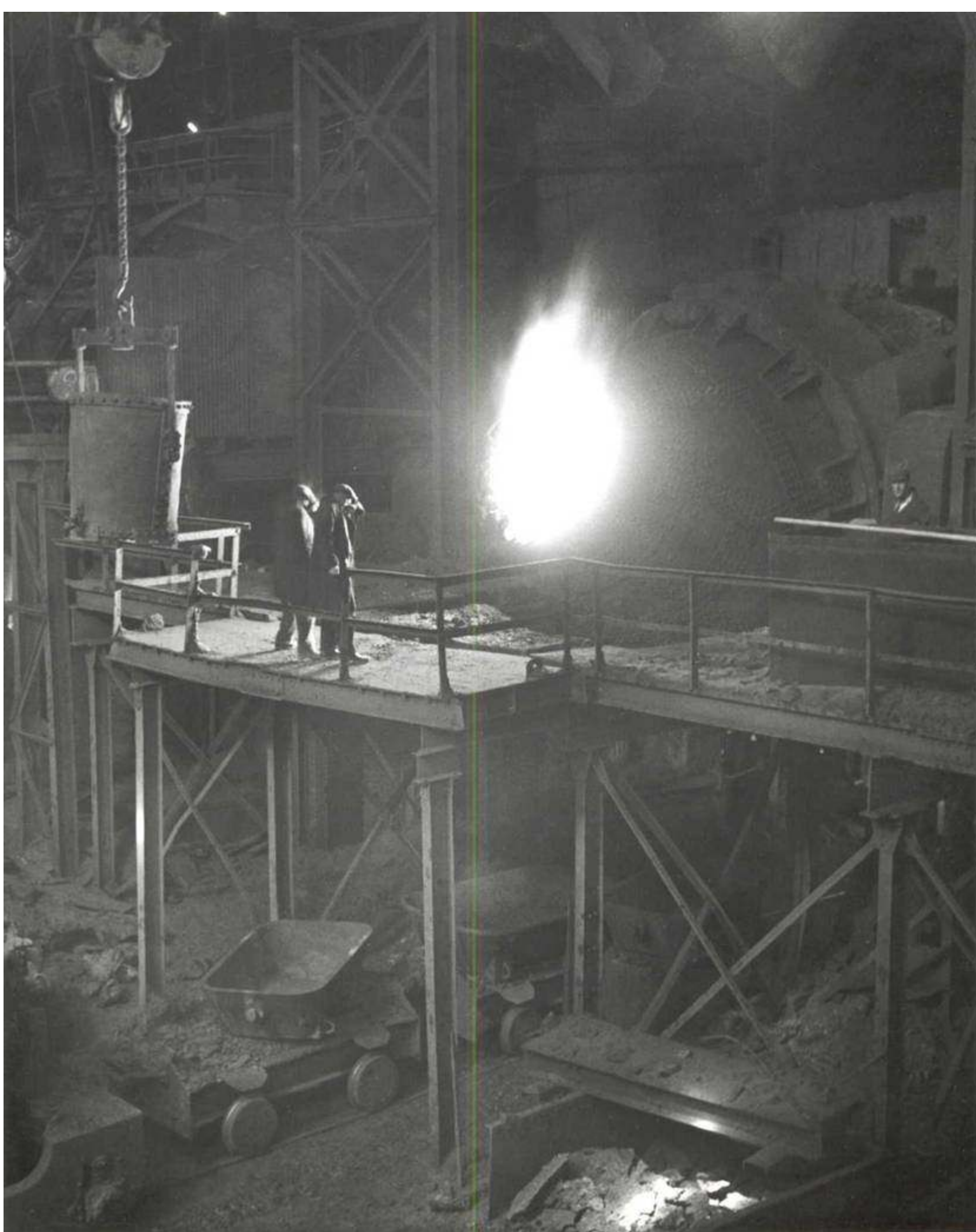
(Barrow Archive and Local Studies Centre, Ref. BPR 2/M/1/1)



Treasures of the Archives

Cumbria's Industrial Past

Photographs are a valuable type of archive, literally *showing* us what the past looked like, including the industrial workplace.



Bessemer Converter at Workington steelworks

Steel was being made in Workington from 1856; it was known to be of a very high quality, and was exported all over the world. The British Steel archive includes large numbers of photographs and plans, financial records, minutes books, files on new projects, as well as records of company sports teams and staff magazines. (Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre, Ref. YBSC/22/2/1/184)



Cowans Sheldon Co Ltd, civil engineers of Carlisle

John Cowan and Edward Sheldon opened the Woodbank Iron works in 1847 and moved to St Nicholas in Carlisle in 1869.

They gained a worldwide reputation for making heavy lifting cranes and railway turntables. Shown here is a colour drawing of a crane used to lay and maintain tracks on the London Underground in around 1960.

(Carlisle Archive Centre, Ref. DB 40)

Maryport and Carlisle Railway

Timetable from 1845.

Some connections were with coaches rather than trains and passengers were requested to be 5 minutes early!

(Carlisle Archive Centre, Ref. DSEN)

MARYPORT AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.																			
TIME TABLE FROM 21ST FEBRUARY, 1845.																			
THROUGH TRAINS GOING EAST.										SHORT TRAINS GOING EAST.					SHORT TRAINS GOING WEST.				
STATIONS.	10. 00.	11. 00.	12. 00.	1. 00.	2. 00.	3. 00.	4. 00.	5. 00.	6. 00.	STATIONS.	10. 00.	11. 00.	12. 00.	1. 00.	STATIONS.	10. 00.	11. 00.	12. 00.	1. 00.
LEAVE MARYPORT.	7. 25.	12. 00.	4. 30.							1. 00.	0. 00.	1. 00.	2. 00.	3. 00.	LEAVE CARLISLE.	10. 30.	2. 30.	6. 35.	
ARRIVE MARYPORT.	8. 25.	12. 20.	4. 30.	1. 00.	2. 00.	3. 00.	4. 00.	5. 00.	6. 00.	2. 30.	3. 30.	4. 30.	5. 30.	6. 30.	ARRIVE CARLISLE.	11. 00.	3. 30.	7. 35.	1. 00.
LEAVE CARLISLE.	10. 30.	2. 30.	6. 35.							3. 30.	4. 30.	5. 30.	6. 30.	7. 30.	LEAVE MARYPORT.	7. 25.	12. 00.	4. 30.	
ARRIVE CARLISLE.	11. 00.	3. 30.	7. 35.	1. 00.	2. 00.	3. 00.	4. 00.	5. 00.	6. 00.	4. 30.	5. 30.	6. 30.	7. 30.	8. 30.	ARRIVE MARYPORT.	8. 25.	12. 20.	4. 30.	1. 00.
LEAVE MARYPORT.	7. 25.	12. 00.	4. 30.							5. 30.	6. 30.	7. 30.	8. 30.	9. 30.	LEAVE CARLISLE.	10. 30.	2. 30.	6. 35.	
ARRIVE MARYPORT.	8. 25.	12. 20.	4. 30.	1. 00.	2. 00.	3. 00.	4. 00.	5. 00.	6. 00.	6. 30.	7. 30.	8. 30.	9. 30.	10. 30.	ARRIVE CARLISLE.	11. 00.	3. 30.	7. 35.	1. 00.

NOTE: No Passengers are allowed to say of the Company's Servants.

The Coach, in connection with the through Passenger Trains, will leave

Whithaven in the Morning at 10. 00. Maryport in the Morning at 11. 00.

Whithaven in the Afternoon at 2. 30. Maryport in the Afternoon at 3. 30.

Passengers are requested to be at the Stations at least Five Minutes before the time of Starting. Goods intended to go by the mixed or through Merchandise Train, should be at the different Stations half an hour before the time of Starting. The Company will not be responsible for Passengers' Luggage unless loaded and paid for accordingly, nor for Luggage left at the Stations for the convenience of Passengers.

By Order,
W. MITCHELL, Secretary.

CARLISLE: PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF CHARLES THURKAM.



World War I Munitions Factories

The photograph of Dan Clark's munitioneers was taken in 1917 and shows how women took the jobs of men who had been conscripted to fight in the Great War. Before the War, Clark's had been iron-founders who specialised in drains and sewers. The firm was based in Carlisle.

(Cumbria Archive Centre, Carlisle, reference DB 85)

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Carlisle City's Dormont Book 1561-1950

The city purchased this book in 1561 to record important information about Carlisle. It was used to document oaths to be taken by the Mayor and city officials; rules and regulations for governing Carlisle; a register of apprentices 1645-1849; and admission of honorary freemen 1889-1950. Its title page is beautifully decorated. (Carlisle Archive Centre)

Artistry in Archives

Royal Letters Patent 1543

This document is a grant of land to Christopher Crackenthorpe by Henry VIII. The Grant is important in two respects. Firstly it sheds a light on the Reformation in England and, in particular, the dissolution of the Monasteries. The land mentioned here formerly belonged to Holme Cultram Abbey.

The document is also highly unusual in being illuminated, or coloured. The quality of the decoration is such that the work could only have been carried out by one of three artists in England at the time. (Kendal Archive Centre Ref. WDCAT/CRK/I)