

LOCAL ARCHITECTS

Little is known about the architects who built or lived in Barnes, Mortlake and East Sheen the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. With a few exceptions the following all lived in the nineteenth or twentieth centuries.

Allom, Thomas (1804-1872) lived at 1 Barnes Villas (now 80 Lonsdale Road), Barnes and designed Holy Trinity Church, Castelnau, Barnes, consecrated in 1868. Today he is perhaps better known as an artist.

Astley, John (1730-1787) lived in his last years at Elm Bank, Barnes Terrace. He was primarily a portrait painter but, amongst other architectural projects, designed the saloon and conservatory at St Ann's Barnes. (see Barnes and Mortlake History Society Newsletter No. 33, May 1970)

Atkinson, Robert, (1883-1952) bought Percy Lodge, Christ Church Road when it was threatened with demolition in the 1920s. He carefully restored the house and designed the Mall in the grounds.

Beachcroft, Samuel (c1801-1861) was the architect for the major rebuilding and enlargement of Mortlake Parish Church in 1840, work which was later considered to be unsatisfactory. He had premises in Broad Street and Cadogan Square.

Bell, Edward Ingress (1837-1914) designed two houses in East Sheen which still stand, Eastdale and Longfield, and others now demolished. Eastdale, now No. 1 Fife Road, which was considerably extended after 2000, stands between the two Blomfield houses, The Cottage and The Halsteads (see below). Longfield is at the end of Longfield Drive off Christ Church Road, backs onto East Sheen Common and is divided.

The houses which have been demolished were Stonehill, the Grange and Hinxton House in Stonehill Road and Hindley Cottage, Christ Church Road.

With his partner Aston Webb, Ingress Bell designed the alterations to Clare Lawn (see Webb below).

Blomfield, Sir Arthur (1829-1899) both lived and worked in East Sheen.

He designed Christ Church, East Sheen which was consecrated in 1864. This was one of Blomfield's early works and the consecration was delayed because the tower fell down. However Blomfield was exonerated and the collapse was blamed on faulty workmanship.

Near the Church, Blomfield also designed and lived in The Cottage, now divided into two as 53 and 55 Christ Church Road. He also designed the Coach House now converted into a private house, 51 Christ Church Road.

Next door but one, he designed **The Halsteads**, No 3 Fife Road, which was one of the first houses in England to be made of concrete.

Blomfield was the son of the famous Blomfield, Bishop of London and he is primarily known for his church work. Locally, he did the rebuild of the chancel of Mortlake Parish Church in 1885 and his firm was responsible for the nave alterations in 1905. He also designed the Grove Road Chapel and the Methodist Church, Kew Road, which has now been converted into apartments. In London he designed the new nave for Southwark Cathedral.

Blount, Gilbert R, (1819-1876) was the architect for St Mary Magdalen Church in North Worple Way, Mortlake (1852) which was one of the first Roman Catholic Churches to be built in England since the Reformation. Blount started his career as an engineer and worked with Brunel on the Thames Tunnel before becoming a prominent church architect. His London churches include St Anne's Spitalfields and Our Lady and St Catherine, Bow.

Burden R H, designed the Maisonette, later called Hillfield, in Vicarage Road, East Sheen. The house has gone but the lodge/coach house/stables remains as 24 Vicarage Road. He also designed dwellings in North Row (1887-9) which is a road south of and parallel to Oxford Street.

Burton, Lady Isabel, (1831-1896) designed the tent like tomb in the churchyard of St Mary Magdalen, Mortlake (1890) in which her husband Sir Richard Burton the explorer is buried. She was also later interred there.

Carr, John, (1723-1807) should not really be included here as, so far as is known, he neither lived nor worked in our area. He was a prolific architect of public buildings, churches, bridges and houses, many of which still stand. At one time it was thought that he designed Sheen House, East Sheen (1786) but this is now discounted.

Castle, Sydney E, was primarily known for his domestic architecture. He designed Sheen Gate at the corner of Fife Road and Sheen Lane; another house in Fife Road; Little Heath, 46 Sheen Common Drive, two houses in Hertford Avenue, East Sheen; and 300 houses on the former Barker Estate on and to the north of the Upper Richmond Road, on and west of Clifford Avenue.

Chesterton, Frank Sydney designed the South African War Memorial by the river in 1906. It is now in the grounds of St Paul's School. He was the architect for some of the houses in Horton Street on the Phillimore estate in Kensington (1928) and for the remodelling of Forthampton Court, Gloucs (1913).

Collcutt, Thomas Edward (1840-1924) **lived** in Acton House, Little St. Leonards and later Sandfields on the Upper Richmond Road (both demolished). He designed Oakdene, 105 Christ Church Road, East Sheen, which stands, and a terra cotta porch to a house called Westhay which was on Temple Sheen, East Sheen. Also locally he designed the fountain at the top of Richmond Hill. He is best known for Wakefield Town Hall, the Palace Theatre, the Savoy Hotel, and the Imperial Institute (of which only the tower remains as part of Imperial College).

Colley, E. designed John Dee House, a block of flats on Mortlake High Street to the west of the parish church.

Cullinan, Edward was responsible for the rebuilding of St Mary's Barnes after the fire in 1978.

Dance, George, the Younger (1741-1825) lived at Frog Hall, Grange Road, Barnes.

Fielden & Mawson designed St Paul's School, Lonsdale Road, Barnes in 1969.

Garner, Preston & Strebel designed Inwood, Fife Road, East Sheen when they had offices on the Green, Richmond. In the 1960s and 1970s they carried out a number of projects in Dumbarton.

Hardy, Ronald, designed St Osmund, Roman Catholic Church in Castelnau, Barnes, 1958.

Hare, Thomas (1806-1891) the political reformer designed Sheen Mount, West Temple Sheen East Sheen, for himself. It was built in 1852 and was left empty during the Second World War becoming derelict. It was demolished and replaced by Sheen Mount County Primary School which opened in 1954. The Lodge survives, now much altered, as a private house.

Hawarth, Brian, Hawarth King Partnership designed the Sheen Lane Centre (library, health centre, day centre, hall and Council Offices) in 1972-3. It was opened in 1979.

Hill, E, designed the Georgian style houses 112, Barnes High Street in 1981-2 on the site of a former factory.

Howgate F C was the architect of the Congregational (later United Reformed) Church, Vernon Road, East Sheen (1902), which has closed as a church but is now being developed as a community centre. The building is noted for its Doulton terra cotta work and plaques. Howgate also designed the houses in the neighbouring Howgate and Oaklands Roads.

Hudson, William lived in St Leonards (now Little St Leonards) with offices in Doctors Commons, Upper Thames Street. He designed The Vicarage, Vicarage Road, East Sheen, now Mortlake House in private hands and extended. He was responsible for many warehouses and City premises in London.

Innes, Charles G D lived in St Mary's Grove, Barnes and later Palewell Park, East Sheen. He designed St Michael's Barnes in 1891-3 and was responsible for the additions to the nave, chancel and north aisle of St Mary, Barnes in 1904-8.

Laxton, William, developed Castelnau, Barnes from 1842 for the Boileau family of Castelnau House.

Maguire & Murray designed the parish room, rector's office and choir vestry in Mortlake Parish Church in 1980. They were architects for the pioneering modernist church of St Paul, Bow Common (1958-60) and a number of collegiate buildings in Oxford.

Morley, W J, & Son, Bradford, designed the Wesleyan Church now the Methodist Church, Station Road, Barnes.

Newberry & Fowler designed All Saints Church, East Sheen, (1929) which was rebuilt after destruction by fire in 1965. They were the architects for over a dozen other churches spread across eight London Boroughs.

Ommanney, Sir Montagu (1842-1925) designed Manaton, Christ Church Road, East Sheen for himself. It is now divided into two as 83 Christ Church Road and 2 Longfield Drive.

Pope, Robert Philip (1825- c1881) was not one of the top architects of his day but was known to the Wigan family from work he carried out near their family home in East Malling, Kent. He designed the second Cromwell House, Thames Bank, Mortlake (1858) for James Wigan and Clare Lawn, Sheen Lane, East Sheen (1866) for his elder brother Sir Frederick Wigan. At the instigation of the Wigans, he produced plans for a chapel and lodge at Mortlake Old Cemetery but these were never used.

Rowell, Reginald B lived in Nassau Road, Barnes and worked from an office in the Triangle (now called Milestone Green), East Sheen. He designed the Colston Cottages (formerly Colston's Almshouses) in Christ Church Road, East Sheen, in 1936 which replaced the older Colston's Almshouses which stood at the junction of Sheen Lane and the Upper Richmond Road and were demolished for road widening in 1922. He also designed the Lodge (1912) in the Old Mortlake Cemetery and the Gothic Chapel in East Sheen Cemetery (1903).

Rundle, Timothy, designed 14 Willow Avenue, Barnes off Station Road in 1967-8.

Taylor, Alice, designed Uplands, West Temple Sheen, for her husband Sir Henry Taylor, civil servant, poet and dramatist. The house still stands divided into apartments.

Thornycroft, Sir William “Hamo”, (1850-1925) was a sculptural architect who did the bronze John Colet Memorial in 1902. It was brought from West Kensington to the new St Paul’s School when it moved to Barnes. Public statues include Oliver Cromwell outside the Palace of Westminster, General Gordon on the Victoria Embankment and Alfred the Great in Winchester.

Tite, Sir William, (1798-1873) designed Barnes Station which was one of several Tudor style stations on the new line from Falcon Bridge (Clapham Junction) when the railway came through Barnes and Mortlake to Richmond in 1846. The others included Putney and Mortlake later rebuilt. He designed Barnes Bridge, Chiswick and Kew Bridge stations amongst many other early stations in England, Scotland and France. He was also particularly associated with cemetery projects. His most prestigious work was the Royal Exchange opened in 1844.

Webb, Sir Aston (1849-1930) was arguably the most eminent of the architects who did work in East Sheen. He was president of the Royal Academy and his work in London is familiar to everyone, even if his name is not, for he designed the Queen Victoria Memorial in the Mall, the principal front to Buckingham Palace and the Admiralty Arch. He worked on just one project in East Sheen. With his partner Edward Ingress Bell (see Bell above) he designed the additions to Clare Lawn (see Pope above) comprising the picture gallery and conservatory.

Wood, James and Pyre, Carlos, laid out the flats in Dyers lane, Barnes for Richmond upon Thames Council in 1978,

Young, Arthur designed the Red House, Sheen Lane (1904) on the corner of Vicarage Road.