

# THE CLEARY FUND AWARDS 2024



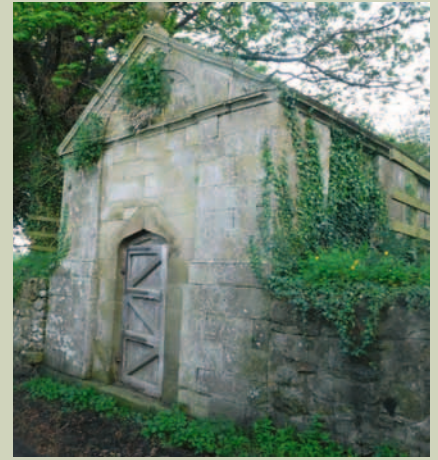
**William Thorold Monument**  
St Wulfram's Church, Grantham,  
Lincolnshire – £500

St Wulfram's Church is a grade I listed multi-phased church with the earliest parts of the church dating from 1180. It was restored by Sir George Gilbert Scott in 1866–75 and is located at the heart of the Grantham Conservation Area. Over the past seven years, the church has embarked on a project to conserve and repair some 30 monuments located within the church. Readers may recall the Group awarded a sum of £2000 in 2019 for the conservation of two funerary monuments within the church. Now as part of its final phase, the Group have awarded a grant of £500 to assist in the conservation of a wall monument to William Thorold by James Smith. William Thorold was the second son of Sir John Thorold MP for Grantham and died in 1808. James Smith, the sculptor, was responsible for the cenotaph monument in the London Guildhall to Admiral Lord Nelson. The 18th and 19th century monuments in the church are an important group which are illustrative of the wealth and prosperity of Grantham in the period.



**Chest Tomb to Abigail Thomas**  
St Symphorian Church, Veryan,  
Cornwall – £3500

The tomb to Abigail Thomas sits in the churchyard of St Symphorian Church in Veryan, Cornwall. The church dates to around 1300 and was altered and extended in the 15th century. Much of the appearance today is down to an extensive programme of works in 1847. The tomb itself was erected by Richard Thomas, Abigail's husband, who was a prominent figure in the community, serving as a churchwarden, landowner, and benefactor to both the church and local school. His contributions extended beyond his lifetime, through his detailed will and trust deed, crafted in 1804. The tomb was hit by a falling tree during a storm causing the memorial cross topping to the tomb to fall, cracking the granite structure. The condition of the tomb is thought to be sound, however the memorial cross and the marble plaque at its centre require rebuilding. The Group appreciated the immediate need of the proposed works to the tomb and therefore gave a grant of £3500 which meant the parish could start the works after raising the whole £10,500 required for the project.



**Admiral Roddam Mausoleum**  
St Michael's Church, Ilderton,  
Northumberland – £2500

Robert Roddam entered the navy in 1735, continuing in active service for nearly sixty years, becoming a senior admiral in the final decade of the 18th century. After the death of his older brother Edward in 1776, Robert inherited the Roddam Estate in the late 18th century. On the death of his third wife Althea, Robert commissioned the building of a mausoleum in the churchyard of the nearby St Michael and All Angels church in Ilderton. The classical mausoleum has small urns mounted above the pediments at either end of the structure. The gabled wall facing the churchyard bears a marble tablet describing the virtues of Althea Roddam and above that, framed by a semi-circular arch within the pediment, a carved shield with the Roddam arms. The structure has been showing signs of movement now for a number of years, which a structural engineer has put down to water ingress into the roof structure and granular infill above the vault causing movement. The Group awarded a grant of £2500 towards the repair of the mausoleum.



**Exodus and Peal Boards**  
**St Edmunds Church, Old Costessey,**  
**Norfolk – £2500**

Hanging within the tower of St Edmunds Church, the peal board is dated 1766, whilst the date of the exodus board is unknown, but it is thought to be of a similar date. The peal board is an early example of its type which was produced to commemorate a peal ringing occasion in the parish. The exodus board is a fine example with gilded elements and the lettering set within a fictive diptych complete with hinges. The boards currently hang opposite each other and are visible on entering the church through the tower. Both boards require cleaning as well as consolidation of paint and they will then both be varnished, and the frames repaired. The Group awarded a grant of £2500 towards the project cost.



**Hatchment**  
**All Saints Church, Messing, Essex**  
**– £1000**

All Saints Church located in the village of Messing, Essex is an interesting multi-phased church with its earliest elements dating to the 13th century. An earthquake in 1836 caused considerable damage which led to a project of extensive rebuilding in the 19th century. The church is home to a number of hatchments associated with the Luckyn family who lived at nearby Messing Hall in the 18th century hanging in the chancel. These vary in date, but all bear the heraldic emblem of the family which is two leopard heads. A further hatchment which hangs above the entrance to the church is thought to be a very rare kind after consultations with an expert of herald. It dates to 1730 and has over the years accumulated dirt and is therefore in need of a surface clean to improve the visibility of the canvas amongst other works. The Group awarded £1000 towards the proposed conservation works to the rare 1730s hatchment which would look forward to learning more about.



**Sundial**  
**Heaton Hall, Manchester, Greater**  
**Manchester – £2000**

Heaton Hall was designed by James Wyatt in 1772 and is a fine neo-classical house which was later worked on by Lewis Wyatt in the nineteenth century. The sundial is located in front of the orangery, constructed by Lewis Wyatt. The sundial pre-dates the building of the house dating to 1756, at which time it was situated within the surrounding landscape of the former house. It was built by Daniel Clegg, joiner of Manchester in sandstone and is carved with leaves at the base and neck with drapery round the body. It is an important survival of the former eighteenth century park prior to the construction of the new house. As the orangery is currently being refurbished it is a perfect time to repair the sundial, situated at the entrance to what will soon be a new destination for visitors to the park. To assist in completing the works the Group awarded a grant of £2000.

# THE CLEARY FUND

The Georgian Group is pleased to announce the award of the following grants from our FE Cleary Heritage Fund



**Blandford Forum Corn Exchange –  
Coat of Arms**

The Blandford Forum Corn exchange was one of many buildings rebuilt by the Bastard brothers after a disastrous fire ripped through the town in 1731. The building, of 1734, was conceived as a covered market and court room but was extended in the nineteenth century to include a Corn Exchange. The building now serves as the Town Hall and has been subject to a repair and restoration project that provides disabled access to the upper floors for the first time in the building's near 300-year history. On the first floor there is a coat of arms dating to the reign of George II which was given to the council in the late 19th century. The Group's Casework Committee awarded £1000 towards its conservation, work that will see flaking paint conserved and a new layer of varnish applied. Once complete, the coat of arms will be displayed prominently in the Town Hall.



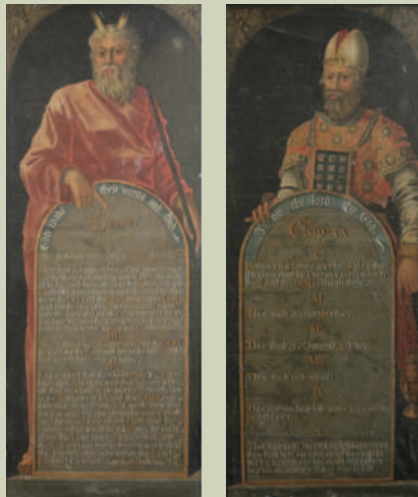
**Jubilee Hall, Newton on the Moor,  
Northumberland – Fireplace**

The Reading Room at the Jubilee Hall in Newton-on-the-Moor, Northumberland is a surviving remnant of the eighteenth century Strother House. In the latter part of the nineteenth century the house was purchased by the Widdrington family which proceeded to transform the village. The Widdringtons partly demolished the house and constructed the adjoining Jubilee Hall which they donated to the village. The Reading Room retains many internal elements dating to the early eighteenth century, including a stone surround and hearth which has long been boarded over. The Group awarded £2000 towards the conservation of the stone surround and works to return the fireplace to its original proportions.



**St John's Church, Great Bolas,  
Shropshire – Chest Tomb**

St John's Church, Great Bolas is a well-preserved early eighteenth-century church with many surviving internal features, most notably a complete set of original fielded panel box pews. The Church was subject to various internal and external repairs in 2021 towards which the Group gave a small grant. The churchyard is home to a number of early nineteenth century chest tombs which contribute to the setting of the church. That of the Groucock family is in poor repair. The separate pieces of the chest tomb are all present, however at some point the side panels and iron cramps have given way. The Group awarded £1885 towards the rebuilding of the chest tomb which will see new stainless-steel cramps inserted and the ground levelled to avoid the tomb collapsing again.



**St Nicholas Church, Woodrising,  
Norfolk – Decalogue Boards**

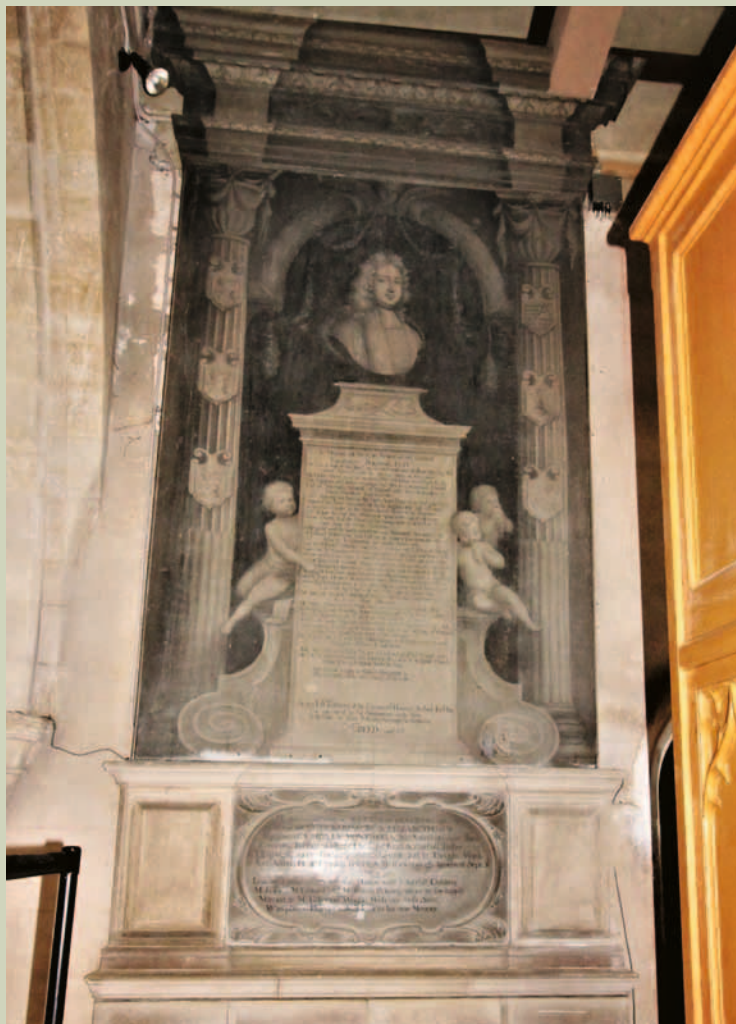
St Nicholas church is a grade I listed building with decorative elements dating to the fourteenth century. The church has lost its western tower and now consists of a nave and chancel of the same width, and a south aisle running the length of the nave. Hung in the chancel are two decalogue boards dating to 1731. Both figures of Moses and Aaron are positioned on a stone plinth in a fictive niche with a plain, black background and arched top with decorative motifs in each spandrel. The paintings last received treatment in 1924. The Group has awarded £800 towards the necessary cleaning and conservation work to the two boards. This was made possible by a gift of \$1,000 made to the Group by the American Friends of The Georgian Group, in memory of its long-time supporter the late Sharon Casdin. The decalogue boards attracted match funding from the Norfolk Churches Trust, the Society of Antiquaries of London's Jane and William Morris Fund, and the Church Buildings Council.



**St Magnus the Martyr, Lower Thames  
Street, London – Bracket clock 1709**

St Magnus the Martyr Church sits on the north bank of the Thames at what was the head of the old London Bridge in the City of London. It was Sir Christopher Wren's most expensive parish church and owing to its position would have been the first seen by those entering the City from the South. Sir Charles Dunscombe, who was appointed Mayor of London in 1708 funded the addition of the bracket clock to the western tower of the church. It is one of the finest surviving examples in the City and formerly projected out over the carriageway to the bridge. The Group has awarded a grant of £2000 which will be used to address surface dirt, flaking paint, and areas that require filling and repair.

# THE CLEARY FUND



Recent building preservation grants awarded by the Georgian Group through The Cleary Fund to help restore our Georgian heritage



## St Mary The Virgin's Church, Titchmarsh, Northamptonshire

St Mary's Church Titchmarsh is a large medieval grade one listed place of worship which stands in the middle of a picturesque village.

Within the church is a notable series of monuments to members of the Pickering, Dryden and Creed families including two by the talented aristocratic amateur artist Elizabeth Creed (1642–1728). Creed was a cousin of the poet John Dryden and a second cousin of Samuel Pepys. She appears to have taken up painting after her husband's death in 1701 and was responsible for several altarpieces in local churches as well as decorative work within the Painted Parlour and Hall at Canons Ashby. Creed's memorial to the Dryden family at Titchmarsh church is of painted wood with a handwritten dedication to the Drydens. It is surrounded by a carved frame painted to imitate stone and capped by a plaster bust of the poet John Dryden. The much larger grisaille memorial to Theophilus Pickering is on a painted wooden board set on a rusticated stone plinth. Both are in need of extensive conservation work and cleaning; Dryden's bust has also suffered some impact damage in the past. The Group awarded a grant of £6,000 towards their conservation.

Above left: St Mary's Church,  
Titchmarsh memorial to  
Theophilus Pickering

Left: Detail of Dryden  
memorial by Elizabeth  
Creed, Titchmarsh Church

## The Jewish Cemetery, Greendown Place, Bath

This is one of only 15 surviving Jewish cemeteries in England of the Georgian period and its walls are now grade II listed. It occupies a rectangular site behind high stone walls and contains approximately 50 memorial stones including two chest tombs. Despite a period of neglect and near-dereliction following closure in the early twentieth century, the memorial stones, walls and the cottage on the site remain

essentially intact. The Group awarded a grant of £4,000 towards the final phase of restoration work. The 1812 lease for the Burial Ground between a local quarry owner and four members of the newly establishing local Jewish community required high stone boundary walls to be built. The walls are stable but still require some repair and repointing.

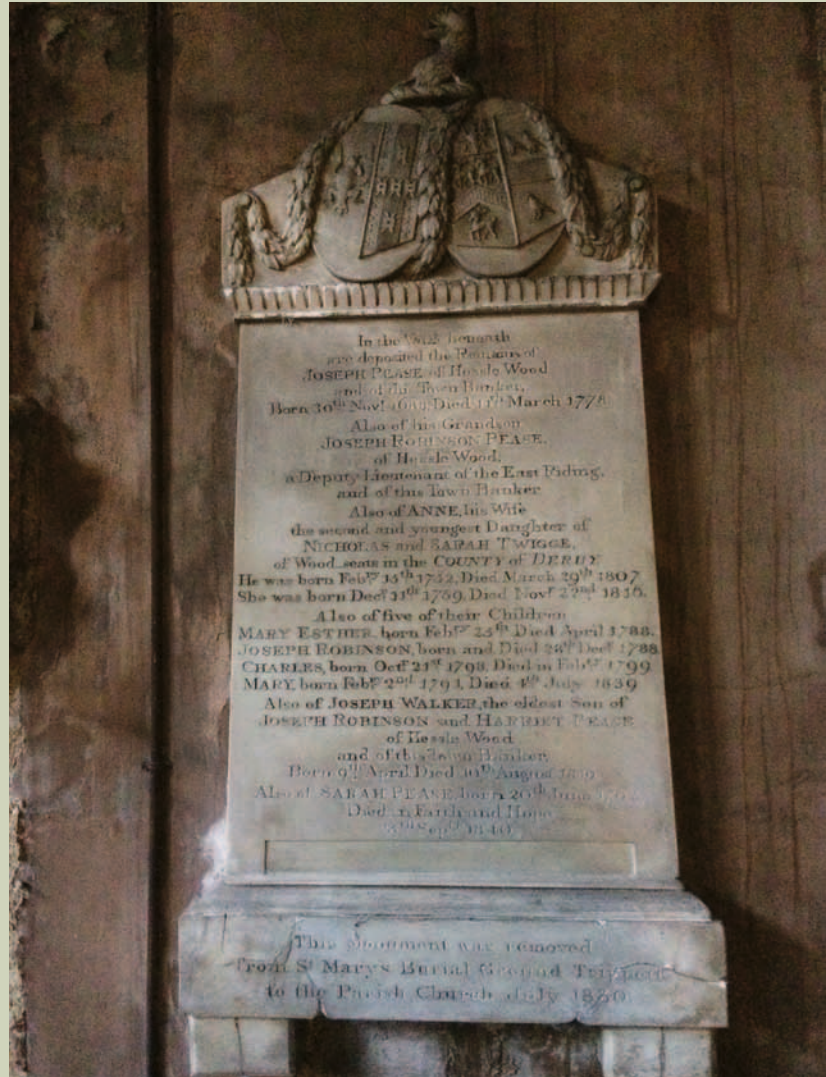


Bath Jewish cemetery

# THE CLEARY FUND

Recent building preservation grants awarded by the Georgian Group through The Cleary Fund to help restore our Georgian heritage

St Mary the Virgin's monument to Joseph Pease (d.1778)



## St Mary the Virgin Church, Hull

St Mary the Virgin Church in the East Riding of Yorkshire is a prominent landmark in Hull's Old Town Conservation Area and Heritage Action Zone. The church was described as newly built in 1333, however the building now reflects Sir George Gilbert Scott's 1860s restoration. It is the oldest of only three historic churches that stand in the city centre today. The church contains over thirty monuments, not including floor ledger slabs, which date back to 1525

and represent major figures in Hull's history. Two of the monuments are to Joseph Pease (d.1778) and John Hall (d.1812), both of which have significance as they commemorate members of families who played an important role in the history of the city. They also form part of a wider set of monuments, which, with appropriate interpretative materials, will contribute to the appeal of St Mary's for visitors. The Georgian Group has awarded £2500 towards the restoration of the two monuments.



## St Mary's Church, Bitton

St Mary's Bitton in Gloucestershire is a grade I-listed, largely medieval parish church with many Anglo-Saxon and Norman features. Built mainly of Bath stone rubble with Ashlar dressings, the church has a long, five-bay nave and two-bay north chapel, tower and vestry. The two chest tombs in need of conservation, one to Thomas Holbin (d.1723) and the other to Richard Francis (d.1797), are located in the churchyard. The tomb of Thomas Holbin is an ornate chest tomb with large cartouches containing incised lettering and a daisy decoration in the spandrels that continues over the east and west ends. The lid is flat with a decorated edge and the plinth is set on what appears to be a sandstone base. The table tomb of Richard Francis has a flat lid with moulded edge, moulded cornice and heavily moulded pilasters with raised inscription panels on the east and west elevations. The north elevation panel is lost, the south obscured by the Holbin monument, and the plinth is buried. The Georgian Group has awarded £5000 towards the conservation of the two chest tombs.



## St John the Baptist Church, Great Bolas

St John the Baptist Church in Shropshire has altered little since 1729 and retains the dignity and simplicity of the original work. The interior is of exceptional significance. The chancel, built in 1690 by the then incumbent John Tourneur and incorporating some earlier medieval fabric, is of sandstone in a mixture of classic and debased Gothic style. There is an eighteenth-century dado and communion rail, an eighteenth-century panel pulpit with a tester, and the nave, rebuilt in the 1720s, retains an almost complete set of eighteenth-century panel box pews. The Georgian Group has awarded £2500 towards external masonry and internal plaster repair work.



## St Vigor's Church, Stratton-on-the-Fosse

The historic grade I-listed church of St Vigor's, situated in a rural Somerset parish, is one of only two churches in England named after Saint Vigor, a French bishop and Christian missionary who died c.537 AD. The church is thought to have undergone some minor work in the fourteenth century and was much rebuilt in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries with further rebuilding in the late eighteenth century and restoration in the nineteenth century. The chancel is thought to have been rebuilt in 1765 and the north aisle in 1782. The Georgian Group has awarded £2000 for the reinstatement of two wall monuments, one to Lt. James Salmon (d.1784) and the other to John Britten (d.1766), which were dismantled and taken down in March 2021 for public safety reasons. This work is the first stage in a longer-term plan to conserve all the monuments at St Vigor's, which itself forms part of a wider vision to undertake a programme of repairs and reordering of the fabric.



# THE CLEARY FUND

Recent building preservation grants awarded by the Georgian Group through The Cleary Fund to help restore our Georgian heritage

## St Michael's Church, Theydon Mount

St Michael's Theydon Mount in Essex is listed at grade I and was completed c.1614 by Sir William Smyth of nearby Hill Hall. It has a largely unaltered seventeenth-century interior and a number of eighteenth-century monuments which commemorate members of the Smyth family, who were buried at the church and who contributed to its rebuilding, giving it the sense almost of a private family chapel. The memorials include nine funerary hatchments spread throughout the church, a George III Royal Coat of Arms, a commandment board and a charity board. Following the successful restoration of the coat of arms and one of the hatchments completed with the aid of a Cleary Fund grant in 2019, the Georgian Group has awarded £3,400 towards the restoration of three additional hatchments dedicated to Sir Charles Smyth 5th Baronet, Revd. Sir William Smyth 6th Baronet and Dame Elizabeth Smyth.



Hatchment dedicated to the Revd. Sir William Smyth

## St Peter and St Thomas's Church, Wormbridge

St Peter and St Thomas's Wormbridge in Herefordshire is a grade II-listed church dating back to the twelfth century, although it was extensively restored in the 1850s. The churchyard contains six grade II-listed chest tombs from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The six monuments express varied period details and ornamentation, but at present three are unsafe and on the verge of collapsing. As the church serves the local congregation and neighbouring nursery, the restoration of these Georgian monuments represents a commitment to the community and its heritage by ensuring the continued safe use of the churchyard. The Georgian Group has awarded £5,600 towards the restoration of the three chest tombs.



Grade II-listed chest tomb of Susannah Parry, Wormbridge

## St Mary's Church, Winterborne Stickland

St Mary's Winterborne Stickland in Dorset is a grade I-listed parish church near the centre of the village, within the Winterborne Stickland Conservation Area. With a nave and chancel dating from the thirteenth century, the church is of special interest, especially for its eighteenth-century alterations including a tomb chamber with oak dado panelling. On the south wall of the tomb chamber is a wall memorial to Mary Beale, erected in 1822 by the Revd. Samuel How, rector of Stickland (1776–1825), which takes the form of a marble inscription panel attached to a marble plaque with an urn finial. The monument is in disrepair, with the inscription panel currently separate to the plaque, and the church wishes to restore the memorial to preserve its historic features as well as to honour Mary Beale, who devoted nearly fifty years caring for the Revd. Samuel How. The Group has awarded £1,000 towards the restoration of the memorial.



Right: Memorial to Mary Beale, erected in 1822 and currently missing its inscription panel