

Thornicrofts of Gawsworth and Astbury, later to Burton on Trent, Harbourn Birmingham, Leicester, London (the sculptors), North Rode from Eaton, after 1708.

Prior to 1708 the Thornicroft families were at Thornycroft Hall, Siddington from the 13th to 19th c. and burials took place at Gawsworth Church and their records are mainly in the Gawsworth Register.

A cadet branch was established at Macclesfield from the early 17 c to the end of the 18th c and there were Thornicrofts farming at North Rode from pre 16th c. to mid 18th c whose records are mainly at Gawsworth as there was no church at North Rode until 1846.

Apart from the above association with Gawsworth there were no Thornicrofts in Gawsworth until the mid 18th c. when briefly they were at Mutlow Farm, followed towards the end of that century by settlement and farming at various places in Gawsworth. These families descend from Mathew (1) who was the fourth child of William (3) of North Rode born c 1665. and was 'Buried at Astbury 'Of Eaton' on 15 9 1742.' His wife Mary was buried 'of Eaton' on 23.12.1740 and there were no earlier burials of Thornicrofts at Astbury. Mathew was living at Eaton in 1708 and remained there for his lifetime.

#### Children of Mathew (1) & Mary ---.

Elizabeth bp 19.9.1693 at Astbury. Married John Beech.

Mathew (2) bp 18.12.1694 do. Married Mary Moss 'of Eaton' 23.2.1723. The Moss family were of long standing at Eaton. (Mathew Moss bapt Astbury Oct 1644). Mary bp 21.4.1702.

Sara bp 2.9.1696.

John bp 21.6.1701, bur. 5.1.1702. Mary bp 1.3.'03.

Ann bp 25.9.1706.

#### Children of Mathew (2) & Mary

John (1) bapt, 22.12.1723 at Astbury. Married Mary Lawton, born 1726. John bur at Gawsworth 15.9.1788 & Mary bur 1.1.1806 in grave 7. He farmed at Tidnock Farm, Gawsworth.

Joseph (1) bp 20.9.1725 at Ast. He married Sarah Booth at Ast. (licence) on 19.1.1745. He farmed at Bent Farm at Astbury and died 4.3.1811, leaving a will.

William bp 29.4.1727 bur 19.11.1728 at Ast. Mathew bp '30.3.1731 at Ast bur at Gawsworth 27.8.1732 'of Mutlow Farm'.

Martha bp Gaws. 13.5.1733. Marr. Richard Lindrop, farmer of Lawton. Mathew bp 6.5.1735, bur 14.1.1736 at Gaws.

Mary bapt at Ast. 'of Odd Rode' 10.12.1736.

William (1) bp Ast 'of Moreton' 24.9 1739, bur at Ast 31.1.1793. Marr. Hannah Lowdnes at Prestbury 23.4.1767. He left a will.

Sarah, bp 22.6.1742 marr --- Henshall. Ann, Bp Ast, 16.8.1744 Marr Thos. Dancy, farmer of Marton.

Wills of Mathew (2) and his wife, Mary

Mathew (2) of Eaton, bapt. 18.12.1694 at Astbury was buried there on 7.7.1758. He married Mary Moss on 23.2.1723 and she died on 23.1.1782. Both of them left wills.

His will, signed on 3.7.1758 names him as 'yeoman of Odd Rode (an area in the south of the parish of Astbury)'. He leaves Mary's one bed and all my estate situate in Eaton' until my youngest child is 21, and thereafter to have £12 per year paid out of my estate, providing she remains unmarried. If she dies before the youngest child is 21 his estate to be used to bring them up. He has already given his two sons John & Joseph one hundred pounds each and now gives one hundred pound each to Martha, Mary William, Sarah & Ann, to be paid at age 21.

At the decease or marriage of his wife his son John 'if he be so minded' can enter the estate, paying £450 to be divided equally among the children, & if not, the same choice to Joseph & William.

All the rest of his money, goods, cattles & chattles to be equally divided. His son John 'of Audley' and 'brother in law' Joseph Lawton are executors. (His son John is married to Mary Lawton)

His widow Mary died on 23.1.1782 'of Odd Rode', names John as farmer of Gawsforth; Joseph as farmer of Astbury; William as farmer of Rode and Richard & Martha Lindrop farmer of Lawton, Sarah Henshall widow, Thomas & Ann Dancey of Marton, farmer, as beneficiaries and also John Booth & Edward Pigott, butcher, (of the family of Joseph & Sarah Booth) in her will.

Mathew was probably at Eaton from 1723 until 1732 when he moved to Mutlow Farm in Gawsforth and then came to Odd Rode until his death in 1758, and his widows, in 1782. His son John (1) also moved farms baptising children at Astbury from 1744 to 49 to baptisms/burials at Audley for 10 years to 1759 and finally to Tidnock Farm in Gawsforth to his death in 1788,

In the Astbury Registers, described as 'Wheelwright'; at Eaton from 1723 to 1731, of Odd Rode in 1736 & of Moreton in 1739 & 1742, back to Odd Rode in 1744. His son John baptised children 'of Moreton' in 1748 & 49 where he farmed. His other son William who married Hannah Lownes was baptising children at Astbury from 1769 to 89 and he was farming at Moreton Old Hall at his death in 1793 so it is possible that the family was associated with this building from c 1748 or earlier.

Children of John(1) & Mary Lawton. John was born in 1723 & Mary in 17 26. Marriage not found.

Three girls Nancy, Frances & Sarah whose baptisms have not been found but who married between 1770 & 1777 at Gawsworth, with Frances' date of birth being 1744, are entered on the chart because of their Gawsworth marriages but may not be children of John & Mary. Both John and his father Mathew farmed at various places before settling at Odd Rode & Gawsworth.

Mathew, son of Mathew & Mary, farmer of Moreton, bapt. at Astbury 15.5.1748. Buried at Gawsworth 13.1.1761. Between 1748 and 61, the family were at Moreton in 48 & 9; at Audley 1755 to 59 and finally settled at Gawsworth in 1761 at Tidnock Farm.

John(2) bapt Ast. 27.7.1749, married Margaret Knight at Prestbury 3.12.1774. They farmed Millend Farm at Gawsworth and were buried in grave 7 at Gawsworth, with John's parents, on 4.10.1817 and 22.11.1804. Mary bp at Audley 8.11.1755, married William Shaw at Gawsworth, 10.11.1778. Two infants buried at Audley in 1759.

Martha bp. Gaws. 30.10.1763. Jane bp Gaws 22.9.1765. Martha bp Gaws. 11.3.1770.

William (2) bapt. Gaws. 26.8.1768. Married Jane Norbury at Gaws. 14.6.1790. He was buried at Gaws. in grave 1 on 8.1.1842 age 75. Jane had died on 3.11.1811 age 41. They farmed at Tidnock after the death of his father, John (1).

Children of John (2) & Margaret Knight marr 3.12.1774.

Mathew (3) b.1773 bur Gaws. 12.9.1825, marr Betty ---, who was buried 16.5.1802. Married, 2, Ann Knight at Tarporley 8.11.1807 and had five children.  
Thomas bp Gaws. 15.6.1777, bur 12.12.78. Mary. Bp. 28.3.1779. Marr. Wm. Warrington 1.1.1797 at.G. Samuel bp.11.2.1781. unm. bur 1.2.1836. Martha bp 9.2.1782 marr. --- Lancaster.

John (3) bp 23.1.1785 at Gaws. Bur 12.1.1847. Married (1) Amy ---. bur 16.7.1813 age 27. Four children. Married (2) Mary ---. Bur 4.3.1844 age 59. Eight Children. Parents & children buried Grave 15 G.

Charles (1) bp 15.2.1789 at Gaws d.4th qtr.1845 marr Harriot Ravenscroft 1810.  
Joseph (2) bp 3.11.1791. Marr, 1, Jane Knight at Prest.1812 2, Ann Mary ---.  
Knight bp 1 1.2.1793 bur 23.6.1804 age 11 in grave 7 with mother Margaret and grandparents.

Will of John(1) marr Mary Lawton.

Bur.15.9.1788 at Gawsworth.

John Thornicroft of Gawsworth, yeoman - gives his messuage, farm & tenement in Eaton, now in holding of John Foden, butcher, to his two sons John (2) & William (2) to be sold as soon as convenient in fee simple --- either together or in parcels for the best price -- and shall use the monies for purposes as herein mentioned.

Gives his son William all his tenant rights in the messuage & farm lands in Gawsworth during the continuation of the lease thereon and to be charged with payment of £8 yearly to his wife Mary.

Gives his executors all household goods, furniture cattle implements to be sold and monies to be equally divided among all his children

Will of John (2) married Margaret Knight. Buried 4.10.1817

John Thornicroft of Gawsworth, farmer, will made 24.9.1817. The whole of his possessions are to be applied to his son Mathew (3) b.1773; to have and hold without any molestation from any of my other children. He gives Mathew corn, hay, implements and interest belonging to me in Millend Farm & to hold the same during the life of his brother William Thornicroft of Tidnock Farm. He also gives Mathew all household furniture and it is 'his will that the Shop remains in the state it now is & that my tools shall not be removed but shall remain stationary there'.

He gives his sons, Samuel, Charles, Joseph & John and his daughters, Mary Lancaster and Martha Warrington the sum of one shilling each to be paid on the night of his burial. Proved 18.3.1818.

Children of Mathew (3) married (1) Betty --- (bur.16.5.1802), (2) Ann Knight at Tarpoley 8.11.1807

Margaret bp Gaws. 6.8.1809.	Census 1841 with Ann Thornicroft (mother) age 65 Farmer. Margaret 29.
Harriot do 1812	" " age 27.
Hannah do 27.4.1814	" " 25. Not found in 1851.61,71 census.
John do 8.9.1816	" " 23.
Mathew do 1818	bur 3.5.1820

Mathew (3)

Administration of Mathew Thornicroft late of Millend Farm, died 9.9.1825, granted to Ann Thornicroft of Millend, farmer, John Blackshaw of Tidnock Farm & William Pedley of Congleton.  
Estate value £300.

Children of John(3) bp 23.1.1785 bur 12.1.1847. Married 1. Amy ----. bur 16.7 181 age 27  
 Married 2 Mary ----. died 4.3.1844 age 59.

Children of Amy --.

Jane bp Gaws. 12.7.1807 died 8.5.1823 age 16.  
 William do 4.6.1809 died 17.1.1818 age 8.  
 Mary do 4.4.1811  
 Martha do 3.2.1813 unnm. died 6.5.1843 age 30.

Children of Mary --.

Sarah married William Kyle.  
 Elizabeth bp Gaws 3.9.1826. Census Gaws High Lane 1851. Elizabeth, head unnm. Grocer age 24.  
 do 1861 Shopkeeper 34.  
 John bp Gaws. 22.2.1829. 1871 4½ acres do Farmer & Prov. Dealer 44.  
 do died 1.12.1870 age 41. do 1851 John brother unnm. Agric. Labourer 22.  
 Harriot do bp 25.3.1831. 1861 do 32.  
 1841 Harriot 9.  
 not in census 1851, 61 71.  
 William do 23.2.1834, do 1841 William Agric. Labr. brother, age 17.  
 1851  
 Edwin do 29.11.1835 died 4.6.1840 5 yr.  
 Noah do 6.8. 1837 " 15.4 1853 16 yr 1841 Noah age 4.  
 Ann 1840 1841 Ann age 1.  
 1851 age 11, scholar.  
 1861 age 21. house servant, unnm.  
 1871 age 31. Servant, unnm.

Burials at Gawsworth. John (3), first wife Amy; second wife, Mary and six children in grave 15.

Children of Charles (1) bp 15.2.1789 buried marr Harriot Ravenscroft at Prestbury 1810.  
 bur. 19.12 1817 age 30.

Night bp Gaws. 25.11.1810 bur 25.11.1819,  
 George do 19. 7 1812 Census Millend Farm 1841 Charles Agric Labourer age 48.  
 do 1841 George do son 27 27.  
 Census Millend Farm 170 acres 1851 " Farmer 37 Harriot wife 39.  
 1851 Ann Daughter age 3 born Gaws.  
 1851 Isaac Brother age 35 Agric. Labr.  
 Census Millend Farm 110 acres 1861 George Farmer age 48.  
 1861 Harriot wife, age 52. Ann dau 12.  
 1861 Isaac brother, Agric Worker, 45 unnm.

Children of Charles (1) (concluded)

Edward born 1813, Rachel bp Gaws 26.6.1814 bur 22.10.1822,  
Isaac bp Gaws 12.5.1816, died 1867 age 50. With brother George as agricultural worker at Millend,  
Hannah b & bur 1817,

Joseph (2) bp Gaws 3.11.1791 bur.

1851 at The Warren 4 acres

Married 1 Jane Knight at Prest. 1812 bur. G.9.11.1830.  
Census 1841 Joseph, Farmer, age 40.  
1851 Joseph, Farmer, former shoemaker age 59.  
Ann, wife, b Gawsworth age 47.  
Edwin Farmers son unm. 37.  
Ephriam shoemaker unm. 31.  
1861 Joseph, Farmer age 69. Wife, Mary age 57(Ann).

Children of Joseph and Jane

Edwin bp Gaws. 29.8.1813.

Census 1841 not included  
1851 see above, unm 37.  
1861 not inc.

Susannah do 18.2.1816, age 20; with father Joseph & bro Ephriam 18.

Ephriam do 31.10.1819.  
died 1876  
unmarried

Census 1841 see above  
1851 At the Warren, unm, shoemaker 31, see above.  
1861 do 41.  
1871 do shoemaker 46.

Administration of estate of Amy -- first wife of John(3) Thornicroft who died 16.7.1815.

On 23.1.1828 John, late husband of Amy, farmer, and William Whittaaker, farmer, both of Gawsworth swore at the Rural Dean's Court at Chester that the goods & chattles of Amy were under the value of £20.

Will of John (3) bp 1785 died 12.1.1846

He gives his eldest daughter married to William Kyle, silk manufacturer of Macclesfield, a bed, bedstock & hangings. The rest of household goods, with small farm stock (except horse & cart) to son in law William Kyle and to his brother Joseph (2) shoemaker of Gawsworth to hold & allow daughter Sarah to have full use, she keeping farm for benefit of younger children in good condition until youngest dau. Ann reaches 18. Then sell and divide equally amongst children.

William (2)

John (1) bur 1788 who married Mary Lawton,gave his son William (2) bp. Gawsorth 26.8.1768 bur 8.1.1842 and married Jane Norbury at Gaws. 14.6.1790, all his tenant rights at Tidnock Farm, subject to him paying £8 yearly to his mother,Mary,who died in 1806. Jane his wife died on 3.11.1811 age 41 and William on 6.1.1842 age 75 and they are buried in grave 1 at Gawsorth together with children Charles, Thomas,Frances & Elizabeth. He made his will in 1837 with a codicil in 1841.

Children of William (2) and Jane

John (6) bp 17.4.1791 and buried 18.3.1822, age 31. Letter of administration were granted to his widow Ann on 6.9.1822. He married Ann Cheetham c 1815 and their children were Thomas bp 16.6.1816 William bp 1.3.1818 Isaac bp 9.1.1820 & John 14.10.1821. Ann married 2 Peter Blackshaw in 1838 & was buried 8.1.1875 age 89. They built Tidnock House at Congleton and retired there in 1871.

Charles bp 2.9.1792 bur 10.10.1828 age 36 bur grave 1. Married Hannah -- .  
Mary bp 20.4.1794 dead by 1837 Married Samuel Blackshaw 1.12.1814 son William b.1815

William (3) bp 16.10.1796, bur.29.7.1849 age 51. Married Ann -- . who was bur 26.2.1851 age 53  
They are buried in grave 4 at Gawsorth together with three grandchildren(Ezra died 18.12.1855 William 27.5.1857 age 1 yr, Arthur Thornicroft Salt April 1858 age 13 weeks.)

Ann bp 13.5.1798, Thomas bp 18.5.1800 died unmarried 9.8.1865 age 65,bur in grave 1  
Jane bp 19.2.1804. Married Thomas Percival.  
Joseph (6) bp 2.3.1806 married Martha Lomas at Gaws 14.2.1831 Both are buried at North Rode Church (built 1846). Elizabeth bp 4.9.1808 bur 9.3.1811. Frances bp 16.9.1810 bur 20.2.1811.

Will of William (2) died 6.1.1842

William Thornicroft (formerly Thornicraft) late of Tidnock, yeoman.

He gives his son Thomas a bed,silver cup & stable spoon. To his grandsons,children of his late son John (6) 1/- each. To Hannah,widow of his late son Charles 1/- To his son William (3) & Thomas Warrington 1/- To daughter Jane,wife of Thomas Percival, a clock and two silver tablespoons. To his son Joseph, linen chest,a silver cup & one tablespoon.

To his sons Thomas & Joseph, all nine leasehold dwellings at Vernons Brook,near Bank Top,Macclesf 1d to sell. The money to the estate. To his grandson,William Blackshaw,son of late daughter Mary One hundred & Sixty four pounds. Subject to this,his estate to be equally divided between Joseph,Jane & William Blackshaw.

### Thornicroft at Tidnock Farm

John (6) eldest son of William (2) & Jane, born 1791 was the grandson of John (1) who in 1764 had taken a lease for two lives on two farms at Gawsforth. These were Tidnock and Millend. He also possessed a farm in the parish of Eaton (occupied by Mathew (1) in 1708).

Tidnock was 400 acres in area before 1800 but much in rough common which was ploughed up during the French war. William (2) inherited the farm on the death of John (1) and after his death in 1842 the lease expired and John (6) renewed it. 150 acres were enclosed by the landlord so the area of Tidnock was reduced to the present 250 acres and further ploughing & drainage took place.

After the end of the French war there was a great fall in prices and about 1817 all the farmers of Gawsforth sent a petition to the landowner for a reduction in rents, among them was Ann Thornicroft of Tidnock. John (6) married Ann Cheetham in 1815 but died in 1822 leaving Ann with three infant sons.

She must have been a person of great ability for during the next 16 years she managed Tidnock Farm and brought up the three children. In 1838 she remarried to Peter Blackshaw and continued farming at Tidnock for 20 years, retiring to a house built at Lower Heath, Congleton aptly named, Tidnock House

She died on 8.1.1875 aged 89 & was buried in the family grave 2 at Gawsforth, the inscription being 'Rest after a well spent life' Ann who was born in 1781 was the dau. of a farmer in Bosley.

John (6) bp 17.4.1791 bur 28.3.1822

The three sons of John(6) and Ann were

Thomas, bp 16.6.1816. William bp 1.3.1818 and Isaac bp 9.1.1820. A fourth child John bp 14.10.1821 died aged 5 months.

Thomas & Isaac went to Congleton Grammar school but William remained at home. From an early age Thomas spent time drawing & modelling and Ann was advised to 'let the boy go his own way'. He refused to farm and his mother apprenticed him to a Macclesfield surgeon named Fleet who 'was not an amiable character' and Thomas was sent on distasteful medical cases. He returned home and had shown ability in carving, using the surgeons scapels to do this, and at 14 had produced carvings of Milton & Byron.

These were shown to another surgeon at Macclesfield named Dickenson, who was much impressed by them and obtained, through Mr Davenport of Calveley an interview with the Duke of Sussex, who said the youth showed great talent and arranged for him to be placed under tuition which was arranged with Mr John Francis & his wife Mary at the Palace. John Francis was from Thornham in Norfolk & his wife related to Lord Nelson.; Francis had studied sculpture under Chantry and Thomas, now aged 19, left Tidnock to live with the Francis's in London under the patronage of the Duke of Sussex. He was apprenticed to Francis at a premium of £100 per year from Sep 3, 1835. and in 1836 had his first work L'Allegro accepted by the Royal Academy and in 1838 two medallions of his mother & Mr Dickenson which are now at Gawsforth Hall.

In 1839 Thomas became engaged to Mary Francis to whom he was married in Feb 1840 at St Pancras



Isaac & Thomas were interested in Owen and his ideas about socialism which Thomas supported and also in Darwins theory of evolution, both controversial topics in the 1830's

Thomas & Mary went to Rome in 1841 & on return lived in Stanhope St, Regents Park and for 16 years Mary Francis (Thornicroft) carried out Royal commissions at Osbourne House, sculpting the royal children.

Thomas started an electro-bronze casting foundry in Stanhope St and in 1856 made the group of Boadicca & her daughters still to be seen in London.

In 1858/9 he made the steamboat 'Annie' the first boat with a closed stokehold with a fan for forcing air into the furnaces which was developed by his son John Isaac with the 'Nautilus' in 1862. This was the fastest boat in the world and the proto-type for naval destroyers. Thomas also designed and made steam threshing engines for his brother William, who had become a farmer at Tidnock, which worked for 50 years.

Thomas executed other sculptures including the group 'Commerce' on the Albert Memorial. He died on Aug 30 1885 and is buried at Chiswick. Mary, his wife died in 1895, buried at Chiswick.

William, his brother bp 1.3.1818, took over Tidnock at the retirement from farming of his mother and Peter Blackshaw and married Alice Warrington, daughter of the host of the Harrington Arms, posting inn at Gawsworth and farmed at Tidnock, dying on 6.4.1873. His widow Alice lived on at Tidnock House dying age 90 on 23.5.1911. Both are buried in the family grave 2. They did not have children.

Isaac bp 9.1.1820 studied law and was articled to the Town Clerk of Macclesfield and founded the library at Gawsworth. He died at the age of 22 on 17.4.1842, unmarried, & is buried in grave 2. His brother Thomas made a carved memorial in the form of a draped urn and this is in Gawsworth Churchyard. Memorial 3.

#### Children of Thomas and Mary Francis. Married Chiswick 29.2.1840.

John Isaac born 1.2.1841 in Rome. He was associated with his father Thomas in building boats which has been detailed above and after the success of the 'Nautilus' went to Palmers Boat Yard at Jarrow, and in 1869 formed a company with John Donaldson, making the boat 'Waterlily'. This firm continues today as Vosper Thornicroft.

He married Blanche Coules in 1870 and had two sons, John Edward bp 5.9.1872 who married Isabel Ward. He died in 1906. They had four children detailed in the tables. There was a second son Thomas bp 1881. John Isaac & Blanche also had five daughters. John was buried 28.6.1928. He was an eminent naval engineer, knighted in 1902, a FRS & hon LID.

Alice bapt 1845 unm.  
Helen .

### Children of Thomas & Mary Francis (cont.)

William Hamo, bp 9.3.1850. in London but at age of four went to live at Tidnock Farm with his grand mother and uncle William. He was educated at Macclesfield Grammar school returning to London in 1862 when he became a student at the Royal Academy where he took up sculpture at the age of 18. In 1871 he visited Italy and in 1875 won the gold medal of the Royal Academy for his sculpture 'Warrior & wounded youth'. In 1880 he produced one of his best works 'Artemis' now in Eaton Hall. He made many statues such as General Gordon, Cromwell, Gladstone & Queen Victoria in London & Tennyson at Trinity College Cambridge.

About 1875 he built a house in Melbury Rd, Kensington joining the artists colony there founded by Frederick Leyton and lived there with his parents, Thomas & Mary (Francis). He was knighted in 1917 and his later days were spent at Coombe Woodstock in Oxfordshire.

He married Agatha dau of Hammersham Cox of Tonbridge in 1884 and died on 18.12.1925 age 75.

His children were Oliver born 1885 and three daughters, Joan, Rosalind & Elfrida Mary.

Elfrida wrote a biography of her grandfather Thomas in 1932 called 'Bronze & Steel' -life of Thomas Thornycroft, sculptor & engineer which is also a history of the earlier members of the Thornicrofts from mid 18th cent. and some of the above information about Thomas has been taken from this source.

Theresa Georgina is the youngest daughter of Thomas & Mary, born in 1855. In 1882 she married Alfred Ezra Sassoon (1861-1895) son of David Sassoon & great grandson of Sheik Sassoon Ben Satch.

This family of 'Royal Sassoons' were close friends of the Prince of Wales, Edward. In 1891 Alfred 'ran off' with Theresa's best friend. There was considerable enmity from Alfred's mother as she considered he had married 'out of the faith' and the children of Theresa preferred to consider themselves 'Thornycrofts' rather than 'Sassoons'. Theresa died in 1947.

### Children of Theresa & Alfred Sassoon.

Michael born 1884 marr (1) Violent Stone, (2) Elizabeth Scott.

Siegfried, born 1886 married Hetty Gatty and had one son, George born 1936. Siegfried died 1.9.1967. In the 1914-18 war, known as 'Mad Jack' Siegfried, and won the M.C. for bringing wounded British soldiers back to the lines. But he became disgusted with the war and wrote to his Colonel 'I have seen and endured the suffering of the troops and can no longer be a party to prolonging those sufferings for ends which I believe to be evil and unjust'. He threw his M.C. into the Mersey. Wounded in the neck, he announced, while convalescing, that he refused to serve any longer, hoping to be court-martialled. Attempts were made to hush up his brave gesture by declaring he was suffering from shell shock. He wrote savage poems as in 'On passing the New Menin Gate - 'Well might the Dead who struggled in the slime, Rise and deride this sepulchre of crime'

In 1928, Siegfried Sassoon published his most famous book "Memoirs of a Fox Hunting man" which was a disguised autobiography (Source Obituary by Oliver Pritchett)  
A play produced by BBC TV in March 1972 by Tom Clarke was entitled 'Mad Jack' and was acclaimed by the Daily Telegraph 'one of the most moving and eloquent plays I have seen on television'

Hamo the younger brother of Siegfried, born 1887 was killed at Gallipoli in 1915.

#### Other children of William (2) & Jane Norbury

William (3) b.1796 married Ann -- and had seven children John (7) bp 9.4.1820 He had a daughter Mary born in Manchester who was staying with Charles(2) in 1871

Charles (2) b 1824 married Eliza Snelson of Burton on Trent in 1844 and farmed at High Lane Farm Gawsworth (40 acres) from the death of his relative John (3) in 1846 who had farmed there earlier until the 1871 census and probably until his death in 1900. He had six children Clara b Sep 1845 dead by 1861, Eli b 1851 Peter Snelson b 1853 and died 13.7.1913 (60) Married Sarah died 10.7.1934 both buried grave 10. Probably no children. Richard b 1859 and died age 94 on 12.5.1952. He married Mary Jane -- who died 1.10.1923 (60) They had two daughters both died young. Married (2) Anna Maria who died (65) in 1932. All are buried in grave 14.

Clara b 1861 married George White who lived at Shaw Heath, Stockport and had five children all died young. The family are buried in grave 6.

William ( b 1867 who died on 11.6.1953 age 86. He married 1 Martha Ellen who died in 1913(50) and they had Fred b 1894 died 24.2.1961 (67) & Minnie Holden who married -- Painton and died 31.1.1976 He married 2 Sarah who died 3.3.1944 (70) All are buried in grave 11

Joseph (6) bp 1806 buried at North Rode church 28.5.1885. He married Martha Lomas at Gaws. on 14.2.1831 and she was buried at N.Rode on 16.1.1898. They had eleven children between 1832 & 1856

In the 1841 census they are at Congleton in Park Lane with children Mary 8, Alice 6, Emma 4 & Joseph 1. In Bagshaw's Directory 1850 they are in Buglawton adjacent to Congleton as farmers. In 1861 & 71 they are at Cheney Gate Farm of 60 acres in North Rode. The '1861 census names Joseph, farmer 55 & Martha age 48 both born in Gawsorth and Mary, Joseph age 21, William 16, John A 13 Sarah A 11 Fanny 9 Charles 5 all born in Buglawton. Thomas Thornycroft 61 servant is the son of William(2) bp 18.5.1800 who is buried in grave 1 age 65, umm on Aug 9 1865 with his parents.

This section concludes the study of the Thornicroft families who are descended from John (1) b.1723 d.1788 and Mary Lawton who were the first Thornicrofts at Tidnock Farm in 1761 coming there from the farming family of Mathew's (1) & (2) at Eaton who are from the farmers of North Rode pre 1560.

Joseph (6) had therefore returned, probably unwittingly, to the farms of his North Rode ancestors.

# Thornicroft Graves and Memorials at Gawsworth

Numbers show position of graves and memorials in the Church and Church yard and are used in the text to identify grave and family

- 1 Jane, wife of William Thornicroft of Tidnock Sep 12 1788 61 yr  
died November 3 1811 age 41  
Fanny daughter of William & Jane Feb 17 1811 7mths  
Elizabeth do Mar.5..1811 2 yrs  
Charles, son do Oct 5 1828 36 yr  
William above Jan 6 1842 75 yr  
Thomas, son of Wm & Jane Aug 9 1865 65 yr
- 2 John Thornicroft of Tidnock Mar 25 1822 31 yr  
John, son of John & Ann do Feb 5 1822 5 mth  
Isaac do Apr 17 1842 22 yr  
William do Apr 8 1873 55 yr  
Ann above Jan 8 1875 89 yr  
Alice, widow of above William May 23 1911 90 yr
- 3 Memorial Urn by his brother Thomas  
Isaac, 3rd son of John & Ann of Tidnock  
April 17 1842 22 yr Bur in grave 2
- 4 William Thornicroft of Gawsworth Jul 25 1849 51 yr  
Ann, his wife Feb 1851 53 yr  
Ezra Thornicroft, grandson Dec 18 1855 17 mth  
William Thornicroft May 27 1857 1 yr  
Arthur Thornicroft Salt Apr 1858 13 wks
- 5 Eliza Thornicroft High Lane Farm Dec 24 1896 73 yr  
Charles do Aug 31 1900 76 yr
- 6 Thomas Thornicroft White, son of  
George & Clara White of Shaw Heath  
Stockport Apr 29 1888 3yr 11 mth  
Edward do May 8 1896 2yr 9 mth  
George White above Aug 29 1900 43 yr  
also Will, Ellen, Frederick children of the above
- 7 John Thornicroft of Tidnock Sep 12 1788 61 yr  
Mary, widow of above Jan 1 1806 80 yr  
Knight, son of John & Margaret  
of the Millend Farm Jun 21 1804 11 yr  
Margaret, mother of Knight Nov 19 1804 51 yr  
William, son of John & Margaret  
Oct 25 1812 25 yr  
John above named Oct 4 1817 67 yr
- 8 Hannah, wife of William Thornicroft  
of Eaton Sep 17 1806 66 yr  
the above William Oct 3 1807 81 yr
- 9 Mr John Thornicroft of Congleton  
Sep 18 1834 76 yr  
Mary, widow of above Apr 7 1846 85 yr
- 10 Peter Snelson Thornicroft Jul 31 1913 60 yr  
Sarah widow of above Jul 10 1934 75 yr
- 11 Martha Ellen, wife of Will Thornicroft  
Jul 10 1913 50 yr  
Sarah, second wife of Will Mar 3 1944 70 yr  
Will Thornicroft Jun 11 1953 86 yr  
Fred, son of the above Feb 24 1961 67 yr  
Minnie Holden Paiton, dau. of  
above Will & Martha Jan 31 1976 79 yr
- 12 Rev John Thornicroft, born Jan 22 1809  
died Apr 18 1894  
Sophia Marianne, 2nd dau of Rev John &  
Charlotte Blanche, born Jan 25 1855  
died Jan 22 1868  
Charlotte Blanche died Dec 4 1900

Graves and memorials at Gawsworth Church cont

- 13 Sophia, dau of Rev John Thornycroft and  
wife of Rev Edward Massie died Jul 13 1872 18 Interred 26 February 1774, Mary, wife of  
Henshaw Thornycroft Esq. of Thornycroft
- 14 May, dau of Mary Jane & Richard  
Thornycroft, High Lane Farm 19 Also 10 May 1780, Henshaw Thornycroft Esq  
of Thornycroft  
Ada, sister of above  
May 31 1899 9 yr  
Mary Jane above  
Oct 1 1923 60 yr  
Richard above  
May 12 1952 94 yr  
Ann Marie, 2nd wife  
Jun 18 1932 65 yr 20 Memorial on Wall
- 15 John Thornycroft  
Amy, his wife  
William  
Jane, dau of the above  
Edwin  
Martha  
Mary, wife of above John  
Noah  
John  
Jan 12 1847 62 yr  
Jul 16 1813 27 yr  
Jan 17 1818 8 yr  
May 8 1823 16 yr  
Jun 4 1840 5 yr  
May 6 1843 30 yr  
Mar 4 1844 59 yr  
Apr 15 1853 16 yr  
Dec 1 1870 41 yr
- In memory of Edward Thornycroft Esq. who  
departed this life on 20th January 1817.  
He was the last of the ancient family  
of Thornycroft of Thornycroft Hall, his  
ancestors having resided there since the  
13th century.

Inside Church

- 16 Here interred Mary, wife of Peter Davenport  
elder daughter of Edward Thornycroft
- 17 Ann, only dau of Sir Ralph Ashton of  
Middleton in County of Lancaster  
Kt & Baronett. Born 7 Oct 1655  
Died 5 Dec 1712

# Thornycroft Graves and Memorials at Gawsorth Church, Cheshire

