

## The Stained Glass Windows in Church of St Alkelda, Giggleswick

William Carr (1828-1905) and his ancestors

Window photograph © Christine Chandler



## THE CARR WINDOW

### THE CARR WINDOW

This window was erected in 1901 by William Carr 1828 - 1905. It was made by the firm James Powell and Sons, Whitefriars, London, and appears in their order book for 1900.

It is known as the Carr window because this corner of the church is the site of the Chancel of the Rood, founded by James Carr, priest, in the late 15th century and is also the site of the Carr vault.

There are five lights, the central one of which depicts Jesus upon a throne. The other four lights represent the themes of martyrdom, rest and peace.

To the left, the two lights represent Rest and St Alkelda whilst those on the right depict St James (St James The Less one of the original disciples) and Peace. The Angel of Rest holds a garland or wreath whilst St Alkelda holds up a cloth or girdle, the means by which she was allegedly strangled by the Danes. As a martyr, she also carries the palm, a symbol of holy martyrdom.

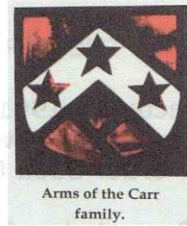
On the right, St. James The Less is shown holding a large club, the means by which he is reputed to have met his death. The old Carr chapel is said to have been dedicated to St. James. The Angel of Peace also carries a branch of a palm, perhaps reiterating the theme of martyrdom.

Across the base of the three central panels are the words from Psalm 90.1 in Miles Coverdale's translation and as used in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. 'Lord, thou has been our refuge from one generation to another', possibly chosen, thought Thomas Brayshaw, to suggest the blessings received by the Carr family throughout succeeding generations. The shield of arms of the Carr family (gules on a chevron argent three mullets of the first) appears on the left, and to the right are the arms of Carr impaled with those of Whitaker (per pale argent and azure, a chevron embattled between three mascles, all counter charged). In 1858 William Carr, son of William Carr, senior married Emma Whitaker. She was the second daughter of John Whitaker, a tenant farmer at Howley Hall, Morley, and a member of a large armigerous family.

## THE CARR WINDOW



Arms of Carr impaled  
with those of Whitaker.



Arms of the Carr  
family.

A brass plaque beneath reads: To the glory of God and in memory of many members of the family of Carr of Stackhouse in this Parish who rest within or near this Chantry of the Rood founded by their ancestor James Carr Priest Circa A.D. 1504. This window was erected by their descendant William Carr A.D. 1901.

A brass plaque on the floor above the Carr family vault at the entrance to the Memorial Chapel also commemorates the Revd James Carr, and he is listed on a board at the west end of the church which details the incumbents of Giggleswick.

The Stained Glass Windows of St. Alkelda's Church Giggleswick  
Nigel Mussett and Kathleen Kinder 2016

From: Archive Enquiries <archive@vam.ac.uk>  
 Date: 21 March 2019 at 15:52:09 GMT  
 To: Annette Mabbitt <annette.mabbitt.t21@btinternet.com>  
 Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] James Powell and Son (London)

Dear Annette Mabbitt,

Thanks for your enquiry.

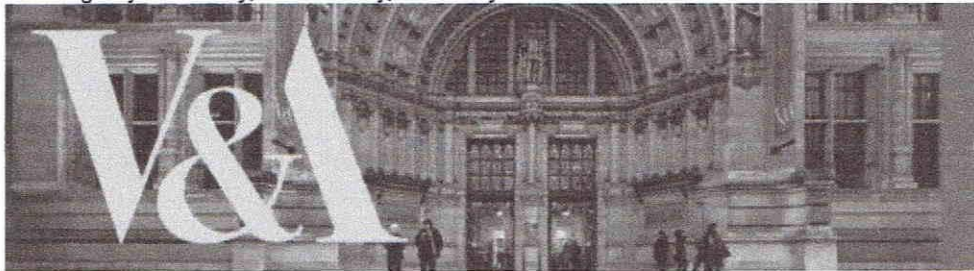
There is information about this window on page 64 of the Powell order book AAD/1977/1/14

I hope this information helps with your research.

Best wishes,

Alexia

Alexia Kirk | Archivist, Archive of Art and Design  
 V&A Blythe House | 23 Blythe Road | London | W14 0QX  
 Email: [ak.kirk@vam.ac.uk](mailto:ak.kirk@vam.ac.uk) | Phone: 020 7942 2472  
 Visit: [vam.ac.uk](http://vam.ac.uk)  
 Follow: Twitter | Instagram | Facebook  
 Working days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday



63 WINDOW GLASS ORDER BOOK.					64 WINDOW GLASS ORDER BOOK.				
No. of Order.	Date.	Particulars, &c.	Rate.	AMOUNT.	No. of Order.	Date.	Particulars, &c.	Rate.	AMOUNT.
1845	Nov 1890	St Anne's Church, 25 St Andrew's Lane, W. Vicar Rev. Kelly. S. Mary St. Murders, Barington. 2 W Window S. Side of Chancel. Figures of St. David & St. James. Light background. Text on scrolls in hands of St. David was all the that year the sea & water in his robe. Every good gift & every perfect gift is from above & cometh down from the Father of Light. See in right hand corner. See in lower Chancel House 1700			1846	Nov 1890	St Anne's Church, 25 St Andrew's Lane, W. Vicar Rev. Kelly. S. Mary St. Murders, Barington. 2 W Window S. Side of Chancel. Figures of St. David & St. James. Light background. Text on scrolls in hands of St. David was all the that year the sea & water in his robe. Every good gift & every perfect gift is from above & cometh down from the Father of Light. See in right hand corner. See in lower Chancel House 1700		
247/101	6/23/91	6/23/91 5/12/91 5/12/91 5/12/91 5/12/91		104	247/101	6/23/91	6/23/91 5/12/91 5/12/91 5/12/91 5/12/91		104
		50 Special glass tiles 5x5 1/2" 20		3 26			50 Special glass tiles 5x5 1/2" 20		3 26
		10% 3.2 17/4/01		2 10 9			10% 3.2 17/4/01		2 10 9

---

## CARR FAMILY HISTORY

"The Carrs of Stackhouse were the principal tenants of the Abbey of Furness in that hamlet up to the Dissolution, and are particularly noted for their long attachment to Giggleswick School, The Rev. James Carr founder of the Chantry of the Rood in Giggleswick Church, which became the germ of the later grammar school was of this stock; his nephew Richard Carr was priest of that Chantry when chantries were abolished and probably became first headmaster of the school under its new charter: and later generations of the family added their benefactions to the same foundations. Down to 1840 there is rarely a list of governors that does not contain a Carr, and early in the 18th century, when John Carr was headmaster, George Carr usher, and two Carrs held seats on the Board of Governors, this attachment reached its highest attachment. They were a scholarly race, and several of them took high honours at Cambridge. The branch of the Carr family which remained longest at Stackhouse, came to an end in the male line, with the death of William Carr in 1875; but another branch of the family, settled in Norfolk, still owns one of the oldest homes of the Carrs in Stackhouse."

James Carr founded the Chantry of the Rood at the end of the 15th century, he is described as "chantry priest" in an indenture of 1499. He must have been a good teacher, for in 1507 he was encouraged to build his own school.

"The Prior of Durham, as owner of the rectory of Giggleswick and its properties, leased to James Carr on 12th November 1507, "half one acre of lands and its appurts .....lyeing neir the church garth of Gyllyswyke" for a term of 79 years at an annual rent of 12d, a fine of 6s and 8d being paid at each renewal of this lease." This where James Carr "was to build and uphold at his own charges and "kepe or cause to be kept one gramer Scole."

## WILLIAM CARR 1828 - 1905

William Carr (1828 - 1905) was a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and in retirement a West Riding Magistrate and a director of the West Riding Union Railway, a keen antiquarian and collector.

William's father, also William, was born in Elland, Yorkshire about 1785, but his Grandfather, also William, was born in Giggleswick in 1745. His Great Grandfather, also William, was born in Giggleswick in 1724, and his Great Great Grandfather, another William, was born in Giggleswick about 1695. The connection goes still further back, James Carr, the priest, was the founder of Giggleswick School in 1507, and other members of William's family can be found in Church and School records.

William was born on 26th July 1828 in Little Gomersal, Yorkshire to William Carr (1785 - 1861) and Sarah Nussey (1791 - 1864) of Oakwell Hall, Batley, Yorkshire. His father was a doctor and it was he who attended the delivery of Marie and Elizabeth Bronte. His mother was a cousin of Charlotte Bronte's great friend Ellen Nussey. His father died on 15th September 1861, in Gomersal, leaving an estate with effects valued at under £25,000 (£3,014,575 in today's money).

On 15th September 1858 he married Emma Whitaker (1832 - 1908), of Howley Hall, Morley, Yorkshire, at All Saints, Batley, Yorkshire. Their daughter Mary was born on 31st July 1860 and their son, also William, was born on 12th July 1862.

The Census of 1861 shows William as a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, by 1871 he has become a Magistrate and Landowner.

## WILLIAM CARR 1828 - 1905

In 1885 William purchased the Ditchingham Hall estate, including the Hedenham Hall estate, from the Bedingfield family, in Norfolk.

The 1891 Census however, still shows the family as living at Gomersal Hall, where William is listed as a Magistrate, and his son William then aged 28 as a Barrister at Law. By the 1901 Census, William and Emma are living at Ditchingham with their daughter Mary, and their son William is living in Kensington, listed as a Barrister at Law, with a wife Margaret, four daughters and a son, named, of course, William!

William died of a heart attack on 8th January 1905 at Ditchingham Hall, and was buried on 12th January 1905 at St. Marys, Gomersal Yorkshire. Probate of his will shows that he left an estate valued at £202,042-13s-8d (£24,362,954 in todays money) to his son William, who was an established Barrister with a large household, living in Kensington.

His widow Emma continued to live at Ditchingham Hall until her death on 5th January 1908, leaving an estate valued at £21,158-14s-3d (£2,524,154 in todays money), to their son William. By 1911 William and Margaret have moved from Kensington to Ditchingham Hall

ex National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations) 1858-1995

**CARR** William of Gomersal-house Gomersal Birstal Yorkshire and of Ditchingham-hall Norfolk died 8 January 1905 at Ditchingham-hall Administration (with Will) **London** 13 February to William Carr esquire Effects £202042 13s. 8d.

#### THE LATE MR. WILLIAM CARR.

Before proceeding with the business, the Chairman referred to the loss the Board had sustained since their last meeting by the death of Mr. William Carr of Ditchingham. Mr. Carr he said, had been taken from them very suddenly—so suddenly that they could scarcely realise it. The deceased gentleman, though quiet and unassuming in his general demeanour, was in many respects a most remarkable man. He was a good magistrate, and one with a very wide experience. Before he came to Norfolk he was for 20 years chairman of a Bench of magistrates in

his native county of Yorkshire, and since he came to reside at Ditchingham he had been a most useful member of their Loddon Bench. Mr. Carr was a man of great learning and wide research, and he numbered amongst his numerous qualifications that of a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, a fact which in itself showed that he was a man of marked ability. He was also a most useful member of that Board, and he possessed all the qualifications which went towards the making of a good Guardian. He had sound common-sense—(Hear, hear)—and was always able to make up his mind what course he would take, and he had the power of expressing himself with great simplicity on all subjects which came before them. Personally he owed a great deal to his good advice, and his guidance had on many occasions been most valuable. He should miss him very much, as he was sure they all would. His death was a loss to that Board and to the whole neighbourhood. He desired to move the following resolution:—“That the Guardians desire to express their sincere condolence and sympathy with Mrs. Carr and the members of her family in the heavy loss they have sustained in the death of Mr. William Carr.”



Manchester Courier and Lancashire General  
Advertiser - Wednesday 11 January 1905

OBITUARY.

MR. **WILLIAM** CARR.—Mr. **William** **Carr** Gomersal House, Yorkshire, and Ditchingham Hall, Norfolk, died on Sunday somewhat suddenly from heart failure. For many years Mr. **Carr** who was born in 1823, was a well-known Yorkshire magistrate, and took a very active part on the various committees in the West Riding which managed the county before the establishment of the county council, and acted as chairman of

the Dewsbury petty sessional division for nearly 20 years. Latterly he resided almost entirely on his Norfolk property. His heir is Mr. W. **Carr** M.A., barrister-at-law.

Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer - Tuesday 10  
January 1905

### MR. WILLIAM CARR, OF GOMERSAL.

Mr. William Carr, who passed the greater part of his life in the Spen Valley, has died at Ditchingham Hall—his home in Norfolkshire. While resident at Gomersal House, Mr. Carr was formerly well known as a medical man, but retired from practice many years ago. Much of his leisure he devoted to the discharge of the duties of a county magistrate, being for a long

time Chairman of the Dewsbury Bench of West Riding Justices. Even after taking up his residence in Norfolkshire, he kept up his association with the West Riding. For nearly forty years he was a director of the Leeds branch of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company, and was in other ways interested in business. Of a genial disposition, Mr. Carr made many friends at his country seat, as well as around his home in Yorkshire. He was seventy-four years of age, and leaves a widow and a son and daughter.

age, and leaves a widow and a son and daughter. The body is to be conveyed from Ditchingham to Gomersal, where the funeral is to take place. It was Mr. Carr's son who, on two occasions, contested the Parliamentary Division of Morley in the Conservative interest.

Memorial in Church of St Alkelda, Giggleswick



Ditchingham Hall, Norfolk



DITCHINGHAM HALL