

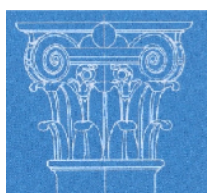
CHURCH OF ST. JOHN
THE EVANGELIST, SLIMBRIDGE
CONDITION REPORT ON 4 LISTED CHURCHYARD
MONUMENTS, WITH PROPOSALS



CENTRELINE ARCHITECTURAL
SCULPTURE

FAIRFAX HOUSE, VICARAGE STREET, PAINSWICK, GL6 6XS

FEBRUARY 2023



INTRODUCTION

This Condition Survey was commissioned by Slimbridge PCC to begin the process of addressing the condition of four Grade II monuments in the churchyard of St. John the Evangelist Church.

Each monument was photographed and measured and, as a written description of location can be confusing, each was located using the what3words system <https://what3words.com> which pinpoints the monument to within a 3 metre square. The English Heritage Legacy ID numbers have been used.

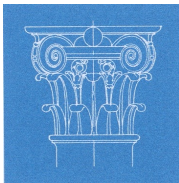
The main structural and surface problems were identified and previous interventions helpful or otherwise were identified. Proposals have been listed which will ensure the best course of action to preserve each monument.

The proposals for the conservation of each monument have been priced separately and will need reviewing after 6 months.

Slimbridge Churchyard - Guide to the listed tombs



**St. John the Evangelist
St. Johns Road
Slimbridge
Gloucestershire
GL2 7BJ**



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Monument Survey

Name Stephen Jenner, 1727

Number 1305754
(iii)

What3Words trailing.acclaimed.trudg
location

Location 7m north of Sacristy (Number 20)

Listing Grade II



Photo 1



Photo 2

Dimensions

Length 1860

Width 860

Height 770

General
Description

Limestone chest monument with a thick cyma moulded edge. Lyre ends embellished with an open Bible to the E symbolising the faith of the deceased and to W a flaming urn symbolising new life. Inscription panel to the S, now illegible but deciphered around 2000 in a survey by the Slimbridge Local History Society.

Previous interventions: None detected

Name	Stephen Jenner, 1727	Number	1305754 (iii)	What3Words location	trailing.acclaimed. trudges
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Location 7m north of Sacristy (Number 20)

Assessment of significance Further research could assess the probability that this is the monument of Stephen Jenner, the Slimbridge baker, gentleman and property owner (1673-1728) who was the grandfather of the famous Edward Anthony Jenner and therefore of more than local interest and significance. See the Family tree of Edward Jenner, Appendix 1

Condition of structure Good for the date, slight lean to N of entire monument.

Condition of surface Frost damage on S inscription panel and delamination especially on the flames of the urn on the W end.

Cause of deterioration Natural weathering, frost damage, encroachment of ivy.

Proposals

- Start process of removing the ivy by cutting the stems off at ground level.
- Restore ground level below base by digging away the build up of earth over the base.
- Lift top and remove all ivy growth.
- Replace original cramps by stainless steel set in lead.
- Repoint throughout with matching lime mortar.

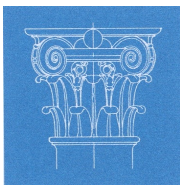
Affects of any proposed changes Once the monument has been repaired as above, the monument will be in the best possible condition to resist the effects of the weather and it is vital to keep any invasive plant growth away from the structure.

Future requirements / maintenance Every year keep plant growth cut back, monitor the monument for any cracked or open joints. Thoroughly check the monument for any movement or invasive plant growth at least every 5 years.

Additional notes Stephen Jenner (1645–1727) married Deborah Davies on 2 May 1669 at Standish. His son, Stephen (1673–1728), was a baker of Slimbridge but was also a man of property and left an estate in Berkeley to his daughter and son-in-law. He is described as a gentleman in the records of his son Stephen at Pembroke College, Oxford where he matriculated in 1720, obtaining his BA in 1723 and MA in 1726. He became rector of Rockhampton and vicar of Berkeley. He was the father of Edward Anthony Jenner (1749-1823) who was one of the most important British historical medical figures and considered the pioneer of vaccine and father of immunology.

Survey Date 01/02/2021 11:05:21

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Monument Survey

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Name Mary Jenner 1736

Number 1305754
(ii)

What3Words worksheet.pancake.
location puddings

Location 10m north of Sacristy (Number 21)

Listing Grade II



Photo 1



Photo 2

Dimensions

Length 1820

Width 840

Height 800

General
Description

A limestone chest monument with lyre ends with inscription panel to the N with carved ribbons, foliage, buds and flowers on the panels on either side of the central cartouche. The lyre ends also have elaborate cartouches with scrolling and foliage. The N side has a rectangular sunken inscription panel flanked by carved drapery

Previous
interventions:

None identified

Name Mary Jenner 1736

Number 1305754
(ii)

What3Words worksheet.pancake.
location nudings

Location 10m north of Sacristy (Number 21)

Assessment of significance In common with all monuments of this date it is of local significance as is reflected by it being Listed in 1984. An added layer of interest is that Mary Jenner was probably a relative to the famous Edward Anthony Jenner, probably his aunt who died in 1736 aged 39.

Condition of structure Rusting iron cramps were identified by the spalling caused at the SE and NE corners

Condition of surface Delamination of the surface on the N side and frost damage along with normal weathering over the last 280 plus years.

Cause of deterioration Rusting iron cramps are causing the spalling at the top corners of the monument and the facet that face bedded stone has been used is causing delamination.

Proposals Lift top.

Remove the stems of the ivy remaining inside and through the joints.

Replace the rusting iron cramps with stainless steel cramps set in lead, replace top.

Reduce the build up of earth and grass around the base.

Repoint throughout with a matching lime mortar.

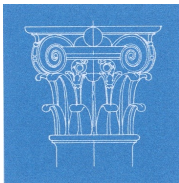
Affects of any proposed changes Once the monument has been repaired as above, the monument will be in the best possible condition to resist the effects of the weather and it is vital to keep any invasive plant growth away from the structure.

Future requirements / maintenance Every year keep plant growth cut back, monitor the monument for any cracked or open joints. Thoroughly check the monument for any movement or invasive plant growth at least every 5 years.

Additional notes See the Family tree of Edward Jenner, Appendix 1 for relationship to the rest of the Jenner family, particularly to Stephen Jenner the elder (1645-1727) whose monument is adjacent and also to Stephen Jenner (1673-1728.)

Survey Date 19/01/2023 10:56:01

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Monument Survey

Name Rice Williams mid 18thC Number 1305754 (i) What3Words presented.shocked.ape
location

Location 13m north of Sacristy (Number 22)

Listing Grade II



Photo 1



Photo 2

Dimensions Length 1360 Width 900 Height 970

General Description A limestone pedestal monument with an a circular inscription panel to N and E which are edged by a fine band of guilloché carving (a term for repetitive architectural pattern of intersecting and overlapping spirals.) On the S is a plain sunk rectangular panel, the W has a cartouche. The gadrooning at plinth level on the W has become detached though it has survived at the E. A very thick top with a moulded edge.

Previous interventions: None identified.

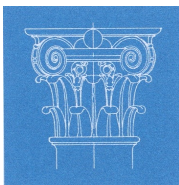
Name Rice Williams mid 18thC Number 1305754 (i) What3Words presented.shocked.ape location

Location 13m north of Sacristy (Number 22)

Assessment of significance	This is an interesting pedestal monument with fine carving remaining to the N and E. Further research could be undertaken to located the property ownership of the Williams family in the mid 18thC in Slimbridge.
Condition of structure	<p>Top offset to N and iron cramps are missing from all four top corners. Therefore nothing holds the sides together apart from the weight of the top.</p> <p>This monument should be considered at risk of collapse.</p>
Condition of surface	Major delamination on the lower part of the E and W panels. A section of gadrooning has been salvaged and is laid on top of the monument.
Cause of deterioration	Delamination odf the surface due to the limestone being face bedded and frost damage.
Proposals	<p>Remove the top and dismantle the monument completely. Remove all ivy growth. Dig out the base from the built up soil.</p> <p>Carve new moulded plinth for E end to fit below the gadrooning.</p> <p>Carve new elements for W end as the gadrooning is still partially intact.</p> <p>Reassemble the monument replacing the failed cramps with stainless steel set in lead.</p> <p>Re-point throughout in a matching lime mortar.</p>
Affects of any proposed changes	The monument will be safe for the visitors to the churchyard and the monument will be in the best condition to survive the effects of the weather and plant encroachment.
Future requirements / maintenance	Keep plant growth cut back, monitor the monument for any cracked or open joints. Thoroughly check the monument for any movement or invasive plant growth at least every 5 years.
Additional notes	<p>Although there is no evidence at the moment of Rice William's presence in Slimbridge in the mid 18thC, there is evidence of the Williams family owning land in Slimbridge and Berkeley in 17th and 18thC and the will of one Rice Williams of Dursley is attached in Appendix 2.</p> <p>As a male Christian name Rice (and Ryys, Reece etc.) was common in Wales.</p>

Survey Date 19/01/2023 11:08:23

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Monument Survey

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Name Williams late 18thC

Number 131517

What3Words bank.oaks.vegetable
location

Location 9m E of South porch (Number 6)

Listing Grade II



Photo 1



Photo 2

Dimensions

Length 1200

Width 800

Height 360

General
Description

A Forest of Dean chest monument which is now dismantled with the sides laid in a pile on top of the original base and the top on the ground to N. Only one of the sides can be seen but the Listing description states that the E and W ends are decorated with a guilloché design (a term for repetitive architectural pattern of intersecting and overlapping spirals) at the top and a fluted decoration along the base: this and other details will help to reassemble the monument correctly. Elliptical inscription panels N and S with swags and rosettes.

Previous
interventions:

None detected, apart from dismantling.

Name Williams late 18thC

Number 131517

What3Words bank.oaks.vegetable
location

Location 9m E of South porch (Number 6)

Assessment of significance The monument is ascribed to the Williams family, see description of Monument to Rice Williams above 1305754 (i).

Condition of structure Dismantled.

Condition of surface The dismantled sides are not packed between with carpet or any other material so there could be damage to the carvings mentioned in the Listing description. There was obviously a problem with the iron cramps rusting which caused the monument to be dismantled for safety reasons.
There will be some delamination of surfaces and normal weathering.

Cause of deterioration Rusting iron cramps.

Proposals Check all the pieces first for any further problems arising from being stored flat on the ground.

Level the base.

Reassemble the sides and use stainless steel cramps set in lead to fix. Lift the top from the ground and replace.

Repoint throughout with lime mortar and fill in the ground with turf to tidy the area where the top has been lying.

Affects of any proposed changes The monument will be able to be cared for by being reassembled and will be able to dry out.

Future requirements / maintenance Keep plant growth cut back, monitor the monument for any cracked or open joints. Thoroughly check the monument for any movement or invasive plant growth at least every 5 years.

Additional notes There is evidence of the William's family present in Slimbridge in the mid to late 17thC: John Williams was born about 1628 in Slimbridge and left a Will dated 17th May 1670. <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Williams-104006> and was buried 1670 in Slimbridge. He had four children John, Mary, Richard and Anthony.

Survey Date 19/01/2023 11:21:51

CONCLUSION

The general surface condition of the limestone monuments is reasonably good considering their age and maintenance input over the years. However, the Forest of Dean monument in the survey has been dismantled and therefore it was not possible to assess the extent of surface decay.

The major issue and the majority of structural problems have been caused by rusting iron cramps. These have caused cracking as the rust expands in the stone and has led to instability and in the case of one monument, dismantling for safety reasons.

None of the monuments has been subject to ground movement to any significant extent but three have been affected by ivy growth which has prised the joints of the monuments apart.

Apart from the repairs outlined above, a regular survey, which could be undertaken as part of the Quinquennial inspection of the church, will be the key to ensuring that these structures of national interest will be preserved to be safely enjoyed and studied by future generations.

APPENDIX 1

The Last Will and Testament of Rice Williams of Dursley 11th February 1854

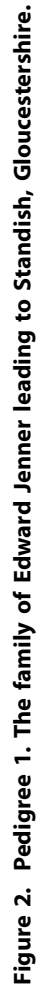
The National Archives' reference PROB 11/2187/76

Rice
Williams
21.

Proved at London 11th Feb 1854 before the Reverend Samuel
Dewkes, Minister of the Gospel and Curate by the Oath of George
Dewkes the Clerk the sole Executor to whom a power was granted
having been first sworn duly to administer.

This is the last Will and Testament
of me Rice Williams of Dursley in the County of Gloucester
I give and bequeath unto John Glauville of Gloucester in the
County of Wilts in the said County of Gloucester my son and
heir the younger of Dursley aforesaid my son and heir all that my
infeignage or dwellinghouse garden and other hereditaments now in the
occupation of
I do hereby with the Collage and appurtenances thereto
adjoining and belonging situate at the Glas in Dursley aforesaid and
also all other my real Estate situate in the County of Gloucester or
elsewhere with their rights members and appurtenances to hold unto
and to the use of the said John Glauville and Richard Williams
the younger their heirs and assigns for ever upon the trusts hereinafter
and to and for the several uses intents and purposes following that is to say
Upon trust to let and set the same for the best and most improved rents
that may or may be had for the same and to pay the same rents unto my
dear Wife Mary Ann Williams and her assigns for and during the
term of her natural life And from and immediately after her decease upon
trust that they my said Trustees and the survivor of them the said John
and assigns do and shall absolutely sell and dispose of my said real Estate
either together or in parcels and by Public Sale or Private Contract unto
any person or persons whatsoever for the best price or prices in money
that may or may be reasonably obtained for the same and do and shall
for that purpose enter into make and execute all necessary Contracts with
and Conveyances to the purchaser or purchasers thereof or as he or she
or they shall order or direct And I do hereby declare my Will to be that
the receipt and receipts in writing of my said Trustees their heirs and
assigns shall be a sufficient and effectual discharge and release and a
full and final discharge to any purchaser or purchasers of all or any part of
the said hereditaments and premises for this or for their purchase money
or moneys or so much thereof respectively as shall thereby be answered
to be received And that the said purchaser or purchasers this or their
heirs executors administrators or assigns shall not afterwards be answerable
or accountable for the loss misapplication or nonapplication or be in any
wise obliged or concerned to see to the application of or to the recovery of
raising the money in such receipt or receipts aforesaid to be received
or any part thereof And I do hereby direct that the moneys to arise from the
sale or sales of my said real Estate and the rents and profits thereof after
the decease of my said Wife until the same shall be so sold as aforesaid
shall sink into and form part of my residuary personal Estate hereinafter
mentioned And I give and bequeath unto the said John Glauville and
Richard Williams the younger their executors administrators and assigns
all and singular my household goods and furniture plate linen and things
Upon trust as soon as conveniently may be after my decease to make or
cause to be made a full true and perfect Inventory thereof and procure the
same to be signed by my said Wife and hereafter to permit and suffer
my said Wife to take possession of and hold use and enjoy my said house-
hold goods and furniture plate linen and things during her life without
being answerable for reasonable wear and tear of the same in the use
thereof And from and immediately after her decease then Upon trust
that they my said Trustees their executors administrators and assigns do
and shall sell and convert the same into money and the money to arise

Jenner Family Tree from 16th -19thC



REFERENCES

Chandler, J.W. (2018). The Early Genealogy of Edward Jenner and the Jenner family of Kempsford, Marston Meysey and Maiseyhampton. *The Journal of Genealogy and Family History*, 2 (No. 1).

Foster, J. (1888). *Alumni Oxonienses: the members of the University of Oxford, 1715–1886*. <https://archive.org/details/alumnioxonienses02univuoft>., Oxford: University of Oxford., p.Vol 2 p. 750.

[http:// www.ancestry.co.uk/](http://www.ancestry.co.uk/). (n.d.). *Testamentary records. England. 1728. JENNER, Stephen. Will*. Collection: Gloucestershire, England, Wills and Inventories, 1541–1858. 1728/323.

<http://www.ancestry.co.uk>. (n.d.). *Marriages (PR) England, Standish, Gloucestershire 2 May 1669*. JENNER Stephen and DAVIS, Deborah. Source reference: GDR/V1/223. Collection: Gloucestershire, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials,.

Williams, R. (1854). *The National Archives*. PROB 11/2187/76. Last Will and Testament of Rice Williams of Dursley.