Interpretating Heritage and Sharing Stories
Susan Skedd, Volunteer Co-ordinator
What is heritage interpretation?
What are the benefits of heritage interpretation?

The Association for Heritage Interpretation believes that interpretation enriches our lives through:

• engaging emotions
• enhancing experiences and
• deepening understanding of places, people, events and objects from the past and present

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Interior of St Michael, Camden Town, London, with new interpretation panels installed in 2017
How can heritage interpretation help fulfil project objectives?

Delivering outcomes:

- Heritage will be identified and better explained
- People will have learnt about heritage, leading to change in ideas and actions
- A wider range of people will be involved in heritage
- The local area will be a better place to live, work or visit
- People will have developed skills
- People will have greater wellbeing

Tales from the Crypt Exhibition at The Cloudesley Centre, October 2020
Our challenge: how to share the history of Holy Trinity Church and the stories of its earliest community

The history of Holy Trinity Church, designed by Sir Charles Barry and opened in 1829. Engraving by J. & H.S. Storer, c.1829 (Image: Islington Local History Centre)

The stories of the 178 people buried in the crypt between 1829 and 1854, listed here in the burial register (Image: Diocese of London)
12 Stonefield Street was home to Thomas Julians (1778-1851), clerk in the Excise Office of the Inland Revenue, and his wife Susannah Julians (1780-1840). Jenny Tatton discovered his gravestone in Highgate Cemetery.
Learning from the historic streetscape: telling the stories of those buried in the crypt while exploring the places connected with them brought insight and understanding.

In Cloudesley Road - listening to the tale of George Lovejoy and his family who lived at no. 93

In Malvern Terrace – discussing what really happened at no. 9 when it was home to Henrietta and Theososia Harper
Curating the exhibition: a team of curatorial volunteers worked together to interpret the stories, select the content and create the display panels.

Curator Roz Currie led volunteers through the process of curating the exhibition in a series of workshops at Islington Museum. Volunteers Jenny Tatton and Sian Whittaker place images of the church in a cabinet for the first exhibition.
Sharing research findings: how to make it meaningful and interesting for a variety of audiences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Researched by</th>
<th>Vital dates</th>
<th>Age at death</th>
<th>Address at death</th>
<th>Tale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mary Jones</td>
<td>Susan Sheld</td>
<td>b. 1761</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Stonefield Terrace, Richmond, Surrey</td>
<td>A cousin of the painters Robert Seu, Mary Walpole in 1775 married John Jones (d. 1821), editor of the Spectator Magazine and the Royal Censor. They had two children: Ellen Elizabeth, who married William Lennard, and John Winter Jones (1801-1841). Their son was educated at St Paul’s School and worked for the Classics Commission before joining the staff of the Library at the British Museum in 1857. In the same year, John Winter Jones married Susanna Harrison in 1857. Their two daughters, Mary (b. 1839) and Ellen (b. 1843), were baptized at Holy Trinity. His family, together with his father, lived at 27 Stonefield Street, in the 1860s and 1870s but by 1846, when he drew up his will, John Jones was living at 25 Stonefield Terrace. In 1884 John Winter Jones became Principal Librarian at the Patent Office, succeeding Antoni Sandoz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>James Lewis Sanderson</td>
<td>Susan Sheld</td>
<td>b. 1810</td>
<td>Infant</td>
<td>5 Clarendon Row, Kensington Road [post-1810]</td>
<td>Son of James Sanderson (1754-1816), city barber, and his wife Margaret, née Greathead (d. 1834). His parents resided in Devon in 1821 and had at least four other children. His father was an elector in 1832 and an original member of Holy Trinity Vestry. The family moved to Stoney in 1841.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ann Sophia Fell</td>
<td>Jenny Titmus</td>
<td>b. 1826</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>34 Cross Street</td>
<td>Sister of the two children of Reed Hunter Francis Fell (1791-1851), Vicar of Holy Trinity, and Rachel Rotter cote hall (1791-1877), who were married in 1816. She was baptized at the parish church of Gosling, where her father was cousins from 1823. Her sister Rachel Fell and Frances Rotter Fell were also buried in the crypt. In 1829 Mantle Francis Fell was appointed rector at Holy Trinity by the Revd Daniel Wilson, Vicar of St Mary, Islington, and retained both roles until 1851 when he was appointed Rector of Chilton, Suffolk.</td>
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Identifying themes and selecting stories: how to interpret the history so that the content connects and resonates with your audiences

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Builders and architects - who built the church, the square and the streets around</td>
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<td>Crime and the law - cases heard in the Old Bailey which involved some of the people researched</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trade and Travel – businesses and money</td>
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<td>Changes in Fortune – financial and social vulnerability, bankruptcy, the workhouse</td>
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<td>Infant mortality - a third of the burials in the crypt were infants and children</td>
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<td>Funeral practice and mourning – change over time from crypt burials to cemeteries</td>
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<td>Livestock and Markets - traders who made a living from the meat market and change to Meat Cattle Market</td>
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<td>Prominent citizens - the Vicar, church wardens, vestry members and prominent women</td>
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<td>Marriage scandals – cases heard in the church courts</td>
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TALES
John Emmett
Henry Buckler
Thomas Morgan Fair
Harriet Gough
Eliza Harvey
William Hubbard
Revd Hunter Francis Fell
Henrietta and Theodosia Harper
The brothers Gough – a baker and an architect

118 Cloudesley Road (formerly 25 Upper Islington Terrace) – the home and workplace of John and Harriet Gough

154 Barnsbury Road (formerly 19 Arundel Terrace) – the home of Alexander Gough and Alexander Dick Gough

Islington Literary and Philosophical Institute, RL Roumieu and AD Gough, 1837; St Mark’s Church, Tollington Park, AD Gough, 1853-1854 (Images: Islington Local History Centre)
Tales from the Crypt Exhibition #1:
opened at Islington Local History Centre
and Museum on Thursday 19th March 2020
Tales from the Crypt Exhibition #2:
opened at the Cloudesley Centre on Saturday 26th September 2020
Cloudesley Centre Walking Tours: Islington Guided Walks led a series of walks exploring the development of Barnsbury through the tales from the crypt.

Islington Guide Susan Hahn tests out the walk with the volunteers. Her colleague Oonagh Gay starts the first walk for the public, following Covid-19 regulations.
Guided Walk Map: a fold-out map showing the walk route was produce to give to visitors to the exhibition as well as to the people on the guided walks
Silhouettes of the pupils at New River College Primary on show at the exhibition#1 at Islington Local History Museum. The silhouettes were created as part of the Art + Christianity workshops delivered in autumn 2019.