THE VOLUNTEER’S TALE
Interpreting Heritage for Tales from the Crypt
Tuesday 3rd November, 9:30—12:30
ABOUT ME
WHAT WAS IT LIKE?
GETTING BURIED IN RESEARCH
In 1838 Henrietta Rice, a wealthy heiress, married her father’s legal clerk, Jevon Harper. They moved to 9 Malvern Terrace and were joined soon after by Henrietta’s younger sister Theodosia Rice. Two years later Henrietta died after a series of epileptic fits, leaving her fortune to her widower. Within a few weeks Theodosia signed her will in favour of Jevon and married him three months later. The marriage took place in Edinburgh and was in fact unlawful, for in 1834 Parliament had passed a law making it illegal for a man to marry the sister of his deceased wife.

In 1838 Theodosia died from a ‘W worse of the digestive organs’ and was buried with her sister in the crypt. Her will was successfully challenged in the highest ecclesiastical court and prompted public debate. In 1842 her elder sister Caroline died nine months after marrying Samuel Goldney, who happened to be Jevon’s friend.

Jevon bought the remaining third of the Rice inheritance from Goldney and became Lord of the Manor in Northwick, Gloucestershire. He married for a third time in 1849, this time to a childhood friend.

This tale mixes suspicions about Jevon’s actions. What do you think happened?
WHAT I GOT OUT OF IT
WHAT WOULD I DO DIFFERENTLY?
TOP TIPS

For anyone planning to run a project like Tales from the Crypt
WHERE NEXT?

Layers of London
Mapping Barnsbury’s early development
THANK YOU

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