

## Bigland transcription for Flaxley

### INSCRIPTIONS IN THE CHURCH

#### ON MONUMENTS IN THE CHANCEL

M.S.

GULIELMI BOEVEY, Armig.  
Qui fide et fama ornatissimus,  
non fui parcus, non appetens alieni,  
nemini notus ex injuria,  
E beneficiis innumeris,  
Maximam vitae partem feliciter transegit;  
tandem vero,  
Cum mole corporis obesissimi anima  
Oppressa suspiraret graviter et gemeret,  
ut liberiores fui copiam haberet,  
Deo miserente,  
ad superos migravit laetissima  
Aug. XXVI, A.D. M,DC,XVII.  
aet. XXV.

H.M.

Catharina  
conjux fidissima  
M.P.

Hic dormit

ABRAHAMUS CLARK, Armiger.  
beatam resurrectionem expectans,  
in omni vita modestus ac sobrius,  
justitiae et aequitatis cultor eximius,  
summa in amicos fide,  
veraque in Deum.  
Egenorum fautor ac patrenus,  
orphanorum pater,  
liberalitatem exercere maluit  
quam ostentare aliis, munificentiae  
testes praetor Deum  
aegre admisit.  
Satis ei magnum ad virtutem  
invitamentum recte factorum  
conscientia. Obiit Decem.  
4, anno Domini 1683,  
aetatis suae 61.

Hoc juxta marmor  
 depositi conduntur cineres  
 GULIELMI LLOYD, A.M.  
 de Stow cum novem ecclesiis  
 in agro Northoniensi,  
 Per annos XXXIV rectoris.  
 Viri  
 eximia probitate, fide & eruditione  
 instructissimi;  
 & cuilibet vel in ecclesia vel in orbe  
 literato muneri,  
 sive sustinendo, sive ornando,  
 nisi sua obsuisset modestia  
 non imparis.  
 In hac capella concionatoris munere  
 per annos complures  
 feliciter perfunctus est.  
 Londini natus,  
 in Oxoniensi academia enutritus  
 bene latuit & bene vixit,  
 donec ad vitam beatiorem hinc  
 translatus est  
 Julii XI die,  
 anno aetatis suae LXIX,  
 & aetae Christianae  
 MDCCLIV.

Here lyeth entombed the Body of  
 JOANNA CLARKE, Lady of Flaxley,  
 who deceased this Life, in the Feare  
 of God, upon Palm Sunday,  
 the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, in the 59<sup>th</sup> Year of  
 her age, and in the Year of  
 our Lord God, 1664.

#### ON FLAT STONES

JAMES, Son of  
 ABRAHAM CLARKE, Esq.  
 died Feb. 11, 1669, aged 6 Days

JANE, his Daughter  
 born March 16, 1670,  
 and died Sept. 9, 1677.

ELIZABETH, his Daughter  
 born April 23, 1677,  
 and buried in this Chapel  
 Dec. 6, 1677

ANNE RICHES,  
Daughter of JOHN RICHES, Esq.  
and only sister to Mrs. BOVEY,  
of Flaxley, departed this Life  
Oct. 5, 1689,  
which she had passed  
in a religious Observance of her Duty  
towards God and her Parents;  
in tender Affection to her Relations;  
in Charity and Kindness to all;  
endued with this early Habit of Vertue,  
Death, however suddain,  
did not surprise her  
unprepared.

ON A LARGE PLAIN TABLET OF WHITE MARBLE

In the vault near this Chapel is repositied the Body of  
Mrs CATHARINA BOVEY, Daughter of JOHN RICHES, Esq. of London,  
Merchant. She was married to WILLIAM BOVEY, Esq. Lord of this Mannor  
of Flaxley, at the Age of 15, was left a Widow, without Children, at  
the Age of 22, and continued so all the rest of her Life. She  
entertained her Friends and Neighbours with a most agreeable  
Hospitality; but always took Care to have a large Reserve for  
Charity, which she bestowed, not only on such Occasions as offered,  
but studied how to employ it so as to make it useful and  
advantageous. Her Disposition to do good was so well known in the  
District about her, that she easily became acquainted with the  
Circumstances of those that wanted; and, as she preserved many  
Families from Ruin, by seasonable Loans or Gifts, so she conveyed her  
Assistance to some of better Rank, in such a Manner as made it doubly  
acceptable. How far her Bounty extended was known to herself alone;  
but much of it appeared, to her Honour and God`s Glory, in frequent  
Distributions to the Poor, and especially to the Charity Schools  
Round about the Country, in relieving those in Prison, and delivering  
many out of it, in contributing to the Churches of the English  
Establisment abroad, as well as aiding several at home, in cloathing  
and feeding her indigent Neighbours, and teaching their Children,  
some of whom every Sunday, by Turns, she entertained at her House,  
and condescended to examine them herself; besides this continual, it  
might be said this daily, Course of Liberality during her Life. She  
bequeathed at her Death, towards founding a College in the Island of  
Bermudas £500; to the Grey Coat Hospital, in St. Margaret`s,  
Westminster, £500; to the Blue Coat Hospital in Westminster, £500;  
to the Charity School of Christ Church, Parish of Southwark, £400;  
to augment the Living of this Place, £1200; to put out poor Children  
Apprentices, the Interest of £400 for ever; of which Summe £160 had  
been left by Mr. CLARKE and Mr. BOVEY; to be distributed, as her  
Executrix should think fit, among those whom she had put out  
Apprentices in her Life-time £400; lastly, she designed the  
re-building of this Chapel, which pious Design of hers was speedily  
executed by Mrs. MARY POPE.

A MONUMENT IS ERECTED TO HER MEMORY IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY,  
WITH THE FOLLOWING INSCRIPTION:

To the Memory of Mrs. CATHARINA BOVEY,  
whose Person and Understanding would have become the highest Rank in  
Female Life, whose Vivacity would have recommended her in the best  
Conversation; but by Judgement, as well as Inclination, she chose  
such a Retirement as gave her great Opportunities in Reading and  
Reflection, which she made Use of to the wisest Purposes of  
Improvement in Knowledge and Religion. Upon other Subjects she  
Ventured far out of the common Way of thinking; but in Religious  
Matters she made the Holy Scriptures, in which she was well skilled,  
the Rule and Guide of her Faith and Actions, esteeming it more fate  
to rely upon the plain Word of God, than to run into any Freedoms of  
Thought upon revealed Truths, the great Share of Time allowed to the  
Closet was not perceived in her Economy; for she had always a well  
ordered and well instructed Family, from the happy Influence, as well  
of her Temper and Conduct, as of her uniform and exemplary Christian  
Life. It pleased God to bless her with considerable Estate, which,  
with a liberal Hand, guided by Wisdom and Piety, she employed to his  
Glory, and the Good of her Neighbours. Her domestick Expences were  
managed with a Decency and Dignity suitable to her Fortune; but with  
a Frugality that made her Income abound to all proper Objects of  
Charity, to the Relief of the Necessitous, and Encouragement of the  
Industrious, and the Instruction of the Ignorant. She distributed not  
only with Cheerfulness, but with Joy, which, upon some occasions of  
raising and refreshing the Spirit of the Afflicted, she could not  
refrain from breaking forth into Tears, flowing from a Heart  
thoroughly affected with Compassion and Benevolence. Thus did many of  
her good Works, while she lived, go up as a Memorial before God; and  
some she left to follow her.

She died Jan. 21, 1726, in the 57<sup>th</sup> Year of her Age at Flaxley, her  
seat in Gloucestershire, and was buried there, where her Name will be  
long remembered, and where several of her Benefactions at that Place,  
as well as others, are particularly recorded.

This Monument was erected, with the utmost Respect to her Memory, and  
Justice to her Character, by her Executrix Mrs. MARY POPE, who lived  
with her near 40 Years in perfect Friendship, never once interrupted  
till her much lamented Death.

To the Memory of MARY POPE,  
Daughter of JOHN POPE, of Bristol, Merchant,  
the Friend of Mrs. BOVEY, and Partner of her Virtues, who, after a  
Life spent in exemplary Piety, and full of good Works, died March 24,  
in the Year of our Lord 1746, aged 81 Years.

IN THE CHURCHYARD  
ON A TABLET AGAINST THE CHURCH

In Memory of the  
excellent Mrs. ELIZABETH COWLING,  
Daughter of JOHN COWLING, Esq.  
who left this Life for a blessed Eternity,  
Sept. 16, 1759, aged 42 Years.

ON TOMBS

WILLIAM HEYLEY,  
died July 20, 1784, aged 76.

ELIZABETH, his Wife  
died July 25, 1785, aged 83.

EDWARD WILLIAMS  
died June 5, 1755, aged 31.

CECIL his Mother  
died Jan. 25, 1773, aged 84.

THOMAS HULL  
died Oct. 27, 1764, aged 83.

ELIZABETH his Wife  
died March 26, 1722, aged 39.

MARY his second Wife  
died Sept. 28, 1723.

EDMUND GREEN  
died Sept. 8, 1721, aged 73.

EPHRAIM his Son  
died Sept. 5, 1705, aged 12.

MARGARET GREEN  
died Dec. 30, 1732, aged 72.

EDMUND GREEN  
died April 23, 1748, aged 52.

BLANCH, the Wife of  
JOHN SMITH, of the Grove,  
in the Parish of Westbury  
died Jan. 13, 1785, aged 74.

## ON HEAD AND FLAT STONES

|                                                                                                |              |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------|
| ELIZABETH, Wife of CHARLES ROSE, of<br>the Parish of Chapel Hill, in the<br>County of Monmouth | 2 Apr. 1775  | aged 42 |
| ELIZABETH, Wife of CHARLES ROSE                                                                | 31 Mar. 1780 | aged 47 |
| MARY TRAFFORD                                                                                  | 7 Mar. 1778  | aged 63 |
| ARNEL WALLINGTON                                                                               | 1 Jan. 1763  | aged 64 |
| JOHN EVENS                                                                                     | 21 Nov. 1735 | aged 45 |
| SARAH his Daughter                                                                             | -- --- 1732  | aged 6  |
| THOMAS BURGUM                                                                                  | 25 Nov. 1748 | aged 69 |
| WILLIAM NOURSE                                                                                 | 11 Aug. 1771 | aged 68 |
| MARY his Wife                                                                                  | 12 Oct. 1749 | aged 45 |
| MARY, Wife of THOMAS LODGE                                                                     | 28 Nov. 1708 | aged -  |
| THOMAS LODGE                                                                                   | 7 Apr. 1722  | aged 55 |
| RICHARD CONSTABLE                                                                              | 3 June 1733  | aged 35 |
| ANN, Wife of ROGER BLEWETT                                                                     | 8 Mar. 1721  | aged 79 |
| ROBERT HILLIER                                                                                 | 12 Feb. 1779 | aged 67 |
| MARY, Wife of EDMUND GREEN, late<br>Wife of THOMAS HILL                                        | 7 Oct. 1769  | aged 62 |
| JAMES MANN                                                                                     | 1 Nov. 1697  | aged 49 |
| MARY his Wife                                                                                  | 18 Dec. 1676 | aged -  |
| RICHARD HAZELL                                                                                 | 8 May 1701   | aged 59 |
| RICHARD HAZELL                                                                                 | 12 May 1722  | aged -  |