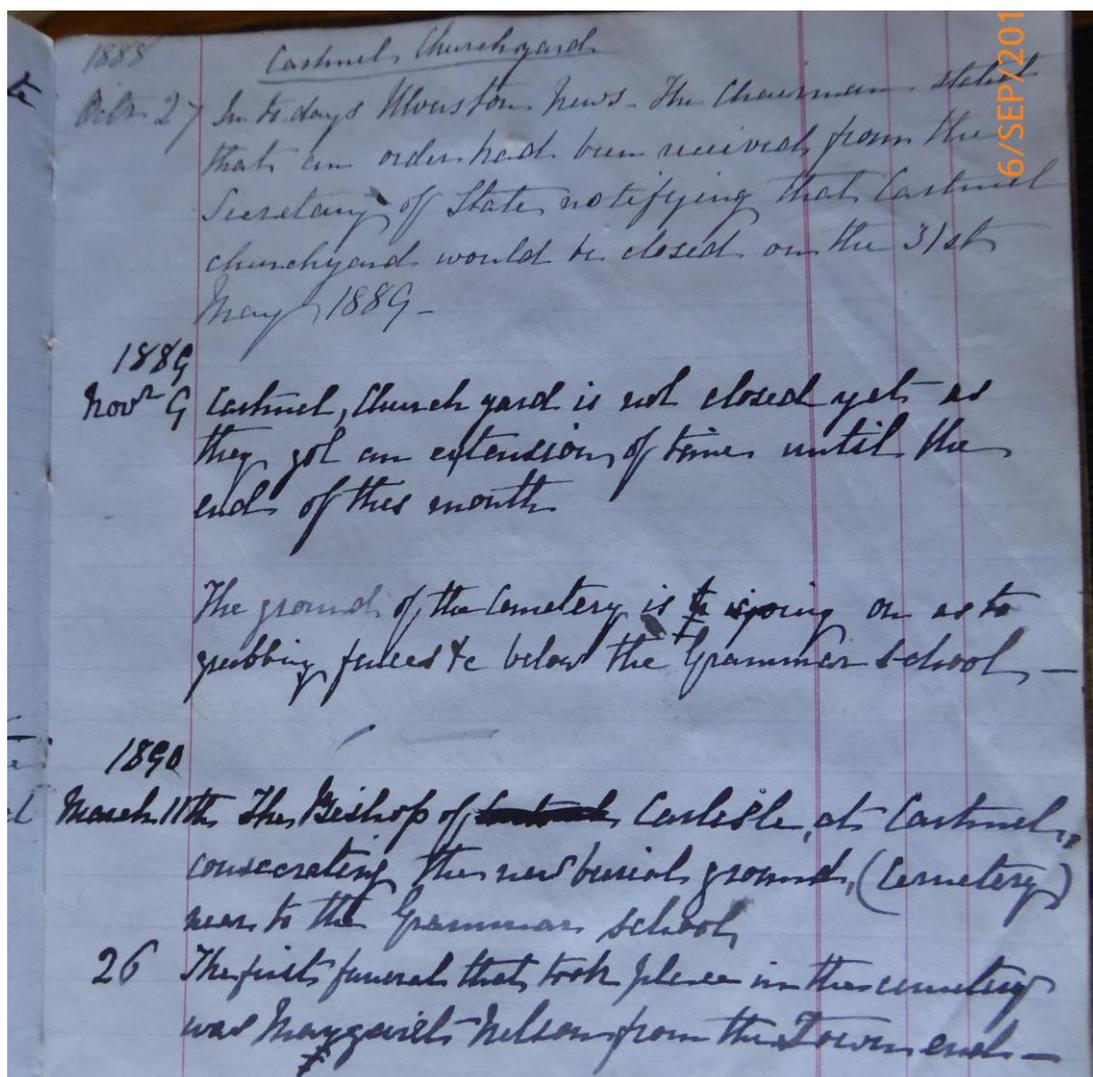


## Burials in the Cartmel Peninsula

Why you may not find your ancestor in Cartmel Priory Churchyard records!

For many centuries Cartmel Priory churchyard was the burial place for the peninsula. In April 1876 a gate was taken away and the gateway walled up at the south corner to make more space for burials as the churchyard was getting full (William Field's Log Book). Ten years later, in 1886 an announcement was made that it was going to close and parishioners in Allithwaite, Cartmel, Flookburgh and Grange-over-Sands had to make plans to provide local cemeteries. Cartmel Priory Churchyard would only remain available to those who had vaults or brick graves there. The new cemetery was to be on land on the edge of the village near to Cartmel Grammar School.

In October 1888 the date for closure was set for 31 May 1889 but it took longer to prepare the new cemetery than expected and an extension was granted to the end of November 1889. However the last interment at Cartmel Churchyard was on 5 March 1890. The new cemetery in Cartmel was consecrated on 11 March 1890 and the first interment at the cemetery was on 26 March 1890. The new cemetery cost £450 which was raised by public subscription.



Above is a page from William Field's log book detailing the closure of the churchyard and the consecration of the cemetery.

#### Establishment of cemeteries in villages in the district

Flookburgh parishioners decided to provide a cemetery close to their own church rather than contribute to a general cemetery in Cartmel. £413 was raised by public subscription and on 5 Sept 1887 the ground was consecrated.

Allithwaite raised nearly £164 to buy a plot of land adjacent to their church and the cemetery was consecrated on 11 August 1888. On June 3 1888 Joseph Thompson of Allithwaite was interred at Cartmel Priory Churchyard. One of his wishes when he was poorly was that he might live to be interred at Allithwaite Cemetery. (William Field Log Book entry).

Grange-over-Sands Cemetery was established on the edge of the town at High Fell Gate, one and a half miles from St Paul's Church. A public meeting was held in May 1884 and the first interment was in September 1889. The cemetery was consecrated on 11 March 1890, on the same day as Cartmel Cemetery. Both were reported in the Westmorland Gazette of 15 March 1890.

Lindale has had its own graveyard since about 1706 when part of the common was enclosed to provide a site for the Parsonage and graveyard.

Cartmel Fell had its own burial ground from July 1712.

Field Broughton's church yard was consecrated on 3 August 1817.

#### Conclusion

You may not find your ancestor in Cartmel Priory Churchyard records because there was no further space for burials after about 1890 and you may find them in the other cemeteries which were established at that time throughout the Peninsula.

#### Sources:

William Field's Log Book

The Rural Deanery of Cartmel in the Diocese of Carlisle: Its Churches and Endowments.

Edited by R.H.Kirby, G. Rubie, A.A. Williams & J. Pennington Burns. (1892).

Westmorland Gazette

Pat Rowland

Jan 2016 v1