

## William Knibb

1803 born in Kettering -1845 died in Jamaica.
Missionary & Emancipator

*Painting by Daniel Kelly– 'The Beast is Dead'*
On the evening of 31st July1838, the Baptist Chapel in Falmouth, Jamaica, was open for worship. The word FREEDOM was written and placed over the front entrance. The congregation arrived an hour before midnight to pray.
There was silence and at midnight William stood up and pointed to the clock and exclaimed, " The hour is at hand, the monster is dying." There was a deadly silence whilst the clock struck twelve and William exclaimed, " The monster is dead, the negro is free."

"*The wording reflects the language of the period and is reproduced from a historical source."*

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Stuart Tippleston **www.tippleston.com** Harringworth Viaduct.

Alina Pavlak, **https://alina-novak.pixpa.com** Queen Eleanor Cross, Fotheringhay Castle, Kirby Hall, Rushton Hall, Wicksteed Park, Lyveden, New Bield, Triangular Lodge, Grafton Underwood Church, American War Memorial.

Trevor Pywell, St Andrews Church Great Cransley American Stained Glass Window.
Boughton House, **www.boughtonhouse.co.uk**
Deene Park, **www.deenepark.com**
Rockingham Castle **http://www.rockinghamcastle.com**
Barton Hall, www.bartonhall.com

Compiled & designed by M. Ozdemir




Picture by students of
Bishop Stopford School, Kettering

As part of the Bishop Stopford community, some students have proudly created this artwork which symbolises the honour and impact Knibb's life had and still has on future generations. The painting is inspired not only by Knibb but also the motto of *The William Knibb Memorial School* in Jamaica. A former student, Usain Bolt is symbolically shown breaking free from the shackles of prejudice and limitations becoming the world's fastest man breaking barriers as well as records.

### ART AT KETTERING STATION

Our part of the county has an extraordinarily rich heritage, shaped by kings and queens, lords and ladies, historic connections with America, magnificent houses and intriguing follies. Add to this the fun of Wicksteed Park and it is clear just how much there is to discover and enjoy right on Kettering's doorstep.
Adventurers can continue north by train, following in the footsteps of Richard III to Leicester, or head south to Charing Cross, the final resting place of Queen Eleanor.
It is no wonder that the area's flora, fauna, architecture and scenery inspire local artists. Many of their works can be seen in the Alfred East Art Gallery alongside pieces by other world-renowned artists. The gallery is just a few steps from Kettering station.
We hope the photographs displayed along the footbridge will inspire commuters to explore further-by train, car, bike or on foot.
**This project was made possible with funding from Kettering Town Council and Community Rail Network.**

# Explore Historic Places Around Kettering & Corby

Discover leisure, royal history, remarkable architecture, art and moving wartime stories at these historic sites.

**Distance from Kettering Station**

**Sir Alfred East Gallery- 10 minute walk**
**Wicksteed Park– 30 minute walk**
**Barton Hall Hotel– 35 minute walk**
**The Montagu Monuments,**
**St Edmund's Church, Warkton- 3 miles**
**Queen Eleanor Cross, Geddington -4.4 miles**
**American War Memorial**
**St James's Church American Memorial window**
**Grafton Underwood– 5.7 miles**
**American Memorial Window**
**St Andrew's Church Great Cransley-3.5 miles**
**Boughton House-6.4 miles**
**Rushton Hall Hotel-4.8 miles**
**Tresham's Triangular Lodge-5.4 miles**
**Lyveden New Bield-13.6 miles**
**Fotheringhay-20.9 miles**
**Deene Park-13.6 miles**
**Harringworth Viaduct– 14.1 miles**
**Rockingham Castle– 8.9 miles**
**Kirby Hall-12.2 miles**
**Kelmarsh Hall-10.5 miles**

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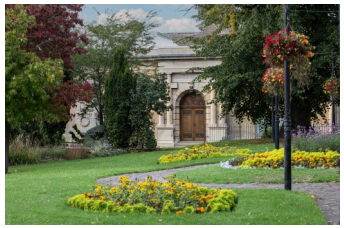
www.ketteringcivicsociety.net



## Sir Alfred East and the Gallery

Sir Alfred East was born in Kettering on 15th December 1844. He studied at the Glasgow School of Art and went on to become a distinguished world-renowned artist. He served as President of the Royal Society of British artists and was elected an Associate of the Royal Society. He was knighted in 1910.

To mark the honour, East offered 70 works of art to the people of Kettering, “for the love I have for the old town”. He had one condition: the town must build a gallery to house its growing art collection.

Funds were raised through public subscription, and the Alfred East Gallery was built beside Kettering Library.



## Wicksteed Park

Industrialist and engineer Charles Wicksteed created this public leisure park, offering free playgrounds and sporting facilities supported by modest charges for refreshments and attractions. The first playground equipment, designed and made by Wicksteed’s company, was installed in 1917. An artificial lake, fed by the Ise Brook, was completed in 1921, marking the park’s official opening.



## The Montagu Monuments

Located in St Edmund’s Church in the village of Warkton. These world class monuments were commissioned to commemorate key figures of the Montagu family, ancestors of the Buccleuch family. The sculptures are a testament to the exquisite craftsmanship and artistic skill of their creators, Louis-Francois Roubiliac, Peter Matthias Van Gelder and Thomas Campbell.



## Queen Eleanor Cross Geddington

In 1290 Eleanor of Castile, the beloved wife of Edward I and mother of his 14 children, died at Harby in Nottinghamshire. The places where her body rested during the journey south to Charing Cross and finally to Westminster Abbey were marked by stone crosses. This cross and the Northampton Cross are the only to survive.



## American War Memorial RAF Grafton Underwood

was also known as USAAF Station 106.This memorial, at the end of the runway of Station 106, commemorates the 384th Bomb Group (H) of the United States Army 8th Air Force. About 3000 Americans were based here from 1942 to 1945.



## Rockingham Castle

The castle which was built under William the Conqueror, served as a royal retreat for centuries. It has been continuously occupied by the Watson family since Commander Sir Michael Saunders Watson inherited it in 1971. His son, James Saunders Watson, became Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire in 2020.

The castle was visited by Charles Dickens, a friend of Richard and Lavinia Watson. It is said to have inspired Chesney Wold in Dickens’s 1853 novel *Bleak House*.

Rockingham Castle has appeared in several productions, including the BBC English Civil War drama *By the Sword Divided*, in which it featured as Arnescote Castle, the home of the Royalist Lacey family. It also appeared in the film *Top Secret!*, starring Val Kilmer.



## Harringworth Viaduct

Also known as the Welland Viaduct or Seaton Viaduct, is a significant historical landmark In Northamptonshire. It was constructed between 1876 and 1878 as part of the Kettering to Manton branch of the Midland Railway Company. The viaduct is notable for its impressive row of 82 tall semi-circular arches on piers.

Its construction was a significant undertaking, involving the use of 30 million bricks and employing a workforce of 3,500 and 120 horses. The viaduct is grade II listed.



## Barton Hall

Now known as Barton Hall Hotel, the building has a rich history dating back to its construction around 1550 by the Humphrey family. The Hall passed down the family until 1665 when it was sold to John Bridges who was best known for his work *The History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire*, a county-wide account compiled from historical records and local research. It is Grade II* listed.



## Barton Hall Orangery

is a late 18th century greenhouse which was purpose built for growing exotic fruit trees. It is Grade 1 listed.



## Boughton House

Boughton House took much of its present form under Ralph Montagu, later the 1st Duke of Montagu. He inherited a simpler Tudor house in 1683 and expanded it after serving as England's ambassador to France. The resulting house is often called "The English Versailles".
Boughton's grand architecture and grounds have also provided filming locations for major productions, including *Les Misérables* and *Napoleon*.

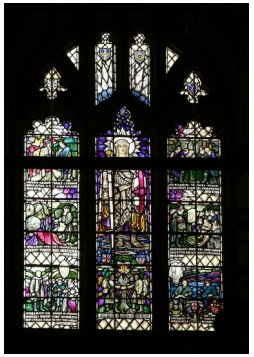


## American Memorial Window

St James' Church,
Grafton Underwood

This stained-glass window honours airmen of the 384th Bombardment Group (Heavy) who died on operations from the nearby airfield during the Second World War.





## American Memorial Window

St Andrew's Church,
Great Cransley

The stained-glass window commemorates the association between American forces and the area. It depicts the 1941 Atlantic Charter meeting between Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt.





## Deene Park

Deene Park has been the home of the Brudenell family since 1514. The Grade I listed country house dates back to the 14th century. One of the family's best-known members was the 7th Earl of Cardigan, who led the Charge of the Light Brigade at the Battle of Balaclava in 1854.



## Kirby Hall

Kirby Hall is one of England's finest Elizabethan and 17th-century houses. Today, parts of it are roofless, but the Great Hall and state rooms remain intact.
Anne of Denmark and her husband, King James I, stayed at the house. Kirby Hall has also featured in Kenneth Clark's *Civilisation*, Patricia Rozema's 1999 film adaptation of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, and *A Christmas Carol*. The site is cared for by English Heritage.





## Rushton Hall

The Tresham family lived at Rushton Hall from 1438 to 1612. Sir William Tresham acquired the estate after building his wealth through service to Henry V, including at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415. His son, Thomas Tresham, known as “the Builder”, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I in 1577. A committed Catholic, he was imprisoned for refusing to renounce his faith. Thomas’s eldest son, Francis, was implicated in the Gunpowder Plot, convicted of treason and died in the Tower of London.



## Triangular Lodge

Thomas Tresham of Rushton Hall built Triangular Lodge. Its triangular form symbolized the Holy Trinity, and its hidden Catholic meanings reflected the need for secrecy under persecution. Tresham's son Francis was linked to the Gunpowder Plot.



## Lyveden New Bield

An unfinished Elizabethan summer house, constructed for Sir Thomas Tresham, the fervent Roman Catholic of Rushton Hall. The New Bield was on the estate of Tresham’s second home, Lyveden Manor House, also known as Lyveden Old Bield. Just as Tresham’s smaller folly, Rushton Triangular Lodge, his principal estate, the New Bield has a design full of religious symbolism. Today it is in the care of the National Trust.



## Fotheringhay Castle

is a Scheduled Monument, recognised as nationally important and protected from unauthorised change. It was the birthplace of Edward IV and Richard III.

Mary, Queen of Scots spent much of her 18 years in captivity at Sheffield Castle and Sheffield Manor. Her final days were at Fotheringhay, where she was tried and convicted of treason. On 8th February she was executed on a scaffold in the castle’s great hall.



## St Mary and All Saints Fotheringhay

is noted for containing a mausoleum to leading members of the Yorkist dynasty of the Wars of the Roses. Fotheringhay was important not just locally but nationally. From the time of the Normans to the advent of the Stuarts, it was directly linked to the royal families of both Scotland and England. It was in Fotheringhay that Richard III, who would die on Bosworth Field and be buried in Leicester, was born and where Mary, Queen of Scots was imprisoned and executed.



## Lamport Hall

has a rich history that spans over 400 years beginning with its Tudor foundation in 1568 by wool merchant John Isham. The hall was later extended during the reign of Charles I and further developed by Justinian Isham in 1655. The architectural style of the hall is a blend of Tudor and classical elements. The hall’s interior is adorned with fine art and period furniture, and fine books, reflecting the wealth and tastes of the Isham family.



## Kelmarsh Hall

The site originally hosted a Jacobean manor, purchased in 1618 by John Hanbury, a successful wool merchant and later Sheriff of Northampton. The Hanbury family owned the estate for eight generations, maintaining both the old manor and surrounding lands until the 1860s.The estate was purchased in 1864 by Richard Christopher Naylor, a Liverpool banker and horse racing enthusiast, who improved the servants’ quarters and modernised estate facilities. In 1902, George Granville Lancaster acquired Kelmarsh Hall, passing it to his son Claude in 1924, and later to Claude’s sister Cicely in 1977. Cicely established the Kelmarsh Trust to preserve the estate for public benefit after her death in 1996.