

Where were Thomas HOSEMAN and Edward INGRAM buried?

Both were casualties of the "Battle of Boulcott", but died after 16 May 1846.

There were two post-event casualties as a result of the Battle of Boulcott. One was a citizen, Thomas HOSEMAN, a servant to Joseph Boulcott. An inquest was held for him. The other was a soldier, Edward INGRAM, who was buried with military honours.

I [Susan] wondered where these two had been buried, and whether there was any chance of a plot location or headstone. There was no reference to either of them online in Wellington's cemetery database or the "Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery" database. Barbara Mulligan, Wellington NZSG put me in touch with Nick Perrin who deals with research requests for the "Friends of Bolton Street". Here is what he has found for me.

2 Dec 2016

Edward Ingram was certainly buried in Bolton Street, but we have no official record of him. I found a report in 1933 that his stone was removed from his grave and given to St James Church, Lower Hutt. We have no record of Thomas Hoseman. Ingram is in the St Paul's Church Register but Hoseman is not [1]. This register does not record plot location, or even which cemetery, but this church was almost across the road from the cemetery about where the rear of the Beehive is now.

There was a whole lot of controversy about the memorials on the corner of Military Rd and High St around 1926, but this removal to St James was later than that. Someone complained in a letter to the editor that it was "almost sacrilege" to remove the stone from Ingram's grave. To make matters worse, his grave location was not recorded, and nor was his burial, so now it is lost completely after the stone was removed. Is it at St James? I'll check old maps to see if I can find him. I think the documentary evidence that he was buried at Bolton St is there.

We have an Honor Ingram who was in plot 121,B, removed for the motorway. I'll check a possible link. She(?) is the only Ingram we have in our records.

We have the Gillespies killed near Boulcott farm a couple of weeks before the so-called battle. Some articles say all the dead from Boulcott farm were buried at Bolton St, but we know that is wrong. Hoseman died in Te Aro from wounds, and I think Ingram also died after the "Battle".

More work needed, and the records are contradictory. I'll get back to you.

5 Dec 2016

I have checked further and it is certain that Ingram was buried in Bolton Street. At the time the cemetery had not been divided between the Anglican (Bolton Street) and Public (Sydney Street). That did not happen until George Selwyn convinced the "non-conformists" led by Jonas Woodward to agree to partition in 1849, after Selwyn conceded access to, and right of burial with non-conformists previously buried in what later became the Anglican (C of E) Cemetery. Previously Woodward and the other non-conformists campaigned against partition.

Amongst the non-conformists buried in what became consecrated C of E ground were the Gillespies who were killed a few weeks before the so-called Battle of Boulcott Farm. Gillespie's widow was amongst the 50 or so non-conformists claiming "Right of Sepulture"

in the agreement with Selwyn in 1849. I have previously researched all the names on that list, and it appears Mrs Gillespie was the only one to exercise her right of sepulture (but by then she had remarried to a Thomas Stack, so she was buried in the Gillespie grave as Christy Stack).

So there was really no such thing as the Public and C of E cemeteries in 1846, although various plans beforehand showed various attempts at partition. Maybe the non-conformists called it the "Public Cemetery" then just to be provocative.

I found in nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/boulcotts-farm-nz-wars-memorial the following facts (we hope they are facts):-

Ingram was buried with full military honours in Bolton St Cemetery "also known as Sydney Street Cemetery" (but these names only came after 1849, so this is not strictly true).

In 1923 a commemorative stone was found in the chapel (then derelict but being restored by the Early Settlers Historical Association, I think it was). This stone was erected by Lt George Page and surviving members of the 58th Regiment, dedicated to the memory of Ingram and six comrades killed at Boulcott farm or died of wounds received there. Whether or not this had ever been on Ingram's grave is debatable, but I suspect not. Hutt Borough Council was planning a memorial for the corner of Military Rd and High Street, and wanted this stone for the memorial. WCC agreed to this, despite opposition, saying it was "almost sacrilege", and that Ingram's "grave would forever remain unmarked" if the stone was taken (but it doesn't appear to have been on it anyway). The stone was taken, but then not used for the memorial, but remained in the hands of Hutt BC despite directives that it be returned to Bolton Street, but HBC claimed they would return it after the chapel refurbishment was completed. But they didn't, and in 1933 they handed it over to St James Church so they could erect it in their churchyard (behind where the HCC buildings are now). It was there until it was accidentally destroyed in the 1940s during construction work, but a smaller stone was made with the original inscription copied, and set into the ground in the churchyard, where it apparently still is.

(End of my precis and comments on the nzhistory web page).

I checked the St Paul's Church register compilation that I put in a spreadsheet to sort by name and date, and we have Edward Ingram listed there for 1846. Since the original St Paul's Church was where the rear of the Beehive is now, it is likely that those registered were buried in Bolton St, but we know some were not. I could not find Thomas Hoseman listed there. Neither are in NZ BDM because civil registration did not begin until part way through 1848. However, I did not check for "Oseman" or "Osman". (See a later reference [1].)

Ward's "Early Wellington" [2] lists deaths between 1840 and 1847, and on p.460 under the year 1846 he has the Gillespies and "John Osman, 23 years, killed by natives", but no mention of Edward Ingram [3]. But on page 461 Ward has "The following death notices have been taken from newspapers of the day" which includes for 1846 only "T Hoseman, of wounds inflicted in the Hutt".

Then I checked Margaret Alington's [4] "Unquiet Earth" [5], and on page 123 she has essentially the same story that I found in nzhistory (I think they got it from her). From all the above I conclude that I have to add Edward Ingram to the list of those

buried at Bolton Street. Surely Hoseman was as well, but here is less evidence for that. I did check the Mount Street listings in case he was a Catholic, but no sign of him there (but I did not try Oseman or Osman there either). I will check both Mount Street and St Paul's register again for variants of Hoseman (maybe they were cockney's dropping their 'Aitches' when transcribing the records!). The church cemetery records of that period range from appalling to non-existent, and the Public Cemetery was not much better until David Robertson became sexton in 1857.

It is amazing that Ingram doesn't feature in anyone's register- perhaps it was left to the British military to do their own paperwork on serving soldiers. Maybe someone needs to chase British military records.

Finally, I add that I checked our records for any Ingrams, and we have only one - Honor Ingram buried 1928. At that late date, she could only be buried at Bolton/Sydney St with next of kin. As she is our only Ingram, and I hoped to find she was a relative of Edward. But she isn't. Her maiden name was Watty, and she is buried with her Watty next of kin. (This was a useful bit of research from my point of view, but was a red herring in the search for Edward.)

6 Dec 2016

Nick, Where is the original Register for St Paul's Church?

It exists, in the care of the Anglican Church, I think. I have never seen it, but Margaret Alington had a photo taken of one page to publish in "Unquiet Earth" [5] (but it was the wrong page!). I used an on-line transcription in date order, which I put into excel and sorted on name.

The photo on page 13 of "Unquiet Earth" is labelled "First burials recorded in the Church of England Register 1840" but it is actually a page of baptisms in 1840. She was most embarrassed about this when I asked her. She said they were in a rush, but did not blame the photographer. The source says "St Paul's Cathedral", so it was there in 1978, it may now be in National Archives? (both currently inaccessible due to earthquake I think.)

I would like to see it myself. Unfortunately it does not list place of burial, and some are known to be buried elsewhere.

It is the St Paul's Church Register, 1840 to 1866. This is the original St Paul's (or as I jokingly say - the even older old St Paul's).

7 Dec 2016

I asked Priscilla Williams about it last night at our ["Friends of Bolton Street"] committee meeting, and she says to ask the Anglican Diocesan Office archivist [about the Register]. It may be held at the present St Paul's on Molesworth St. I really think we ought to get it copied, as it has births and marriages as well.

I also [re-]checked the dates in St Paul's Church Register, and confirm they have him [Ingram] for 24th, Hoseman (as Hessman) for 21st May [6], and also there is James French, aged 27, died 23 June 1846 "wounded in fight at Hutt". That means French is also almost certainly in Bolton St!

Last night at our committee meeting we decided we were adding Ingram and Hoseman to our burial list, and with the same level of documentary proof, I will have to add James French as well.

Later notes:

[1] After a check for variant spellings of Hoseman, Nick found him!!!!

St Paul's Church Register has him as "HESSMAN". It is obviously him, because it says:-
Hessman, Thomas, aged 25, 21st May 1846"

Since he died at Joseph Boulcott's in Te Aro, there is really nowhere else he could have been buried other than Bolton Street. This means he is almost as proven as Ingram (only lacks a mention that he was buried in Bolton Street).

[2] "Early Wellington" by Louis E Ward is an online text held as part of the NZ Electronic Text Collection at nzetc.victoria.ac.nz

[3] See p.136 in "Early Wellington" for mention of Sergeant Ingram.

[4] In 1977, Margaret Alington was largely responsible for the formation of "The Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery".

[5] "Unquiet Earth: A History of the Bolton Street Cemetery" by Margaret H Alington, 1978.

[6] In the coroner's inquest for Thomas Hoseman, George Dalrymple Monteith, surgeon, states under oath that HOSEMAN died Thursday, 21st May 1846. See transcription

accessible at: <http://www.nzpictures.co.nz/hutt.htm>

Original source: Hoseman, Thomas, Archives NZ -Archway Probates Index. Court Wellington, Agency AAOM, Series 6029, Accession W3265, Box 1, Rec No 7. Item Code 22206854, Filing Years 1846-1846.

Conclusions:

Both Edward INGRAM and Thomas HOSEMAN [transcribed as HESSMAN] are entered as burials in the early "St Paul's Church Register - 1840 to 1866".

At the time [May 1846], the [Wellington] cemetery had not been divided between the Anglican (Bolton Street) and Public (Sydney Street). That did not happen until George Selwyn convinced the "non-conformists" led by Jonas Woodward to agree to partition in 1849, after Selwyn conceded access to, and right of burial with non-conformists previously buried in what later became the Anglican (C of E) Cemetery. Previously Woodward and the other non-conformists campaigned against partition.

Since Thomas HOSEMAN died at Joseph Boulcott's in Te Aro, there is really nowhere else he could have been buried other than Bolton Street.

As the original St Paul's Church was where the rear of the Beehive is now, it is likely that those registered were buried in Bolton St, but we know some were not. However, Edward INGRAM is presumed buried there.

No known plot locations or headstones.

HOSEMAN and INGRAM will be added to the "Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery" database of burials.