

-:STALLINGTON:-

Stallington is a small hamlet one mile north-west of Fulford which once belonged to Stone parish. At the time of the 1881 census there were 12 households in Stallington housing 78 residents. These buildings included Stallington Hall (originally known as Stallington Grange), a fine red brick building standing in it's own parkland and has extensive views over the surrounding countryside.



Front and rear views of Stallington Hall - *photographs courtesy of William Roylance 'Roy' Mayer*

Stallington Hall was occupied by Sir Smith Child, Bart, his wife Sarah, daughter Elizabeth, and eleven staff in 1881. Smith Child's ancestry can be traced back to a William Chylde who married Eardley in Audley in 1623 and who lived at Boyle's Hall in Audley. Smith Child himself was born in 1808 and married Sarah Hill in Fulford on 28th January 1835. He was M.P. for North Staffordshire from 1851 until 1859 and for West Staffordshire between 1868 and 1874. He was created a Baronet in 1868. He was noted for his philanthropy, his many gifts to churches and towards founding schools, and his generous contributions to the North Staffordshire Infirmary Building Fund. He died on 27th March 1896, two years after his wife, and is buried at St. Nicholas in Fulford. His grandson Hill Child inherited the Baronety. In 1924 Sir Hill Child took an appointment in the King's Household and so sold Stallington Hall to the City of Stoke-on-Trent who made it into a home for the mentally ill, both adults and children. In November 1940 Fire fighting and ARP wardens were billeted in the newly constructed buildings (Villas) at Stallington Hall prior to proceeding to Coventry

The Hill Child family were missed after they moved to London as they had done a lot of good work in the community, especially in connection with St. Nicholas Church and Fulford School, but they had also shown many acts of kindness during sickness in the village, giving gifts such as soup, coal, flannel and blankets.

There was another family associated with Stallington Hall and that is the Mayer family who lived in the Lodge. Stallington Hall Lodge was built in about 1930 and Frederick John Mayer and his wife Ethel May were the first people to live there. Frederick John, who was the son of Frederick John Mayer who worked at Hill & Sons Nursery at Spot Acre for more than 20 years, had originally joined the staff at Stallington as a groom to Brigadier Hill Child at the end of WW1. He had served in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps during the war. He continued to work as a groom until about 1930 when he had then become head gardener and had been given the newly built Stallington Hall Lodge for him and hisfamily to live in.



Two views of Stallington Hall Lodge - *photographs courtesy of William Roylance 'Roy' Mayer*

Frederick and Ethel had two children, Frederick Edmund who was born in 1928 and William Roylance, known as Roy, who was born in 1930, Roylance being the name of one of the Hill Child family.

Frederick Edmund too became head gardener at Stallington Hall, taking the position about two years after his father died in 1950. He and his wife Dorothy lived at Bakers Cottage which is believed to have been owned by the Hill Child family and which is situated up a small track off the Stallington to Fulford Road just to the south of Stallington Hall. He remained head gardener there until his death in 1999.



Frederick John Mayer in Stallington Hall rose garden - *photographs courtesy of William Roylance 'Roy' Mayer*

Across the fields from Stallington Hall there was a large grey factory where aeroplanes were manufactured during World War 2. The German Air Force tried to bomb it several times, but without success.

Some 37 different surnames were included in Stallington in 1881:-

Adams	Foster	Morgan
Ainsworth	Gallagher	Pegg
Ash	Greaves	Phillips
Averill	Haddows	Rushton
Barber	Hall	Shaw
Boulton	Hammersey	Sherlock
Bowering	Harvey	Sims
Cartlidge	Heath	Smith
Chell	Heaton	Stillito
Child	Hill	Walklate
Cross	Lowe	Wilner
Egge	Mear	
Eyes	Middleton	

SUMMARY OF THE 1881 CENSUS RETURNS FOR STALLINGTON:-

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	AGE	BORN	HEAD'S OCCUPATION	WIFE	IN HOUSE
1 – Charles Heaton	23	Endon	solicitor (Stall'ton Grange)	-	9
2 – Josiah Mellor	56	Leek	agricultural labourer	Ann	3
3 – Thomas Berrisford	24	Leek	farm servant	Ann	4
4 – Thomas Walklate	68	Stoke	retired farmer	Elizabeth	3
5 – Adam Selliton	48	Cheadle	retired farmer	Elizabeth	2
6 – Thomas Boulton	39	Stone	agricultural labourer	Mary	3
7 – Thomas Sims	29	Horton	agricultural labourer	Elizabeth	3
8 – Henry Averill	42	Cheadle	farmer with 69 acres	Ann	8
9 – George Mear	56	Cheadle	farmer with 95 acres	widower	5
10 – George Chell	37	Norton	farmer	Lucy	8
11 – John Shaw	38	Stone	farmer with 216 acres	Ann	8
12 – William Morgan	46	Burslem	gardener	Elizabeth	3
13 – Smith Child	73	Tunstall	Baronet (Stall'ton Hall)	Sarah	14
14 – John Foster	50	Kelsall	farmer	Ann	6