

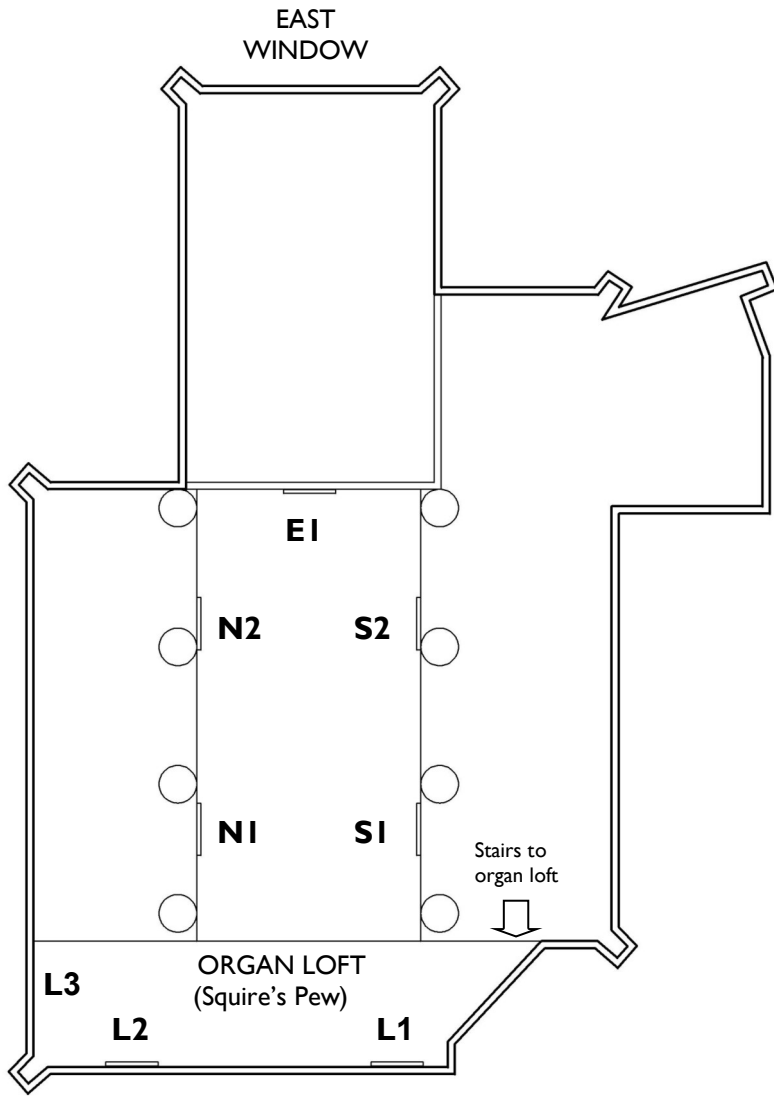
History of the Hatchments



St Peter's Church
Tollerton
Nottinghamshire

By
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Position of the Hatchments in the Church



The diagram above shows the position of the hatchments on the upper walls of the church.

The Organ loft (Squire's Pew) is situated above the West door entrance and access is by a stairway as shown.

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Origin and Use of Hatchments

Hatchments are funeral memorials bearing the coat of arms of someone who has died. They are usually made from wood or canvas and are normally large tablets suitable for hanging on walls and are typically diamond shaped. The term probably originates from the early 16th century based on the obsolete French *hachement* meaning 'adornment'(OED).

The hatchment, displaying the deceased's coat of arms, was painted, often by the coach-painter, at the death of the person in question and was hung on the house-front or gate until the mourning period was over. After this period it was hung in the church, where many are still to be found today.

The practice of displaying hatchments at death was common in the 17th and 18th centuries, but died out by the end of the 19th century. Many have vanished since this time and there are probably less than 30 in the churches of Southwell Diocese. The eight Tollerton Church hatchments date from 1770 to 1875 and relate to deaths at the hall and the rectory.

Rules for Painting Hatchments

The rules of heraldry were strictly observed in painting coats of arms; a shield for a man and a lozenge for a woman. Hatchments are described as being viewed from the back. The background is either black or half black/half white divided vertically, termed left (sinister) and right (dexter) when viewed from the back. A black background denotes a spinster, bachelor or widower; a black and white background denotes a man dying with a wife surviving; a white and black background means the wife has died and her husband is surviving. A husband and wife's arms are on the left and right of the shield respectively and when a shield was 'quartered' the principal arms were always in the first quarter. Quartering is the method of joining different coats of arms together in one shield by dividing the shield into equal parts and placing different coats of arms in each division. A skull indicates the last of the line but cherubs etc have no significance. The skill of the artist can be seen in the varying quality of hatchments and in the Tollerton hatchments some are reversed in error.

Tollerton Arms

All the hatchments in St Peter's church except for one are of the Pendock-Barry-Neale family, who were either Lords of the Manor or rectors in the case of younger sons from the Middle Ages to 1847. The history of the families and their arms is as follows.

The *Barry* family held the Lordship from early times, certainly in a direct line from Sir Richard Barry, who was given the Tollerton one in 1298. The line ended with a daughter, Matilda Barry, who married Richard Pendock, thus making him Lord around the year 1545.

In heraldic terms the Barry Arms were 'Argent, three bars embattled gules' This translates as a shield having a silver ground with three red horizontal bars. The top of each bar is indented to represent battlements. The crest was a tower adorned with three roses.

The *Pendocks* continued the line until 1683 when Philip Pendock's son, Thomas, died aged 15. John Neale, the husband of Philip's second daughter Anne, bought out the other two sisters and became Lord of the Manor.

The Pendock arms were 'Gules, two bars gemelles argent; on a chief argent five trefoils azure' that is a shield with a red ground with the top third silver on which are five blue clover leaves. In the lower portion of the red shield are two pairs of narrow silver bars. The crest was the top half of a pelican.

The *Neales* continued the succession until the line ended in 1847. In 1812 the Prince Regent granted a licence to Pendock Neale to adopt the name and arms of Barry. Pendock Neale had been High Sheriff of Nottingham. He was known as Pendock Barry. His son, born Pendock Barry Neale, became Pendock Barry Barry. He founded the mausoleum in the church and died a bachelor in 1847, the end of his line.

The Neale arms were 'Argent, a fess gules between, in chief two crescents and in base a bugle horn both sable' that is a silver shield with a red bar across the centre, above which are two black crescents and below a bugle horn. The crest was a stag.

The estate was bought in 1847 by Mrs Susannah Davies, whose hatchment is also in the church. This is the only hatchment not connected with the Pendock-Barry-Neales.

Description of the Hatchments

There are eight hatchments; five in the nave and three in the organ loft or Squire's Pew.

NI North wall west end



Hatchment of Mrs Susanna Neale 17?-1811. Wife of the Lord of the Manor, Pendock Neale, afterwards Pendock Barry, died 1833. Daughter of the Reverend Thomas Neale, Thimbleby, Lincs.

Note that she and her husband were cousins and both Neales so their arms are identical except for the small crescent in the centre of hers, which indicates that her father was the second son. Susanna died before Pendock Neale assumed the Barry arms, so the Neale arms are principal with Pendock and Barry joined and with the white and black background.

Sinister background black

Quartered: 1st and 4th argent, a fess gules between in chief 2 crescents and in base a bugle-horn sable (crescents and horn should be gules, the horn stringed vert)(Neale); 2nd, gules, 2 bars gemelles argent, and on a chief argent 5 trefoils azure(Pendock); 3rd, argent, 3 bars embattled gules (Barry); impaling similar quarterly, as dexter, with a crescent gules for difference.

Crest: none. Cherub's head above shield

Motto: Mors Janua Vitae - Death is the gate to life.

N2 North wall east end



Hatchment of Reverend John Pendock Neale 1769-1816, Rector of Tollerton and cousin of the Lord of the Manor.

The Rector married his wife Jane Bland of Mansfield in 1745, and her arms are joined with his. Although his surname was Neale only the Pendock and Barry arms with their crests are given. The black and white background means he predeceased his wife.

Dexter background Black

Quartered: 1st and 4th gules, 2 bars gemelles argent, and on a chief argent 5 trefoils azure (Pendock); 2nd and 3rd gules three bars embattled argent (Barry) (the latter with tinctures reversed as in S2); impaling argent, on a bend sable 3 pheons or, in sinister chief a crescent gules for difference (Bland).

Crest: On top of a tower gules a demi-pelican with wings endorsed or, vulning her breast proper (Pendock).

Mantling: gules and argent

Motto: Mors Janua Vitae - Death is the gate to life.

EI Over chancel arch



Hatchment of Pendock Barry (formerly Pendock Neale) 1751-1833 Lord of the Manor who assumed the name and arms of Barry after his wife, Susanna's death.

His hatchment appears to have his arms (quartered) only on it. The Barry arms are now the principal together with Pendock and Neale and all three crests.

Dark red background

Quartered: 1st and 4th, gules three bars embattled argent (Barry); 2nd, Barry of six gules and argent, on a chief argent five trefoils azure (Pendock); 3rd, argent a fess gules between in chief two crescents and in base a bugle horn stringed sable (Neale)

Crests: Dexter, on a mount vert a stag statant or charged with three lozenges in fess argent (Neale). Centre, the top of a tower gules charged below the battlements with three roses in fess argent (tinctures should be reversed) (Barry). Sinister, on the top of a tower gules a demi-pelican with wings endorsed vulning her breast proper.

Supporters: Two lions rampant guardant argent murally gorged gules, chained or, each holding a banner with the arms of Barry

Motto: A Rege et Victoria (Barry) From the king and by conquest

S2 South wall east end



Hatchment of Pendock Barry Barry 1783-1847 Lord of the Manor, the third generation in the series of hatchments.

He was the son of Pendock Neale, later Barry and Susanna. This is the hatchment of a bachelor. His father had assumed the Barry arms and these are all that appear on the shield, although the three crests are above. The skull indicates he was the last of his line.

Black background

Gules, 3 bars embattled argent (Barry)

Crests: Dexter, on a mount vert a stag statant argent charged with the lozenges in fess azure (Neale). Centre, the top of a tower gules charged below the battlements with a fess argent on which are three roses. (tinctures should be reversed) (Barry). Sinister (Neale), Sinister, On top of a tower gules a demi-pelican with wings endorsed or, vulning her breast proper (Pendock).

Supporters: Two lions rampant guardant argent murally gorged gules, chained gules, each holding a banner with the arms of Barry

Motto: A Rege et Victoria (Barry) From the king and by conquest

Skull at foot

SI South wall west end



Hatchment of Mrs Susannah Davies, Lady of the Manor 1847-1872

Mrs Davies bought the estate on Pendock Barry's death in 1847. Her tomb is in the churchyard and this is the last hatchment known to have been painted when a death occurred at Tollerton Hall or Rectory.

The Davies' arms, a goat, quartered with an arrowhead on a gold bend (unidentified) and lions with a saltire cross (Cupper).

Black background; lozenge.

Quartered: 1st and 4th, sable, a goat argent, attired or, standing on a child proper, swaddled gules banded argent, feeding on a tree vert (Davies); 2nd, or, a pheon sable; 3rd, argent, a saltire sable, and on a chief or three lions rampant gules (Cupper)

Crest: None

Motto: None

LI Organ loft



Hatchment of Pendock Neale 1728-1773 Lord of the Manor.

This is the oldest hatchment in the church and is a good example. It shows the arms of Pendock and Barry joined with those of Harriot Elliot, his wife. She was from Port Elliot in Cornwall. Strangely the Neale arms, his surname, are not included. The helmet, crests and arms are well executed.

Black/white background

Two coats per fess, in chief, gules two bars gemelles argent, on a chief argent five trefoils azure (Pendock), in base, gules three bars embattled argent (Barry); impaling argent, a fess gules between two bars gemelles wavy azure (Elliot).

Crest: On top of a tower gules a demi-pelican with wings endorsed or, vulning her breast proper (Pendock).

Mantling: gules and argent

Motto: Pro Prole Simper - For my offspring ever

L2 Organ loft



Hatchment of Reverend John Neale 1729-1781 Rector of Tollerton.

John was the brother of Pendock (L1) and although this was painted within eight years of L1 it is very crude. Possibly the good coach painter had left. The clover leaves are missing from the Pendock quarters and the Barry bars are straight and not embattled. His wife, Elizabeth's arms (Lowe) are joined, but in contrast the stag is well painted. Elizabeth was the daughter of John Lowe of Denby, Derbyshire. She died in 1795.

Dexter background black

Quartered: 1st and 4th, gules two bars gemelles and a chief argent (Pendock) (trefoils omitted), 2nd and 3rd, argent three bars gules (Barry), but the bars are not embattled; impaling azure, a hart statant argent (Lowe)

Crest: None

Motto: None

L3 Organ loft



Hatchment of Mrs Elizabeth Neale 1713-1795, widow of the Rector. Although small, 2ft by 2ft, this is well executed. The lozenge shape with the black background indicates a widow's hatchment and the colours are accurate.

John and Elizabeth Neale were the parents of Pendock Neale (later Barry), who succeeded his uncle as Lord of the Manor in 1773. He heads the next generations represented by hatchments N1, N2, S2 and E1, which include excellent examples of the art – full achievements i.e. supporters, banners and crests. Only Susanna Neale's has the Barry colours round the correct way

Black background, lozenge surmounted by a scallop

Two coats per fess, in chief gules two bars argent (Pendock), in base, argent two bars embattled gules (Barry); impaling Lowe as in L2

Crest: None

Motto: None

Glossary of terms

A Rege et Victoria - From the king and by conquest

Achievements - coats of arms in general, and particularly those funeral escutcheons, which being placed upon the fronts of houses or in churches, or elsewhere, set forth the rank and circumstances of the deceased.

Argent - silver

Attired - with antlers or horns

Azure - blue

Banded - decorated with a band or strip

Bar gemelles - 2 narrow bars

Base - lower part of the shield

Bend - a broad strip 45° from dexter chief to sinister base. A bend sinister and per bend sinister are reversals of the above

Charges - any device on the shield or crest, other than divisions or ordinaries.

Chief - top third of the shield

Crescent - a half moon

Demi - upper half of a creature's body

Dexter - right hand side looking from the back of the hatchment

Difference - variations of the original arms of a family, or marks attached to them for the purpose of pointing out the several branches

Embattled - a crenellated partition line or ordinary

Endorsed - open, displayed

Fess(e) - a broad strip horizontally across the shield centre

Field - the basic surface of the shield

Gorged - collared

Guardant - facing forward

Gules - red

Impaling - setting side by side two coats of arms or more in the same shield

Lozenge - a diamond shape

Mantling - ornamental foliage decoration around a shield

Mors Janua Vitae - Death is the gate to (eternal) life

Murally - brick patterned

Ordinaries - broad strips ON a field, as distinct from PART of the field .. fess, bend, chief etc

Partitions/Divisions – lines that divide a shield or charges. Usually prefaced per bend, per fess etc

Pelican - pelican

Per fess(e) - a lineal division of a shield horizontally across the shield centre

Pheon - head of a dart or arrow

Proper - the same shape or colour as in real life rather than in heraldic convention

Quartered - when the shield is divided into four or more squares for the reception of different coats of arms

Or - gold

Rampant - rearing up

Sable - black

Saltire - the cross of St Andrew

Scallop - shaped like a scallop

Sinister - left hand side looking from the back of the hatchment

Statant - standing still

Stringed - description of instrument strings, bugle cords etc

Supporters – humans or animals placed on either side of the shield to support it. Usually granted to Peers of the realm or Corporations

Swaddled - Wrapped or dressed

Trefoil - three leaves like a clover leaf

Trippant - walking (of a stag)

Vert - green

Vulning - wounding her breast with her beak

Wavy - a partition line in the form of waves

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