

Thomas Amos of Hythe (1838–1908)

Mayor 1904



Family Background

Thomas Amos was born in 1838 in Faversham, Kent, the only son of Thomas Amos, a miller and baker originally from Molash, and his wife, Sarah of Shadoxhurst. By 1861, the family had settled in Hythe High Street, where Thomas, then aged 22, was already working as a baker, continuing the family trade.

Marriage and Children

In 1889, at about 50 years of age, Thomas married Jane Elizabeth Maycock, the eldest daughter of William Maycock, a local painter and plumber. They had four children: Thomas (born c.1890), William Hope (born 1897), Ella Mary (born 1893), and George Onslow Amos, who died in infancy. Their son William Hope Amos was later killed at the Somme in 1916.

Occupation and Business

Thomas Amos spent most of his working life as a baker at No. 65 High Street, Hythe. He retired from business in 1896. The premises were sold in 1905 and continued as a bakery under new ownership. (It is noted only for location that the shop later suffered bomb damage during the Second World War.)

Public Office and Civic Life

Following his retirement, Amos devoted himself to public service. In 1899 he was elected Councillor for the Middle Ward, serving until his death. In 1904 he became Mayor of Hythe.

He held numerous roles within the town, including:

Trustee of St. Bartholomew's Hospital

Director of the Hythe and Sandgate Gas Company

Manager of the Hythe Institute

Parish Churchwarden

Member of the Burial Board and Church Council

School Manager, with a particular interest in the National Schools

He was especially concerned with the welfare of the town, including proposals to assist the unemployed through relief funds and public works.

Residence: The Priory Hillside

In later life, Amos lived at "The Priory" in Oak Walk, Hythe, identified on maps as plot 221 on Hillside.



The funeral

Amid many signs of mourning, the funeral of the late Councillor Thomas Amos took place on Tuesday, the first part of the service being held at the Parish Church.

Shortly before 2.30 p.m. the Mayor and Corporation wended their way from the Town Hall to the Church, preceded by the Town Sergeant, bearing the emblems draped in crepe, and soon after the half hour the funeral cortege came slowly out of the late Councillor's residence, near by the church, followed by the mourners, the chief of whom were: Mr. Thomas Amos (son), Alderman W. Maycock (father-in-law), and Mr. Cheeseman (brother-in-law).

As the cortege entered the church, it was preceded by the Vicar (the Rev. H. D. Dale) and the Rev. Stewart-Wall, who conjointly conducted the service. The procession then re-formed and made its way to the eastern portion of the Cemetery. In the north-west corner thereof, the final obsequies were performed by the Vicar. A large assembly had congregated.

Burial

Thomas Amos died in January 1908 at his residence, "The Priory," aged 69. He was buried at St. Leonard's Church, Hythe, in plot 132 with his wife.

Grave Inscriptions Plot 132

"In loving memory of Thomas Amos who died January

1908 aged 69 years

Lord now lettest thy servant depart in peace

Also of his wife Jane Elizabeth who died April 24th 1938 aged 80 years.

Grave Inscriptions Plot 131

Thomas Amos died 13th February 1962

George Onslow Amos died 19th Decr 1892 aged 10 months

Ella Mary Amos died 10th October 1973 aged 90 years

Sacred to the memory of Thomas Amos died 8th June 1880

aged 77 years

Also Sarah his wife who died August 1886 aged 81 years.