

The Families of Upton House

Throughout the brief history of Upton House, three families witnessed their share of tragedy, intrigue and happiness here.

Feckless Christopher Spurrier built the mansion in 1816 to impress his father-in-law. He quickly squandered his inheritance on gambling and a doomed political career, and was forced to sell.



In 1828 Upton was bought by Edward Tichborne with an unexpected fortune inherited from a distant cousin.

Edward's nephew and heir, Roger Tichborne, spent many happy summer here, but was later lost at sea when his boat was wrecked off South America in 1854, and presumed dead. This led to the infamous 'Tichborne Claimant' scandal, when in 1866 a man arrived from Australia claiming to be the missing heir. The legal case bankrupted the family and they too, were forced to sell.



© The Print Collector/Heritage Images

Upton House during the 1800s by Edmund Havell junior, engraved by Thomas Picken.

From Family Home to Public Park

William and Frances Llewelin took up residence in 1901, but Frances tragically died in a car accident in 1907. Their children went on to become pillars of the community: *Bill* was a pioneer in the prison service, *Jay* served as Minister for Food during WW2, and *Mary* became the first female Sheriff of Dorset and lady Mayor of Poole. Bill gifted the estate to the people of Poole after he died in 1957.

1. Bill Llewelin planting his Oak Tree 1901, assisted by his sister Mary, and brother Jay
2. William Llewelin senior 1856-1927 by Julia B. Folkard
3. Frances with Bill and Jay Llewelin by Julia B. Folkard



Can you find it?
The tree known as "Bill's Oak" was planted by Bill Llewelin in May 1901 and is still here today!

Scan here to find out more



Designed by Imagemakers. Tel: 01837 840717. www.imagemakers.uk.com



Your next point of interest is this way!