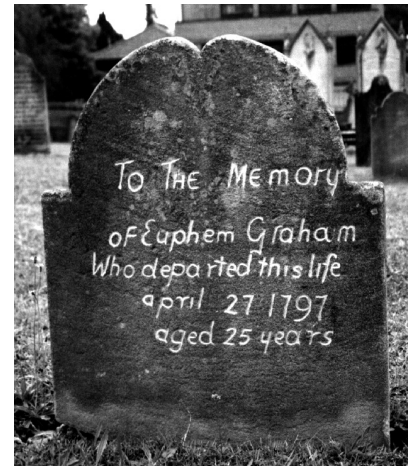


HISTORY RESTORED

About three years after the original suggestion, the restoration of the headstone of Eupham Graham, believed to be the third oldest remaining in St. Johns Cemetery at Parramatta, has been completed.

Eupham, born near Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1772, was the daughter of Charles Graham, a Spoonmaker, and Elizabeth (nee Robertson). On 22nd April, 1791, when only nineteen years of age, Eupham was convicted at Perth, Scotland, with her cousin, Helen Lowrie, of the reset of goods stolen from the shop of William Dow, a merchant in Perth. They were sentenced to 14 years transportation and arrived in Sydney on 14th February, 1792, aboard "*The Pitt*", which carried 120 sick on board. One of these was probably Helen Lowrie, as she died five weeks after landing. Eupham may have also been ill, which could have contributed to her early death.



Nothing is known of her life in Australia, until 2nd June 1794, when she and Matthew Lock ("*Surprise*" 1790 - 7 years for theft) were living on Matthew's farm at Mulgrave Place, where their twins, Thomas and Elizabeth, were born. On 16th September, 1795, another child, Mary, was born. Matthew had received a "Permit to Settle" from Lt. Governor Grose.

Extensive research has failed to find a marriage for Matthew and Eupham, and there is no record of her death in the registers of St. Johns Cemetery.

Sadly she died on 27th April, 1797, at the age of 25 years, however, the cause is unknown.

Permission for the restoration was gained from the St. John's Heritage Committee, who insisted that it must retain its original lettering style, wording and spelling; also there was to be no painting.

The work was carried out by Damien Barker, Stonemason, who is a descendant of Matthew and Eupham, through their son Thomas Graham. As the stone is only about 2 inches thick, it had to be removed from the ground and laid flat during carving, to avoid any breakage. It has now been set into the ground using steel rods and cement, and hopefully will serve as a record of her existence for another 200 years.

Coral Haeusler