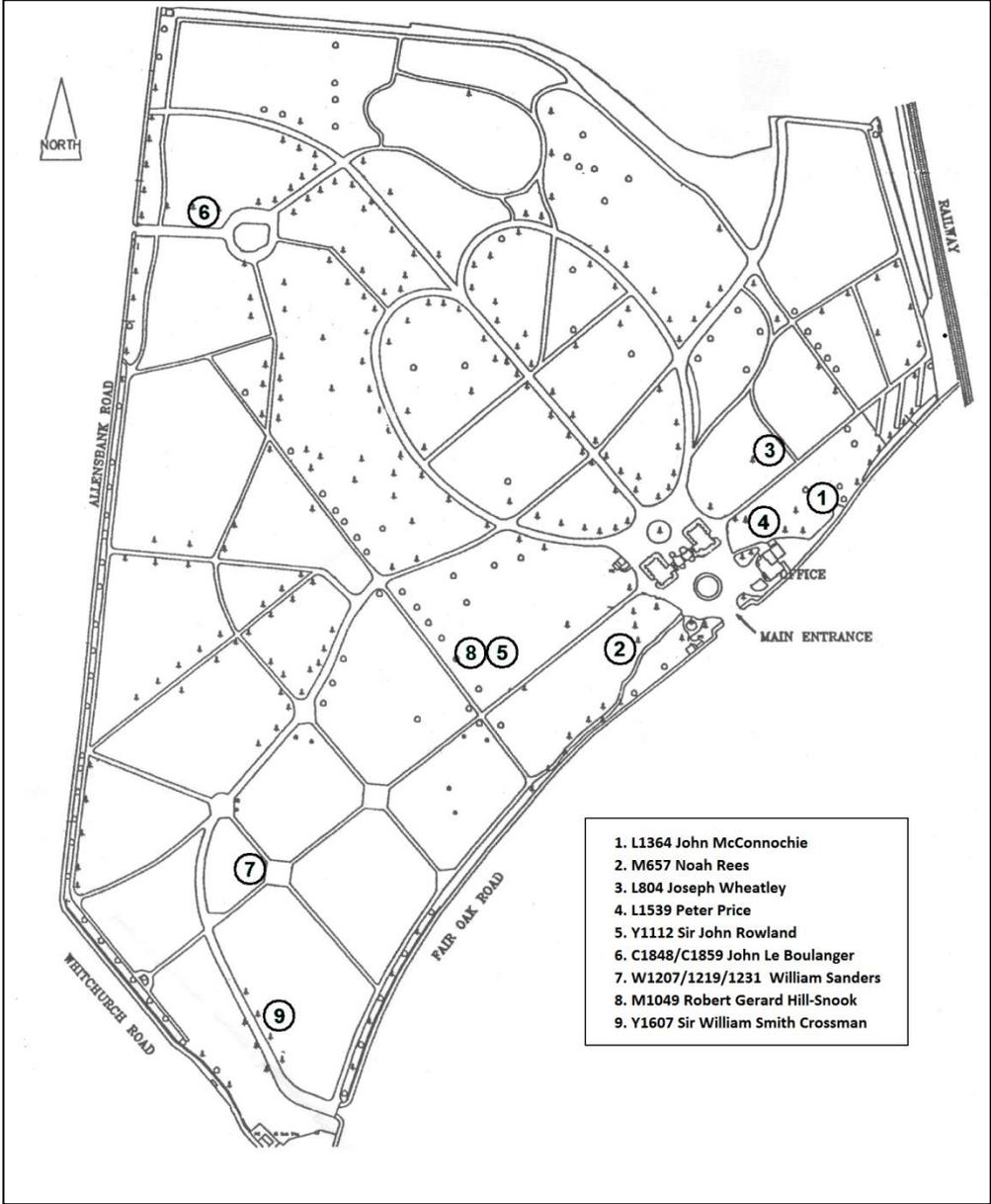


**MORE MAYORS &
COUNCILLORS
in CATHAYS CEMETERY**



The Friends of Cathays Cemetery



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1 John McConnochie (1824-1889)

Mayor 1879 - L1364

Born on 9th October 1823, at Port Patrick, Wigtownshire, where his father was engaged on the harbour works under Sir John Rennie. He was educated at the local school and at the Andersonian University, Glasgow, with a view to becoming a civil engineer, and his training commenced by his being placed for a short time to work in a mason's yard. For mechanical engineering he was then apprenticed to Messrs. Robert Napier and Sons, Glasgow; and acted for a short time as engineer on board the steamer running between Ardrossan and Belfast. He was next placed in the office of Mr. Thomas Kyle, engineering surveyor, Glasgow, whence he was transferred in 1846 to that of Messrs. Walker Burges and Cooper, London, by whom he was sent as assistant resident engineer to the government harbour works at St. Catherine's Bay, Jersey. There he remained until 1855, with the exception of one season when he was sent to assist Mr. Nicholas Douglass in the erection of the Bishop Rock Lighthouse on the Scilly Islands.

In 1855 he went to Cardiff as resident engineer for Messrs. Walker Burges and Cooper on the extension works constructing the East Dock. On the death of James Walker in 1862 he was appointed chief engineer of the Bute Docks, which position he retained during the rest of his life. He designed and carried out the Roath Basin, Roath Dock.

He was returned to the town council on 28th March 1867 for the South Ward, becoming Mayor in 1879 and subsequently an alderman of the borough and justice of the peace. In the role of Mayor, on 27th October 1880, he had the honour of laying the foundation stone of the free library in Working Street. In politics he was a Conservative. In 1885 he was appointed by the corporation as governor of Wells' Charity, in 1886 as chairman of the finance committee, and in November 1888 as chairman of the public works committee. He also sat on the pilotage board as a representative of the Bute Trustees. McConnochie married early in life. At the time of his death he was residing in Park Place. He died 23rd March 1889 leaving a son, his wife dying a few years previously.



Ham - Own work - Wikimedia Commons

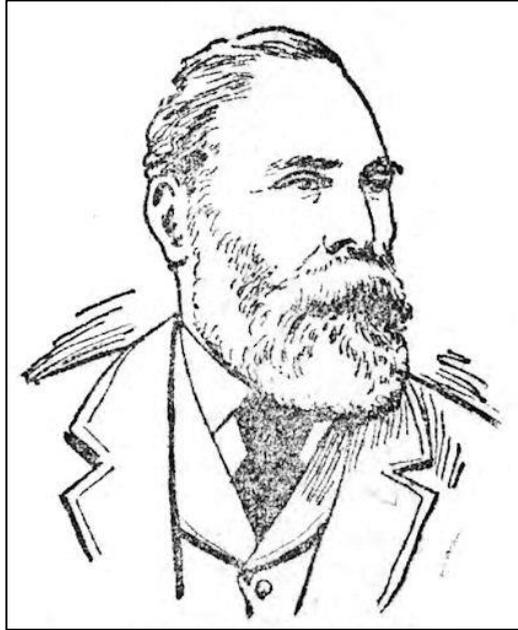
Park House, formerly known as McConnochie House, is a town house in Cardiff. It was built for John McConnochie, by the Gothic revivalist architect William Burges. It is a Grade I listed building. "By its powerful early French Gothic style, its steep roofs and boldly textured walls (the house) revolutionized Cardiff's domestic architecture." Commissioned by McConnochie in 1871, the house was completed externally by 1874, although decoration of the interior continued, somewhat slowly, until McConnochie's Cardiff mayoral year of 1880.

2 Noah Rees (1834-1897)

Councillor - PLOT M657

Mr Rees, one of the most successful business men in Cardiff, carrying on the trade of a hay and corn merchant in Working Street, was born in, Llansannor, Glamorganshire, in 1834. He received his education at a private school in Cowbridge, and about 40 years ago moved to Cardiff. He started business on a small scale, and then took premises in Working Street. These were burned

down, and Mr Rees built on the same site, extensive premises where he carried on business in conjunction with his son.

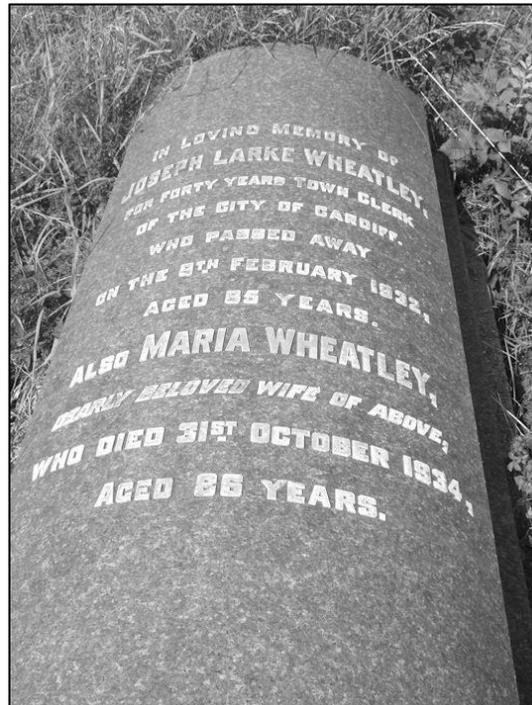


He was closely connected with the political and religious work in the town. He was a staunch Liberal, and represented the Riverside Ward on the Cardiff Corporation from 1890 to 1896, when ill-health compelled him to resign. Previous to this he unsuccessfully fought the Central Ward for the Liberals. He was a member of the Executive of the Liberal Association. He was also connected with the Congregational churches in the town, first at Mount Stuart Square, when the Rev. John Davies, who was a great political and religious power in Cardiff at the time, was minister and then at Ebenezer Welsh Congregational Chapel, when the Rev. John Morgan Evans was minister. At the death of Mr Evans, he, with Alderman Dr. Edgar Jones, started the cause at Richmond Road, and since its foundation he has been the superintendent of the Sunday school and treasurer of the church. He was a very benevolent and philanthropic gentleman, and his house was always open for hospitality to ministers and others attending meetings in the town. He helped churches in their difficulties, and was trustee for several in the town and country. In business life he was very highly esteemed, and his business connections extended throughout the country. He was intimately acquainted with all the farmers in the Vale of Glamorgan, and was always ready to lend them a helping hand. He was a member of the Court of Governors of the University College, Cardiff, and at the founding of the medical school he gave a

subscription of 50 guineas. He was twice married. His first wife was the daughter of the Rev. Mr Pritchard, Congregational minister, Sketrog, near Brecon and his second Miss Jenkins, of Cliff Farm, near Cowbridge. He left several sons and a daughter.

Noah Rees, of 56, Richmond Road was buried in the New Cemetery, Cardiff at the age of 63. There was a large cortege, which included many public men and employees. The services at the house and at the Cemetery were conducted by the Rev. W. V. Parry, minister of the Congregational Church, Richmond Road, assisted by the Rev. J. Davies (Taihirion).

3 Joseph Larke Wheatley (1846-1932) Town Clerk , 1878–1919 - PLOT L804



A Solicitor; JP City of Cardiff; and Town Clerk, from 1878 to 1919; and for his services to the City, the Cardiff Corporation conferred upon him the Honorary Freedom; He also held the positions of Clerk of the Peace; Clerk to the Urban and Port Sanitary Authorities, and clerk to the Asylum Visiting Committee of the City of Cardiff; He was also a Vice-President of the Glamorganshire Infirmary at Cardiff.

The oil painting ‘The Ripple, Firth of Forth’ by Aster Corbould, 1887 (in Function Room D, City Hall) was presented to the City of Cardiff by Joseph Larke Wheatley, Town Clerk of Cardiff between 1879 and 1919. It was Wheatley who had overseen Cardiff’s meteoric growth in the late nineteenth century. He was personally keen to complete the furnishing and decoration of City Hall, and was instrumental in promoting the prestige of the City.

4 Peter Price (1824-1892)

Councillor - PLOT L1539

A Founder of Cardiff Free Library & Museum.

The honour of first suggesting that Cardiff should adopt the Public Libraries Act belongs to the Peter Price. In 1858 Mr. Price wrote letters to the Cardiff newspapers advocating the adoption of the Act and the establishment of a Library. For two years nothing definite was done, although the letters had enlisted the services of George Smart, a member of the Town Council, who worked zealously with Mr. Price.

In 1860 the first practical step was taken towards inducing the ratepayers to establish a Library. On the 24th October in that year a public meeting of ratepayers was held in the British Schoolroom, Millicent Street, to consider the advisability of adopting the Act.



Courtesy : Glamorgan Archives

Peter Price was born in Builth, Brecknockshire, in 1824, and was the youngest of a family of ten. He was left fatherless at the age of seven, to be brought up by a widowed mother on restricted means. His regular education was limited to a few years at the school kept by the parson of the parish. He displayed marvellous aptitude for the acquiring knowledge, and set about educating himself, and he continuing up to the last year of his life.

The Mechanics' Institute at Worcester first gave Mr. Price help in his self-education. He was engaged in that town in the drawing office of an engineering firm.

In 1851 he came to Cardiff, and set up in business as a contractor, in partnership with his brother-in-law, and in a few years he was busily engaged advocating the adoption of the Public Libraries Act for the town. After the adoption of the Act he acted as honorary secretary for thirteen years. When he relinquished this office he still continued a member of the Committee, and was ultimately made vice-chairman, and during the last three years of his life he became chairman.



On the occasion of the opening of the new building in 1882 a portrait of Mr. Price was painted by Mr. B. S. Marks, R.C.A., and presented by him to the Libraries Committee. This portrait hung on the wall of the main staircase leading to the Reference Library. He took a keen interest in all that related to the education and welfare of the people. He was a member of the School Board for the first five years of its existence, a member of the Corporation for some years prior to his death; as Borough Magistrate, Governor of the University College, member of the Technical Instruction Committee, Governor of Wells' Charity, and in numerous other offices he served his town ungrudgingly and well.

Peter Price died on 4th October 1892, aged 68. The development of the public library was his life-work, and will ever remain his most enduring memorial.

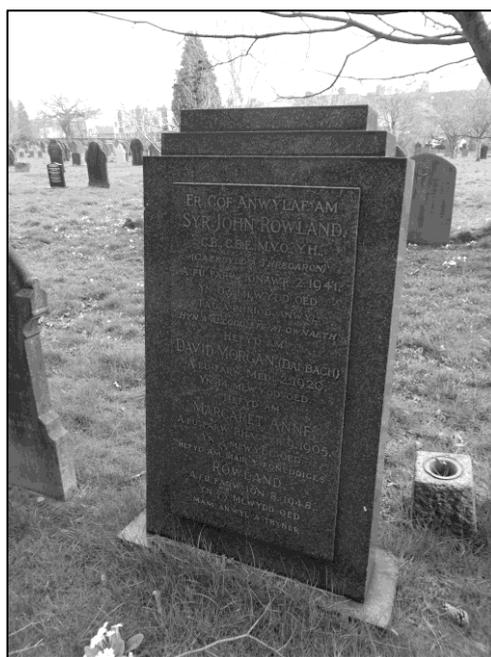
5 Sir John Rowland (1877-1941)

Civil Servant and private secretary - Y1112

Sir John Rowland was a Civil Servant and private secretary to Lloyd George.

Born on 1st June 1877, at Penbont-fach, Tregaron, Cardiganshire, son of John Rowland and Margaret, his wife. He was educated at the Technical College, Cardiff, and the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth . On leaving college in 1904 he taught at Cardiff, and identified himself with Welsh religious and cultural movements there. He attracted the notice of David Lloyd George and after serving as one of his private secretaries from 1905 to 1912 he was appointed a member of the Welsh Insurance Commission in 1911. He became Chairman of the Welsh Board of Health in 1930, retiring in 1940 . He died on 2nd January 1941, in Cardiff.

Rowland married in 1902, to Mair, daughter of David Lewis of Llanafan, Cardiganshire. They had three sons. Amongst the honours he received in his lifetime he received the Member of the Royal Victorian Order in 1911, C.B.E. in 1918, Most Honourable Order of the Bath (Companion) in 1922, and a knighthood in 1938.



6 John Amice Le Boulanger (1829-1889)

Councillor - C1848/C1859



Mr. John Amice le Boulanger was born on the 4th May, 1829, at St. Helier, Jersey. At the age of 20 he visited South Wales, and very soon afterwards set up business in Swansea, as a coal shipper and broker, with Charles Moore, who was agent for Parson's Graigola Collieries. Charles. Moore was compelled to retire through ill-health, and John joined the firm of Wayne and Company, who in 1863 offered him their Cardiff agency, which was then under the management of the Alderman C. W. David and Mr. Toms. John was closely identified with the trade of the port, and had established an important position in business life. While resident at Swansea he was an active member of the board of guardians and was the only Roman Catholic member of the body. The first public office he held at Cardiff was as a member of the infirmary committee, and at the time of his death was a life governor of that institution. Up to the time of his election, in 1873, the Roman Catholic patients of the infirmary had no provision for their Spiritual needs, John anomaly by notifying the Roman Catholic clergy of new admissions. In 1875 he was elected as member of the free library committee, and took an active part in the management of that institution up until the time of his death. For seventeen years he had been one of the most Zealous managers of the Roman Catholic schools of the town.

On the formation of the Cardiff School Board he was selected by his party as a fitting candidate for a seat, and, after some pressure, consented to stand with Father Hayde in the Roman Catholic interest, and was returned by a large majority. After having sat on three successive boards, he resigned in 1884 in favour of the Rev. W. Williams, the Catholic vicar-general of the diocese. On the 21st April, 1887, he was elected a member of the Cardiff Board of Guardians, and, as was the case in Swansea, he was the first Roman Catholic ever elected a guardian in the Cardiff Union. He continued a member of the board down to the time of his death. In 1883 he was elected a member of the Cardiff Town Council, and amongst the other public offices he held were those of governor of the Cardiff University College, a borough magistrate, and commissioner of the Cardiff Pilotage Board. With the view of increasing the voting power of the Catholic party, he some years ago organised the Catholic Registration Association, and became its first president, it position he held till the year 1884, when he resigned.



In March, 1878, he received from Madrid his nomination on E Consenj Supremo de los Caballeros Hospitalorios Espanoles, and in the following June he received the distinguished honour of Chevalier of the Royal Order of Isabella In Catolica, with the autograph signature of the King of Spain and the Star of the Order. In politics Mr. Boulanger was a staunch Conservative, and as

such took an active part in the contests of 1874 and 1880. In 1853 he married Alexandrine, daughter of Mr. D. Martin, banker, niece of Mr. G Auber, Juge President of the Tribunal of Commerce, Rouen, and granddaughter of Count and Countess Lasarre de Tourville, by whom he had four children, the youngest only surviving.

After retiring from the immediate management of Wayne's Merthyr Colliery, John died on 3rd September 1889 at his residence in Richmond Road, Cardiff, suffering from a heart complaint, under the supervision of Dr Buist, aged 60.

7 William Sanders (1829-1903)

Mayor 1889-90 - W1207/1219/1231



William Saunders was born in Doncaster, South Yorkshire on 31st May 1829.

In 1860 Alderman William Sanders set up the Principality Building Society originally called the Principality Permanent Investment Building Society in Church Street, Cardiff. Income for the first year was £367. Alderman William

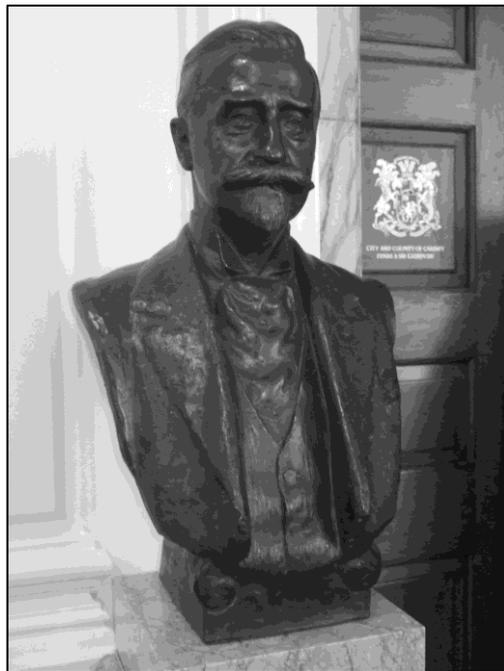
Sanders became the Principality's Managing Secretary in 1862. By 1870, after 10 years of having no permanent home, the Principality opened its first official headquarters at 8 Royal Arcade, Cardiff. In 1872, the Principality opened in Newport and in 1873 a Principality agency opened in Ebbw Vale. In 1880, it had an office at 28 St Mary's Street.

William Saunders was elected a member of the Cardiff Town Council in 1875, becoming Mayor of Cardiff 1889-1890. He was Chairman of the Finance Committee for 8 years and Chairman of the Welsh Intermediate Governing Body for 10 years.

He passed away 24th February 1903.

8 Robert Gerard Hill-Snook (1859-1951)

Mayor 1930-31 - M1049



In the year 1924, Councillor R. G. Hill-Snook, who was then Chairman of the Parks Committee, purchased 112 acres of woodland above Rhiwbina for the sum of £ 1,100 and offered it, on the same terms to the Corporation. His offer was gladly accepted. On becoming Mayor in 1930, he purchased a further 26 acres at the Wenallt and presented it to the City. It is now known as Hill Snook Park in Rhiwbina, a really oddly shaped park that has lost its children's playground.

He married Rosina Colley (1861-1930) and had one son, Edmund Hill-Snook (1888 - 1976).

9 Sir William Smith Crossman (1859-1951)

Mayor 1906-07 - Y1607

“This Tablet was erected by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Cardiff in Commemoration of the visit of their Majesties King Edward VII, Queen Alexandra and Her Royal Highness Princess Victoria to the City on Saturday the 13th day of July 1907 upon the Occasion of the Opening of the Queen Alexandra Dock when His Majesty received a Loyal Address from the Corporation at the City Hall, opened King Edward VII's Avenue and Conferred upon the Lord Mayor the Honour of Knighthood - Councillor Sir William Smith Crossman Kt JP Lord Mayor.”

William Crossman was born in Tavistock, Devon on 22nd March 1854, the son of John Crossman. He married Mary Ann Moore on 29th December 1885 while working as a foreman mason at the Roath Dock, Cardiff.

He became a labour leader in 1892, at the time of the great building trade dispute. As a member of the conciliation committee he helped to bring a satisfactory end to that strike.



Brass Plaque in Cardiff City Hall

He served as Mayor of Cardiff in 1906 to 1907, the same year he was knighted by King Edward VII. Sir William was a devoted church member and one of the two Sunday school superintendents in the Bible Christian Methodist Church in Cardiff.

He died on 23rd January 1929, aged 74 and is buried with his wife, Dame Mary Ann Crossman who died 29th April 1935, aged 91.

