

THE MIDDLECOTT ALMSHOUSES FOSDYKE

The hospital of Sir Thomas Middlecott was authorized by a Private Act of 1624, and Sir Thomas in his will of the following year directed his heir Richard Riley, nephew and executor, to build an almshouse of eleven rooms for a master and ten poor people of single estate, of forty years of age or over, or impotent poor chargeable to the towns of Algarkirk and Fosdyke. The master was to receive twelve pence per week, and each of the others eight pence per week, and each a cloak of four yards of cloth, value sixteen shillings, a load of turf, and half a cauldron of sea coals yearly. To meet the cost, Sir Thomas left land in Leake, Leverton, Benington, Swineshead and Wigtoft – none in Fosdyke itself, except the small plot on which the almshouses were built.

The rise in prices during the ensuing decade made necessary a reduction in the scheme, and the actual building, executed in 1638, contains a master's room and nine others.

The rules of the almshouses provided for regular attendance at Fosdyke Church, in the gowns specified in the bequest. Scolding, brawling, profane swearing and cursing, if proved by two witnesses, entailed a fine of two pence; frequenting of taverns, drunkenness, stealing, the holding of heretical opinions', if proved by two witnesses, meant expulsion. Absence at night carried a fine of one penny; so did reproachful speeches or words to any person, obscene or unseemly discourse or behaviour; and to "carry oneself civilly, quietly and godly to anyone" Damage to locks or keys was to be made good from the inmate's dole. Two thirds of inmates were to be chosen from Algarkirk and one third from Fosdyke, the master being chosen as two occasions from Algarkirk and once from Fosdyke; nominations were to be made by churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the respective parishes.

P H J Dove



- [Bastardy cases](#) would be heard in the Kirton and Skirbeck petty session hearings.
- In 1625, Sir Thomas MIDDLECOTT's Hospital was founded as a poorhouse for up to ten people of Algarkirk and Fosdyke, and it was sited in Fosdyke parish. In 1842, a resident of this almshouse received 5s. weekly, and each year was given a cauldron of coal and a gown or coat.
- In 1627, John KNOTT left £1, 2s and 8d. for the poor.
- In 1630, Richard ROBERTS left 2s and 6d. for the poor.
- In 1693, Carolus BERIDGE left £2 and 12s. revenue from an acre of land for the poor.
- As a result of the 1834 Poor Law Amendment Act reforms, the parish became part of the [Boston Poor Law Union](#).



Jane Brady of St Peter and St Paul's Church, Algarkirk, follows a gargoyle trail with Natalie Lunt, project officer for Heritage Lincolnshire. Photo by Tim Wilson.

Read more at: <http://www.spaldingtoday.co.uk/whats-on/arts/heritage-trail-at-mini-cathedral-of-the-fens-sight-1-7402588>

- The first school was erected in Algarkirk in 1625, alongside the new church in Algarkirk Fen.
- A new school was built in 1857-58 to hold up to 150 children.

Records of Algarkirk CE Primary School. The school was built in 1857-58 by the Rector of Algarkirk, and designed by Sir Gilbert Scott. It was known as Algarkirk Church School by 1905 and as Algarkirk CE Primary School by 1953. Senior children were transferred to Kirton Secondary Modern School from January 1949, and the school became a primary school. The school was closed on 22 March 1977, with the children transferred to the new school at Sutterton.

Most Common Surnames in Algarkirk

Direct link to this section

• [1881](#)

Rank	Surname	Incidence	Frequency
1	Tooley	22	1: 24
2	Burrel	14	1: 37
2	Smith	14	1: 37
4	Hanks	13	1: 40
4	Atkin	13	1: 40
6	Brittain	12	1: 43
6	Crawford	12	1: 43
8	Kirkby	11	1: 47
9	Evans	10	1: 52
9	Day	10	1: 52
9	Gilbert	10	1: 52
12	Stedmans	9	1: 58
12	Page	9	1: 58
12	Cox	9	1: 58
15	Wagstaff	8	1: 65
15	Tracy	8	1: 65
15	Askey	8	1: 65
15	Brackenbury	8	1: 65
15	Scoffin	8	1: 65
20	Thompson	7	1: 74
20	Benton	7	1: 74
20	Whaley	7	1: 74
20	Jessup	7	1: 74

20	Bloodworth	7	1: 74
20	Cowham	7	1: 74
26	Wilson	6	1: 87
26	Goodwin	6	1: 87
26	Archer	6	1: 87
26	Redford	6	1: 87
26	Leusley	6	1: 87
26	Hargrave	6	1: 87
32	Palmer	5	1: 104
32	Lee	5	1: 104
32	Simpson	5	1: 104
32	Jackson	5	1: 104
32	Robinson	5	1: 104
32	Dean	5	1: 104
32	Neal	5	1: 104
32	Hand	5	1: 104
32	Pell	5	1: 104
32	Hinson	5	1: 104
32	Paddison	5	1: 104
32	Burdall	5	1: 104
32	Burks	5	1: 104
45	Armstrong	4	1: 130
45	Bradley	4	1: 130
45	Knight	4	1: 130
45	Barker	4	1: 130
45	Wilkinson	4	1: 130
45	Carter	4	1: 130
45	Baxter	4	1: 130
45	Dickinson	4	1: 130
45	Woodthorp	4	1: 130
45	Barsley	4	1: 130
45	Lill	4	1: 130
45	Craft	4	1: 130
45	Rolfe	4	1: 130
45	Brand	4	1: 130
59	Dove	3	1: 173
59	Peach	3	1: 173
59	Exton	3	1: 173
59	Crispin	3	1: 173
59	Priestly	3	1: 173
59	Jefferys	3	1: 173
59	Bursnell	3	1: 173
59	Peacock	3	1: 173
59	Abbott	3	1: 173
59	Wallace	3	1: 173
69	Wright	2	1: 260

69	Green	2	1: 260
69	Ward	2	1: 260
69	Chapman	2	1: 260
69	Hammond	2	1: 260
69	Baldwin	2	1: 260
69	Butcher	2	1: 260
69	Pickering	2	1: 260
69	Charles	2	1: 260
69	Whitworth	2	1: 260
69	Leedall	2	1: 260
69	Looms	2	1: 260
69	Barnsdale	2	1: 260
69	Solomon	2	1: 260
69	Everitt	2	1: 260
69	Brewster	2	1: 260
69	Slack	2	1: 260
86	Walton	1	1: 520
86	Barton	1	1: 520
86	Higgins	1	1: 520
86	Gibbs	1	1: 520
86	Hewitt	1	1: 520
86	Cartwright	1	1: 520
86	Coates	1	1: 520
86	Hilton	1	1: 520
86	Dennis	1	1: 520
86	Healey	1	1: 520
86	Rouse	1	1: 520
86	Payne	1	1: 520
86	West	1	1: 520
86	Roberts	1	1: 520
86	Clark	1	1: 520
86	Harris	1	1: 520
86	Moore	1	1: 520
86	Allen	1	1: 520
86	Richardson	1	1: 520
86	Marshall	1	1: 520
86	Holmes	1	1: 520
86	Gibson	1	1: 520
86	Ford	1	1: 520
86	Williams	1	1: 520
86	Vine	1	1: 520
86	Sawer	1	1: 520
86	Would	1	1: 520
86	Wrack	1	1: 520
86	Favill	1	1: 520
86	Alliss	1	1: 520

86	Trimmingham	1	1: 520
86	Boughtflower	1	1: 520
86	Jonson	1	1: 520
86	Fidal	1	1: 520
86	Neffield	1	1: 520
86	Berisford	1	1: 520
86	Pettet	1	1: 520
86	Broomfield	1	1: 520
86	Summerfield	1	1: 520
86	Eley	1	1: 520
86	Michael	1	1: 520
86	Hargraves	1	1: 520
86	Beeby	1	1: 520
86	Goring	1	1: 520
86	Hoyles	1	1: 520
86	Topliss	1	1: 520
86	Welbourn	1	1: 520
86	Whise	1	1: 520