

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LANE, William

Fawley, Herefordshire 31.VIII.1739 –
Hammersmith 4.I.1819

Portraitist in oil and chalk; initially an engraver in precious stones. He was no doubt the William Lane of Nassau Street, Soho, who wrote to the Society of Artists on 12.VIII.1772 requesting permission to draw in the Duke of Richmond's gallery. He was later recorded at 130 Pall Mall 1778–85, 3 Old Bond Street 1787; 59 Poland Street 1789. He exhibited, mainly miniatures, at the Royal Academy 1798–1815 from Hamilton Street, Piccadilly and other addresses.

A large group of drawings (mostly on grey paper prepared with pink, executed in a material which may be pastel but is used graphically like black chalk) descended within the artist's family and are now in the Ashmolean. One is described as in the manner of Rosalba, but comparisons with Kauffman are probably safer. The portrait of the American scientist Benjamin Thompson was probably done after the subject, a British sympathiser, emigrated to England following the war of independence.

The exact link with the donor, the daughter of Reginald Lane Poole, a great-grandson of Rev. Theophilus Lane, prebend of Hereford 1801–14, who predeceased him), and with the Anna Louisa Lane who exhibited miniatures at the Royal Academy 1778–82 from the same address, 130 Pall Mall, has caused much confusion, but documents published by Rowe 2020 (not analysed fully there) point to records that show that William and Anna Louisa were siblings, the children of the Rev. William Lane (1688–1752), rector of Hampton Bishop, vicar of Fownhope with Fawley and prebend of Hereford and his wife, Joy Hearne (1705–1782), who married at Hereford Cathedral in 1732. William was baptised in Fawley in 1739, some seven years earlier than previously conjectured. Anna Louisa must be the daughter baptised Ann on 9.VI.1745 in Hampton Bishop, and died in Norwich, buried St Stephens 14.IV.1817, “aged 70”. Three further siblings were Rev. Dr Theophilus Lane (1740–1816), rector of St Michael Crooked Lane (not to be confused with his homonymous cousin); Mary, a hair-painter; and Elizabeth who married an Edward Howorth in 1765: their daughter, also named Anna Louisa (1768–1827), married a cousin, John Lane, in 1792, leading to much confusion (she is the Anna Louisa Lane of the court case *Lane v. Wilkins*, 1808).

Bibliography

Alexander 2021; Bénézit; Brown 1982; Clergy of the Church of England database; Foskett 1987; Herefordshire Archives; Oxford DNB; Graham Rowe, “Anna Louisa Lane and her portrait of James Edward Smith”, *The Linnean*, XXXVI/2, XI.2020, pp. 26ff; Royal Academy archives; Waterhouse 1981

GENEALOGIES [Lane](#)

Pastels

J.448.101 John ALLEN [(1771–1843), MD, author, master of Dulwich College, friend of Lord Holland], crayons (Holland House 1820). Lit.: Faulkner 1820, p. 168

J.448.102 John ALLNUTT (1773–1863), wine merchant and collector of British art, pstl, 39.7x30.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 875 n.r.

J.448.103 ?John BRAHAM (1774–1856), tenor, pstl, 39.7x30.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 876 n.r.

J.448.104 Mr COKE, pstl, 37.8x30.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 877 n.r.

J.448.105 George Legge, 3rd Earl of DARTMOUTH (1755–1810), statesman, pstl, 44.7x32 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 878 n.r.

J.448.106 William, 5th Duke of DEVONSHIRE (1748–1811), bl. chlk, 66x53, sd “W Lane/Del 1811” (desc.: 6th Marquess Townshend, Raynham Hall; London, Christie's, 5–7.III.1904, Lot 103; 100 gns; C. Davis. [?Sir Lionel Faudel-Phillips, Balls Park, Hertford]; desc.: PC 2023; Newbury, Dreweatt's, 2.III.2023, Lot 74 repr., with pendant). Lit.: Durham 1926, p. 21 n.r.; Duleep Singh 1928, II, p. 199, no. 10 n.r.; Garlick 1976, p. 69. A/r Reynolds pnt. 775 (Althorp). Lit.: Mannings 337φv

J.448.107 ~repl., bl. chlk, 66x53 (desc.: London, Bonhams Knightsbridge, 30.IV.2014, Lot 272 repr., as anon. A/r Reynolds, est. £3–5000, b/i) φv

~prep. chlk drawing, ov. (PC 2013)

J.448.109 ~version, 23x15 (Aynhoe. PC 2014)

J.448.11 [?]Georgiana, Duchess of DEVONSHIRE (1757–1806), cr. clr, 66x53, 1809 (Desc.: 6th Marquess Townshend, Raynham Hall; London, Christie's, 5–7.III.1904, Lot 104 n.r., as A/r [?]Reynolds; 95 gns; C. Davis. [?Sir Lionel Faudel-Phillips, Balls Park, Hertford]; desc.: PC 2023; Newbury, Dreweatt's, 2.III.2023, Lot 74 repr., with pendant). Lit.: Durham 1926, p. 21 n.r.; Duleep Singh 1928, II, p. 199, no. 9 n.r. A/r Reynolds [according to 1904 cat., not verified] φδv

J.448.111 Charles James FOX (1749–1806), life-size bust, facing front, head to right, light blue coat, white cravat, waistcoat and powdered hair, cr. drg/ppr, 76x64 (Royal Collection RCIN 452763. Prince Regent, acqu. 1808; Buckingham Palace 1909). Lit.: Cust 1909, p. 247 n.r.; Mannings 2000, no. 674f, anon.; Ingamells 2004, p. 166f n.r. A/r Reynolds pnt., 1782 (Holkham) [cf. versions by Samuel Cotes] φv



J.448.113 GEORGE IV as Prince of Wales, pstl, 41.2x31.1 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 881 n.r.

J.448.114 Mary Charlotte MAXWELL, pstl/ppr gr., 29.5x22, sd 1799 (Lascelles; Woolbeding House, Midhurst; London, Sotheby's, 19.XI.1970, Lot 48 n.r.)

J.448.115 Horatio Walpole, 2nd Earl of ORFORD (1752–1822), pstl, 39.3x27.5 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 879 n.r.

J.448.116 [Mrs ??]William SIDDONS (1744–1803), actor, [née Sarah Kemble (1755–1831), actress], crayons, Royal Academy 1785, no. 469. Lit.: *Morning herald*, 12.III.1785; Whitley 1928, II, pp. 35f, as error for Mrs Siddons; Highfill & al., XIV, 1991, p. 44, as of Mrs Siddons

J.448.117 Sir James Edward SMITH (1759–1828), botanist, founder of the Linnean Society, pstl, 29x22.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 880 n.r.

J.448.118 Sir Benjamin THOMPSON, later Graf von Rumford (1753–1814), physicist, pstl/ppr, 47x36.5, c.1780 (Concord, New Hampshire Historical Society, 1979.201. Acqu. 1979).

J.448.119 The late Earl of Upper Ossory [John Fitzpatrick, 2nd Earl of UPPER OSSORY (1745–1818spm), MP, FRS], crayons (Holland House 1820). Lit.: Faulkner 1820, p. 168

J.448.12 William WILBERFORCE (1759–1833), pstl/ppr, 74x61 (Kingston-upon-Hull, Hull City Museums and Art Galleries, Wilberforce House). A/r Russell pnt. φ

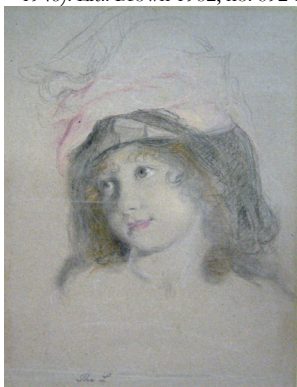


J.448.122 Eight portraits of unknown gentlemen, pstl, c.40x30, one sd “W. Lane/Del. 1809” (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 882–88, 893 n.r.

J.448.123 Lady, drawing, pstl/ppr, 39.6x27.5 (Oxford, Ashmolean, inv. WA 1946.391. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 889, pl. 325 φσ



J.448.125 Girl with pink headress, chl, pstl/ppr, 25.8x19.8 (Oxford, Ashmolean, inv. WA 1946.394. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 892 φσ



J.448.127 Two other portraits of unknown females, pstl (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 890–91 n.r.

J.448.128 Two portraits, cr. clr, inscr. *verso* “W. Lane delt 1799. Hamilton St., Piccadilly” (Walter F. Tiffen, Salisbury, 1870). Lit.: *The Athenaeum*, 22.X.1870, p. 536 n.r., in hard coloured chucks, the heads 4 in. in length