AHS London Lecture Thursday 16 January 2020

Keith Scobie-Youngs

The remarkable city career of Aynsworth Thwaites

As soon as Keith started working in London in the early 1980s as a turret clock horologist he became interested in the workmanship and life of Aynsworth Thwaites (1719–1794).

Aynsworth had his business in Clerkenwell and was made a Freeman of the Clockmakers Company in 1751. He was the father of John Thwaites, who in 1815 partnered with George Jeremiah Reed, and the firm became Thwaites & Reed.

Over the years Keith has collected information and been fortunate to have worked on several of his turret clocks giving him a unique insight into the skills of this remarkable man.

Drawing on this knowledge and experience, combined with the use of the remarkable archive in the Guildhall, Keith will discuss the life, clocks and other interesting aspects of the life of Aynsworth Thwaites.

Above: The dial at St Mary's Woolnoth, London, a church where Aynsworth Thwaites upgraded the dials and fitted minute hands.
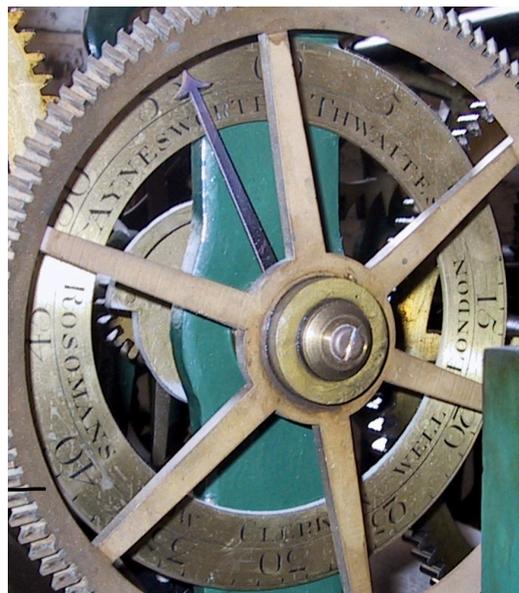
Left: The handset dial from the 1764 clock at St Michael's church, South Carolina, Charleston, USA, signed AYNESWORTH (sic) THWAITES.

Keith Scobie-Youngs FBHI ACR established the Cumbria Clock Company in 1990 specialising in all aspects of tower and turret clock conservation and restoration. Clients have included Historical Royal Palaces, National Trust, Palace of Westminster and many cathedrals and churches throughout the UK. In 2014 he gave an AHS London lecture on 'The Turret Clocks of Salisbury, Wells and Rye', which was published as an article in the September 2018 journal. Keith is a member of the AHS Council.

TICKETS

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