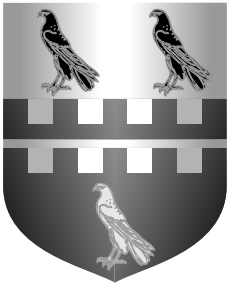


Beilby Thompson (1742-1799)

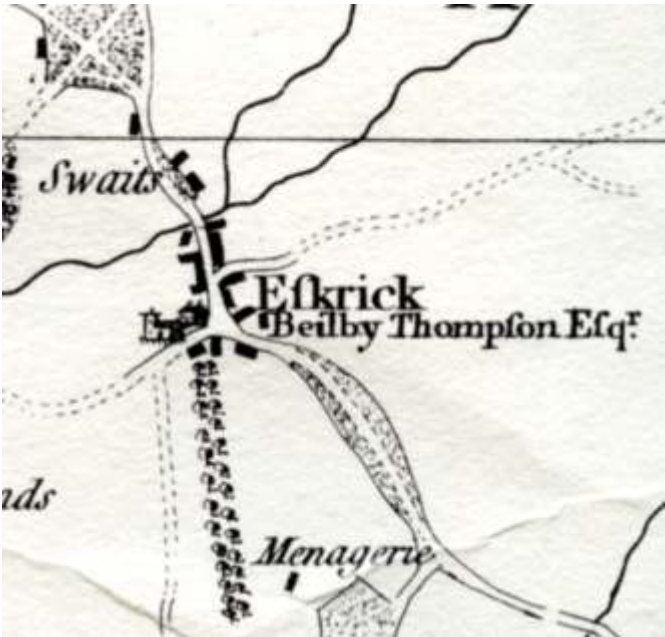


Memorial in baptistery
(translation below)



Beilby Thompson
(© Mansion House and Guildhall, York)

His grieving brother, Richard Thompson, erected [this monument] for his beloved brother Beilby Thompson, esq, the builder of this church [this refers to the church consecrated in 1783, not the present building] to the best and greatest God. [He was] an honest and devout man, generous to his own family, kind to everyone, hating no-one. [He was] born on the 17th April 742 and died on the 10th June 1799.



Part of Thomas Jefferys' survey of Yorkshire dated 1775 showing position of church next to the Hall in Escrick Park

Beilby Thompson was born in April 1742, the son of Beilby and his second wife, Sarah, daughter of Richard Roundell of Hutton Wandesley, widow of Sir Arthur Dawes, 4th baronet. He was educated at Crayke near Easingwold, and in 1750, while he was still at school, his father died and he succeeded to the family estates at Escrick. Nine years later he attended Cambridge University. He took up politics and was elected member of Parliament for Hedon in the 1768 election, holding the seat until 1780. Four years later he became MP for Thirsk, and regained his seat for Hedon in 1796. Beilby Thompson's main impact on Escrick was the relocation of several houses and the church away from his house in the Park. The new church was built close to the site of the present church. Beilby Thompson died in 1799 and his estate passed to his younger brother, Richard

