



Photo Credit: Alan Conteh (2019)

Memorial Text & Dedication

In memory of Laura Frances Still, obit May 18 1863

Biographical Information

“Another stained glass window at the end of the south aisle was placed there by Mr R Still in memory of his wife who died in 1863. The name of this lady is affectionately cherished by many in Sutton who knew her unostentatious charity to the poor and kindly bearing towards all.”
[Church's Directory of Sutton 1880]

Laura was married to Robert Still, a successful solicitor. She was born in Sydenham in 1819. In 1841, when Laura was 22 and Robert 30, they were married and lived in Sydenham. Their first son Albert was born later that year. Laura was 44 years old when she died. The family home was on the High Street and she left behind 3 sons, Stafford (19), John (17), Ernest (10) and 3 daughters, Ellen (8), Selina (6) and Edith (4). Another son Willoughby born in 1847 had died sometime after 1851. In 1861 their household included 5 servants; a cook, a nurse and nursemaid, a housemaid and a footman. In 1851 they lived in Church Road with their sons and 6 servants including a groom.

LADY CHAPEL EAST WINDOW

Date

1864

Lights

3

Firm

Lavers & Barraud

Designer

JF Bentley & NHJ
Westlake

Window Subject

Binding of Isaac (Genesis
22:10-13)

Agony in the Garden
(Matthew 26: 37-44)

Crucifixion (Matthew 27:35)

The Resurrection (Matthew
28:4)

Notes:

J F Bentley and N H J Westlake were, both exceptional and pioneering designers of the late Victorian period. Bentley (1839-1902), best known as the architect of Westminster Cathedral, was also highly accomplished across a range of decorative practices, while N H J Westlake (1833-1921) was best known for his glass work under the firm Lavers and Barraud (later Lavers, Barraud and Westlake), later in his life publishing authoritative works on the history of design in painted glass and mural painting. The two men were close friends, and often collaborated.