

Richard and Susanna Short

It is not known when exactly Richard Short and Susanna Mock came to Swansea. They had met in Devon and sometime around 1872 came to Swansea, probably because work was more plentiful; with both having lodgings in New Oxford Street. (This now would be lower Oxford Street, towards the Guildhall end of town). It is not known if Susanna Mock was working, but Richard Short had a job as a porter, possibly with The Maypole. They married in April 1873.

No. Rhif		Marriage solemnized at Prifodas a seiyddwyd yn		in the district of yn tîrbarth		in the yn	
71		the Register Office		Swansea		County of Glamorgan	
1. When married Pryd y prifodwyd	2. Name and surname Enw a chyfenw	3. Age Oed	4. Condition Cyflwr	5. Rank or profession Safon neu broffesiwn	6. Residence at the time of marriage Preswyllfa adog prifod	7. Father's name and surname Enw a chyfenw'r tad	8. Rank or profession of father Safon neu broffesiwn y tad
F.ifeath April 1873	Richard SHORT	20 years	Bachelor	Porter in Spirit Stores	10 New Oxford Street Swansea	Thomas SHORT	Farm Bailliff
	Susan GROVES	20 years	Spinster	—	New Oxford Street Swansea	Simon GROVES	Mariner
Married in the Prifodwyd yn		Register Office		by Certificate before me, drwy gennyf fi,		Registrar	
This marriage was solemnized between us,		Richard Short		in the presence of us,		Jehovah David	
Owinyddwyd y brifodas hon rhwng ni,		Susan Groves		yng presenoldeb ni,		G. B. Haynes	
Certified to be a true copy of an entry in a register in my custody. Tystiolaethwyd ei fod yn gopi cywir o gofnod mewn cofrestr a gadwir gennyf.		Elizabeth Balcham		David Banfield Deputy Superintendent		23rd September 2003 Date Dyddiad	
		(Signature) Llofnod		Registrar Cofrestrwr		Registration District Ddoetha Cofrestru	
						Swansea Aardure	

Copy of the marriage certificate for Richard Short and Susanna Mock (Groves).

Two months later, on 22nd. June 1873 they had their first child, Matilda Rebecca Short. She was registered in Barnstaple indicating that Susanna Short, at least, had gone there to have the baby. The address given was 21 Compass Hill, Ilfracombe, which was where her mother, Sarah Groves, lived at that time and was originally the address of Simon Groves' parents. Sadly the baby only lived for two months and died on the 2nd. September that year, after they had returned to Swansea. At the time of the birth Richard Short was recorded as being a policeman - a job that he held for less than a year.

Richard and Susanna Short then moved to 62 Vincent Street and in June 1874 their second child, Minnie, was born. Richard Short had changed jobs again and was working on the railway as a shunter in the goods yards around the South Dock - now the Marina. Two companies worked the South Dock, the London and North Western Railway (LNWR later a part of the LMS) and the Great Western Railway, but it is not known which one he worked for. A shunter was employed to make up a goods train by gathering the appropriate trucks together onto one siding. He would probably have used horses to haul the trucks from one siding to another, although for large, single goods trains shunting engines would often replace the horses. Walking and running alongside moving trucks and engines on uneven ground, beside and across the track, was dangerous work and every year shunters were injured or even killed by tripping up on railway sleepers and falling beneath the moving trucks.

By 1881 Richard Short was a railway porter, probably working at Victoria Station, although in 1884 he was once again described as a shunter. Richard and Susanna Short had a total of seven children, the last being Beatrice Susannah, born on the 5th. July 1884 at 16 Clarence Street.

CERTIFIED COPY OF COPÍ DILYS O Pursuant to the Births and										an ENTRY OF BIRTH GOFNOD GENEDIGAETH Deaths Registration Act 1953		CM 946240
Registration District Dosharth Cofrestru			Swansea									
1884 - Birth in the Sub-district of Genedigaeth yn is-ddosharth			Swansea							in the County of Glamorgan		
No.	When and where born Fydd a lle (y gwrsol)	Name, if any Enw os oes un	Sex Rhyw	Name and surname of father Enw a chyfenw'r tad	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother Enw, cyfenw a chyfenw mawrddyddi fab	Occupation of father Gwaith y tad	Signature, description and residence of informant Llofnod, disgrifiad a dwyfodol yr hysbysydd	When registered Fydd y cofrestrwyd	Signature of registerer Llofnod y cofrestrwyd	Name entered after registration Enw a phrestrwyd wedi cofrestru		
100	Fifth July 1884 16 Clarence Street Swansea VSD	Beatrice Ed. Susanna	girl	Richard SHORT	Susan SHORT formerly GROVES	Railway Shunter	Susan Short mother 16 Clarence Street Swansea	Fifteenth August 1884	Arthur G. Richards			
										Copies only		

Certified to be a true copy of an entry in a register in my custody.
Tystiolaethwyd ei fod yn gopi cywir o gofnod mewn cofrestr a gedwir gennyf i.

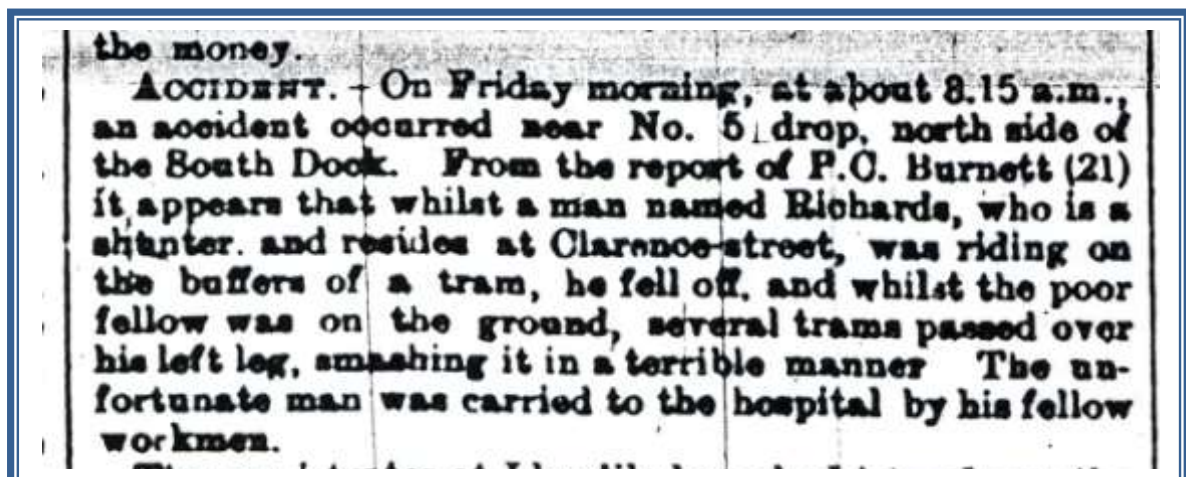
Elizabeth F. Baldwin Deputy Superintendent Registrar
Cofrestrwyd Arlywod 18th September 2003 Date Dyddiad

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WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.
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Copy of the birth certificate for Beatrice Susannah Short

Richard Short was not the typical Victorian family man and often left the family for extended periods of time. However, on the 1st. May 1886 aged 33, he left Clarence Street for work for the last time. At about 8.15 in the morning he fell under the trucks of the train that he was putting together and severed one of his legs. He was put onto a cart and taken, trailing blood all of the way, to the Swansea Hospital in St. Helen's Road, where, twelve days later, he died of his injuries. Following his death, the financial implications for the family were devastating and Susanna Short had a very difficult time bringing up the children.



The slightly inaccurate report in "The Cambrian" newspaper of Richard Short's accident

The 1891 census, part of the entry for which is given below, shows that Susanna Short and her family had moved to a corner shop at 12 Clarence Street. Out of the nine rooms in the house, Susanna and the four children still living at home, occupied four of them. Three more rooms were used by George and Mary Yeates and their three children, with a further two rooms occupied by Thomas Augustus and his family. Susanna Short is described as a greengrocer. Mary Yeates, nee Groves, was Susanna Short's half sister. At this time, the whereabouts of their daughter Lucy Short are not known but Susanna's daughter Minnie Short, a dressmaker, was staying in Ilfracombe, Devon with her grandparents Thomas and Elizabeth Short.

Cols. 1 No. of Schedule	2 ROAD, STREET, do., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	3 HOUSES		5 NAME and Surname of each Person	7 RELATION to Head of Family	8 CON- DITION as to Marriage	9 10 AGE last Birthday of		11 PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	13 Employer	14 Employed	15 Number of Persons in House	
		In- habited or not	Number of rooms occupied if less than 99				Male	Female					
242	12. Clarence St (Corner Shop)	1	4	Susanna Short	Head	Wid	47		Green Grocer			X	
				Thomas do	Son		18		Schooler				
				Richard do	do		14		do				
				Beatrice do	do		10		do				
246			3	George Yeats	Head	M	38		Book Labourer		X		
				Mary do	Wife	M	34						
				Mathew do	Son		5						
				George E. do	Son		4						
244		2	2	Thomas Augustus	Head	M	45		Ship Repairer		X		
				Anne do	Wife	M	28						
				Elizabeth do	Son		8						

Extract from the 1891 census for Susanna Short at 12 Clarence Street.

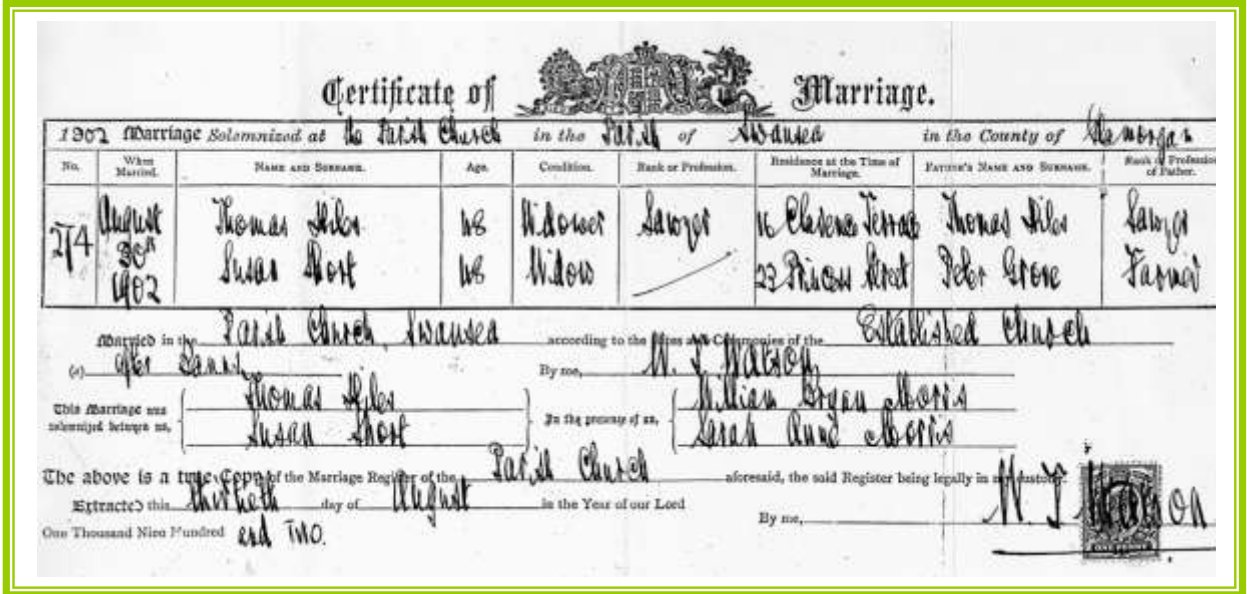
By 1901, they had moved to 23 Princes Street and only Richard and Beatrice were still living at home with their mother Susanna. Susanna Short was a laundress, with son Richard a carman for a grocer. Beatrice had left school in 1895 at 11 years of age and worked as a seamstress, sewing for Dr. Barnardo's to boost the family's income, although she was not listed as working in 1901.

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						In- habited or not	Number of rooms occupied if less than 99					Male
312	23 Princes St	1	4	Susanna Short	Head	Wid	47		Laundress		X	
				Richard do	Son	M	21		Processer			
				Beatrice do	Son	M	16					

Extract from the 1901 census for Susanna Short at 23 Princes Street.

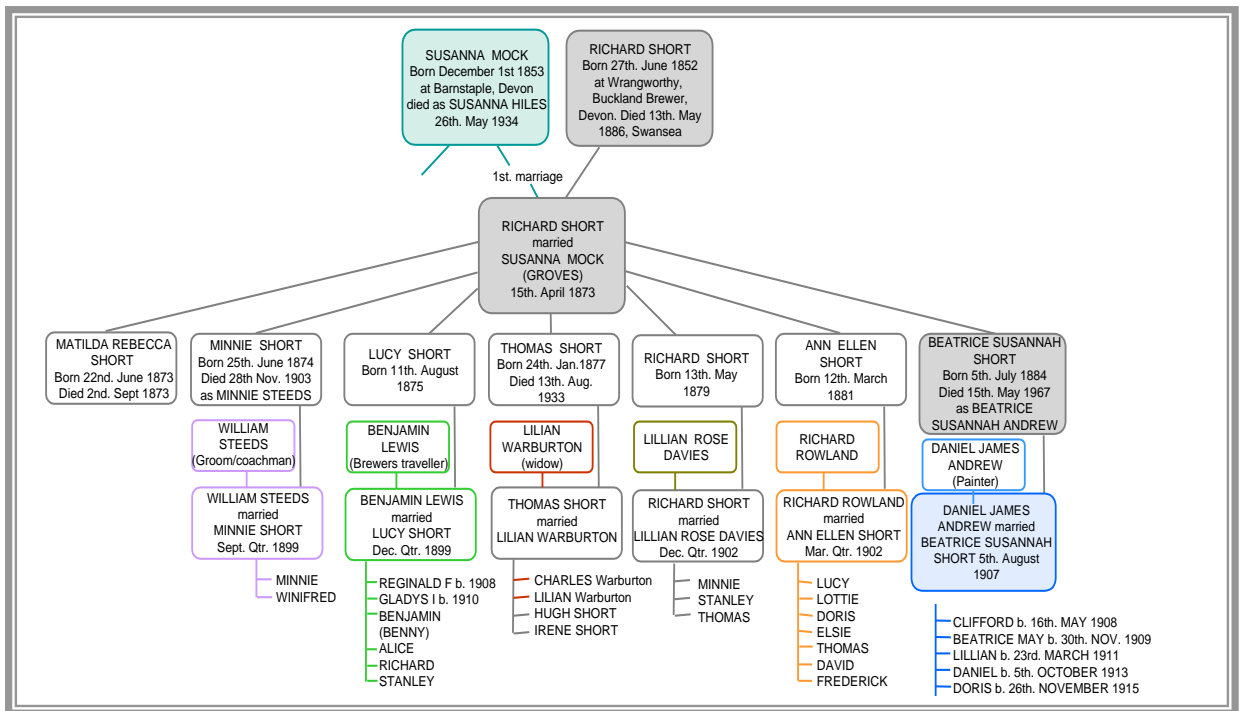
Thomas Hiles was a sawyer from Gloucester. His father, Thomas, was a mill sawyer and along with his mother Fanny Hiles, came from Bristol. By 1881 Thomas Hiles junior was married and living in Cardiff with his first wife, Emma, also from Bristol. They had moved to Swansea by 1891 and lived at Bathurst Street with their four children John, Edward, Amy and Herbert.

Following the death of his wife Emma, Thomas Hiles had moved to 16 Clarence Terrace by 1901 and the following year, after marrying Susanna Short on August 30th. 1902 moved into 23 Princes Street. Although at first resented by Beatrice Short, who was still living with her mother, he was quickly accepted by the whole family and is spoken of affectionately by all members of the family who knew him.



Copy of the marriage certificate for Thomas Hiles and Susanna Short.

Thomas Hiles died 19th. March 1929 and Susanna Hiles, formerly Short, nee Mock (Groves) died 26th. May 1934. Of the six surviving children, Minnie Short married William Steeds, a groom or coachman from Gloucester. Living initially at 35 Catherine Street they had two children by 1901. Minnie died in 1903 aged 29; Lucy Short married Benjamin Lewis, a brewer's traveller from Laugharne. They initially lived at 41 Cromwell Street before moving to the Rhondda and had six children by 1912. Reginald died in 1913 and Gladys died in 1917, aged 5 and 7 respectively; Thomas Short was in the Welsh Regiment. He served in India and during the Boer War was the only Swansea man to serve in seven engagements, including the sieges of both Mafeking and Ladysmith. (In one of these he was in the siege and in the other he was in the relief, although it is not known which). He married Lillian Warburton and had two children; Not much is known about Richard Short, who married Lillian Davies and lived at Clarence Street. They had at least three children; Ann Ellen Short married Richard Rowlands and had seven children; Beatrice Susannah married Daniel James Andrew.



The family tree of Richard and Susanna Short