

## **Anthony, Alfred Ernest c. 1853 - 1920**

Alfred Ernest Anthony was born in Hackney, London, England in 1852. He was a nephew of the architect John Usher (1822-1904) and went to work as an assistant at his practice in Bedford, Bedfordshire in the 1870s. In January 1880 his uncle took him into partnership as Usher & Anthony.

Virtually all the commissions undertaken by the practice were in the Bedford area. This included a mansion and lodges at Clapham Park, Bedford for Mr. James Howard (1873); Mill Street Baptist Chapel and restoration of the Howard Chapel in Bedford; Baptist Chapel in Rothsay Road, Bedford; the Bedford Liberal Club; the Woodlands in Clapham, Bedford; and Great Barford House in Bedford.

Usher & Anthony were the first surveyors to the Trustees of the St. John's Hospital in Bedford and were responsible for laying out Waldeck Avenue and De Parys Avenue in Bedford; and Bedford Cemetery

By the mid-1880s Usher had significantly reduced his involvement in the practice, and from then on, Anthony effectively ran the office.

Usher died at his residence, Hiawatha, 6 Goldington Road, Bedford on 5 November 1904. Anthony died in Bedford, Bedfordshire on 18 March 1920.

It would seem that the name Usher & Anthony was maintained after the death of the two founding partners as a photograph, floor plan and brief description of a house at Biddenham, Bedford, executed to a design by Michael Dawn, by Usher & Anthony is featured in 'Decorative Art' 1931 (p.10).

Worked in

UK

Links

Find a Grave <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/212587601/alfred-ernest-anthony>

- The National Archives - Miscellaneous Records of Usher & Anthony of Bedford, architects <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/f86e08bb-306a-4112-80a5-6b313d5dea48>

- Article on John Usher by Linda S Ayres. Forest Hill Road Cemetery <https://www.fosterhillroadcemetery.co.uk/john-usher-architect-surveyor-1822-1904/>

- Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service - 77 and 81 High Street Blunham

<https://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityHistories/Blunham/77And81HighStreetBlunham>