

## Thomas, Walter Aubrey 1863 - 1934



Walter Aubrey Thomas was born in Tranmere, Birkenhead, Cheshire, England on 14 December 1863 [1] and was baptised at St. Nicholas Church, Liverpool on 12 July 1864. His father, Thomas Glegge Thomas (1829-1881) was an architect. He was articled to James Francis Doyle (1840-1913) in Liverpool and subsequently established an architectural practice in Liverpool. [2].

His address was given as New Hall, Thornton Hough, Cheshire in 1891; and Parkgate, Neston, Cheshire in 1901

Thomas retired in 1933 and died in Wirral, Cheshire on 13 September 1934

A biographical file available on request from the Enquiry Desk, Royal Institute of British Architects Library, London.

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[1] His year of birth is often given as 1859 or as 1864, however, the Church of England [record of] Births and Baptisms [for] Liverpool 1860-1869 clearly gives his date of birth as 14 December 1863

[2] It is usually stated that Thomas commenced practice in c.1876 but this is unlikely as he would only have been about 13. It is more likely that he established his practice in the mid to late 1880s.

Worked in

UK

Works

Notable buildings designed by Walter Aubrey Thomas included the Philharmonic Hotel, Hope Street, Liverpool (1892); New Zealand House at 18 Walter Street, Liverpool (c.1893); extension to Philharmonic Hotel, Hope Street, Liverpool (1898); Lord Street Arcade, 81-89, Liverpool (1901); Ceylon Café. 35, Market Street Manchester (1904); Brooke House in Neston, Cheshire (1904); State Insurance Building, 14 Dale Street, Liverpool (1906); the Tower Building 1-11 Tower Gardens, Liverpool (1906); The Vines Public House, Lime Street, Liverpool (1907); Royal Liver building at the Pier Head. Liverpool (1908-11); the Crane Building at Hanover Square, Liverpool (1913-15); and Dunstan Wood, a house built for himself in Burton, Cheshire (1926). Other work by Thomas included alterations and extensions to Elmhurst on Parkgate Road in Neston, Cheshire; and Neptune Theatre in Neston, Cheshire.

## Source of Images

[RIBApix](#)

## Bibliography

Directory of British Architects 1834-1914. Compiled by Antonia Brodie, et al. Volume 2: L-Z. London; New York: *British Architectural Library, Royal Institute of British Architects/Continuum, 2001*

'Obituary'. *The Builder* vol. 147, 28 September 1934 p. 528

'Royal Liver Friendly Society building, Liverpool' [Architect: W. Aubrey Thomas] *Builders Journal & Architectural Engineer* 20 May 1908 p. 433

'Royal Liver Friendly Society building, Liverpool' [Architect: W. Aubrey Thomas] *Architectural Review* October 1911 pp. 209-215

'The Royal Liver Building, Liverpool' [Architect: W. Aubrey Thomas]. *The Builder* vol. 98, 9 April 1910 pp. 402-405.

## Links

- Tower Building [Thomas's year of birth is incorrectly given as 1859]  
<http://www.towerbuilding.co.uk/a-brief-history-of-tower-building/walter-aubrey-thomas/>
- engage@liverpool [video]. Transformative Research Legacies: Walter Aubrey Thomas. Venue: Rendall Building, Lecture Theatre 4 (University of Liverpool). Thursday 24th September 2015 [59 minutes]  
<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/engage/events/2015-2016-programme/walter-aubrey->

[thomas/](#)

- Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walter\\_Aubrey\\_Thomas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walter_Aubrey_Thomas)
- Dictionary of Scottish Architects 1660-1980  
[http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect\\_full.php?id=201948](http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=201948)
- Ivan Macquisten. 'Liverpool should not be punished for its modern vision'. The Art Newspaper <https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2021/07/21/liverpool-should-not-be-punished-for-its-modern-vision>
- archiseek <https://www.archiseek.com/tag/walter-aubrey-thomas/>
- British Listed Buildings - Listed buildings by Walter Aubrey Thomas  
<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/site-search/?q=%22Aubrey%20Thomas%22>
- Historic England - Lord Street Arcade, Liverpool  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/education/educational-images/lord-street-arcade-liverpool-10336>
- Historic England - Brook House, Neston, Cheshire  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1387784>
- Historic England - 81-89, Lord Street, Liverpool  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1070625>
- Historic England - Tower Building, 1-11 Tower Gardens, Liverpool  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1360220>
- Historic England - Elmhurst, Parkgate Road, Neston, Cheshire  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1387714>
- Historic England - Royal Liver Building, Georges pier Head, Liverpool (1908-11)  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1356370>
- Historic England - Lord Street Arcade, Liverpool  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/education/educational-images/lord-street-arcade-liverpool-10336>
- Historic England - Royal Liver Assurance Building, Liverpool  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/education/educational-images/royal-liver-assurance-building-liverpool-2504>
- Historic England - State Insurance Building, 14 Dale Street, Liverpool  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1068277>
- Historic England - Royal Liver Building, Pier Head, Liverpool  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/education/educational-images/royal-liver-building-pier-head-liverpool-10661>
- Architects of Greater Manchester 1800-1940  
<https://manchestervictorianarchitects.org.uk/index.php/architects/walter-aubury-thomas>
- Neston Town Council [Thomas's year of birth is incorrectly given as 1859]  
<https://neston.org.uk/community/about-neston/local-history/local-notable-people/walter-aubrey-thomas-1859-1934/>

- RIBApix

<https://www.ribapix.com/search?adv=false&cid=0&mid=0&vid=0&q=Walter%20Aubrey%20Thomas>

- flickr - Walter Aubrey Thomas

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/bolckow/albums/72177720307985041/>