

## Thomas Madden

(b. abt 1813, d.1882)

Written by Barbara Winfield, 25 January 2022

According to the age given on the 1881 census when Thomas Madden was an inmate in the Leeds Union workhouse he was born in Ireland about 1812/13 **(1)**

The first clear reference to Thomas is in the 1861 census when he was recorded aged 50, living in Milk Street Leeds. His occupation was described as a 'boatman', and he possibly worked with the boats on the Leeds Liverpool Canal or the River Aire. Thomas was already a widower by this time and living with him were two of his children: Ellen aged 10 and Mary aged 8. They were both born in Leeds so his wife must have died sometime after Mary's birth in 1852, although no details of a death or burial have been found. Also living there was a Bridget Madden, described as the sister of Thomas. Living next door to Thomas was a 'Patrick Madden' aged 13 and born in Leeds, but it is uncertain whether he was a relative too.

The only person named Thomas Madden and born in Ireland recorded in Leeds in the 1871 census was living at 28 Upper Cross Yard and was described as a flax dresser. It is possible that this was the Thomas in question although his occupation was now a flax dresser. He was a widower aged 60 and living on his own.

By 1881 Thomas was an inmate in the Leeds Union Workhouse but it is not known when he was admitted. He was aged 68 and was described as an unemployed boatman. He died in the Union Infirmary early the next year. Thomas was buried in Beckett Street Cemetery on January 31<sup>st</sup> 1882 and shared his grave with four other adults and thirteen very young children. (*Grave number 25836*)

### Reference list:

- (1) 'Thomas Madden (1861) Census return for Milk Street, Leeds, sub-district, South east Leeds. Public Record Office: PRO RG9 /3373, folio 15, p.23 (1861). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 27 January 2022).
- (2) 'Thomas Madden' (1871) Census return for Upper Cross Yard, Leeds, sub-district, south east Leeds. Public Record Office: PRO RG10 /4545, folio 66, p.33 (1861). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 27 January 2022).
- (3) 'Thomas Madden' (1881) Census return for Leeds Union Workhouse sub-district, North Leeds. Public Record Office: PRO RG11/4524, folio 103, p. 12(1881). Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 27 January 2022).
- (4) 'Thomas Madden (1882). Certified entry recording death on the Civil Registration Index, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 1882 Leeds Volume 9b Page 213 Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 27 January 2022).
- (5) 'Burial of Thomas Madden' 31 January 1882 Leeds, Beckett Street Cemetery (1845 –1987) Available at: <http://www.ancestry.co.uk> (Accessed: 27 January 2022).