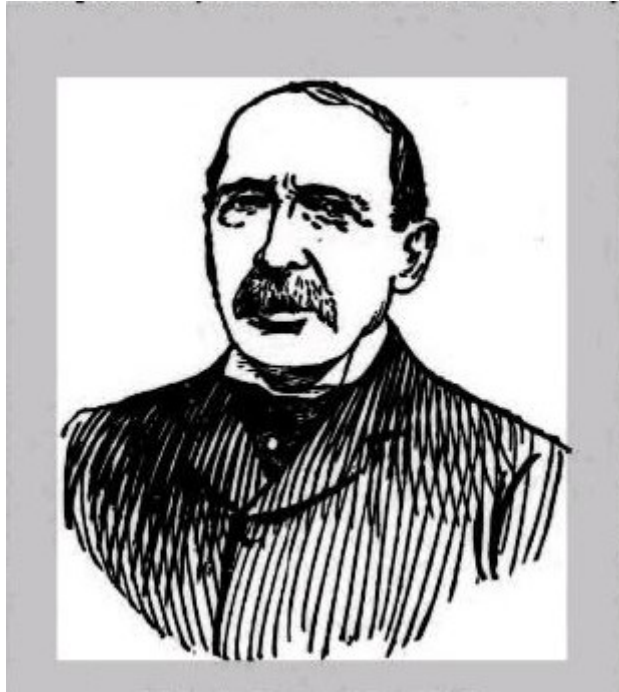


PEOPLE HEADINGLEY



John Warburton 1836-1907
Alderman



North Hill, Batty's Wood and Woodhouse Ridge, Ordnance Survey, 1908

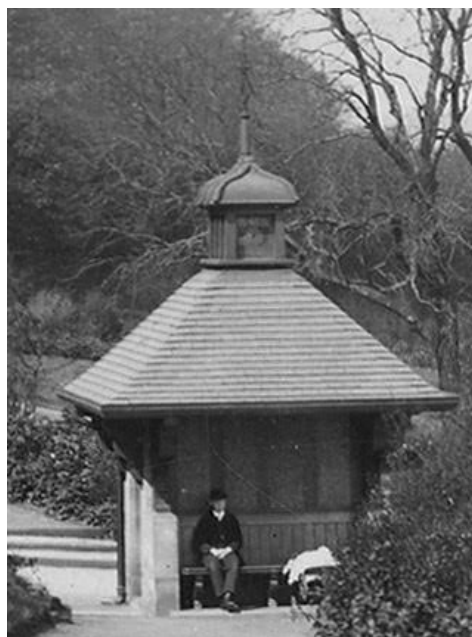


North Hill House

“Alderman John Warburton, of North Hill House, Headingley, died yesterday from pneumonia, the result of a chill contracted on the previous Friday. Though of a retiring disposition, he was a man of some public spirit, and it will always be remembered that he gave to the city the Batty Wood Estate, about 14 acres in extent, which was a continuation of Woodhouse Ridge,

and greatly enhanced the value of that recreative area to the citizens. This was in the year 1902, and in commemoration of the gift a memorial shelter was erected on the land by the Corporation.

“A native of the Halifax district, Mr Warburton came to Leeds in early youth, and was associated with his uncle, who founded the wholesale business of Wilkinson and Warburton, in West Street. After his uncle’s death he became head of the firm. Mr Warburton was a lifelong Liberal, and when the Liberal party succeeded in getting the municipal control of the city in 1904, they made him an alderman. Years before, Mr Warburton had stood as a candidate in the North-West Ward, but was not elected. He was not keen for public life. In the Council Chamber he was a great listener, and rarely, if ever, ventured to express his view of a question otherwise than by vote. He was a member of the Parks Committee, and Chairman of the Roundhay Park section, and also sat on the Property and Highways Committees, doing much useful work in a quiet way.



The Warburton Memorial

“Alderman Warburton had passed his seventieth year. He was a widower, his wife having died five years ago. There were no children of the marriage. The interment is to take place on Monday, at New Wortley Cemetery, in the grave where Mrs. Warburton was buried.”

Obituary, *Yorkshire Post*, 8 February 1907



Site of the memorial today

For information on the Ridge, visit [Woodhouse Ridge](#) and [The Ridge in the Past](#).