

Portrait of Sir J.H. Greville Smyth, Bart by Emily Way



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This 1890 portrait of Sir Greville Smyth by Emily Way (c1847-after 1906) was donated to Bristol Museums by Esme Smyth in 1930. It is currently 'In Store.'

Who was Emily Way?

Very little is known about Emily Way the British artist of this portrait. She is known to have painted a few portraits of public figures. It may just be coincidence that Greville's mother was a Way before her marriage.

Who was Sir Greville Smyth?

Greville Smyth was born in 1836 as Greville Upton. His father was Thomas Upton and his grandmother was Florence Smyth daughter of Thomas Smyth and Jane Whitchurch. Greville inherited Ashton Court after his Great Uncles, Hugh and John Smyth, died without any legitimate descendants. Greville changed his surname to Smyth to secure his inheritance and took over the Estate once he came of age.

Greville married his first cousin Emily. Greville is probably best known for giving his name to the Greville Smyth Park, and for his passion for natural history. Many items from his extensive collection were donated to Bristol Museums after his death in 1901.