

Lot 1030 Portrait of Florence Poulett, daughter of John, first Lord Poulett, and wife of Thomas Smyth, wearing black dress with lace collar. 42 in. x 35 in. In black and gilt frame.



Photo credit: Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives

Image: K2915©Bristol Museums, Galleries and Archives

Research: FAM volunteer

Caption says: *'Florence Poulett. Daughter of John, first Lord Poulett and wife to Thomas Smyth Esq.'*

The portrait (C1640) was not one of those bought by Bristol Museums in the 1947 sale. It is not certain who purchased it at the sale, but it was given to the Bristol Museums in 1965 as part of the G.R. Stanton Bequest. It is currently 'In store'.

G.R. Stanton was a curator of archaeology at Bristol Museums and donated to the Museum this portrait and 2 others from Ashton Court.

The portrait currently hangs on the landing at Red Lodge, Bristol.



Image: FAM volunteer

Who was Florence Poulett and how was she connected to Ashton Court?

Florence Poulett was the eldest daughter of John Poulett and his wife Elizabeth Kenn. Florence married Thomas Smyth (1609-1642) of Ashton Court in 1627. After Thomas's death in 1642 Florence married Thomas Pigott. Shortly after their marriage in 1647 Thomas bought Brockley Court as a home for his new wife who wished to remain close to her son, Hugh, at Ashton Court. Florence had 15 children, nine with her first husband and six with her second. Florence died in 1676.

A later portrait of Florence (c1660 by John Hayls) exists in the Smyth-Pigott collection of portraits held at Weston Museum in Weston -super-Mare.



Image: FAM volunteer

Inscription reads: *'Dom Flor Pigott Fillo Dom Poulet'*.

An earlier portrait of Florence with Thomas Smyth.



Image: Thomas and Florence Smyth, about 1627. The Weiss Gallery and

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Thomas_and_Florence_Smyth_1627.jpg

*1947 Sale Catalogue (Bristol Archives 44440/1)