

Fanny Baines (1833-1916)

Fanny Baines was the daughter of Henry Baines (1793-1878), one of the first head gardeners for the Museum Gardens, and lived her entire life in York and in service to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society and Museum Gardens. Although little is known about her aside from her connection to her father, she no doubt knew much about her father's career and business, as she wrote a letter describing in great detail her father's life and 40 year career with the Yorkshire Philosophical Society. After his death in 1878, she wrote another impassioned letter to the Society, petitioning them to let her keep living in the Gatehouse where she and the Baines family had lived for many years at that point. The Society agreed and appointed her as the first female Gatekeeper for the Museum Gardens with "salary enough to support herself and one maidservant". Upon her retirement many years later, it was decided once again by the Society that, due to the continued outstanding lifetime service of the Baines family, she would be given the same pension as her father (£100 per year) and continue to live out her days in the Gatehouse. She died a spinster in 1916, and left her estate to Edith Beatrice Bateman, wife of Hinton Bateman.

Peter J. Hogarth and Ewan W. Anderson, *The most fortunate situation: The Story of York's Museum Gardens* (York: Yorkshire Philosophical Society, 2018)

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