

Ufford Heritage Trail

27. East Lane and Strawberry Hill

A Richard Est lived in this lane from as early as 1327, but was he named after East Lane or the Lane named after him? Who knows?

Strawberry Hill sits up on the ridge above East Lane and was built in the early C20th. In the late 1920s and through WW2 years, it was the home of Lucy Walpole and her sisters Madeline and Geraldine, and Madeline's husband Rev Arthur Robinson. Lucy was a descendant of Sir Robert Walpole, 1st Earl of Orford, Britain's first prime minister. She and her sisters named the house after Strawberry Hill House and Gardens, Twickenham, built by Horace Walpole, son of Robert Walpole. Horace was a writer, politician and traveller; he wrote *The Castle of Otranto*, widely regarded as the first Gothic novel.

Lucy studied Art in London and Brighton and was well known for her portrait and flower paintings in oils and for her landscape watercolours. She exhibited at both the Royal Academy and Royal Scottish Academy and had solo exhibitions in Brighton, Cambridge, Ipswich and Woodbridge. Two examples of her work (below) are *Spring Flowers* and *Reflections at Ufford*. The latter shows the Hawkeswade Bridge.

Lucy Walpole died in 1979 in Ufford.

