Memorial stone for Reverend Mother Maria-Baptista of St Joseph (Sarah Pendrell)

1805-1886 (died aged 81)

The stone transcribed:

Orate Pro Anima

Rev Matris Mariae Baptista

A S Joseph

(In saeculo Sarah Pendrell)

Ovae cum nata esset

Apud Wolverhampton 30 Dec 1805

Professa 28 Nov 1826 Et

Istum Conventum Rexisset

42 Annis Cum 8  Mensibus

Roughly translated:

Pray for the Soul (of)

Rev Mother Maria Baptista

of Saint Joseph

(In secular life Sarah Pendrell)

She was born in Wolverhampton 30 Dec 1805

Professed 28 Nov 1826 and

ruled this community

(for) 42 years and 8 months

Brief note, more to come, I hope. Sister Maria Baptista (Mary Baptist)/Sarah Pendrell spent 60 years as a Carmelite, much of it in France, having joined the “English community” there aged 21. She seems to have become the superior of the community in 1844, aged 39, and to have masterminded the community’s move from Normandy, the design and building of the Hunston Convent, and the community’s installation there.

RDN

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