

George FORTIS (1794-1822)

George FORTIS, son of George FORTIS (c. 1770-c. 1857) and Mary RUDLAND (c. 1769-c. 1819), was born on 17 February 1794 in North Lopham, Norfolk. He was baptised on 19 July 1794 in North Lopham - public baptism, parents George and Mary (nee RUDLAND)¹

He married **Susan BARHAM** on 1 July 1814 in Aldington, Kent.

After the death of his first wife Susan, there was a second marriage to **Frances Jane FISK** on 16 January 1820 in Bressingham, Norfolk. The marriage was witnessed by William BROWN and William LOVELESS. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. George BETTS, curate.² On 25 February 1822 George set fire to several stacks belonging to Mr. John Kent, aided by Noah PEAK

In March 1822 George FORTIS, along with Noah PEAK, was indicted for arson (incendiarism) for setting fire to 3 haystacks on February 25 1822, found guilty and sentenced to death.

George died on 13 April 1822 in Norwich, Norfolk - executed on Castle Hill, Norwich, a public hanging.

Notes:

It is believed that George served seven years in the Royal Staff Corps and also saw action at Waterloo.

Spouses and children:

Susan BARHAM was born circa 1795. She died circa 1819. She and George FORTIS had the following children:

George FORTIS (c. 1818-c. 1892)

Frances Jane FISK was born circa 1799. She died circa 1884. She and George FORTIS had the following children:

Eliza FORTIS (c. 1820-c. 1887)

William FORTIS (-)

Mary FORTIS (-)

Sources

1. *PR - Baptism*. North Lopham, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 19 July 1794.
2. *PR - Marriage*. Bressingham, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 16 January 1820.