

# Explore Your Archive

Explore Your Archive is a joint campaign delivered by The National Archives and the Archives and Records Association across the UK and Ireland

## Relive Georgian Life – Olney



William Cowper's Summer House from 'Rural Walks' by James Storer, 1822

Drawings 'from life' also give us more information about the features of a place. Early Victorian photographs are also useful because at that time many of the older buildings had not undergone major alterations or been knocked down.

Poet William Cowper's Summer House was a tourist attraction and still stands in the gardens of the Cowper & Newton Museum, his home from 1768 – 1786. The spire of St Peter & St Paul, Rev John Newton's church, is in the background. The roof of his Vicarage is also visible.

Newton's study was in the attic and it is likely that this is where he wrote the words to the hymn 'Amazing Grace' for his church service on 1st January 1773.



Rev John Newton's Vicarage from 'Rural Walks' by James Storer 1822

Olney Bridge has been rebuilt many times over the years and in fact is two bridges across both the river and the mill stream.



Photograph of Olney Bridge, 1864



Colourised photograph of Olney Bridge

