

= Sir Bevil Grenville 's Monument =

Sir Bevil Grenville 's Monument is a monument erected in 1720 on Lansdown , then called " Lansdowne Hill " , 4 miles (6 @. @ 4 km) north @-@ west of the city of Bath , in Somerset , England . It was designated a Grade II * listed building on 1 February 1956 , and a scheduled monument on 12 December 1950 .

The monument commemorates the heroism of the Civil War Royalist commander Sir Bevil Grenville (1596 @-@ 1643) of Stowe , Kilkhampton in Cornwall and Bideford in Devon , who on 5 July 1643 fell mortally wounded at the Battle of Lansdowne , leading his regiment of Cornish pikemen . It was erected by Grenville 's grandson and has been maintained by his descendants . This has included the repair of inscriptions carved on the base of the monument , eulogising Grenville and his forces .

= = Background = =

The Battle of Lansdowne took place on 5 July 1643 during the Civil War . The Royalists under Lord Hopton attacked the Parliamentarians led by Sir William Waller who occupied a commanding position on Lansdowne Hill . Under the leadership of Sir Bevil Grenville , Hopton 's Cornish pikemen stormed Waller 's breastworks , while Royalist musketeers outflanked Waller by passing through the woods on each side of his position . Grenville was mortally wounded in hand @-@ to @-@ hand combat as Parliamentarian horse counter @-@ attacked and were driven off . He received a mortal blow to the head with a pollaxe and was taken to the rectory at nearby Cold Ashton where he died . His death was a set @-@ back from which the king 's cause in the Westcountry never recovered , for he alone knew how to handle the unruly Cornishmen .

= = History = =

The monument was erected in 1720 by George Granville , 1st Baron Lansdowne (1666 @-@ 1735) , grandson of Sir Bevil and heir male to William Granville , 3rd Earl of Bath (d.1711) , great @-@ grandson of Sir Bevil and the last male in the senior line of the family . In 1714 Baron Lansdowne had erected a mural monument to Sir Bevil in the Grenville Chapel in the Church of St James the Great , Kilkhampton , Cornwall , in which parish was situated the Grenville seat of Stowe .

The monument has been repaired several times . Initially in 1777 and again in 1828 and then in 1879 , each time the repairs were funded by Granville 's descendants . Note that the original spelling was Bevil Granville but today Grenville or Greville are commonly used .

= = Description = =

The monument is of ashlar stone masonry , 25 feet (7 @. @ 6 m) high , in the English Baroque style . On the south side is a slate tablet inscribed with a quotation from the account by Lord Clarendon (1609 @-@ 1674) in his History of the Rebellion and Civil Wars in England of the Battle of Lansdowne (1643) . On the north side are two poems . On top is a griffin (the crest and supporters of the Grenvilles) holding an escutcheon displaying the Grenville coat of arms : Gules , three clarions or . On another side are shown the Royal Arms of King Charles II (1660 @-@ 1685) supported by the arms of Sir Bevil 's eldest son and heir John Granville , 1st Earl of Bath (1628 ? 1701) and by the arms of the latter 's half first cousin General George Monck , 1st Duke of Albemarle , KG (1608 @-@ 1670) . Monck was the principal figure behind the Restoration of the Monarchy to King Charles II in 1660 , in effecting which he was much assisted by Sir John Grenville , for which services both were elevated to the peerage .

= = Inscription = =

The Elegy on Sir Bevil Grenville by William Cartwright , a fellow Royalist , who died shortly after Sir Bevil on 29 November 1643 , is inscribed on the monument :

This was not Nature's courage nor that thing ,
We valour call which Time and Reason bring ,
But a diviner fury fierce and high ,
Valour transported into Ecstasy .