

SIDNEY HAROLD METEYARD AND KATE EADIE

Sidney Meteyard and his wife Kate Eadie lived at 100 Wake Green Road from 1916 until about 1940, when they retired to Cookhill near Alcester. She died in 1945 and he in 1947.



*The Reredos at St Oswald of Worcester, Bordesley
(by Sidney Meteyard)*

The Birmingham Group, or Birmingham School, of artist craftsmen were leaders in the Arts and Crafts movement at the turn of the century. They were nearly all connected with the Birmingham School of Art in Margaret Street. Sidney was a teacher there from 1866 until 1933. He was a distinguished craftsman in several fields, including stained glass, decorative painting, and enamels. He designed many war memorials, including the Roll of Honour at the Hall of Memory. His paintings include a fine credos at Saint Oswald's, Bordesley, a portrayal of the crucifixion; his wife Kate acted as model for the figure of Mary. His brother Oswald (who incidentally spelt his name "Meatyard") was the Assistant Priest at St Oswald's from 1912 until 1924. Sidney also illustrated a number of books. He was secretary for some years of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists.

He married one of his pupils, Kate Eadie, who became known for her work in stained glass design, illuminated manuscripts, Jewellery, and Limoges enamels. The work of both these artists reflects dreams of an ideal world of the past. They must have lived to see their work undervalued and rejected in their later years, but it is now highly esteemed for its meticulous and intricate craftsmanship, as well as for its sheer escapism.

Fred Price

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