

The Grange Association

<http://www.the-grange.org>

Spring 2008

John Christopher Bartholomew, 15/1/1923 – 16/1/2008: An appreciation

The Association was greatly saddened to hear of the death of John Bartholomew. We are very indebted to John, and to the Bartholomew family, for the strong support they gave us in our 1980-82 campaign for designation as a Conservation Area. John's first home was in Findhorn Place and he always had a soft spot for The Grange. Key to our success for designation was the publication in 1982 of 'The Grange a Case for Conservation'. John's brother Robbie, our former Chairman, offered his invaluable expertise and donated the paper for its publication. Many members of the Association will remember John's talk on "Old Maps of South Edinburgh" on 24 October 1990. John was born in Edinburgh in 1923. He went to the St Trinneans School, the Edinburgh Academy and Gordonstoun. After reading Geography at Edinburgh University, he joined his distinguished map-making family firm. He was its cartographic director from 1953 until his retiral in 1984. John was President of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society and was elected fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1970. He was also president of the British Cartographical Society in 1970-71. John enjoyed travel all over the world and was proud of having experience of "all the continents except Antarctica". He co-funded the Scottish Rights of Way Society, now called Scotsways. In 1995, he was involved in having the family firm present two important collections to the National Library of Scotland (NLS): the firm's Archives and the John Bartholomew Collection of Antiquarian Atlases dating from 1525 to 1877. Both are being indexed at the map room of the NLS. John Bartholomew was a dedicated family man, married to his wife Ginette Archard-James for 52 years, and father of five sons.

Sofia Leonard