Name: James ROBERTS

Personal Details:
Born in Lincolnshire about 1752.
He died at his home, Mareham House, at Mareham le Fen, Lincolnshire after a long illness on 8 July 1826.
Buried in the churchyard at St Helen’s Church, Mareham le Fen.

Position On-Board: Servant to Joseph Banks

Biographical Summary:
Roberts was one of Bank’s assistants on the Endeavour voyage. He assisted in carrying all of Banks paraphernalia when he went off collecting natural history specimens.
After the voyage Roberts became one of Banks trusted servants. He accompanied Banks on the voyage to Iceland (1772).
In 1774, he helped to look after the Tahitian Omai when he was convalescing after being inoculated with smallpox.
By the 1790s he had become one of Banks’s stewards of his estate at Revesby Abbey, as well as serving his master at his property in Soho Square, London.

Robert’s headstone now stands inside the church, to protect it from erosion, and a nearby plaque commemorates his life.
Robert’s name also appears on the Australian memorial in St Botolph’s Church, Boston, Lincs.

Roberts left a Will, in which he bequeathed his various properties to his wife, Mary Roberts. (Reference PROB 11 / 1717)