

# Anglo-Celtic Roots

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## ***The President's Column***

The theme for this September's conference is Scotland. To have a Scot in your family line is to be genealogically blessed; the public records seem to be meticulously kept, have not suffered unduly from fires and the destruction of war and are increasingly available online—at a price.

Our Scottish family history research expert, John Hay, stepped forward to be the conference co-chair, responsible for organizing the program, and has identified a lead speaker from Scotland. David Webster, who lives near Edinburgh, has 20 years experience in the field and numerous publications. He is the Scottish research expert for *Your Family Tree* magazine and has spoken at conferences in Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. but he has never before travelled to Canada. To find out more about David go to [www.rossgenealogy.co.uk](http://www.rossgenealogy.co.uk).

One of our active, newer members, Brian Glenn, who helped things run smoothly at the 2005 conference, has volunteered to be the co-chair for local arrangements. Brian and John have their work cut out for them in keeping up with last year's pace, but have the benefit of a good written guide prepared after the last conference by Patricia Roberts-Pichette. As usual, the conference will have something for everyone and a variety of speakers and exhibitors, new and familiar. After some deliberation the conference committee confirmed the dates September 22–24, a week later than advertised in the conference program book last year. Mark it in your agenda.

We also have events in April of note. From registrations already received we know that Ryan Taylor is a significant attraction. That is why his name is in the title “English Records: A Day with Ryan Taylor” to be held April 7.

On April 8, Ryan will speak on “Family History in the Newspaper: there's more than you thought” at the regular monthly meeting, which will be in association with the Ontario Genealogical Society Region VIII Annual Seminar. Plan on spending the whole day. Lunch and the afternoon lectures by member Elizabeth Taylor, Michel Béland, Président, Société de généalogie de l'Outaouais and Sylvie Tremblay from the Canadian Genealogy Centre are a bargain. See the whole program at [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca).

I've been asked why BIFHSGO is hosting an OGS Regional Seminar when the Society is independent. Twice a year representatives of many genealogical groups in Eastern Ontario (OGS Region VIII) meet to exchange information. On one of these occasions, each society takes a turn in hosting the AGM and seminar. It's an opportunity to enhance cooperation, something we in BIFHSGO have worked to build with many local like-minded organizations.

**John D. Reid**

### ***Notes from Editor's Desk***

In the Winter 2001 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Root*, then-editor Percy Bateson, explained that the initiation of a permanent graphic of the map of the British Isles for the cover was due to it being too time-consuming to search for an “interesting and relevant picture” for each issue. Four years later, Chris MacPhail and I talked about the possibility of trying something new for the cover. After tossing around a few ideas, we decided to try having annual themes that would illustrate some aspect of the movement of immigrants from the British Isles to Canada. For 2006 we selected the theme of trans-Atlantic travel by sea. Fortunately for me, Chris volunteered to do all the work. We have opted for a stylistic representation of the subject with an overprint of article titles rather than a picture separated from the title list as in the earlier issues.

The articles in this issue also presented a challenge to our goal of providing plenty of illustrations. Some authors were not able to make suitable pictures available but, fortunately, Patricia Roberts-Pichette had located five illustrations related to the founding of the Guthrie Home and Andrew Rodger offered us a number of photographs taken by the Ottawa photographer William Topley, which give an idea of the photographic treasures at Library and Archives Canada.

**Irene Kellow Ip**

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**BIFHSGO SATURDAY MEETING REPORTS**


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## Great Moments in Genealogy

*The following two articles are based on presentations made at the Society's 12 December 2005 meeting as part of Great Moments in Genealogy program.*

### A Pattern of Early Parental Deaths in Both Major Family Lines in Victorian Great Britain

BY GORDON D. TAYLOR

#### Introduction

One of my key interests in studying the history of families is to try and understand and appreciate the manner of their lives—the events that had both a short- and long-term impact on them. Our interests as family historians are in three Ps: People, Place and Period. In other words, who they were, where they lived and what happened to them over time.

More and more detailed information of value to the family historian becomes available on the Internet almost daily. The information that I was amassing from censuses, vital statistics indexes and other sources pointed to a phenomenon in both my Taylor and Brown antecedents—the early death of one of the parents. My research question that grew out of this set of facts was, “How did the family cope?” My purpose in this paper is to outline several of the family situations, to indicate some of the responses and to point the way to further research.

Three successive generations of my father's family suffered the loss of a parent, the mother in two cases and the father in the other. In each case the response to the tragedy was different.

#### The Taylor family

##### 1. *Jeremiah Taylor (1790–1862)*

My g g grandfather, Jeremiah Taylor, suffered the death of his wife in 1841. Jeremiah was a retired, senior officer of the British Army and, although left with five children ranging in age from 5 to 11 years, he did not remarry. He employed a butler, Francis Wells, and a housekeeper, Elizabeth Moseby—long-time

employees, who appear in the 1841, 1851 and 1861 Censuses as household members. In each Census, three or four other employees also appear. In the 1861 Census, the care-giving situation is reversed and the eldest son, James (my great-grandfather), his wife and family are living with Jeremiah, caring for him in his declining years.



##### 2. *James Taylor (1824–65)*

My great-grandfather, James Taylor, died in 1865. His widow, Frances, was pregnant at the time and already had six children, ranging in age from one to nine years. James was an Anglican clergyman and, at the time of his death, was curate of Little Dewchurch, Herefordshire. When James had been appointed to this position, he had been given a stipend of £87 and a house (Crockfords, 1865, p.612). On his death, his widow and children were required to vacate the rectory to make room for the next incumbent. Frances did not remarry. (Although James died in 1865, his will was not finally settled until March 1899.)

The family moved to Charlton Kings (1871 Census) and Walthamstow, Essex (1881 Census). The two oldest girls were educated at The Clergy Orphan School in London (1871 Census). The school was operated by the Clergy Orphan Corporation and its mandate was to clothe, maintain and educate poor

orphans of the clergy of the Church of England and the Church in Wales.

Two of the children died young. Francis died in 1867 and Henrietta drowned at Bournemouth in 1880. James immigrated to Canada in 1876. Frances and her four other children were living in Walthamstow in 1881 and only Alfred (my grandfather) was employed. In 1882 Frances and her four children immigrated to Canada.

### ***3. Alfred deRupe Taylor (1864–1934)***

My grandfather, Alfred Taylor, was left with four children, including my father, when his wife Edith died in 1895. These children ranged in age from newborn to seven years. Apparently Edith and a friend in England had an agreement that, in the event of one of them dying young and leaving minor children, the other would take care of the children. Whether or not this kind of agreement was legal I do not know, but Alfred honoured part of the agreement by taking his two daughters, Frances and Edith, to England in 1896, where they joined a family of Powers. Alfred remarried in 1897. His second wife, Agnes Honeyman (1848–1928), was the mother whom my dad and uncle knew and loved. After Agnes died in 1928, Alfred married for a third time, in 1930. This wife was Dorothy Hornby (1877–1961). Frances remained in England, using the name of Frances Mona Power. Her sister Edith returned to Canada after World War I. She was known as Iris Taylor. She married, and lived for many years in Cobourg, Ontario.

Thus, in three successive generations the Taylor family had to deal with the early death of a parent. The major disruption in family life seems to have been with Alfred's family with the children being separated. However, while being raised in two different households and countries, they remained in touch.

### **The Brown family**

I now turn to the Brown family, in which both my maternal grandparents were victims of early parental death. In the case of my Grandmother Brown, she was left an orphan at age five; her mother had also been an orphan.

#### ***1. Charles Brown (1815–84)***

My great-grandfather, Charles Brown, married three times and had a family with each wife. He married Elizabeth Mann (1823–46) in 1844. They had one daughter, Emily Jane, who was one year old when her mother died.

He married for a second time on 1 February 1849. His bride was Louisa Jane Hubbard (1826–62). This marriage resulted in six births between 1850 and 1861. Five of the children were living when their mother died. They were Francis, Herbert, Edith, Florence and Percy, my grandfather. Emily Jane, by then aged 17, was also part of the household.

Charles married for a third time in 1864—Julia Mary Thomas (1827–1910). In addition to the six children who were left motherless by the death of Louisa, Julia and Charles had two sons. I have a great deal of admiration for the third Mrs. Brown and the task she fulfilled as mother to eight children. The family stayed together and were active in the social and commercial life of Chipping Ongar, Essex. Julia outlived Charles and resided with her son Proby until her death in 1910.

#### ***2. John Simpson (1800–44)***

I now come to the case that I consider to be the saddest—the family history of my grandmother Brown over two generations.

My g g grandfather John Simpson lived and died in Bothkennar, Stirling, Scotland. He married a Janet Simpson (1801–33) in 1824. Four children were born of this union but only one, Jean aged two, was alive when her mother died. John remarried in 1838. His second wife, Margaret Thomson, had five children.

When John died in 1844, there were five children in the household and Margaret was pregnant. Jean, my great-grandmother, who was then 13, had thus lost both parents. In the 1851 Census, the household consisted of Margaret (widow, aged 33, farmer), Jean, John, Elizabeth, Isabella, William and Margaret. There were also two farm servants and one household servant. In the 1861 Census, John (aged 22, farmer) was head of household, which included five children, Jane (Jean), Elizabeth, Isabella, William and Margaret.

#### ***3. John Masterton (1823–72)***

My great-grandfather, John Masterton, married Jean Simpson in 1863. They had three children—Jessie, Jeanie and Alexander—before Jean died in 1867. Of the children only Jeanie was living at the time of her mother's death. John remarried in 1870. His second wife, Jane Crawford, was a widow with one daughter. Two sons, David and John, were born before the father died in 1872.

Jeanie (my grandmother) became an orphan at age five. What transpired within the family after the death of John Masterton I do not know but in the 1881 Census,

Jeanie, aged 15, is living with John and Elizabeth Coubrough on a farm in Perthshire. Elizabeth was a Simpson by birth, so it appears that Jeanie had been taken in by relatives. In the 1891 Census, she is living in Essex, England with a John and Christine Coubrough and her relationship is shown as that of cousin. Jeanie Masterton married Percy Boyer Brown in 1892 and they immigrated to Canada in 1903.

### Conclusion

Here ends this sad tale for now. I am, however, left with some interesting research questions:

What caused the long delay in the settlement of James Taylor's will?

What was the role of the Clergy Orphan School—not necessarily with regard to this family but as a response to a social problem?

Was this picture of premature death common in 19th century Great Britain and, while the cases that I have represent a reasonably well-off group, was it even more prevalent among the poor of both cities and rural areas?

I plan to do further research into the living conditions of Victorian Great Britain to see if I can find some common ground with the misfortunes of my ancestral families.

## Finding the Crack in a Brick Wall

BY WILLIS BURWELL

**W**e all have brick walls in our family tree—people who suddenly disappear with no trace or, alternatively, suddenly appear but we don't know from where. One of my brick walls was my great-granduncle, Robinson Bulmer.

From my early family research, I knew that Robinson had been christened in Northallerton in the North Riding of Yorkshire, 2 December 1838. He came to Canada with his parents and siblings in 1844. In the 1851 Census he was living with his family on a farm near Pakenham, Ontario. In the 1861 Census, the family had moved to Ross Township, Renfrew County. Robinson was married in 1860 to Harriet and his occupation was given as schoolteacher. Harriet was 19 years old and born in the USA. The Wesleyan Methodist Baptismal Register for Renfrew County states that a child, Edward Nelson Bulmer, was born 6 April 1861 and baptized 30 November 1861. Robinson and Harriet then disappear and are not found in any of the subsequent Canadian census indexes.

One of my first breaks came when I found a family tree in the Ottawa City Archives that had been compiled by a distant cousin about 1975. Robinson Bulmer was included in the tree but not his wife nor any children. There was, however, a footnote that stated “Robinson Bulmer gave up Crown land to be the second teacher at SS No 1 Ross. This was such a family disgrace he left home. Later he was owner of a large furniture factory

in North Carolina.” No source was given for this information and the cousin had died by the time that I found the document. The information is somewhat corroborated by the fact that, when his father died in 1861, there is no mention of Robinson in his will. However, I have been unable to find any trace of Robinson Bulmer in North Carolina.



The next break came in 1997, when I exchanged family files with another researcher interested in Renfrew County. I knew that we had overlapping files in my Burwell and Humphries families, but was surprised when I also found Robinson Bulmer in his file. His wife's maiden name was given as Harriet LeBaron, born 21 November 1841 in Hadley, New York, USA. Her parents were given as Nelson LeBaron and Eliz Ann Sherman. No children were listed and there was no information on where the family lived after 1861.

When the LDS Church established the “familysearch.org” website, I did a search for Robinson Bulmer. I found his marriage to Harriet LeBaron about 1862 in Burlington, Des Moines, Iowa, in the IGI. The source was an LDS church member's

submission. Harriet's parents were correctly given but I already knew that the marriage had taken place in 1860 and there did not seem to be any logical reason why the marriage should have taken place in Iowa since they were back in Ross Township in 1861. As a result I discounted this information.

In October 2005, I decided to do a search for Robinson Bulmer on the commercial "ancestry.com" website. Doing a general search for the name, I immediately came up with the information that a Robinson Bulmer had applied for US Naturalization in 1874 and again in 1876 in Kane County, Illinois. Was this my Robinson Bulmer? There was no sign of him in any of the US census indexes. The brick wall seemed to be still there.

At this point, a thought occurred to me. What if Robinson had died in the late 1870s and if Harriet had survived him and not remarried? Could I find any trace of her? A search of the 1870, 1880 and 1890 US Census indexes turned up nothing. However, in the 1900 US Census index I found a Harriet Bulmer living in Manhattan. Although I was sceptical that this would be my Harriet, I called up the image of the Census record (see figure below). You can imagine the surprise and shock with what I saw! Not only did the record have all the correct information on Harriet, but also, Robinson Bulmer was clearly shown as alive and the head of the household. Why did he not show up in the index? Also listed in the household are a daughter

named Harriet Roy, born in Illinois, and a granddaughter named Hazel Campbell, born in Iowa. This seems to prove that Robinson and Harriet lived in those states for a period of time. The Census record shows that Harriet Bulmer had five children but that only one is living in 1900. Harriet Roy had had no children and there is no sign of her husband.

When I made the presentation at the December BIFHSGO meeting, I received two key assists from the audience. First, I had noted that I was still not sure of the occupation that was given for Robinson Bulmer. The second word seemed to be "Inventor" but I could not decipher the first word. A member of the audience suggested that the occupation was "Patented Inventor" and that the first word had been abbreviated to "Pat." This is almost certainly the correct interpretation. The second major assist came from John Reid who, after the presentation, informed me that there was an index of New York City death registrations on the World Wide Web. He later sent me the URL: [www.italiangen.org/NYCDDeathSearch.asp](http://www.italiangen.org/NYCDDeathSearch.asp). A check of that website provided the information that Robinson Bulmer died in Manhattan on 4 August 1916 and Harriet Bulmer on 5 August 1923. Obviously, there are unexpected benefits to giving a presentation at BIFHSGO's "Great Moments in Genealogy." I now know quite a lot about what happened to Robinson Bulmer although I still don't know if he was ever in North Carolina.

18	Robert Lynch	Head	27 Mar 1837	7	New York	New York	New York		Bookkeeper
	- Sarah S	Wife	27 Sep 1837	1	England	England	England	1830	Wash. Clerk
	- Beatrice	Daughter	27 Sep 1861	5	New York	New York	England		
	- Lucile	Daughter	27 Sep 1863	1	New York	New York	England		
	Alma Kate	Daughter	27 Sep 1865	1	Canada	Canada	England	1865	Charwoman
19	John Campbell	Head	27 Mar 1827	5	New York	New York	New York		Blacksmith
	- Alice	Wife	27 Jul 1827	1	New York	Canada	Virginia		
	- Bertha	Daughter	27 Mar 1853	3	New York	Canada	Virginia		
	- Clara	Daughter	27 Mar 1855	1	New York	Canada	Virginia		
20	Robinson Bulmer	Head	27 Mar 1826	35	England	England	England	1820	Pat. Inventor
	- Harriet	Wife	27 Jul 1827	31	New York	New York	New York		
	Roy Harriet	Daughter	27 Mar 1857	1	Virginia	England	New York		Milliner
	Hazel Hazel	Daughter	27 Mar 1859	1	Canada	Canada	Illinois		
	Josephine	Daughter	27 Mar 1861	1	Canada	Canada	Illinois		
	Hazel Hazel	Daughter	27 Mar 1863	1	England	England	England	1863	Charwoman
21	Constance Hildreth	Head	27 Oct 1837	32	New York	New York	New York	1837	Washer
	- Bertha	Wife	27 Jun 1836	30	New York	New York	New York	1836	
	- George	Son	27 Mar 1861	1	New York	New York	New York		Black
	- William	Son	27 Mar 1863	1	New York	New York	New York		at school
	Montrose	Son	27 Mar 1865	1	New York	New York	New York		at school

Extract of 1900 U.S. Census Record for Manhattan, New York.

## The Not So Impossible John Smith<sup>©</sup>

BY ALISON HARE

*This article is based on a presentation made to BIFHSGO on 14 May 2005.*

Commonly named ancestors can be the curse of our genealogical lives. For many years, my g g grandfather John Smith was as elusive as the worst of them. The few clues I had about his family were either too vague to be helpful or led nowhere. Research was so difficult that for a long time it seemed hopeless. But in the end John Smith was not an impossible research subject. Today I know more about him than many of my other ancestors. This is the story of my search.

My research focused initially on my g g grandmother Henrietta Frances Smith, who married George Gardner in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, in 1867. The Gardners were prominent Yarmouth shipbuilders, traceable back many generations to Nantucket and Salem in Massachusetts. Henrietta, by contrast, was a mystery. I knew her parents were John Smith and Sarah née Goldfinch, and I had a family document that purported to name John and Sarah's children. I also had Henrietta's date and place of birth. Both her gravestone and death certificate indicated that she was born in Brighton, England, in July 1840.<sup>1</sup> I was actually cocky as I began what I thought would be a quick search for a birth certificate. Unfortunately, if Henrietta's birth was ever registered, I have yet to find it. A search for a baptism in Brighton parish registers from 1840 onward was similarly unsuccessful.

Not getting anywhere with Henrietta, I attempted to make progress by working on her siblings. Henrietta's brother James had married Amelia Gardner in Yarmouth in 1857.<sup>2</sup> Of all the Smith children he was the only one for whom I had a date and place of baptism. Research quickly confirmed the details. James was baptized in the parish of St. Anne, Limehouse, in London, England, on 26 May 1833. The parish register showed that the family was living at Deptford, east of London on the Thames. It also confirmed that John was a mariner. James too was a mariner and I was able to document some of the voyages that he made before he disappeared from Yarmouth in the 1870s.

Henrietta's other siblings were said to include John, Helen, Jane and a set of twins, Georgina and Sarah. The names were too common to be useful, especially

without dates. My mother remembered that Helen married a man named Boutilier, a lighthouse keeper on Nova Scotia's Sable Island, but a search of Sable Island census returns failed to find them.

Put together, my few scraps of information made a puzzling story. Henrietta's brother James was apparently the first member of the family to come to Canada, but the timing of his arrival was unclear. He was already married by the time Henrietta arrived at age 21 in 1859, a detail found in the 1901 Census.<sup>3</sup> Helen's date of arrival was uncertain but it seemed possible that, if three siblings had immigrated, their parents might have too. But if they had, I could find no trace of them.

Research languished for several years until the British Isles Vital Records Index was published in 1999, with a match for Henrietta's baptism in Brighton. There was no doubt that this was my Henrietta. The middle name was the same and the August baptism was consistent with a July birth. The year, however, was not 1840 but 1838. Only then did I realize that Henrietta, five years older than her husband, was likely to have been sensitive about the age difference. Her age is stated incorrectly on records throughout her adult life.

There were no other baptisms in Brighton for children of John and Sarah so, pleased as I was to have finally documented Henrietta's start in life, it was not a major breakthrough. However, the baptismal record did yield one new and interesting detail: Henrietta's father was said to be a member of the coastguard.<sup>4</sup>

Time passed with new research efforts repeatedly stalling. Frustrated with the Smiths, I turned my attention to John's wife. Sarah's maiden name, Goldfinch, had the advantage of being distinctive. Family information indicated that she had been born in England on 21 December 1806. I also had names for her siblings, most of whom were quickly located in the



IGI—most baptized in Chatham, Kent, but the last three in nearby Deptford. Baptismal records showed Sarah's father, John Goldfinch, was a sawyer at the dockyards in Deptford, undoubtedly working on the various ships under construction.

I was unable to trace the Goldfinches beyond these baptisms for a long time, until one day, while browsing a CD collection of Canadian records, I stumbled on the name Goldfinch in New Brunswick. The reference in itself was not hugely helpful. It did, however, get me looking for Goldfinches in New Brunswick, eventually leading to four hits on the name in a database at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick website. These results showed that a George Goldfinch had received three grants of land in Chipman, Queens County, in the mid-1830s. A fourth grant had been made to John W. Goldfinch in 1856. Sarah had had both a brother George and a brother John and, according to family lore, George had come to North America. Although I had nothing that specifically indicated that George and John had immigrated to New Brunswick, further investigation seemed warranted.

New Brunswick land records revealed an intriguing story. Not only did George's three grants amount to a sizeable 1,630 acres, but he also obtained a lease to mine the land for coal, making him one of the first people to attempt to capitalize on the area's coal-mining potential.<sup>5</sup> Britain had just been transformed by the Industrial Revolution and demand for coal was increasing dramatically. Nevertheless, George's interest in securing a piece of the action was, apparently, never realized. Various histories of Chipman suggest that he never mined any of his land, perhaps discouraged by cost or technical difficulties. Rules stipulated that any coal lease not worked for two years would be forfeited and when William J. Berton obtained a coal monopoly in the area in 1847, George's coal lease was included in his package.

The story took another twist with the discovery, at the New Brunswick archives, of estate files for a John and Sarah Goldfinch. Any doubt that the Goldfinches of Chipman were my family vanished once I saw these records. John Goldfinch was last seen as a sawyer at the Deptford dockyards. I now learned that, at the amazing age of almost 70, he and his wife immigrated to Canada. John died in Chipman in 1844. He left no will, but paperwork relating to the settlement of his estate includes a petition for letters of administration dated 1850 that names all of his surviving children and their whereabouts, including: George—described as a captain in the Royal Navy—living in Plymouth; John,

the petitioner, of Chipman; James and Henry, both farmers in Chipman; two daughters still in England—Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Burr ridge, and my ancestor Sarah, wife of John Smith.<sup>6</sup> With its snapshot of the Goldfinch family on two sides of the Atlantic, this document was a wonderful find.

In a naval biographical dictionary at Library and Archives Canada, I found a detailed sketch of George.<sup>7</sup> He had joined the navy at the age of 11 and trained as an officer during the Napoleonic War. He fought in the Burmese war and was, by various accounts, zealous, cool, brilliant and intrepid until invalidated home in 1825. He saw no service for the next decade. It was during this hiatus in his naval career that he was granted land in Chipman in recompense for his naval service. Subsequent research showed that he lived in Chipman for only about a year and then returned to Britain. He resumed his naval career, married and lived with his wife in Plymouth until his death in 1864.

Despite progress on the Goldfinches, much about the Smiths remained a mystery—until 8 December 2001, when I made the most significant breakthrough of all that I had had in the lengthy pursuit of this family story. I was attending the December BIFHSGO meeting which, as is customary, was devoted to Great Moments in Genealogy. Member Elizabeth Taylor spoke about an ancestor of hers who had married a man from Nova Scotia named Esrom Boutilier.

The name immediately rang a bell but, as my Smith file had been inactive for several years, it took me a few minutes to remember that Boutilier was the name of the lighthouse keeper whom Henrietta's sister Helen was supposed to have married. After the meeting, I excitedly quizzed Elizabeth, "Had any of your Boutiliers kept a lighthouse on Sable Island?" I asked. She said that perhaps I meant Robert Boutilier, who was not a lighthouse keeper but rather the superintendent of Sable Island. Although Robert was not her direct ancestor, she knew that Robert had been married twice and, yes, Robert's first wife had been Helen Smith.

Elizabeth told me that Helen had been born 10 October 1844 at Langney Point on the south coast of England, just east of Brighton. I sent away for a birth certificate, which confirmed the essential details. John's occupation was again given as coastguard but, like Henrietta's baptism, Helen's birth certificate filled in only a small part of the story and obtaining it did not constitute a major breakthrough. The following year,

however, brought more helpful news from Elizabeth. She had just returned from a family reunion in Nova Scotia, where she met a cousin who was a descendant of Robert Boutilier. The cousin, Jill Martin, had several things of interest to share, including a marriage certificate for Helen and Robert. I had assumed that Helen had married in Yarmouth, as had her siblings Henrietta and James, but a search of Yarmouth marriage records had come up empty. Now I knew why. The certificate in Jill's possession showed that Helen and Robert's 1874 marriage took place, not in Nova Scotia, but in New Brunswick in Chipman.

Most of our ancestral names leap off the page whenever we see them. Not so for me and my Smiths. Early on in my research I lingered over the name each time I saw it, but the sheer frequency of occurrence put a quick end to that habit. Thus it was that I had not noticed my Smiths while researching Goldfinches in Chipman. But there they were. The 1861 Census shows John Smith, a retired officer, aged 60, enumerated with wife Sarah, 50, and children: Jane (19), Helen (17), George (15), and Sarah (13).<sup>8</sup> Two of numerous surprises on this Census were that John's birthplace was given as Ireland and his religion as Catholic, the rest of the family having been born in England and belonging to the Church of England. There was also no evidence of a son named John as suggested by the family information that had guided my research from the outset. Nor was there any sign of twins.

John and Sarah disappeared from Chipman census returns after 1881. An obituary located in the Saint John *Daily Telegraph* showed that John died in February 1889.<sup>9</sup> He was said to be in his 89<sup>th</sup> year and was "for 33 years a pensioner of the Royal Navy." Sarah had died two years earlier. John, Sarah and other members of their family, including her parents, are buried in Chipman's Redbank Cemetery. Sarah's tombstone confirms her date of birth as 21 December 1806, in England. John's tombstone indicates that he was born in 1801, in Dublin.

Having found the Smiths in Chipman, it was only a matter of time before the rest of the family's story fell into place. Enough was now known, for example, to launch a search for John in British coastguard records. These records are organized on a station-by-station basis, which means that an ancestor's place of service is needed to use them. Knowing Henrietta had been born in Brighton, Helen in Langney and Sarah, according to a later discovery, near East Guldeford, Sussex, gave me three different entry points to the records. Working forwards and backwards in time, a

researcher employed by me at the Public Records Office in London was eventually able to piece together John's complete coastguard history. John entered the service in 1834, the year following the birth of his son James. He served at three stations along the Essex coast before being posted to Brighton for 16 months. His next two postings were to County Galway in Ireland, where Jane was born. John was transferred back to England in the summer of 1842 and spent the next 15 years in a succession of postings on the country's south coast, including Langney, where George as well as Helen would have been born. John's last posting of seven years, the longest by far, was to Mothercombe in Devon, not far from Sarah's brother George, then living in Plymouth.<sup>10</sup>

Although Canadian census returns repeatedly refer to John as a naval officer, there is no evidence this was true. Prior to entering the coastguard, he spent two years as a domestic on *HMS Semiramis*.<sup>11</sup> His discharge in 1831 would have been due to the downsizing of the navy occurring at that time. His activities during the next few years are not known but he may have sailed on merchant ships out of Deptford, where Sarah's family lived. As for any earlier service he might have had in the navy, the trail peters out at the *Semiramis*. Muster rolls for naval ships sometimes name the ship on which a crew member served previously, but this is not so for John.

John retired from the coastguard in August 1857 and likely immigrated to Canada immediately. He first appears in Chipman as a voter and potential juror on lists dated 1858.<sup>12</sup> Curiously, some Chipman records refer to him as John Goldfinch Smith, perhaps because his connection with his in-laws provided a convenient means of additional identification.

One of the last loose ends to be tied up was the story of the Goldfinch land and the coal lease that went with it. George Goldfinch lived in Chipman for only one or two years. He married late. He had no children to whom he could bequeath the substantial acreage he had acquired. So what happened to it all? Research in land records, during a trip to the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick in 2004, provided a surprise answer. Much of the land ended up in the hands of John and Sarah Smith.<sup>13</sup> Incomplete records mean that some of the story remains missing but at least some of the land was transferred by George Goldfinch to the Smiths in 1853, at which time the family was still in England.

Research has since filled in most of the gaps in the lives of John and Sarah Smith's children.

James, the eldest, once a master mariner who captained ships on trans-Atlantic voyages, appears to have been treated unkindly by the end of the age of sail. He immigrated to the United States about 1877 and ended up working as a stevedore in Baltimore. He is last seen in Baltimore in the 1900 Census, a widower, enumerated in the home of his eldest son.<sup>14</sup>

Henrietta raised seven children and died in Yarmouth in 1921. Her husband was originally a boat builder but later supervised the packing of lobsters in a cannery, a change of employment that possibly reflected the shift in Yarmouth's economy that occurred during his lifetime.<sup>15</sup> One of George and Henrietta's sons, Lindsay, became an MLA and speaker of the Nova Scotia legislature.

Jane married James Lloyd of Chipman and had three children, including a son who died at 15 and a daughter who died at 25. Much of the Goldfinch land passed eventually to Jane, who was the last Smith to live in the Chipman area. After the death of her husband in 1895, she sold the land piece by piece, undoubtedly living off the proceeds. Her last years seem almost nomadic. She moved from Saint John to Yarmouth, then back to Chipman and, eventually, to Fredericton, where she died in 1922.<sup>16</sup> Her body was returned to Chipman for burial, although no stone marks her grave.

Helen lived on Sable Island from a few months after Robert was appointed superintendent in 1884 until her death, following a nine-day illness, in August 1894.<sup>17</sup> She had seven children, the last born on Sable Island in 1885.

George died as a teenager and is buried with his parents in Chipman.

Sarah, the youngest, spent 33 years as a patient at the Provincial Hospital in Saint John, an institution for the mentally ill. She was enumerated there in 1901 and was living there when she died in 1928.<sup>18</sup> Like her sister Jane, she is buried in Chipman in an unmarked grave.

To so completely piece together the story of this family seems a remarkable feat. My search was far from methodical. I researched in fits and starts, pursuing leads only briefly before a fresh wave of discouragement over the common name would defeat me. With more perseverance, I could have made more progress earlier, the clue about the Boutilier family of Sable Island being one example of a lead I did not work exhaustively. Any history of Sable Island would

have immediately led me to the family. Nonetheless, to have succeeded eventually at what once seemed an impossible task has been enormously rewarding.

In genealogy there are no promises. Sometimes there is simply no paper trail by which we can reconstruct an ancestor's life. But other researchers with tough genealogical problems may find some encouragement in this story. You never know when, you never know where, but, one day, you too might find your John Smith.

### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Yarmouth Mountain Cemetery. Henrietta Frances Smith, death certificate 30757 (1921), issued by the Registrar-General of Nova Scotia.

<sup>2</sup> George S. Brown, "Yarmouth Genealogies, No. 18," *Yarmouth Herald*, 27 April 1897.

<sup>3</sup> 1901 Census Yarmouth, N.S., division 1, p. 12; Library and Archives Canada microfilm T-6456.

<sup>4</sup> Baptismal register, Saint Nicholas Church, Brighton, England, 1838, p. 40; Family History Library microfilm 1067109.

<sup>5</sup> Land grants, George Goldfinch, 7 June 1836, RS686, Vol. 17, p. 232, grant 778, and 19 July 1837, RS686, Vol. 19, p. 110, grant 1183. Coal lease, George Goldfinch, 16 Oct 1837, RS686, Grantbook Vol. H, p. 193; Provincial Archives of New Brunswick (PANB).

<sup>6</sup> John Goldfinch, 1845, RS69, Probate Records, Queens County, New Brunswick; PANB microfilm F10422.

<sup>7</sup> William R. O'Byrne, *A Naval Biographical Dictionary: Comprising the Life and Services of Every Living Officer in Her Majesty's Navy, from the Rank of Admiral of the Fleet to that of Lieutenant, inclusive* (London: John Murray, 1849), p. 403.

<sup>8</sup> 1861 Census Parish of Chipman, Queens Co., N.B., folio 30; LAC microfilm C-1004.

<sup>9</sup> *The Daily Telegraph* [Saint John, N.B.], 27 February 1889, p. 1.

<sup>10</sup> Coastguard Establishment Books, ADM 175/6, ADM 175/7 and ADM 175/17; PRO.

<sup>11</sup> *HMS Semiramis* muster book, ADM37/7746; PRO.

<sup>12</sup> Lists of electors, Parish of Chipman, Queens County, N.B., RS154; PANB. Also, lists of jurors, Parish of Chipman, RS154, D/2.

<sup>13</sup> Instrument 17128, Book V-2, folio 193; Instrument 16152, Book S-2, folio 66; Instrument 25753, Book T-3, folio 183; PANB

<sup>14</sup> 1900 U.S. Census Baltimore, Maryland, district 12, ED 54, p. 2B; image viewed at Ancestry.com..

<sup>15</sup> Undated obituaries for George Gardner, Yarmouth County Museum Research Library.

<sup>16</sup> Jane Lloyd death registration 7780 (1922); PANB Microfilm F18910.

<sup>17</sup> Boutilier family bible, photocopy from Jill Martin of Victoria, B.C.

<sup>18</sup> Sarah Smith death registration 439152 (1928); PANB microfilm F18942.

## BIFHSGO 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORTS

## William James Topley (1845–1930), Photographer<sup>©</sup>

BY ANDREW RODGER

*Archivist, Photography Acquisition and Research,  
Art and Photography, Library and Archives Canada*

It all began with his mother. As the story has it, Anna Delia Topley bought a camera and photography outfit in Montreal in the late 1850s, learned how to use it, and returned with it to her home, husband and children in Aylmer, Quebec. By 1863, the year his father died, William had learned the rudiments of the photographic trade and was listed in the Canada West directory as an itinerant tin typist. The following year, having moved to Montreal with the rest of his family, he was apprenticing with William Notman, whose studio was developing into one of the most important in Canada.



William J. Topley, 28 Aug. 1908. (Library and Archives Canada / PA042818)

Born in 1845 at Saint John, south of Montreal, William James Topley was the eldest of eight children born to his Irish immigrant parents. Not only did he grow to have a considerable career as a studio photographer, but two of his brothers also became photographers; his son took over the Topley Studio; and one of his nephews was a photographer.

It was fortunate for Topley that he apprenticed with Notman; and it was evident that Notman saw Topley as an extraordinarily competent young man for, when Notman decided to open a new branch studio in Ottawa in 1868, he chose Topley to operate and manage it.



By 1874, the number of staff had grown from three to 14 and included photographers, retouchers, printers and artists. In 1872, the studio was advertised as “The Notman Studio, William Topley, Prop.” which seems to indicate that, after only four years, Topley was either operating it as a franchise—with the name used to attract business—or he might even have been a partner. By 1875 he had severed whatever business connection he had had with Notman and set up a large studio in an extravagant, new \$15,000 Italianate building on Metcalfe Street.

Topley had chosen exactly the wrong time to launch such a grandiose project, as Canada was entering an economic depression that lasted until the 1890s. By 1878 he had sold this building and moved to a considerably smaller studio on Sparks Street; ten years later he moved again, further along Sparks (to the site on which the Hardy Arcade was built during the early 1930s and in which world famous photographer Yousuf Karsh had his studio until the mid-1970s). It was not until the 1890s that he separated his business place from his home, when he purchased a house on Somerset, west of Elgin.

Until George Eastman's Kodak was introduced in the late 1880s, giving snapshotters a chance to make their own pictures, photography was almost entirely in the hands of professionals. From 1868 until September 1923, when the Topley Studio was closed, Topley and

his photographers undertook a wide variety of photographic work. Portraiture was, of course, the backbone of the Studio's work—and in taking tens of thousands of portraits, the Studio traced 55 years of changes in fashion and dress. It did government work, as a photographic studio, as a photographic agency taking photographs across the country (for example, at the immigration sheds in Quebec City), and as a supplier of optical and other equipment through the Topley Photographic Instruments Company. The Studio's photographers took pictures of buildings, private and public, in both Ottawa and elsewhere and did other industrial work as well. They photographed scenes in and around Ottawa as well as across the country—some of the latter evidently done for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, whose Colonization Agent, R.C.W. Lett, was Topley's son-in-law. Many photographers produced series of stereo views of their cities; these served the same purpose as postcards do today. Others, like Topley (who produced only a handful of stereos) sold prints of scenes, buildings, events and personalities. He was also interested in publications: in 1875 he partnered in producing a large illustrated business directory for Ottawa; his photographs were used as illustrations in the *Dominion Illustrated News* and other magazines; and he published some collections of views of the city.

Topley was not wedded solely to his business but was also active in the community. Many of these activities were focused on the evangelical Christianity that seems to have been a guiding force in his life. He was very involved with the Ottawa YMCA, serving as its president in Ottawa in 1871 and 1881, and as a director for several years. Shortly after his return to Ottawa he became active in the Sabbath School movement in Hull, Ottawa, and the Ottawa Valley; from the mid-1870s he was superintendent of the Sunday school at Dominion Methodist church and also sang in the choir. He was involved in the Ottawa Bible Society and the Metropolitan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty and was listed as a contributor to local charities. (After her death, his wife Helena was remembered as "one of the outstanding figures in philanthropic and community work in this city.") But he also spent some of his time in leisure activities. For example he had a boat during the 1880s and went on hunting expeditions with friends. During the 1890s he was a founding member of the Ottawa Camera Club and had some interest in the arts. After he turned the business over to his son in 1907, he travelled widely. He went to Scotland (possibly to visit with the Aberdeens with whom he seems to have had very good relations during the Earl's term as Governor General from 1893 to 1898), to

Bermuda, probably to the United States, and to Edmonton, where he and his wife stayed with their daughter from 1925. He died in 1930, while on a trip to Vancouver.



**Public Archives, Sussex Street, Ottawa, June 1907.** (Library and Archives Canada / PA008939)

But why should the Archives have collected Topley's photographs? Of all the thousands of photographers who worked in Canada during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, why should we remember and celebrate William James Topley?

Propinquity is one reason. Topley's studio was located in Ottawa, Canada's capital. Of course, Jarvis, Pittaway and other Ottawa photographers did the same sort of photographic work as Topley, but Topley had formed the Topley Scientific Instruments Company, which was devoted to the sale and service of cameras and other lensed instruments, such as surveying equipment. Through this business, the Studio developed close relationships with a number of picture-taking government departments, such as the Geological Survey and the Department of the Interior. The Company even held some of these departments' photographs in its studio vaults. It had also supplied the Public Archives of Canada with some equipment and was commissioned to photograph the building. Some of its photographs were purchased for the Archives' growing collection. Another reason was the Dominion Archivist, Arthur Doughty, whose conception of

historical documentation—unlike that of most of his contemporaries—included maps, paintings, photography and museum pieces. His ideas meant that Canada was in the *avant garde* of collecting non-textual archives. The third reason has already been stated: the Topley Studio existed for 55 years, giving an inherent historical aspect to its work. Its portraits documented many of the movers and shakers of Canadian politics, as well as many local Ottawans; its collection included photographs from many parts of the country besides Ottawa, as well as work done for the government and of interest to the nation as a whole.

The Topley Studio collection was purchased in 1936 by the Public Archives of Canada for \$3,000; in 1926, W. DeCourcy Topley had offered to sell it for \$25,000. Active efforts to render the collection available to the public seem to have begun only in the mid-1950s. Since that time, it has become one of the most widely published sources of 19th and early 20th century photographs in Canada. The collection consists of approximately 150,000 mainly glass plate negatives as well as a run of counter books containing most of the images taken by the firm. The captions of over 100,000 of these have been entered in the databases at Library and Archives Canada, and can be found on the Internet at [www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/02011502\\_e](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/02011502_e)



**Dufferin Bridge during the course of construction, 1873, Ottawa, Ontario.** In 1912 the Sapper's Bridge that had been built by Colonel By's men in 1827 and Dufferin Bridge were replaced and the area was renamed Connaught Place after the resident Governor-General. The press of the day ignored the name and called it Confederation Square. ( Library and Archives Canada / C-000493).

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## FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

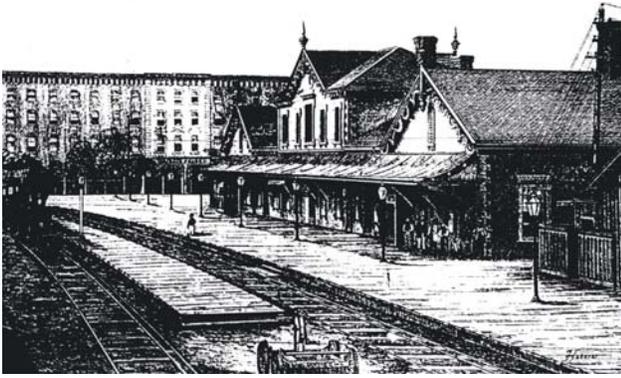
### The Middlemore Project: Part VI<sup>©</sup> Guthrie Home, London, Ontario

BY PATRICIA ROBERTS-PICHETTE

*This article describes the establishment of Guthrie Home in London, Ontario, by John T. Middlemore. The home operated there between 1874 and 1888–89. The next article will deal with the closure and ultimate fate of Guthrie Home.*

#### Finding a Canadian home

“The 9.15 train on the Grand Trunk last evening, had two additional cars containing the emigrant children brought by Mr. J. T. Middlemore from his “Home” in Birmingham to fill situations in this country. The cars were brought down to the Great Western station [Figure 1] and from thence sent on by special engine to the “Guthrie Home” better known as the Ross Farm, the children have not changed cars since leaving the ship. At the station, Mr. Middlemore was met by ... Messrs Heath, Finnemore and Cleghorn<sup>1</sup>, with their wives and quite a number of other ladies who accompanied the party to the “Home”. Our reporter visited the institution this morning, and found the children disporting themselves as merry as crickets ... [the] boys all dressed in similar suits of corduroy, with a cap fashioned after the shape of a Highland “bonnet,” manufactured from tweed ... the girls form perhaps a more interesting sight, and it would be difficult to select more pretty faces and intelligent heads in the same number of children selected at random anywhere (*The London Advertiser*, May 14, 1875).”

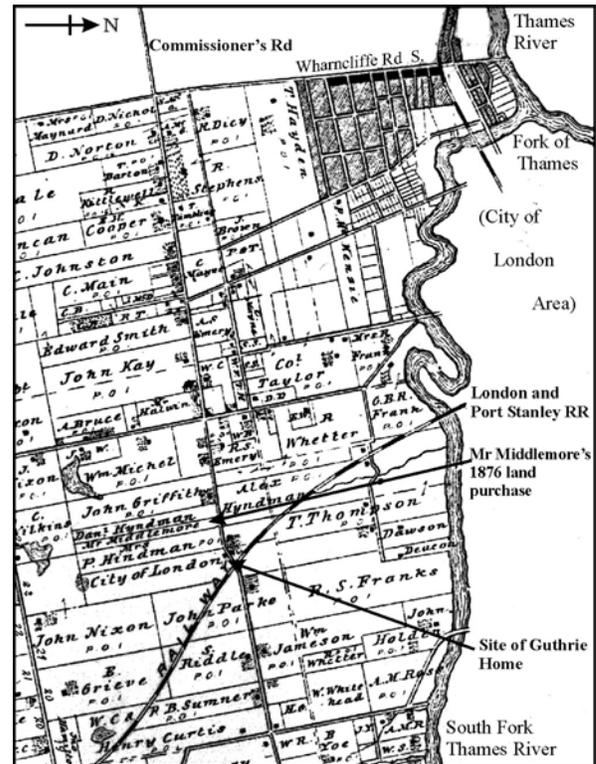


**Figure 1: Great Western Railway Station, London, Ontario (built 1854).** This is where two carriages carrying Mr. Middlemore's children were brought in 1875. They were joined by a London welcoming party before being taken on to the Guthrie Home. Sketch from a photograph by J. Cooper, and published in *The Canadian Illustrated News*, November 11, 1871.

When Mr. Middlemore brought his first 29 children to Canada in 1873, he did not know anyone, though he had made contacts through telegrams. He had 13 girls and 16 boys ranging in age from 6 to 16 years (ages of four children unknown) on board the Allan Line steamship *Sarmatian*, on which were also 72 girls of Miss Rye's immigration society and some European immigrants to Canada and the U.S.A. (*The Globe*, May 16, 1873). After the arrival formalities at Quebec City were completed and perhaps a walk round parts of the old town, the children boarded the Great Western Railway train for Toronto. Whether Mr. Middlemore had a reserved car for this group of children is not known, but for later groups he always reserved a sufficient number of cars. The journey lasted two days and gave the children a glimpse of parts of Canadian life that would soon be theirs. Most of the trip would have been through bush and farmland, with Montreal being the only sizable town. At the station in Toronto to greet this first group were Professor Wilson and the Hon. G. W. Allan<sup>2</sup>—men Middlemore met for the first time. They arranged for the older boys to be taken to the Newsboys' Lodgings, the younger boys to the Boys' Home and the girls to the Girls' Home<sup>3</sup> (*The Globe*, May 16, 1873). The two men probably helped Mr. Middlemore find places to settle 23 of the children in the Toronto area and make arrangements for their ongoing supervision (Anonymous, 1972).

Mr. Middlemore then went on to London, Ontario, where he met Messrs. William B. Heath and Alfred Finnemore, who helped him settle the other six children. The older children were settled as servants, while the younger ones were adopted by couples who

had no children of their own. All of Mr. Middlemore's preliminary work had been worth it: at the age of 28 he had successfully settled his first party of children in Canada. Now, if the next steps were successful, he could lay the foundation for making London, Ontario, the centre for the settlement of the children he would bring to Canada in future years.



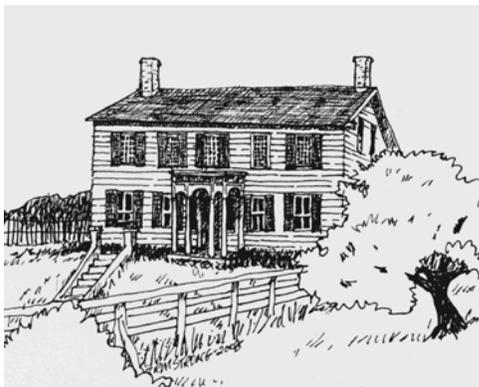
**Figure 2: Portion of the 1878 Westminster Township map.**

The City of London property, the site of the Guthrie Home and the property Mr. Middlemore, bought in 1876, are both shown. Names of some streets and geographic features have been added for information

Mr. Middlemore must have been impressed with London. Messrs. Heath and Finnemore would have introduced him to two more businessmen, Andrew Cleghorn and Abraham Cowan, of Cowan & Wright, a city alderman. No doubt there were lengthy discussions before it was decided that London would be an ideal place for a receiving home. Just how Mr. Middlemore and his ideas came to the attention of City Council is not recorded in the documents reviewed, but it may have been through Alderman Cowan, who was chairman of the Hospital and Relief Committee. Whatever the case, on 9 June 1873 Middlemore met with the London City Council. The Council minute reads: "On motion, Mr. Middlemore was permitted to address the council on the subject of establishing a home near or in London for children brought from

England for the purpose of settlement in Canada.” On another motion, the matter was referred to the Hospital and Relief Committee. Then, at the meeting of 16 June 1873, the Council approved the Hospital and Relief Committee recommendation: “Your committee beg to recommend the application of Mr. Middlemore for a home for the Birmingham destitute children be favourably received and that this committee recommends the Council to set aside at least 10 acres of land together with buildings and a sufficient accommodation for the reception of at least 100 children.”

At an earlier meeting (7 April 1873) the London City Council had approved a report from the Fire, Water and Gas Committee stating that the proprietor of Ross Farm held possession until 10 July 1873, and recommending that, as the house was uninsured, it should be insured for \$1,000 and that the Committee be authorized to receive offers to lease the same. While confirmation has yet to be found in Council records, Mr. Middlemore probably saw and agreed to lease the Ross Farm, which was located at what is now 871 Commissioners Road East—the old Burlington to Sandwich (Windsor) stage coach route—in 1873. The site is formally described as part of Lot 22 on Concession 1, Westminster Township (Figure 2), a property of 63 acres on the south side of Commissioner’s Road, the north east corner of which bounded the London and Port Stanley Railway Line.



**Figure 3: Guthrie Home ca. 1875.** Sketch by Penny Anderson from the illustration on Guthrie Home notepaper.

### **Guthrie Home alias Ross Farm alias Swart’s Tavern**

A whistle stop on the London and Port Stanley Railway must have been close to the Ross Farm homestead, which was built on a knoll looking north towards London—less than five kilometres away

(Figure 3). Behind the house were the stables, animal barns and implement sheds, fields, forest and ponds, all of which provided an ideal place for children to play and learn. On the property were the necessary farm animals, vegetable gardens and orchard.

Originally, Lot 22, Concession 1, was over 200 acres in area, stretching across Commissioners Road from the south bank of the South Branch of the Thames River. The owner who built the house was Bartholomew Swart (ca. 1780–1850), an American from Schoharie, New York. He first came to Canada in late 1811 or 1812 and, on 10 February 1812, he swore allegiance to the King before Daniel Springer, JP, at Delaware, Ontario. Bartholomew then returned to Schoharie for his family, but, before he could complete his preparations, the War of 1812 broke out. He did not return to Ontario until October 1815, still without his family. It was then that he purchased the property from Gideon Tiffany and constructed the house, a copy in wood of the limestone house his father had built in Schoharie (Figure 4) that was used as both a tavern and a family home. In 1816, he brought his wife and 10 children to Canada. Besides being a family home, the homestead was described as an inn by Bartholomew in 1820 (Upper Canada Land Petitions 1821–24). Since that time it has been called Swart’s (or more often—mistakenly—Swartz’s) Tavern.



**Figure 4: Swart’s Tavern, Schoharie, Schoharie County, NY.** This is where Bartholomew Swart grew up and where he was first licensed to serve in a tavern. He used his limestone home as the model for the timber home and tavern he built in Westminster Township, Ontario. Swart’s Tavern is now recognized as an historic building in the USA. Source: Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, HABS Reproduction number HABS NY,48-SCHO,3-2.

Popular stories are still told and retold about the tavern and Bartholomew’s history: his origins in Europe (Poland or Holland); his exploits in the Napoleonic Wars (with Napoleon to Moscow and with Wellington at Waterloo); and on the Canadian side in the War of 1812 under Colonel Talbot, through whom he obtained a Crown Grant for his land (McEwan 2005).

None of these stories is true<sup>4</sup>. It is even doubtful that Mackenzie—of 1837 Rebellion fame—stayed there or that his supporters plotted there because, so far, no contemporary written records yet examined confirm these stories, even though named taverns and inns figure prominently in the history of the Rebellion in Middlesex County. The tavern was used in 1830 as the meeting place of the Mount Moriah Lodge until a new meeting place was found in London. Both Bartholomew and his eldest son Tunis were Freemasons and members of that Lodge. Following the 1837 Rebellion, the Mount Moriah Lodge, as far as is known, did not meet again until 1846 and, because of the loss of members, was formally disbanded in 1848 (Robertson 1900, vol. 2, pp. 404–414). As many of the members were active politicians and both factions in the Rebellion were represented in the membership, the disbandment suggests that the differences could not be amicably resolved. Of importance is the fact that the Provincial Grand Lodge was inactive during the same period. Perhaps, after all, Swart's Tavern had been used for planning by Mackenzie's Westminster Township supporters and maybe that use led to the tavern being closed and becoming a family home for both Bartholomew and his wife and Tunis and his wife and family by 1842 (1840 and 1842 Censuses, Westminster Township). On the other hand, it may have been closed because of Bartholomew's age—he would have been in his sixties. About 1850 or 1851, Bartholomew died. By 1851, the home was occupied by John Humphrey and two other families (1851 Census, Westminster Township). In 1852, the property was sold by the executor of Bartholomew Swart's estate and, over time, was gradually subdivided. By 1866, 140 acres of this lot were in the hands of the Ross family, who sold 63 acres to the City of London in 1872 (Middlesex County land records 1828-1903).

### Negotiations

Details on how agreement was reached between Mr. Middlemore and the London City Council are still being investigated, but negotiations must have been proceeding by correspondence with Mr. Middlemore through Mr. Finnemore as the local representative. Mr. Middlemore wrote in the first Annual Report (for 1873):

Through the liberality of the City Council of London, Ontario, a permanent reception and Distributing Home has been provided for the children ... The children will be received into this Home on their arrival at London; they will be distributed from it to those wanting servants or children for adoption, and they will be

returned to it in case they receive or give serious cause for complaint (Anonymous 1972).

Mr. Middlemore arrived at Quebec City 11 May 1874 with his second party of children, this time numbering 49. The *London Advertiser* of 14 May 1874 reported:

Boys Home—We learn that Ald[ermen] Cowan, Williams and Murray paid a visit yesterday to the city property in Westminster and notified Mr. Ross to vacate the house on the Ross Farm at once, the place being immediately required for the accommodation of a lot of English boys and girls under the charge of Mr. Middlemore. That gentleman arrived in this country a day or so ago, and is now en route to this city with some twenty-nine boys and twenty girls. Orphans' Home is an institution very much needed in London and we are pleased to learn that it is Mr. Middlemore's intention to establish a first-class house on the Ross Farm for the purpose, with sufficient land to give the inmates necessary useful employment. It is probable those now under Mr. Middlemore's care will be accommodated at the Boys' Home in Toronto till their new place of residence is fitted up for their reception.

There was no reference to the aldermen's visit or to Mr. Middlemore's arrival in Canada at the next meeting of the City Council on 18 May 1874.

Mr. Middlemore cannot have been happy when he heard that arrangements in London for the reception of his party were incomplete. No doubt he kept his good humour in dealing with the situation. (As pointed out in Part III of this series, he made it a rule never to lose his patience and good humour, no matter what the provocation.) He may have received word from Mr. Finnemore before he left Birmingham (but too late to change the arrangements) or on his arrival in Quebec City. He must then have decided to use the same arrangements as the previous year, i.e. the Newsboys' Lodgings, the Boys' Home and the Girls' Home. Despite the comment in the newspaper article, the girls could not have been accommodated at the Newsboys' Lodgings and probably not the youngest boys either.

On May 19, the following newspaper advertisement appeared:

EMIGRANT CHILDREN, J. T. Middlemore, Esq., with about 25 boys and girls, varying in age from six to fifteen years will probably arrive in London on Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Anyone desiring to take one or more of these children whether for adoption or a term of service in compliance with the Orphans' Home Society will please communicate at once with Mr. ALDERMAN COWAN (Cowan & Wright, Dundas

Street), chairman of Hospital and Relief committee. London, May 13, 1874. (*The Daily Free Press*, May 19, 1874).

Mr. Middlemore, after arriving in Toronto (probably 13 May 1874) and settling the children with the matrons in the places he had used in 1873, must have hurried on to London to check with Mr. Finnemore and the City Council and to inspect the Ross Farm, all of which was accomplished by 21 May 1874 as, on that day, the *London Advertiser* reported:

The Boys' Home—Mr. Middlemore having examined the house on the Ross Farm, is of the opinion that it will take about six weeks to complete the necessary repairs to the building, though it will probably be habitable before that time. A kitchen must be erected, and an additional bedroom must be partitioned off, and there are numerous other alterations that must be attended to before the place will be ready for the comfortable accommodation of the number of young people likely to be sent here. Mr. Middlemore wishes to incur as little expense as possible for the city to bear, and he is desirous of arranging if he can to receive a few homeless children from our own city. We understand it is his intention to bring only a selection of well trained children from Birmingham, such as likely to be a credit to themselves and the institution from which they hail. This plan, if strictly carried out, will dispose of the opposition of certain parties who have been uncharitable enough to speak of the little ones under Mr. Middlemore's care as the "gutter thieves" of England. Mr. Ross will vacate the building on the Ross Farm in the course of a few days, and the repairs and improvements will be pushed forward under the direction of Mr. Middlemore and the City Engineer.

It is strange to learn that, although Mr. Ross's possession of the farm ended 10 July 1873, he was still in residence in May 1874. How quickly Mr. Ross left and how many of the repairs were accomplished before the children arrived has to be left to the imagination. Meantime, in Toronto, the matrons were able to settle 31 children. *The Daily Free Press* of 3 June 1874, reported:

Emigration:- Mr. Middlemore, of Manchester (sic), arrived here yesterday from Toronto with 18 emigrant children, who were neatly attired, and appeared as if they had had the best of treatment. They were much attached to each other, and some of them wept bitterly at parting. Over half of them were provided with situations in the afternoon.

In 1875, the first party of Middlemore children came directly to London from Quebec City. *The Daily Free*

*Press* of 13 May 1875 reported that Mr. Middlemore had arrived in Quebec (11 May 1875), with a party of children, all of whom were due to arrive in London that evening. The Guthrie Home had "recently been put in a good state of repair for their reception and the grounds and surroundings tidied up to make the place present a cheerful and inviting appearance." It is a description of this group's arrival in London that starts this article.

The specific arrangements the City made with Mr. Middlemore still have to be located. There is no entry in the Land Records after the property came into the possession of the London City Council in 1872 until 1880. But something had been going awry between Mr. Middlemore and the City Council. Mr. Middlemore wrote to the Department of Agriculture<sup>5</sup> on 10 December 1878: "We shall be compelled to build a New Home in Canada next Spring ... The lease of the premises we are now occupying will terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May next, & there will be no probability of its being renewed therefore we shall be compelled to build." (Government of Canada R.G.17 files). Despite this forecast, Guthrie Home did not close on 31 May 1879. Negotiations for the purchase for the property must have been ongoing, presumably mediated by Mr. Finnemore, who wrote to Mr. Middlemore 28 December 1880:

There has been a good deal of delay and disagreeableness in getting deeds from the Council of the Guthrie Home. So much so that Mr. Cleghorn and I thought it would be best to pay them in full and so be rid of them. We have accordingly advanced the funds and have deed of the property in your name. If preferred by you the sum we have advanced £424 - 19 - 9 equal to \$2068.27 can remain on mortgage at six percent, or if you can arrange better in England, then please remit me by an early mail that amount.

The deed was included with the letter. In a postscript, Mr. Finnemore added, "The purchase of the house is a good one. There will be no difficulty in reselling" (Middlemore documentation).

### **A second property**

The Guthrie Home property was not the only one Mr. Middlemore acquired on Commissioners Road. This second property was probably bought when the City first indicated that it wanted to terminate the lease of its property, Lot 22 Concession 1, the site of the Guthrie Home. The clue was an 1878 map of Westminster township (Figure 2), which shows Mr. Middlemore as owning part of lot 23 Concession 1, two properties to the west of the City of London property. This finding

has caused some confusion as to the exact location of Guthrie Home. Study of the land records revealed that a conveyance for the second property (19.75 acres), dated 10 July 1876, was registered to John T. Middlemore from Alexander Duguid. Then, on 10 November 1879, Middlemore sold this property to Sarah M. Parke, with the sale registered 6 April 1880, by letter from Andrew Cleghorn (Middlesex County land records 1828–1903). Clearly, when the City of London property lease (Guthrie Home) was not terminated, this second property was sold. The fact that the City of London property was always the location of Guthrie Home (formerly Ross Farm, formerly Swart's Tavern) is clearly indicated in the City Council minutes, Middlesex County land records and newspaper reports.



**Figure 5: Rev. Thomas Guthrie, DD (1803-73).** Guthrie Home was named to honour this man, the founder of the Ragged Schools in Edinburgh. Dr. Guthrie was also a founder of the Free Church of Scotland and, in 1862, Moderator of its General Assembly. Illustration used with kind permission of Alan Newble [www.newble.co.uk/guthrie/photowallet.html](http://www.newble.co.uk/guthrie/photowallet.html).

### Naming of the Home

It must have been in 1874, perhaps at the time the second group of children was being settled in the London area, that the name of the Home was announced, although no formal announcement has yet been found. It is possible that, before Mr. Middlemore left for Canada with his first party of children, he had in mind to call the home that he intended to found “Guthrie Home,” to commemorate the work of Rev. Thomas Guthrie, DD, (Figure 5) the founder of the first Ragged School in Edinburgh, Scotland. Dr. Guthrie died 28 February 1873, just two months before Mr. Middlemore left Birmingham with his first party of children on 3 May 1873. Dr. Guthrie believed that prevention was better than cure (i.e. it was better for poor children to be given a basic education and taught

a saleable skill to give them a start in life, than to try to reform them in adulthood after they had learned how to make a living by running the streets as thieves and beggars). This idea is conjecture but, as Mr. Middlemore read widely, he no doubt knew of Dr. Guthrie's work. He was certainly sympathetic to Dr. Guthrie's philosophy. Whether the name of his home was in his mind from the start, or a later idea, by May 1875 the name “Guthrie Home” was in use as the name for the Ross Farm—the London home Mr. Middlemore had obtained for his children (*The London Advertiser*, May 13, 1875).

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### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Messrs. William B. Heath, Alfred Finnemore and Andrew Cleghorn seem to have been the local London, Ontario, oversight committee for Mr. Middlemore. This conclusion is suggested by the way Mr. Middlemore relied on these men and by the way he set up such committees in the Maritimes. All three men were from England. Messrs. Finnemore and Heath, partners as produce and commission merchants, were from Birmingham and known to Mr. Middlemore. Mr. Cleghorn was with E. Adams and Co. Wholesale Grocer. (London City Directory 1872B73).

<sup>2</sup> Hon. G. W. Allan (1822B1901), lawyer, financier and politician, and Professor (i.e. Sir Daniel) Wilson (1816B92), anthropologist, ethnologist and artist, were close friends and influential in Toronto life. Allan was a founding member of the Royal Canadian Institute and Speaker of the Senate (1888B91) while Wilson become President of the University of Toronto (1889B92). Both men admired the work of Paul Kane.

<sup>3</sup> The Newsboys' Lodgings (Frederick Street), was founded in 1869 by the Hon. G.W. Allan and Professor Daniel Wilson as a health care and residence for newsboys (youths or adults) selling newspapers on the streets of Toronto.

The Boys Home (George Street), was established in 1859 for destitute boys aged 5 to 14 who had not been convicted of a crime. There they received a basic education and boys as young as 7 were allowed to take limited work.

The Girls' Home and Public Nursery (Gerrard Street) was established for the rescue and care of young girls; it also cared for and supported boys and girls under the age of 7 years (Toronto Directory 1873).

<sup>4</sup> It is true that Bartholomew Swart did obtain a Crown Grant for his land in 1828Clong after he had bought, settled and cleared much of it. His ownership was challenged in 1822 and the affidavits prepared to support his claim are the source of much of the information about him (Upper Canada Land Petitions, AS@ Bundle, 1821B24).

<sup>5</sup> Until 1892, the Department of Agriculture had the responsibility for immigration in Canada.

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## Search for Sarah Jarvis©

BY WENDY CROOME

**S**arah Jarvis, my g g grandmother, was baptized on 25 December 1831 in Loughton, Buckinghamshire, England. She emigrated from England to Australia and married George Atack Guy on 12 November 1872 in Castlemaine, Victoria. Sarah died in Newstead, Victoria, on 3 June 1886. Stating those facts sounds straightforward, but discovering them was a 30-year search!

When Grandmother died in 1971, she left a miniature trunk full of family papers that included the Cromie Family Bible, letters, rough family trees, newspaper clippings, and scraps of paper with handwritten notes. It was one of those scraps of paper that started me on my quest to find Sarah Jarvis. The entire note for the Jarvis family reads:

Sarah's mother died shortly after her birth so Sarah was brought up by her mother's sister, Mrs. Webb. Mrs. Webb's husband, being an engineer was called to Melbourne Australia & took his wife and their ward with him. By his second wife, Mr. Jarvis had a

daughter, Rose, who went with her husband Mr. Day to Australia at the time of the gold rush & founded the town of Newstead. Finally the gold exhausted, Day finished his life crippled & in comparative poverty.

I took the first step in the search for Sarah Jarvis in 1977, when I wrote to relatives with a request for information about our ancestors. One cousin responded with a few excerpts from a source he referred to as "scribbled comments in a book *The Record of My Ancestry*." According to this source, "Sarah Ann Guy's mother, Sarah Ann Jarvis, was born in Leighton, England, lived to be over sixty, and is buried at Newstead, Victoria, Australia." I already knew from the Cromie Family Bible that Sarah Ann Guy was my great-grandmother, so this very brief note



not only told me how Sarah Jarvis fit into the family, but also gave me her places of birth and burial!

From the family Bible I knew the dates and places for the birth and marriage of my great-grandmother, Sarah Ann Guy, so in 1979 I sent to Australia for her birth and marriage certificates. The marriage certificate confirmed Sarah Ann Guy's mother's name as Sarah Jarvis. The birth certificate provided a wealth of information. As I have since learned, if you are fortunate, an Australian birth, marriage, or death certificate can comprise a whole genealogy in itself. The birth certificate confirmed Sarah Jarvis as Sarah Ann Guy's mother and also gave Sarah Jarvis's age at Sarah Ann's birth (24 years), and birthplace (Buckenhamshire (sic)), England. Now I had an approximate birth date for Sarah Jarvis, and the county, not just the town, where she was born. To my delight, the birth certificate also gave George Attack Guy and Sarah Jarvis's marriage—5 January 1850 at Melbourne, Victoria, so I did not send for their marriage certificate at that time.

My next quest was to find Sarah Jarvis's birth, but research at Family History Centres over several years did not take me much closer. As early as 1984, I found the baptism of a Sarah Jarvis in 1831 in Loughton, Buckinghamshire, England on the microfiche of indexes to the Buckinghamshire Bishops Transcripts. The date seemed about right, and Loughton is similar to Leighton, so I suspected that this was "my" Sarah Jarvis, but I had no way to prove it.

For several years I laid aside genealogy research but, with the advent of electronic indexes, e-mail and the Internet, I picked it up again about 1997. A chance reference on a Gloucestershire e-mail list led to correspondence with someone in Indonesia who had a copy of the *Victorian Pioneer Index* CD-ROM, which covers births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria, Australia, from 1835 to 1888. One of the first pieces of information that I tried to confirm was the marriage of Sarah Jarvis to George Attack Guy. With George's unusual middle name and the marriage date from their daughter's birth certificate, I was sure there would be no problem finding the marriage. My correspondent found references to three marriages: George Alack Guy to Sarah Miller in 1872; George Attack Guy to Jane Dawson in 1887; and George Guy to Mary Jane Dicker in 1886. None of them seemed anything like what I was looking for.

Sarah Jarvis's death registration was easier to find on the *Victorian Pioneer Index*. There was only one Sarah

Guy who matched the age and place details that I already knew, and I sent for the death certificate. That certificate gave Sarah's age as 55 years, confirmed that she was born in Buckinghamshire, England, and stated that she had married George Attack Guy, at the age of 21 years, in England. This confirmed that I had the correct person. The birth information was in line with what I had discovered elsewhere, but I was more confused than ever about the marriage.

I had believed for nearly 20 years that Sarah and George were married on 5 January 1850, in Melbourne, Australia, as stated on the birth certificate of their daughter, Sarah Ann Guy. Although I had not been able to find a record of this marriage (it was before civil registration in Victoria) and I supposed that it was one of those missing records that plague us all in genealogy research. Now, with the conflicting information about the marriage from Sarah's death certificate, I was determined to try and solve this mystery of the marriage.

I sent a message to the Australia Rootsweb mailing list, asking for a marriage lookup for George Attack Guy and Sarah Jarvis, in 1850. Thankfully, other researchers are sometimes willing to go beyond the specific question and dig into the records, and I was sent key information. The Victoria BMD indexes include the marriage of Sarah Jarvis to Thomas Miller, in 1850, in Melbourne, and also the death of Thomas Miller in 1852. From the same indexes, I had previously been sent a reference to the marriage of George Alack (sic) Guy to Sarah Miller in 1872. Suddenly the sequence was clear, and I sent for both marriage certificates.

Sarah Miller married George Attack Guy on 12 November 1872, in Castlemaine, Victoria. The marriage registration states that the bride had been a widow since 1852. Her parents are listed as Thomas Jarvis and Mary Jarvis, maiden name Saunders. There she is — Sarah Jarvis marrying George Guy, not in 1850, but in 1872, when she was already expecting their eleventh child.

I still have no idea why George and Sarah did not marry until 1872. They began having children baptized, and their births registered under the Guy surname, in 1854, so it appears that they started living as husband and wife soon after Sarah was widowed. Perhaps George had a previous marriage, and his first wife did not die until 1872. If so, I have not yet found any trace of that earlier marriage. Perhaps George and Sarah just didn't get around to marrying, and were spurred on by their oldest daughter, Sarah Ann, having

married in July of 1872. By the time Sarah and George did finally marry, the habit of lying about their marriage date seems to have been well established. When George registered the birth of their youngest daughter, Mabel, in July 1873, he stated that he and Sarah had been married in Melbourne in 1853.

Now I had a death certificate for Sarah (Jarvis) Guy and a marriage certificate for Sarah to George Attack Guy, so I decided to tackle Sarah's birth and baptism. For years I had suspected that I had already found the baptism. On the 1984 LDS microfiche from Buckinghamshire is a baptism, in Loughton, of Sarah Jarvis, 25 December 1831, to parents Edmund and Sarah Jarvis. How was I to prove that this Sarah was mine?

From accumulated evidence in family and official records, the place of baptism was correct. The date also seemed to be right, as various records put Sarah's birth date between 1828 and 1832. However, the parents' given names were wrong. When Sarah married George Attack Guy, her parents were given as Thomas Jarvis and Mary Jarvis, formerly Saunders. As I had discovered when tracking Sarah and George's marriage, they were not always truthful in what they stated on government forms, so were they lying, or perhaps forgetful, about her parents' names, or was this really the wrong baptism?

One indirect way of establishing Sarah's parentage was through two clues that the surname Webb was closely connected to her. On the official side, the witnesses to the marriage of Sarah Jarvis to Thomas Miller were William Webb and Ann Webb, both of Melbourne. The family story was that "Sarah's mother died shortly after her birth so Sarah was brought up by her mother's sister, Mrs. Webb. Mrs. Webb's husband, being an engineer, was called to Melbourne Australia & took his wife and their ward with him."

From Sarah's marriage to George Guy, I had information, reliable or not, that Sarah's mother's surname was formerly Saunders, so my first assumption was that Ann Webb had also been a Saunders. The IGI had no likely marriage of Ann Saunders to William Webb. However, I did find a marriage of Ann JARVIS to William Webb, on 22 June 1843, in Loughton, Buckinghamshire. It looked as if Sarah Jarvis had immigrated to Australia with her father's sister, not her mother's sister. I thought that if I could find Ann Jarvis's baptism, I could learn if her brother was named Edmund or Thomas, and thus discover the probable name of Sarah's father.

Unfortunately, I could not find a baptismal entry for Ann Jarvis in Loughton, so I had no opportunity to look for a brother. This was the point I had reached when I posted a message on the Buckinghamshire Rootsweb list in July of 1999. I had no useful responses at that time.

That same year, I posted a query on the Australia list about shipping records. After several false starts, a very helpful correspondent found my ancestors on the barque *Saxon*, arriving at Port Philip (Melbourne) on 29 June 1849. Just as family history had said, there was George Guy, and there, on the same voyage, was Sarah Jarvis, travelling with William and Ann Webb and their daughter Rosetta. Eureka!

In 2000, I was fortunate to be able to visit the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. I copied Sarah Jarvis's baptismal record, but it gave me no more information than was available on the IGI — Sarah was baptized to parents Edmund and Sarah Jarvis. In the parish register of Shenley, the parish next to Loughton, I discovered the marriage of Edmund Jervis of Loughton, widower, to Sarah Saunders of Shenley, in 1823. This looked like the parents of the Sarah Jarvis whose baptism I had found, but it still didn't prove that she was mine. It did show, however, that the former surname of this Sarah's mother was Saunders, the same surname given for my Sarah's mother on Sarah's marriage registration. There was no sign, either in Loughton or in Shenley, of a Thomas Jarvis and a Mary Saunders, the names given for Sarah's parents when she married.

A further search led to the baptism in Shenley of Ann Jarvis to (blank) Jarvis and Sarah Saunders — 6 January 1822, the year before Edmund Jarvis married Sarah Saunders. As I had already found the marriage of Ann Jarvis to William Webb, it looked as if this Ann was the one whom I had been seeking — not Sarah's aunt but her older sister. I also found the baptism of Rosetta Saunders to Sarah Saunders in 1819, before she married Edmund Jarvis. Family history said that Sarah had a half-sister "Rose," so details were falling into place, and I was convinced that the Sarah Jarvis I was tracking in England was the same Sarah Jarvis whom I knew to be my g g grandmother in Australia. The inconsistencies still bothered me, chiefly the given names of Sarah's parents, but I decided that this was as close as I was going to get to definitive proof of the connection.

Nothing happened on this family for three years, until one October evening in 2003, when I had a surprise

phone call from a Roy Jarvis. He had been introduced to the Internet by his son and, while searching the Rootsweb archives, they came across my message of 1999 to the Buckinghamshire list. Almost the first words Roy uttered were “We always wondered what

became of those two Jarvis sisters who emigrated from Loughton to Australia”!

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## FAMILY HISTORY TECHNIQUES AND RESOURCES

### The Bookworm

BY BETTY WARBURTON

Several books about Scotland were bought for the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library collection at the 2005 Conference. Novice genealogists will find *Scottish Ancestry: Research Methods for Family Historians* by Sherry Irvine most useful. Published in 2003, at the time that Scottish genealogical websites were being developed, her book focuses on resources (libraries, books, microfilms, etc.) that can be easily accessed from North America.

If your Scottish ancestor settled in Eastern Ontario between 1784 and 1855, you may find information about him (or her) in Lucille Campey's new book *Scottish Pioneers of Upper Canada 1784-1855*. The book involved research in Canada, Scotland and England and, like all Campey's books, is well documented and indexed.

*The Making of Scotland: A Comprehensive Guide to its Cities, Towns and Villages* by Robin Smith is a concise and authoritative history of the development of every city, town and village of Scotland. Although the arrangement is alphabetical, occasionally smaller adjacent villages are described as a group and it is then necessary to refer to the index. The focus is on key industrial, architectural and cultural developments and the people who made them happen. There are many illustrations, detailed maps and an extensive bibliography.

The library has received the following publications from the Federation of Family History Societies:

■ *Dating Twentieth Century Photographs* by Robert Pols

This successor to the author's *Dating 19<sup>th</sup> Century Photographs* concentrates on the understanding, identification and dating of photographs from the last century. It sets out clearly the development of photography and includes guidelines for dating your photographs.

■ *Genealogical Jargon* by Stuart Raymond

This book is intended as an aide-memoir for those about to set out on the family history trail. It defines many common terms, including abbreviations and acronyms. A few Latin words and phrases are included.

■ *Tracing Your Nineteenth Century Family History* by Stuart Raymond

This work is a companion volume to *Tracing Your Twentieth Century Family History*. Because the researcher has two major comprehensive sources—the records of civil registration from 1837 and the census enumerators' schedules every ten years from 1841—it is probably easier to research family history in the nineteenth century than for any other long period. The book encourages you to go beyond the bare bones of civil registrations and censuses, and to understand the history of your family in its social and economic setting.

■ *Scottish Family History on the Web* [second edition] by Stuart Raymond

Stuart Raymond points out that there is more to Scottish research online than the Scotland's People website. In this book he lists hundreds of vital sites from Tartans to the Tartan Army. If you are researching ancestors who came from or lived in Scotland, you will need this book. It may save you time and money.

■ *Births, Marriages and Deaths on the Web (Part 1)* [second edition] by Stuart Raymond

■ *Births, Marriages and Deaths on the Web (Part 2)* [second edition] by Stuart Raymond

These two volumes list innumerable English web pages providing transcripts and indexes of parish registers and civil registration records, etc.

Part 1 includes Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, The Channel Islands, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire and Bristol, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Kent, London and Middlesex, Oxfordshire, Shropshire,

Somerset, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Worcestershire and Wales.

Part 2 includes Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Cumberland, Derbyshire, Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, The Isle of Man,

Lancashire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Rutland, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Warwickshire, Westmoreland and Yorkshire.

## The Printed Page

BY GORDON D. TAYLOR.

**National Genealogical Society Quarterly**, Volume 93, No. 3, September 2005.

The September 2005 issue of this journal features four articles:

1. "Social News as a Clue to Ancestry; Hester (nee Rogers) Cunningham of Virginia and West Virginia," Victor S. Dunn, pp.165–176.
2. "The Visit of John Adams Unlocks the Door to Clayton Stafford's Lineage," Sharlene K. Miller, pp.177–191.
3. "Using English Manor Records to Document Descent: A Mullis Family of Tregenwell in Cornwall," Ronald A. Hill, pp.192–210.
4. "Which Pahl Masson Headed Ruottila Farm," Anne Hermann Bernay, pp.211–224.

All family historians who are interested in the theoretical and philosophical base of their field should read the Editors' Corner in this issue. The editors stress the view that genealogists "try to identify forgotten ancestors and reconstruct relationships that no one else has documented." To make their point clear they write, in reference to the four articles cited above,

"Authors Bernay and Hill explain and demonstrate the use of records in two countries from which American ancestors emigrated. Writers Dunn and Miller show how seemingly insignificant information—apparently "non-genealogical" items buried in unindexed newspapers—can lead to proof of ancestral relationships. By example, the four contributors teach readers about specialized records and research methodology."

The article by Ronald A. Hill will be of particular interest as it demonstrates the use of English manor records. He outlines the kinds of information available for manor tenants from the 1200s through the early 1900s. This article is a valuable lesson in the use of an important database.

**Genealogists Magazine**, Volume 28, No. 7, September 2005

The September 2005 issue of this journal has a very valuable article of Anglican clergymen in the historic period before the appearance of Crockford's Clerical Directory in 1858: "Researching Anglican Clergymen: The Clergy of the Church of England Database 1540–1835", Peter Towey, pp.310 – 312.

The author describes a major new database. The new base was funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Board (UK) originally for the period 1999–2005. The grant was extended last year for another three years. The database is being developed by academics from the Universities of Kent and Reading and King's College, London. The Master Database is held at King's College. The objective of the project is to construct a relational database online, containing the careers of all clergymen in the Church of England between 1540 and 1835.

A visit to the website [www.theclergydatabase.org.uk](http://www.theclergydatabase.org.uk) is well worthwhile. The database is continually being updated. As a matter of personal interest I located several members of ancestral families. The quick check filled in two or three holes in my ancestral knowledge base. This database will be of great assistance to anyone who has Anglican clergy in their historic background. It is a project that should be followed with great expectations.

## Naïve Assumptions About Census Records

BY BILL ARTHURS

In August of 2001, I completed one of my millennium projects when I transcribed the microfilm of the 1891 Census for Queens County, New Brunswick and went on to publish it and post it on the Queens County website. The project was both a challenge and a rewarding experience, involving many hours at the National Archives (now part of Library and Archives Canada), bent over microfilm reading machines, and the task of putting the data on computer.

Now that the battle of getting the 1911 Canadian Census released to the public has finally been won, many of our *Anglo-Celtic Roots* readers will be finding themselves involved in the process of doing what I did, or in the equally demanding job of attempting to read census images online. To those of you who are, or will be, involved in that exercise, I offer the following hints. More to the point, when you are using census transcriptions, I suggest that you keep in the back of your mind, and guard against, the seven assumptions outlined below and interpret the data accordingly.

**Assumption One.** That all persons being enumerated told the truth to the enumerator. Many people, especially in the early era of census taking, were suspicious of the basic government motives behind the census, and weren't especially motivated to answer fully and correctly. Also, many felt that there was nothing wrong with making a guess at the answers if they didn't know for sure.

**Assumption Two.** That the enumerators did not make mistakes and were able to interpret and spell correctly all the information that was given them. Remember, the education systems, especially in rural areas, often did not reach the standards that we enjoy today. Often the persons supplying the information were illiterate and, occasionally, the enumerators had only marginally better qualifications, and often less, than the people supplying the data. Census takers had to listen to the oral presentation of the data, accents and all, and then try to put the words on paper as they heard them. You will, therefore, find many exciting examples of innovative and creative spelling. I make a practice of recording them as I find them.

**Assumption Three.** That all enumerators had perfectly clear handwriting, with each individual letter distinguishable and clearly presented. In most cases I have found that the records of most counties are relatively easy to read, with a few exceptions. I provide question marks where I am unsure or confused. In some cases, however, it is a real ordeal to decipher the film. The material is either very faded or the handwriting is difficult to interpret. I do the best I can in these cases, but have to make many guesses.

**Assumption Four.** That the paper on which the information was written was never subsequently damaged, nor had anything spilled on it and that no pages were ever lost; also, that the ink never faded, blotted or blotched.

**Assumption Five.** That the persons preparing and photographing the documents for microfilm always had the pages in perfect focus and with the proper light intensity. Remember that these are usually not the original documents we are working with, only photocopies of them.

**Assumption Six.** That the microfilm has not been damaged, scratched or otherwise mutilated over the years.

**Assumption Seven.** That neither you nor I have made any mistakes in transcribing the data from the film.

So, when you use the data, always keep the above assumptions in mind. The information contained in census records can provide a wonderful guide for your genealogical research. Don't, however, treat the material as gospel. Check it with the data on previous and subsequent census records. Perhaps you will find that "Ausker" really was Oscar, and you will even be able to figure out what the trade of "McAnik" was. Also, once you find something that appears ambiguous or unclear, go back and have a good look at the microfilm yourself. The original documents, by the way, were usually destroyed after the completion of the microfilming. Good luck and happy genealogical hunting!

**BIFHSGO LISTINGS**

## Membership Report

BY DOUG HODDINOTT

The BIFHSGO membership year runs from January 1 to December 31. Final 2005 membership numbers were 480—36 ahead of the 444 at the end of 2004.

BIFHSGO appears to be heading for another healthy increase in membership for 2006. At the end of January 2006, there are 404 memberships, a number which is

69 ahead of the 345 at this time last year. It includes 21 new (first time) memberships. In recent years, about 15 per cent of the previous year's memberships had not renewed the following year. Over the same period, on the other hand, significant numbers of new memberships have resulted in up to 8.1 per cent of year-over-year growth.

### New BIFHSGO Members to 4 February 2006

Mr. No.	Name	Address	Mr. No.	Name	Address
1005	Angele ALAIN	Ottawa, ON	1014	Ms Janet E. W. MARTIN	Kanata, ON
1006	Mr. Chris KITZAN	Gatineau, QC	1015	Mr. Peter W. J. MARTIN	Kanata, ON
1007	Mrs. Brenda Anne HENDY	Ottawa, ON	1016	Mr. Jim Luty & Ms Deborah Marie MacGILLIVRAY	Manotick, ON
1008	George RUBINATO	Orleans, ON	1017	Mr. Jim CASTELLANO	Kanata, ON
1009	Mrs. Sue MORTON	Nepean, ON	1018	Mrs. Carol Sylvia DILLON	Perth, ON
1010	Mr. Glenn CLARK	Gloucester, ON	1019	Ms Sue Franklin & Mr. Robert J. HAYWARD	Ottawa, ON
1011	Mrs Chris ARMSTRONG	Ottawa, ON	1020	Mr. Trevor & Mrs. Wendy HEAVEN	Ottawa, ON
1012	Mr. Vincent E. CREES	Nepean, ON	1021	Mr. Ronald LOCKHEAD	Ottawa, ON
1013	Mr. Stuart Murray GLENN	Ottawa, ON	1022	Mrs. Kathie WRIGHT	Ottawa, ON

## Members' Surname Search

BY ERNEST M. WILTSHIRE

These charts are provided to enable BIFHSGO members to share in common research. If you locate one or more of the names you are researching in Table A, note the membership number (No.) in column four.

Using this Membership Number, contact the member listed in Table A. Please note that each member may be searching several names. So be specific when communicating with them. Good luck.

TABLE A (Names being searched)

Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.
Adcock	NFK ENG	1800 +	1018	Hayes, Patrick	IRL Ottawa, Gloucester ON CDA	Pre 1840 1840 +	434
Alexander	Ottawa, Gloucester ON	1830 - Pres	551	Henighan	MAY IRL	1800 +	363
Bailey	Lanark Co. ON CDA	1790 +	113	Hickey, Catherine	IRL St. Chrysostome QC CDA	Pre 1830 1830 +	434
Baillie	Ottawa, Gloucester ON	1840-1880	551	Holmes	MAY IRL YKS ENG	1800 + 1870 +	363
Beaton	Ottawa East ON CDA	1911	1010	Jackson	Lanark Co. ON CDA	1790 +	551
Bidwell	QC CDA	1850-1911	945	Jones	NS CDA	-	987
Birch / Birtch	Roscrea, TIP IRL Richmond ON CDA Billings Bridge ON CDA	Pre 1819 1819 1850		Lane	WIL ENG	1800	987
Bradshaw	Colne, Burnley LAN ENG	1808 +	543	Mackay	CAI SCT	-	806
Burke	IRL Buckingham QC CDA	1800 + 1840 +	363	McBain	INV, ABD SCT	1750 +	543
Christie	Oyne, ABD SCT	1790 +	543	Miller	Ottawa East ON CDA	1911	1010
Clarey	IRL	1800 +	363	Mockett	Gloucester, Billings Bridge ON	1911	1010
Clark	Ottawa East ON CDA	1890-1940	1010	Mooney, Francis	ANT IRL Pembroke ON CDA	Pre 1840 1840 +	434
Code	Kitley Township, Leeds	1817 +	551	Mullin	LDN, MDX ENG	-	806
Cowan	Ottawa East ON CDA	1911	1010	Nash	IRL	1800 +	363
Crompton	Manchester LAN ENG	1800 +	1018	Nevins, Joseph	IRL Ottawa, Gloucester ON CDA	Pre 1840 1840 +	434
Cross, William	IRL St. Chrysostome QC CDA	Pre 1830 1830 +	434	O'Toole	Westport MAY IRL Birmingham WAR ENG Ottawa ON CDA	1814- 1840 1840- 1882 1884- 1949	543
Croucher	KEN ENG	1800 +	1018	Roberts	Burnley LAN ENG Warboys HUN ENG	1825 + 1837- 1860	543
Cutts	Ellwood, Gloucester ON CDA	1870-1940	1010	Roper	NFK ENG	1800 +	1018
Davies	BRE, GLA WAL	-	806	Ross	ROC SCT	-	806
Devlin	Lanark Co. ON CDA	1790 +	551	Sage	Pontiac Co. QC CDA	1850 +	543
Dunbar, James	WEX IRL Foresters Falls ON CDA	Pre 1840 1840 +	434	Sangster	IRL, SCT, USA, NS CDA	1600 +	987
Elmslie	Rayne, ABD SCT	1760 +	543	Shenston	NTH ENG	Pre 1700	113
Everitt	ESS, MDX ENG	-	806	Shorter	KEN ENG	1800 +	1018
Fielding	NS CDA	-	987	Stewart	Ottawa, Gloucester ON	1830- Pres	551

TABLE A (Names being searched)							
Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.	Name Searched	Location (Chapman Code)	Year	Mbr No.
Fyles, Rev.	QC CDA	1894-1901	945	Stowell	Vermont USA QC CDA	1850-1900 1870-1911	945
Gaffney	Ste Foy, Pontiac Co. QC CDA	1840 +	543	Strahan	LDN ENG	Pre 1780	113
Gaynor, Michael	IRL St. Chrysostome QC CDA	Pre 1830 1830 +	434	Swords	Ste Foy, Pontiac Co. QC CDA	1840 +	543
Greenwood	Manchester LAN ENG	1800 +	1018	Thornton	SCT	1875 +	1018
Habberfield	MDX, SRY, WIL ENG Eastern Townships QC CDA	1820-1894 1894-1901	945	Timlin	MAY IRL	1800 +	363
Hand, Elizabeth	IRL Foresters Falls, ON CDA	Pre 1840 1840 +	434	Wichman / Wiechman	QC CDA	1900-1950	945
Hara	NIR	Pre 1818	113				

TABLE B (Members referred to in Table A)			
No.	Member's Name and Address	No.	Member's Name and Address
113	Michael Shenstone 10 Ellesmere Place, Ottawa ON K1M 0N9 E-mail: <a href="mailto:m.shenstone@sympatico.ca">m.shenstone@sympatico.ca</a>	806	John Mullin 129 Kennevale Dr., Ottawa ON K2J 3X7 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dublin@sympatico.ca">dublin@sympatico.ca</a>
363	Mary Holmes 934 Montee de la Source, Cantley QC J8V 3K5 E-mail: <a href="mailto:maryhb@videotron.ca">maryhb@videotron.ca</a>	945	Greg Emile Wichman 11460 44A Ave. NW, Edmonton AB T6J 0Z9 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gwichman@telusplanet.net">gwichman@telusplanet.net</a> FAX: 780-435-4538
434	Anita Nevins 67 Ashgrove Crescent, Nepean ON K2G 0S8 E-mail: <a href="mailto:wjnevins@rogers.com">wjnevins@rogers.com</a>	987	Alan L. Sangster 986 Parkhurst, Ottawa ON K2A 3M9 E-mail: <a href="mailto:alsangster@rogers.com">alsangster@rogers.com</a>
543	Norma O'Toole 1773 Valley View Drive, Courtenay BC V9N 9A8 E-mail: <a href="mailto:motoole@yahoo.ca">motoole@yahoo.ca</a>	1010	Glenn Clark 2837 Highway 31, Gloucester ON K1T 1N2 E-mail: <a href="mailto:gbclark@magma.ca">gbclark@magma.ca</a>
551	David E. Code 456 Hillcrest Ave., Ottawa ON K2A 2M7 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dcodec@rogers.com">dcodec@rogers.com</a>	1018	Carol Sylvia Dillon 138 Jodi Lane Court, RR#4, Perth ON K7H 3C6 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dillon@perth.igs.net">dillon@perth.igs.net</a>

Occasionally, due to a lack of space, names published in *Anglo-Celtic Roots* may be restricted to six per individual. If this should occur, the remaining names of interest will be published in a future edition. If the members have Internet access and they give permission, all of their names of interest are published on the BIFHSGO website at: [www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca).

Many BIFHSGO members belong to Genealogy societies that cover the areas detailed in this Members' Surname Search list. If you would like to loan your quarterly journals or other pertinent documents to members with an interest in the same geographical area that you are researching, please contact them directly and arrange to exchange information at the monthly meetings.

## 2006 Fall Loyalist Mohawk Valley Trip

Edward Kipp and George Anderson are planning another four-day Loyalist Fall Trip to the Mohawk Valley 1–4 October 2006 to visit Dutch, Loyalist and Palatine historic sites.

Interpreters will welcome you to Johnson Hall, the historic Johnstown Quadrangle, the historic Schenectady Stockade District, the Schenectady Historical Society, Fort Johnson, the Mabee Historic Farm, the Snell's Bush Church, Schoharie Creek Crossing, the 1745 Van Alstyne House, Fort Klock, Nellis Tavern, the Stone Arabia Trinity Lutheran and the Dutch Reformed Churches and their cemeteries, and the Oriskany Battlefield. The complete trip itinerary is available on the UELAC website under Special Projects: [www.uelac.org](http://www.uelac.org)

The bus will pick up people in Ottawa and Cornwall, Ontario. The number of people is limited to 55. This trip will cost \$490 in Canadian Funds per person based on sharing double accommodation. Single accommodation will cost \$685. A deposit of \$250 (\$290) is due upon registration. The balance is due 1 July 2006.

Registration includes transportation, accommodation and site admissions. Meals will be arranged at an extra cost. Participants should have their own extra travel health insurance and carry a valid passport or two other pieces of photo identification. Cheques are payable to Sir Guy Carleton Branch UELAC.

Please contact: George Anderson, 64 Saginaw Cres., Nepean, ON, K2E 5N7 (613) 226 -6348: [andrew1@magma.ca](mailto:andrew1@magma.ca); or Edward Kipp, 6242 Paddler Way, Orleans, ON, K1C 2E7, (613) [824-1948](tel:824-1948): [Ekipp@magma.ca](mailto:Ekipp@magma.ca) for more information.

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## 11th Yorkshire Family History Fair

Saturday, 24 June 2006  
York Racecourse (Knavesmire Exhibition Centre)  
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

All the usual stalls associated with such a major event  
Free car parking — Admission £3 — Cafeteria facilities  
The largest family history event in the U.K. (248 tables in 2005)

Further details from:  
Mr. A. Sampson, I Oxbang Close, Redcar, Cleveland, TS10 4ND, England  
Tel. (01642) 486615