

PATTERSON

family of Sunny Bank

One of the oldest families of the Gaspé Peninsula, the Patterson's, have descended from two emigrants of the British Isles. John and William, of no known relationship, left their homeland well over two hundred years ago. Both settled in Gaspé, less than five miles apart, and today both have descendants spread throughout the world.

John Paterson (spelled with one 't' on the original census of Gaspé) was born in Scotland around 1730. The first recorded incident of his life which I have located is that he was commissioned as an officer in the British Armed Forces on May 4, 1761.¹ He served in the 15th Regiment of Foot under Major-General Jeffrey Amherst until March 24, 1767. The muster rolls of this regiment were often taken and

¹ PAC M.G.. 13, W.O. 12, Vol. 3228

signed by Lieut. John Paterson between 1763 and 1766. The 15th regiment had companies at La Prairie, St. Annes, The Cedars, and Lachine, and garrisons at Quebec City and Montreal, and John Patterson is listed at least once at most of these places. On Sept. 1, 1767 Lieut. John Paterson is listed as being absent since June 30 with General Gage for 8 months.² John Paterson officially retired from the services on May 3, 1768, the same month that the 15th regiment returned to the United Kingdom.³

Other sources suggest that he had settled in Gaspé earlier. In 1765 John Paterson is included on a list of Protestant house-keepers in Quebec.⁴ (Quebec referred to all territory east of Quebec City). Secondly, in a land claim of 1793, Felix O'Hara states that John Paterson had resided in Gaspé for 29 years.⁵ This would establish his

² PAC M.G.. 13, W.O. 12, Vol. 1492

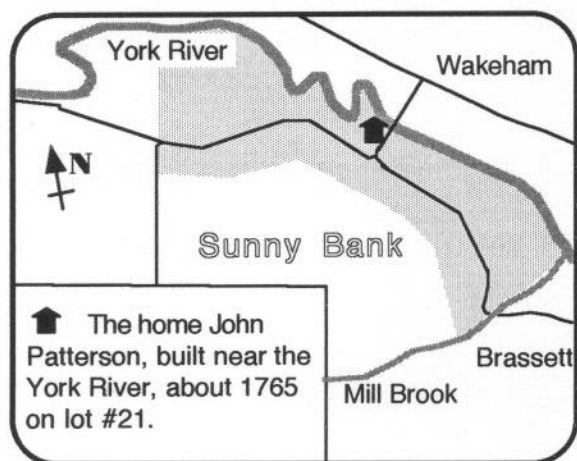
³ The Services of the British Regiments in Canada and North America, Stewart, Charles A., Department of National Defence Library, 1962, (PAC F. A. 828, pt. 1, page 120)

⁴ Bulletin des Recherche Historique; Vol. 38, page 753.

⁵ PAC Lower Canada Land Records, p. 75 907

arrival at 1764. In addition, after extensive research, Raymond Patterson suggested that John arrived here about 1764.

The most convincing source is the census of Gaspé to Baie Verte taken in 1765. It included as one of the inhabitants of Gaspé 'Jon Paterson' who had in his household 1 adult male, 1 adult female, 1 male child (under 15) and 3 female children.⁶ This indicates that he certainly resided in Gaspé by 1765 although maybe only seasonally. It also suggests that he had been married by 1760 or 1761.



No records have yet been uncovered concerning his marriage. Nothing exists in St. Paul's Anglican

⁶ PAQ Census of 1765

Church of Halifax, Nova Scotia, where Richard Ascah, a close friend of his, had been married on Sept. 5, 1757. It is quite possible that John's marriage was performed by a travelling minister and was never officially recorded, or was lost. Another strong possibility is that he may have been married somewhere in the United States. However, even family tradition provides no clue as to his wife's nationality.

In 1768 John Paterson was appointed bailiff of Gaspé.⁷ The position of bailiff was similar to that of a policeman, road inspector, and coroner combined. He was responsible for law and order and to ensure highways were well maintained. Neither of these would have presented much problem, as only a few families lived in the entire Gaspé region, and there were certainly no roads to be maintained. Probably due to the vastness of the region Richard Ascah, who settled in Peninsula about the same year, was appointed sub-bailiff.

The last recorded event in

⁷ Quebec Gazette; 1768

his life is the inclusion of his name on the census of 1777, taken by Nicholas Cox. He was listed at that time as having 2 male children under 16 and one female over 16.⁸ It appears that he was still alive when his eldest son, Peter, claimed land on the east side of his father's in 1793.⁹

The actual life of John Paterson in Gaspé is very obscure. It is known that he was one of the first permanent English settlers in Gaspé, along with Richard Ascah and Felix O'Hara. He undoubtedly was a hard working, resourceful man, with a great deal of courage to homestead in a place where the land is so rugged, and climate so forbidding. Simply providing for a family would have been a year round job in the absence of electricity, machinery, and even roads, all so essential today. Certainly socializing was quite restricted. Even a decade later, in 1777, there were only three families residing around the Gaspé Bay. They did, however, have

⁸ PAC Census by Nicholas Cox, 1777.

⁹ PAC Lower Canada Land Records, p. 75 907

contact with the outside world during summer when fishermen from Europe and other parts of North America came to fish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

According to the census of 1765 and 1777 we can deduce that John had a family of 3 girls and 2 boys. The lives of the girls remain complete mysteries. The only possibility which has been brought to my attention is the following record from St. Paul's (Gaspé) Anglican Register which reads: "Baptism: Eliza Ann Longuedoc, daughter of James Boyle and Mary Paterson, born Oct. 11, 1780, baptised July 5, 1829." Mary may be one of John's daughters, as there probably weren't many other Patersons in Gaspé at that time.

By piecing together bits of information found in land claims and church records, and using the unpublished work entitled "Family Gatherings" by a local historian, Raymond Patterson, I have outlined the families of Peter and John (see accompanying charts). In certain cases, little original documentation

exists. Dates could be inaccurate, and some people could even be placed in the wrong families. Some of the information was taken from the memories of elderly people several generations removed from the eighteenth century.

Peter, the eldest son, married Martha Ascah of Peninsula about 1796, and lived in Sunny Bank on the lot next to his father. They raised a family of 9 children, 4 boys and 5 girls.

John, the second of the original John Paterson's sons, married Margaret Ascah about 1784 and moved to Perce. There he fished and served in the navy. John and Margaret had 4 children. Following the death of his wife in the early 1790's he returned to Gaspé and married Margaret McPherson of Douglastown.¹⁰ He settled on lot # 23 in Wakeham, almost directly across the York River from his father's property, and had another 6 children.¹¹

William Patterson, another

¹⁰ Patterson, Raymond; Family Gatherings

¹¹ PAC Lower Canada Land Records, p. 75 792

pioneer of the Gaspé, arrived about 1798. Records show a William Patterson had left England in 1768 and settled in Crown Point, New York, and was a farmer in 1775. The following year he joined the British Army to fight against the revolutionaries, and served as a guide to General Fraser. He was captured and had all his possessions stolen (valued at about 32 pounds). After serving for 2 years as a political prisoner he was released and fled to Canada with his wife and family. General Haldimand undertook to settle the Loyalist refugees after signing the peace treaty of Sept. 3, 1783. Many were then being cared for at Yamachichi, near Three Rivers. On June 9, 1784 four ships and four whaleboats set out for the Baie de Chaleur carrying a total of about 315 passengers. Among the 86 refugees of the Brig St. Peter was William, his wife, a daughter, 12 and a son, 10. William, a carpenter by trade, received a grant of 300 acres of land in Paspébiac in August of that year.¹²

¹² Flowers, A. D.; Loyalists of the Bay Chaleur, p. 56-59, 76, 91

William Patterson, pioneer of the Gaspé, purchased lot #14 in Wakeham from John Boyle. He built a stone house near the Gaspé Bay, the remains of which is still standing near the river, about 500 metres east of St. James Church. He had two children, Benjamin and Lucy, born in 1790 and 1794 respectively. In the baptism records of Lucy in St. Paul's Anglican Church, dated 1729, William's wife is listed as being Sarah Patterson.

William's son, Benjamin, married Sarah Coffin around 1815 and settled on lot #14 in Wakeham.¹³ They raised a family of seven children, of which only two were boys, William and Abraham. Lucy married Richard, a grandson of John's and they had ten children.

It remains uncertain whether Gaspé's William is the same one who arrived at Paspébiac some 15 years earlier, or his son. Likely William, the United Empire Loyalist named his eldest son William, and it was indeed he who moved to Gaspé.

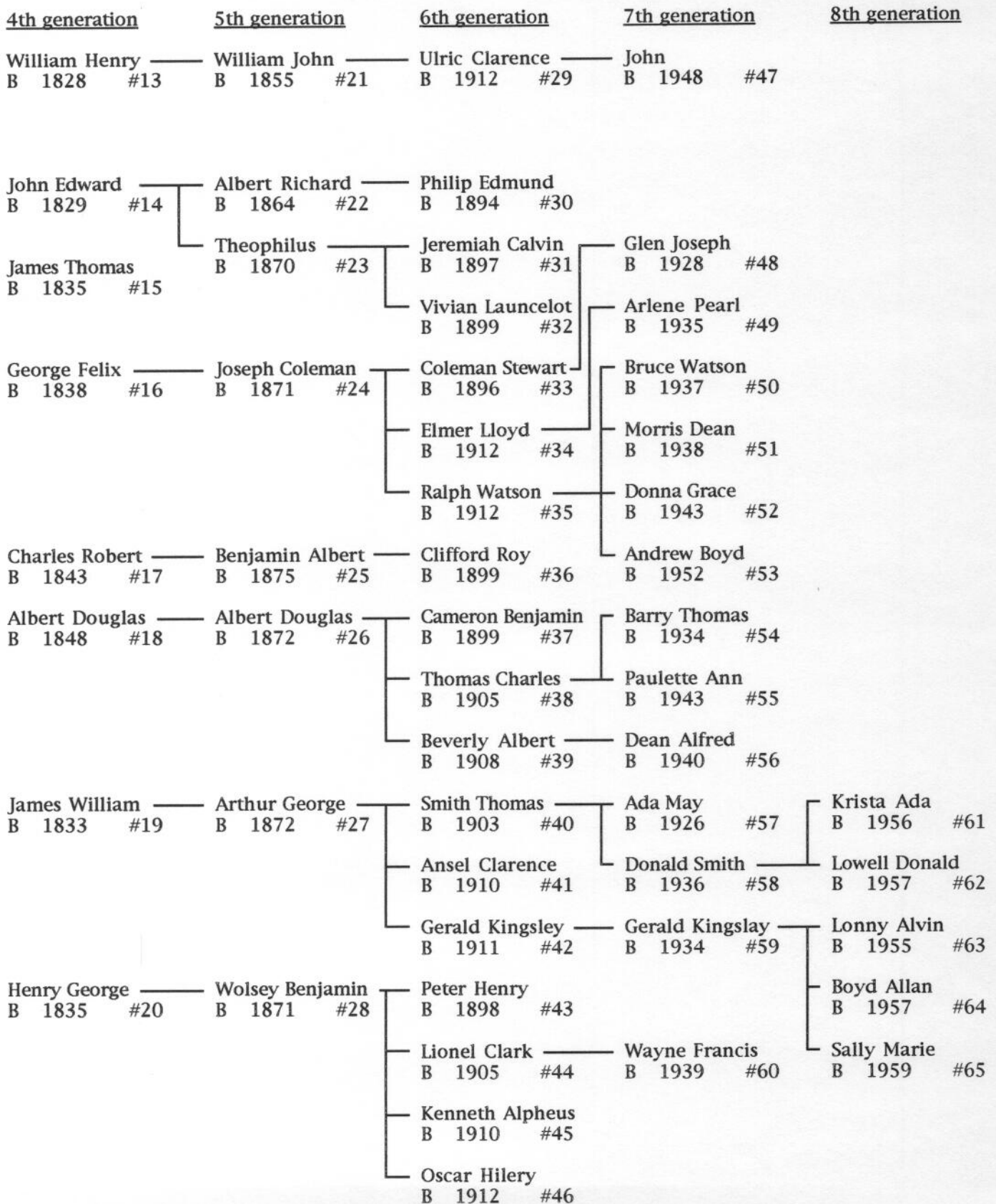
It is also uncertain whether there is any known relationship between William and John, or if it was fate alone that brought two Pattersons to the same remote part of the North America. It is, however, certain that during the past 235 years, and in some cases over 10 generations, descendants of John and William have married into most Gaspé families, and settled throughout Canada and many other parts of the world. Thousands of native Gaspésians can claim to have descended from one or both of these pioneers, who chanced by Gaspé over two centuries ago.

The following Patterson charts show the first three generations of descendants of John, both the male and female lines. Beginning with chart #14 (the fourth generation) only those families residing in Sunny Bank are included. As William did not reside in Sunny Bank, his family has been omitted.

¹³ Patterson, Raymond; Family Gatherings.

The "Patterson" Family Genealogy

The following is an overview of the charts of Patterson descendants who have raised their families in Sunny Bank. They are all descendants of John Paterson who settled here about 1765.



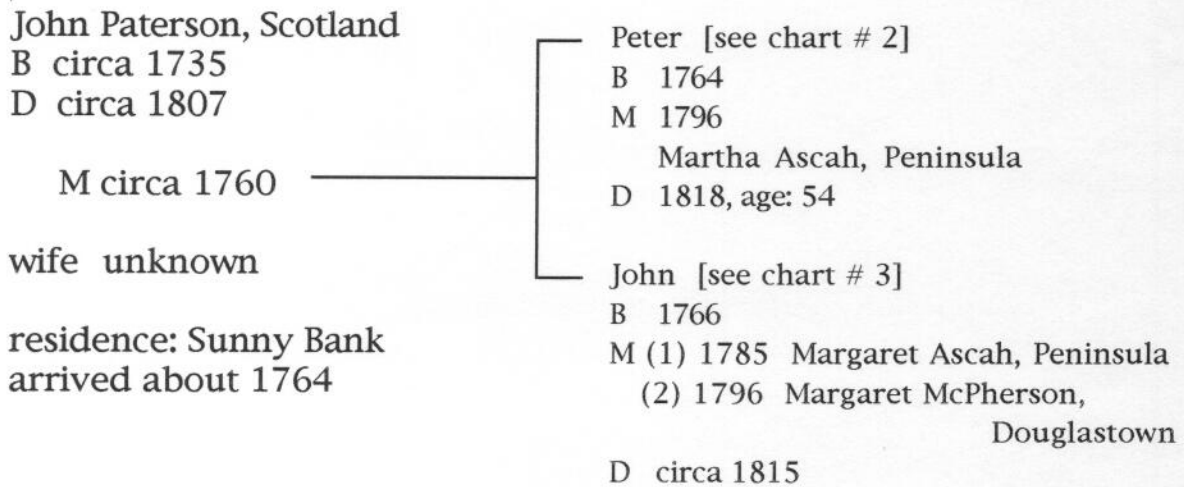
The **"PATTERSON"** Family Geneology
 (Descendants of John 'Paterson')

Note: The census of "Gaspéz" (1765) indicates that John Paterson had a wife, and 4 dependants, all under the age of 16. He was listed as having 1 boy and 3 girls living in his household.

The census of "Gaspe" (1777) lists his dependants as 2 males under 16 and 1 female over 16.

No other records have been uncovered concerning the three girls.

CHART # 1



Patterson

Descendants of John, 2nd generation

CHART # 2

(from chart #1)

Peter Patterson
B 1764
D 1818, age: 54

M 1796

Martha Ascah, Peninsula
B Dec. 10, 1770
D prior to 1827

residence: Sunny Bank
(lot 19-20-21, 600 acres)

- Hannah [see Grant chart #1]
B 1797
M 1815
William Grant, Sunny Bank
D 1879, age: 82
- John [see chart #4]
B 1798
M Sept. 4, 1827
Hannah Kitchen, Point St. Peter
D 1873, age: 75
- Anne Nancy [see chart #5]
B 1800
M Oct. 24, 1820
Thomas Miller, Peninsula
D March 11, 1878, age: 78
- Margaret [see Miller chart #2]
B. Aug. 8, 1803
M Aug. 3, 1831
Henry Miller, Peninsula
D Dec. 16, 1862, age: 59
- Sarah [see chart #6]
B March 30, 1805
M Feb. 20, 1827
George Miller, Peninsula
D March 13, 1886, age: 80
- Richard [see chart #7]
B July 24, 1808
M Dec. 18, 1834
Jane Mcrae, Douglastown
D 1867, age: 61
- Christianna [see chart #8]
B Dec. 24, 1811
M Jan. 1, 1833
Richard Miller, Peninsula
D Jan. 9, 1895, age: 83
- James
B 1815
D 1897, single, age: 82
- Thomas (or William?)
B 1815
D 1882, single, age: 67

Patterson

Descendants of John, 2nd generation

CHART # 3

(from chart #1)

John Patterson

B 1766

D 1818, age: 52

M (1) circa 1784

Margaret Ascah, Peninsula

B Feb. 26, 1768

D 1793

residence: Perce

Christianna [see chart #9]

B 1786

M 1805

Benjamin Coffin, L'Anse aux Cousins

D 1883, age: 97

*Richard [see chart #10]

B June 15, 1788

M 1813

Lucy Patterson, Wakeham

D 1868, age: 80

Charles

B 1790

had one child: Charles

mother: Christy Annett, Peninsula

D 1819, age: 29

Harriet [see chart #11]

B 1792

M 1811

Charles Davis, L'anse aux Cousins

D

John Patterson

M (2) circa 1795

Margaret McPherson, Douglastown

B

D

residence: Wakeham

**John

B circa 1797

M 1839

Margaret or Martha

D 1842, age: 45 (?)

Daniel [see chart #12]

B June 20, 1802

M Dec. 14, 1829

Elizabeth Kitchen

D 1885, age: 83

Laughlin

B circa 1804

D 1853, age: 49 (?), single

Julia

B circa 1808

M 1829

William B. Mayer, Quebec City

D

Mary

B May 31, 1812

M

James Cowan, Belfast, Ireland

D

In addition to considerable uncertainty regarding dates, several controversial issues exist in records of this family, including:

* An 1819 land claim shows a Richard as son of Margaret McPherson, John's second wife.

** Raymond Patterson stated that John married Margaret Mullin. The Malby Church Register states that Margaret Mullin married John Patton from N.S., March 14, 1839. Some Mullin family records indicate that John's wife was Martha. In any case, he, his wife, and one year old daughter, Christianna, burned to death in their home in Wakeham, in 1842.

Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 4

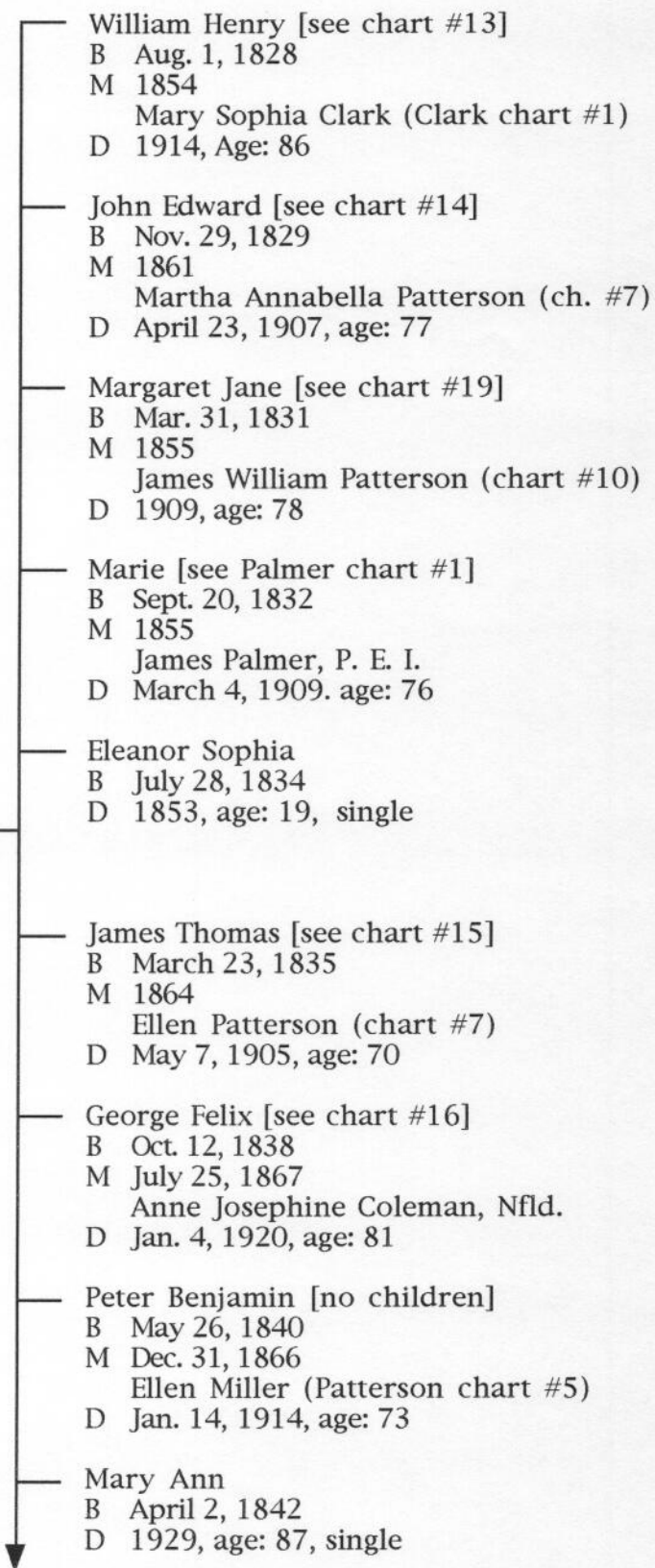
(from chart #2)

John Patterson
B 1798
D 1873, age: 75

M Sept. 4, 1827

Hannah Kitchen
B 1811
D 1861

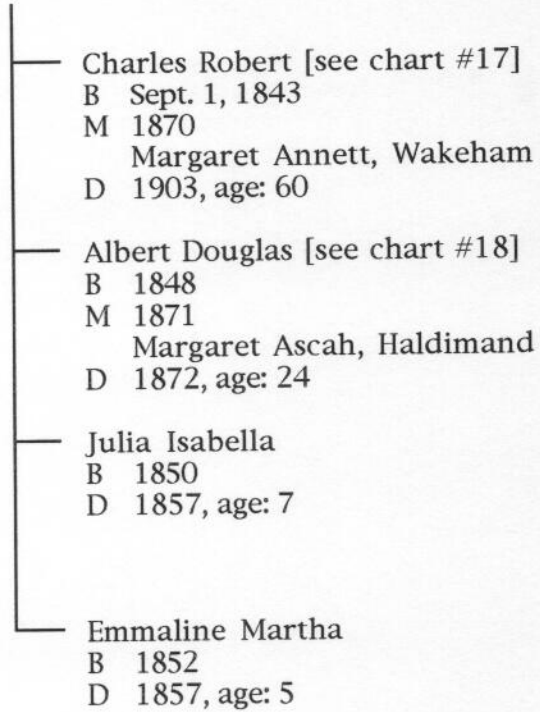
residence: Sunny Bank
lot #20



Patterson

CHART # 4
(continued)

family of:
John Patterson
and Hannah Kitchen



Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 5

(from chart #2)

Anne Nancy Patterson

B 1799

D March 11, 1878, age: 79

M Oct. 24, 1820

Thomas Miller (Miller chart #1)

B 1795

D June 6, 1874, age: 79

residence: Sandy Beach

Jane Caroline Miller

B 1823

M Jan. 10, 1854

Robert Wallace Pye, Sandy Beach

D Aug. 24, 1893, age: 70

Peter Miller

B July 27, 1826

M April 22, 1861

Mary Ann Deniss, Quebec City

D June 2, 1894, age: 67

Thomas Miller

B Oct. 12, 1827

M Jan. 6, 1855

Mary Jane Annett, Wakeham

D Jan. 12, 1883, age: 55

Annabella Miller [see Grant chart #2]

B 1830

M June 4, 1855

Charles Grant, Sunny Bank

D Aug. 16, 1907, age: 77

Frances Melinda Miller

B Oct. 27, 1830

D Oct. 13, 1835, age: 4

Mary Boyle Miller

B Aug. 2, 1833

M Jan. 8, 1856

John Harbour, Sandy Beach

D Jan. 12, 1914, age: 80

Richard Ascah Miller

B April 26, 1836

M Jan. 10, 1888

Isabel Henry, Montreal

D July 9, 1905, age: 69

Maria Charlotte Miller

B March 12, 1840

D Jan. 20, 1900, age: 59

Ellen Sarah Miller

B Dec. 30, 1842

M Dec. 31, 1866

Peter Benjamin Patterson(Chart #4)

D Sept. 15, 1914, age: 71

Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 6

(from chart #2)

Sarah Patterson

B March 30, 1805

D March 13, 1886, age: 80

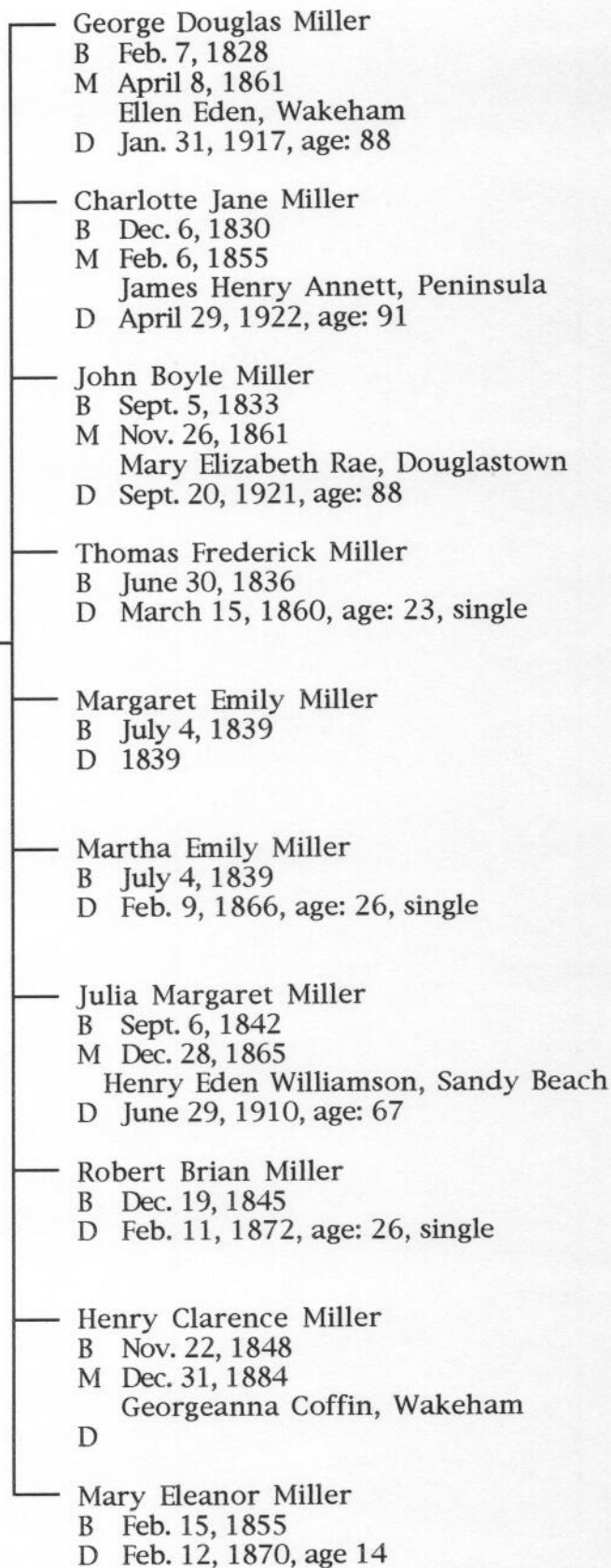
M Feb. 20, 1827

George Miller (Miller chart #1)

B April 4, 1802

D 1879, age: 77

residence: Sandy Beach



Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 7

(from chart #2)

Richard Patterson

B July, 24, 1808

D 1867

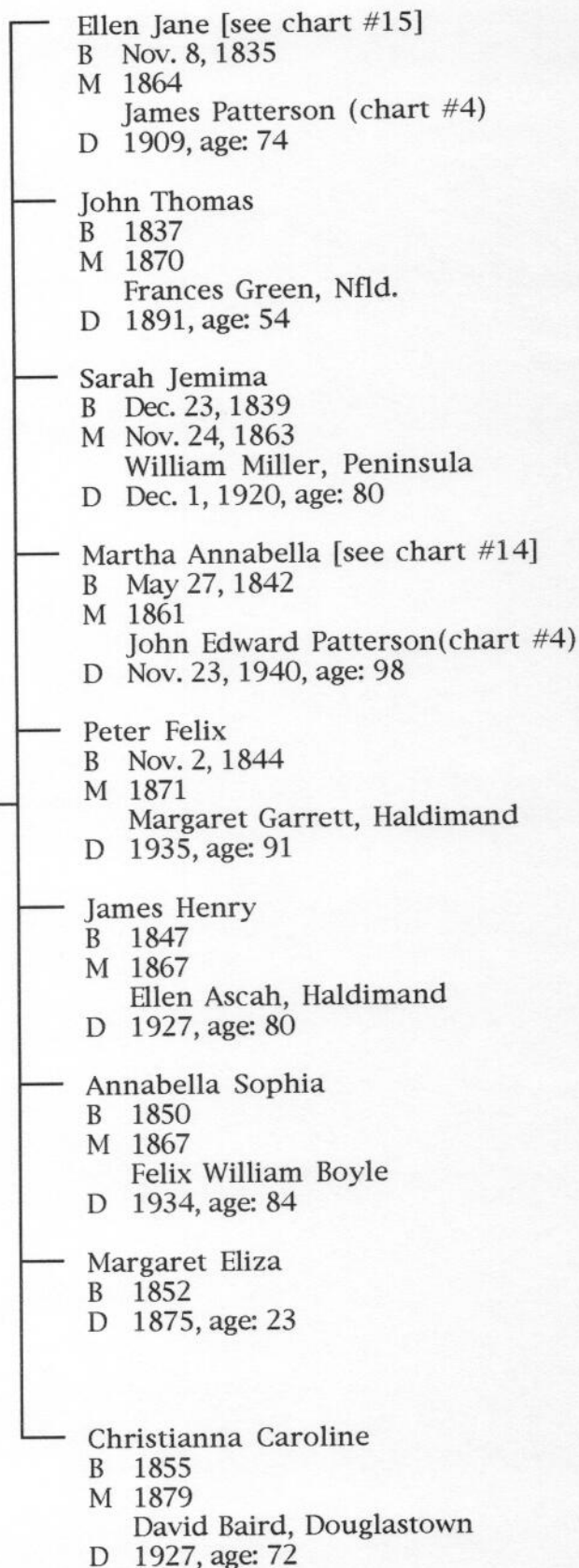
M Dec. 18, 1834

Jane McRae

B 1814

D 1881, age: 67

residence: Haldimand



Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 8

(from chart #2)

Christianna Patterson

B Dec. 24, 1811

D Jan. 9, 1895, age: 83

M Jan. 1, 1833

Richard Miller (Miller chart #1)

B June 20, 1809

D June 8, 1896, age: 86

residence: Peninsula

Mary Charlotte Miller

B March 16, 1834

M April 15, 1861

James William Coffin, L'Anse aux C.

D Jan. 24, 1924, age: 89

Felix Siddon Miller

B March 11, 1836

M Feb. 8, 1865

Charlotte Ascah, Peninsula

D May 20, 1911, age: 75

Maria Jane Miller

B Aug. 16, 1838

M July 18, 1865

John Alexander Thompson, Haldmand

D Dec. 30, 1895, age: 57

Eliza Harriet Miller

B April 4, 1841

M Nov. 7, 1866

William James Ascah, Peninsula

D March 18, 1918, age: 66

Caroline Ellen Miller

B Nov. 19, 1843

D Dec. 20, 1912, age: 69, single

Charles Edward Miller

B Nov. 13, 1846

M Dec. 23, 1880

Ellen Brodie Johnston, Inverness, Que.

D 1935, age: 88

May Sophia Miller

B Sept. 7, 1850

D June 22, 1932, age: 81, single

Thomas James Miller

B Sept. 19, 1854

D Oct. 24, 1915, age: 61, single

Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 9

(from chart #3)

Christianna Patterson

B 1786

D 1883, age: 97

M Dec. 20, 1806

Benjamin Coffin, L'Anse aux C.

B April 21, 1780

D 1865, age: 85

residence: L'Anse aux Cousins

Margaret Julia Coffin

B Sept. 24, 1807

M 1825

Philip Bechervaise, Wakeham

D 1878, age: 70

Sophia Hannah Coffin

B July 8, 1809

M Sept. 28, 1852

James Perchard, Gaspé

D May 7, 1886, age: 76

Christianna Margaret Coffin

B circa 1810

D 1879, age: 69 (?), single

John James Coffin

B Aug. 3, 1812

M Dec. 13, 1836

Margaret B. Coffin, Wakeham

D 1844, age: 32

Eleanor Maria Coffin

B Feb. 11, 1815

M Jan. 15, 1846

Frederick Coffin, York

D Aug. 3, 1890, age: 75

Charlotte Jane Coffin

B Oct. 10, 1817

M Dec. 31, 1846

Frederick Annett, York

D July 3, 1856, age: 38

Annabella

B April 10, 1820

M 1846

James Benjamin Coffin, Wakeham

D 1854, age: 34

Benjamin Coffin

B Sept. 23, 1822

M April 25, 1850

Elizabeth Emily Mullin, Peninsula

D Dec. 8, 1870, age: 48

Abraham Coffin

B Dec. 17, 1825

M Dec. 28, 1848

Annabella Annett, Wakeham

D Dec. 9, 1894, age: 68

Emily Henrietta Coffin

B May 14, 1829

M April 7, 1853

Abner Frederick Coffin, York

D 1916, age: 87

Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 10

(from chart #3)

Richard Patterson

B June 15, 1788

D 1868, age: 80

M 1813

Lucy Patterson

B 1794

D 1858, age: 66

residence: Wakeham

Sarah Ellen

B 1814

M 1832

Joseph Eden, Gaspe

D 1897, age: 82

John Felix

B 1816

M Dec. 26, 1843

Anne Phillips, Peninsula

D 1891, age: 75

Margaret Amelia

B 1819

M 1846

William Annett, Wakeham

D 1904, age: 85

Annabella Jane

B 1822

M 1852

Benjamin Bechervaise, Wakeham

D 1860, age: 38

William Benjamin

B 1825

M 1856

Ellen Bechervaise, Wakeham

D 1862, age: 37

Benjamin Laughlin

B Aug. 28, 1827

D 1844, age: 17

Richard Douglas

B April 4, 1830

M (1) 1856 Jane Clark (Clark chart #1)

(2) 1862 Margaret Mullin, York

D Feb. 10, 1907, age: 76

James William [see chart #19]

B March 28, 1833

M 1855

Margaret Patterson (chart #4)

D 1876, age: 43

Joseph Richard

B March 28, 1833

M 1858

Maria Clark (Clark chart #1)

D 1866, age: 79

Henry George [see chart # 20]

B 1835

M 1860

Melinda Mullin, York

D 1914, age: 79

Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 11

(from chart #3)

Harriet Patterson

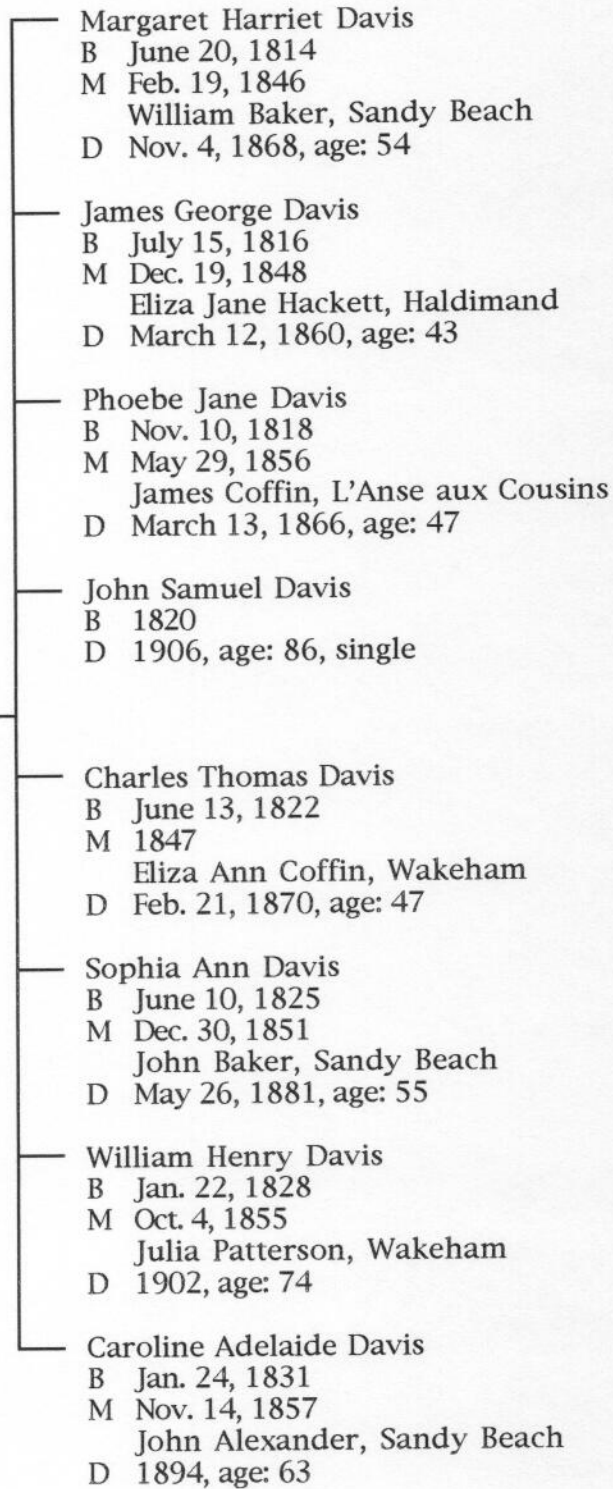
B 1792
D Nov. 12, 1879, age: 87

M 1811

Charles Davis, L'Anse aux C.

B 1783
D Feb. 26, 1860, age: 77

residence: L'Anse aux Cousins



Patterson

Descendants of John, 3rd generation

CHART # 12

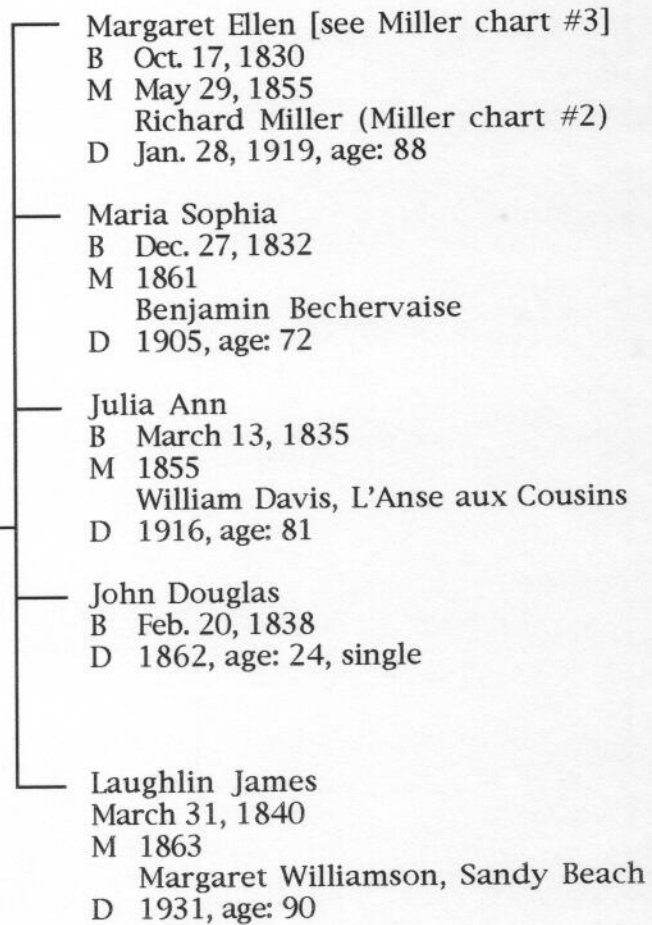
(from chart #3)

Daniel Patterson
B June 20, 1802
D 1855

M Dec. 1, 1829

Elizabeth Bennett (nee Kitchen)
B 1804
D 1861

residence: Wakeham



Patterson

Descendants of John, 4th generation

CHART # 13

(from chart #4)

William Henry
B 1828
D 1914, age: 86

M (1) 1854

Mary Sophia Clark (Clark chart #1)
B 1834
D 1877, age: 42

residence: Sunny Bank
(part of lot #19)

William Henry

M (2) 1883

Ellen Coffin (nee Bechervaise)
B 1834
D 1889, age: 55

no children

William John [see chart #21]

B 1855

M 1900

Ethel Grant (Grant chart #3)

D 1862, age: 70

Margaret Annabella

B 1857

D 1862, age: 5

Adelaide Mary

B 1859

M

Ned Donavon, Haldimand

D 1902, age: 43

James Clark

B 1864

D 1885, age: 21

David Edmund

B 1866

D 1877, age: 11

Flora Emma

B 1868

M 1891

Jack Donavon, Haldimand

D 1947, age: 79

Laura Ellen

B 1872

D 1914, age: 42, single

Margaret Amelia

B 1874

M 1902

James Clark, Wakeham

D

Maria Bridget [see Miller chart #7]

B Dec. 25, 1876

M Jen. 29, 1906

Angus Miller (Miller chart #4)

D Aug. 1, 1918, age: 41

daughter of Ellen Bechervaise:

Ellen Patterson [see chart #22]

B May 28, 1870

M Oct. 12, 1891

Albert Richard Patterson (chart #14)

D June 9, 1955, age: 75

Patterson

Descendants of John, 4th generation

CHART # 14

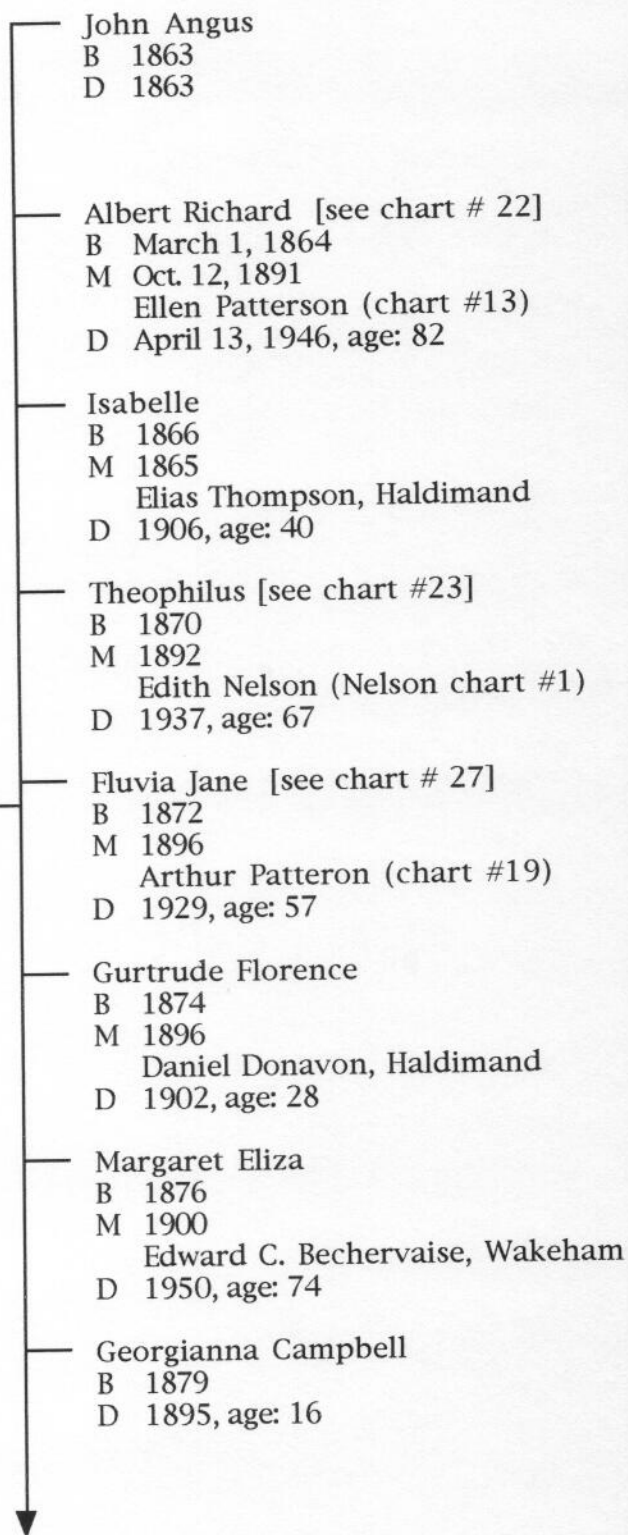
(from chart #4)

John Edward
B Nov. 29, 1829
D 1907, age: 78

M 1861

Martha Patterson (chart #7)
B May 27, 1842
D Nov. 23, 1940, age: 98

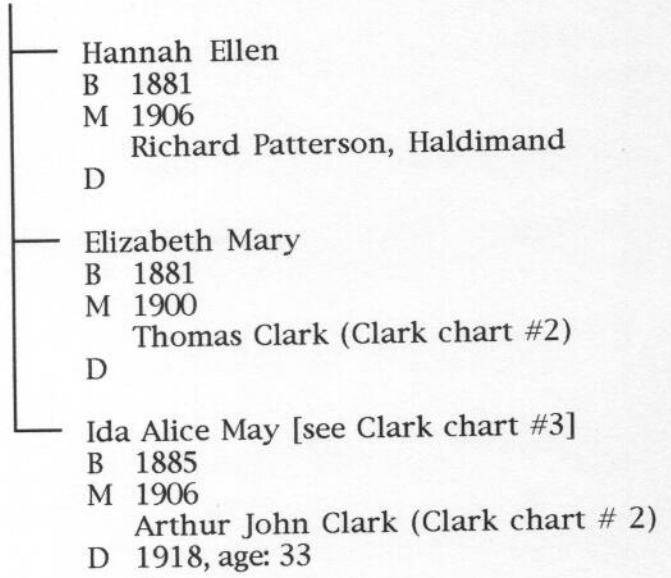
residence: Sunny Bank
(part of lot #19)



Patterson

CHART # 14
(continued)

family of:
John Edward
and Martha Patterson



Patterson

Descendants of John, 4th generation

CHART # 15

(from chart #4)

James Thomas
B March 23, 1835
D May 7, 1905, age: 70

M 1864

Ellen Jane Patterson (chart #7)
B 1835
D 1909, age: 74

residence: Sunny Bank

Jane Ellen
B 1865
D Dec. 27, 1888, age: 23, single

John Henry
B 1870
D 1890, age: 20, single

Victoria Margaret
B 1872
M 1894
David Palmer (Palmer chart #1)
D 1896, age: 24

Eveline Alice Maude [see Clark chart #3]
B 1874
M 1895
Arthur John Clark (Clark chart #2)
D 1896, age: 22

CHART # 16

(from chart #4)

George Felix
B Oct. 12, 1838
D Jan. 4, 1920, age: 81

M July 25, 1867

Anne Josephine Coleman, Nfld.
B May 2, 1847
D April 2, 1913, age: 65

residence: Sunny Bank
(part of lot #20)

Emily Alma
B June 8, 1868
M Nov. 18, 1902
Richard (Henry) Falle, York
D March 11, 1949, age: 80

John Thomas
B Aug. 19, 1869
D Oct. 19, 1869

Joseph Coleman [see chart # 24]
B Jan. 3, 1871
M (1) 1892 Beatrice Patterson, Wakeham
(2) Frances Clark, Wakeham
D Dec. 17, 1950, age: 79

Patterson

Descendants of John, 4th generation

CHART # 17

(from chart #4)

Charles Robert
B Sept.1, 1843
D 1903, age: 60

M 1870

Margaret Annett, Wakeham
B 1850
D 1941, age: 91

residence: Sunny Bank
(part of lot #20)

Eveline Lucy [see chart #26]
B 1871
M 1895
Albert Douglas Patterson (chart #18)
D 1914, age: 43

Isabelle Mary
B 1873
M 1894
William Henry Patterson, Wakeham
D 1908, age: 35

Benjamin Albert [see chart # 25]
B 1875
M 1899
Flora Patterson, Haldimand
D 1938, age: 63

Douglas Charles
B 1877
M 1905
Melvina Hackett, Haldimand
D 1955, age: 78

CHART # 18

(from chart #4)

Albert Douglas
B 1848
D 1872, age: 24

M 1871

Margaret Jane Ascah
B Oct. 9, 1847
D

residence: Sunny Bank
(part of lot#20)

Albert Douglas [see chart # 26]
B 1872
M(1)1895 Eveline Patterson (chart #17)
(2)1918 Evelyn Jane Patterson, Wakeham
(3)1931 Jessie Alice Miller, Haldimand
D 1957, age: 85

Note: Margaret Ascah remarried Daniel
Cunning of Haldimand.