



THE BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGIST



ISSN 2561-9586

Volume 55 No. 3

September 2025

BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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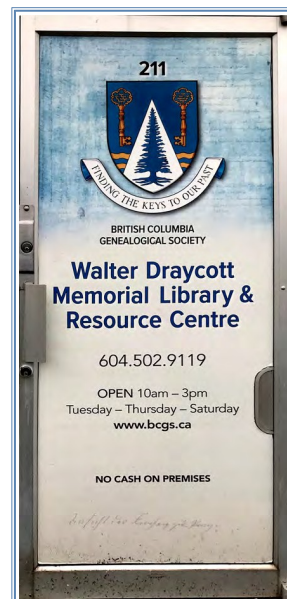
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The **BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** was incorporated in 1978,
and registered with Revenue Canada as a charitable society.

*The Society promotes and encourages interest in genealogy and family history
in British Columbia.*

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The British Columbia Genealogist
is published four times per year (March,
June, September, December)

Meetings

Join us on the 2nd Wednesday each
month, from 7:30-9:30 pm.

On our **Zoom** site.

*Details will be emailed to you prior to
each meeting.*

Meeting Location

Online for the present.

Membership Fees:

\$65.00 per year (Individual)

\$10.00 per year (associate)

\$22.50 (Youth)

\$65.00 (Affiliate Society)

Annual Membership includes four issues of
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our BCGS Genealogical Library and
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discussion/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bcgsdiscussion/)

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A message from our President...



Hi Everyone,

I hope you have all had a good summer.

With September, BCGS activities start up
again. Our library will once again be open,
so I do encourage you to visit us. We
have added several more books to our
expanding collection.

Do check our website for upcoming
Coffee Chats and other classes and
activities. Now is also a great time to
shake the cobwebs off your family history
research, too.

We have renewed both of our
subscriptions for *NewspaperArchives.com*
and *MyHeritage*. Again I'd like to
encourage you to check these out.

Looking forward to seeing you at our
monthly meetings via Zoom.

Eunice Robinson
President, BCGS



From the Desk of the Editor . . .

As the days grow shorter and the nights cooler, Autumn is settling into our homes and our pastimes. No more late night walks or swims, it's time to pick those vegetables and berries, time to plan for the cooler days ahead of us.

This month we're focusing on British Columbia in our articles. Some of the places are ones where we have been in past issues, and we have some new locations to visit.

Our Holten Project co-ordinator, **Janice Kidwell** shares two reports this month. Private Maurice Goodrow came from Alert Bay on Vancouver Island, and served as a motorcycle driver in the UK and in Northern Europe. Private James Thomson, from Victoria, served in the Infantry as a member of the Canadian Scottish Regiment.

A third Holten report comes from **Sean and Colin Vanderfluit**. Private Willard Ellison was born in Saskatchewan, but moved to Salmo, BC to work in the mines before enlisting in Trail, BC. He served as a sapper in the Princess Louise's Regiment.

Our travelling Columnist, **Meg McLaughlin** begins in Coquitlam on her search, and **Janice** remembers the BC Centennial Celebrations from 1958 with a special postcard.

Ed Udell continues his story about the Australian branches of his family, with the assistance of two of his cousins.

From the Kootenays, **Lilian Corriveau** retells the story of the Eppard family's trek during the Depression from Estevan, Saskatchewan across three mountain ranges to Vernon, BC.

I hope that you enjoy their travels.

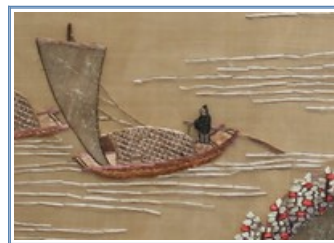
Lynne Fletcher
Journal@bcgs.ca

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On the Front Cover . . .

This lovely piece of Chinese Silk Embroidery comes from the Cumberland Museum and



Archives in Cumberland, B.C.

Continued on page 14 . . .

GENEALOGY ON THE ROAD

Genealogy on the Road

Submitted by Meg McLaughlin
Member #3847

Summer may be a traditional time to take genealogy on the road, but I haven't ventured far down the genealogy trail this season. Not that I haven't brushed up against history. I've even followed the theme of our current BCGS monthly meetings by checking out my local archive. True, most of the City of Coquitlam Archives' information is online at <https://www.coquitlam.ca>, but my colleague and I were more interested in the windows. Our mandate was to check them out to see if we could use something similar to their window coverings on the windows at PoCo Heritage. Interestingly, PoCo Heritage also fits into the archive theme as they house the City of Port Coquitlam Archives. Those can be checked out online by searching <https://pocoheritage.pastperfectonline.com>.

I am interested in the history of the area in which I live, but any records in my local archives wouldn't aid my family history research as my generation was the first to move to this area. I wasn't even aware that Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam existed until my real estate agent showed us a house in Coquitlam. It took a few more years until I ventured further east to Port Coquitlam. Through my work with PoCo Heritage, I have become aware of some of the families who made their mark in this region.

My research in BC has ranged further afield than the area in which I've lived, taking me to the Vancouver Archives to search through their collections. Then there was the summer I spent doing an internship with Bowen Heritage. The archives on the island were not quite what I expected, but there were some interesting stories to uncover.



Bowen Museum and Archives

It would be an advantage to live in the area you are researching. Imagine just being a short drive or walk from archives that relate to the family you are digging into. I could have had that when I lived in Halifax as I was interested in learning more about the family I'd married into. The Nova Scotia Archives were a short walk away from where I lived, and the Halifax Archives were in Burnside Industrial Park where I worked for a short time. Unfortunately, I hadn't caught the genealogy bug at that point.

GENEALOGY ON THE ROAD

Since I became obsessed with tracing my family, archives are some of my favourite places. I've traced more than one ancestor's past through The National Archives at Kew. And, since many of my roots can be traced back to the big city, The London Metropolitan Archives (now called The London Archives), have added some clues to finding my lot among that city's great unwashed. Then, of course, there's Edinburgh



National Records of Scotland Edinburgh

with some of its research centres within close proximity of each other. Scotland's People is at 2 Princes Street with the National Records of Scotland just across the courtyard. I had a field day at the NRS checking through their archives looking for family records related to my family who lived on the far west of the country on the islands of Islay and Skye. But then, the older records are of more interest to me because my branches of the families left in the early to mid-1800s.

It's a pity the archives, which promise more finds about my family lines, are so far away. Maybe it's time to plan another trip. I do love the hunt. Maybe this time though, I should check to see what information I've already gathered so I'll be better prepared for the next time I take my genealogy on the road.



Nova Scotia Archives

Meg writes about history and genealogy in ***A Genealogist's Path to History*** at <http://genihistorypath.blogspot.ca/>.

Read more about her findings in her blog.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

PTE. MAURICE EDWARD GOODROW

April 8, 1925 – March 24, 1946

Submitted by Janice Kidwell
BCGS Member 5033

Pte. Maurice Edward Goodrow was born April 8, 1925 in Alert Bay, Mount Waddington Regional District, British Columbia to parents Edward Emil and Pearl (Harrison) Goodrow of Vancouver, British Columbia. Maurice had two brothers and three sisters.

The 1931 Canadian census shows the family living in Comox, B.C. Listed were parents Edward and Laura Goodrow and six children.

Maurice attended school to Grade 10 (age 16) at Sointula, B. C. Maurice enjoyed school and was a good student. His hobbies were building model planes, and playing softball and soccer on school teams.

Pte. Goodrow enlisted February 1, 1944 in Barriefield, Ontario (now part of Kingston, Ontario). His address at that time was on Inverness Street in Vancouver. He was 18 years old. His occupation was as an apprentice truck mechanic at White Motor Co. in Vancouver. He had worked there for 3 months, up until his enlistment. Besides his apprenticeship he was a pile driver and handyman. His Attestation papers showed that Maurice liked hunting, fishing, skating, swimming, and that he also took part in sports, with examples of softball and soccer. He liked motorcycles. Maurice enjoyed reading - especially adventure stories - as well as mechanical books and magazines. He liked all types of music, but did not play an instrument. He neither smoked nor drank, was a good mixer and liked crowds. His post war plans were to return to his former work position. His tests indicated that Maurice had a high learning ability. What was noted was that Maurice had previously reported for National Resources Mobilization Act Service on December 15, 1943 and was taken on service as an NRMA soldier in the Canadian Army on December 29, 1943. Pte. Goodrow had the traditional medical examinations, tests and vaccines.

On April 28, 1944, Pte. Goodrow was re-interviewed at A-21 COCTX (A21 Royal Canadian Ordinance Corps Training Centre) - Camp Barriefield - and allocated to automotive trades for training as a motorcyclist.

In July 1944, Pte. Goodrow qualified as a Motorcycle Driver, Class 111. Pte. Goodrow also spent time at the Transit Camp in Windsor, Nova Scotia in preparation for going overseas.

On October 27, 1944, Maurice went to a Transit Camp in Windsor, Nova Scotia.

On November 24, 1944, Pte. Goodrow embarked and sailed for overseas, disembarking December 6, 1944 in the United Kingdom.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

On May 18, 1945, Pte. Goodrow embarked in the United Kingdom, disembarking in North West Europe on May 19, 1945. On May 25, 1945, he transferred to the 5th Armoured Divisions Ordnance.

Vancouver Man Dies Overseas

A Canadian Army casualty list from Ottawa records the death overseas of Pte. Maurice Edward Goodrow, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Goodrow, of 291 East Thirty-second.

He had been overseas two years and was serving with the ordnance Corps with the army of occupation in Germany at Oldenburg when he died.

The list also records the death in Canada of L-Cpl. John Valentine Nelson, of Veterans Guard, whose brother, W. J. Nelson, lives at 1058 Nelson.



DEAD IN GERMANY — Pte. Maurice Edward Goodrow, 21, with the Canadian army occupation forces in Germany, has died from pneumonia. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Goodrow, 291 East Thirty-second.

On March 24, 1946, Pte. Goodrow passed away. His death was listed as a result of pneumonia and acute pulmonary oedema - swelling caused by fluid accumulation in the body tissues.

Pte. Goodrow was awarded the following medals: 1939-45 STAR, France-Germany Medal, War Medal and the CVSM Medal with clasp. Maurice's mother received her son's medals as well as the Memorial Cross.

Pte. Goodrow's Service was the following:

Canada: December 15, 1943 to November 24, 1944

United Kingdom: November 25, 1944 to May 17, 1945

NW Europe he served from May 18, 1945 to March 24, 1946

Total qualifying service was 783 days; qualified overseas service was 482 days.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT



Pte. Goodrow's mother received a letter dated April 1, 1946 expressing deep regret on the death of her son. The Minister of National Defence and members of the Army Council have asked me to express to you and the members of your family their sincere sympathy in your bereavement. Signed Major-General, Adjutant General E.G. Weeks.

Pte. Goodrow's mother received a letter dated May 31, 1946, advising her that her son had been respectfully reburied at Holten Canadian War Cemetery with the following location: Grave 1, Row D, Plot 11. A temporary marker would be given and she would be given an opportunity to submit a short personal inscription of her choice for engraving on her son's headstone. Pte. Goodrow's mother was also advised that her son's gravesite would receive care and maintenance in perpetuity.

Pte. Goodrow is Commemorated on page 585 of the Second World War Book of Remembrance. This page is displayed in the Memorial Chamber of the Peace Tower in Ottawa on December 12.

There is a nice cenotaph in Sointula but there are no names engraved on it.

K.40244 PRIVATE
M.E. GOODROW
ROYAL CANADIAN
ORDNANCE CORPS
24TH MARCH 1946 AGE 21



TO LIVE IN HEARTS WE LEAVE
BEHIND
IS NOT TO DIE



Sources

- Ancestry.com
- B.C. Archives
- Canada War Graves Commission
- Canadian Virtual War Memorial
- Find A Grave
- Newspapers.com
- Sointula website

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

PTE. JAMES ROBERT THOMSON

January 17, 1915 – April 9, 1945

Submitted by Janice Kidwell
BCGS Member 5033

Private James Robert Thomson was born January 17, 1915 in Victoria, B.C. to parents James Ferguson Thomson and Emma (Fellenberg) Thomson. James had five siblings.

The 1931 Census shows the family living in Vancouver.

James attended school to Grade 10 as well as having attended two years at a Technical school and one year taking a wood working course. Following his schooling, James worked in a saw mill as a gang sawyer.

James and Florence Mary Gowanlock were married October 2, 1937 at Cedar Cottage United Church located in Vancouver, with Rev. Francis Edwin Runnalls officiating.

Pte. Thomson enlisted January 12, 1944 at the Central Station #X1 Recruiting Depot (Canadian Army) in Vancouver. He was reporting for NRMA Service and had no previous military service. His Reg. # was K154515. His residence at that time was in Hammond, B.C. When James enlisted his trade was listed as a Gang Sawyer at the Hammond Cedar Company where he had worked for four years. It was noted in his papers that James was married and had two children – a daughter and a son.

James had the traditional examinations, tests, x-rays and vaccines, and began his basic training in late January at #131 Canadian Infantry Basic Training Center located in Camrose, Alberta. He continued his advanced training in Calgary, Alberta.



On March 25, 1944, Pte. Thomson was posted to CITC (Canadian Infantry Training Centre) in Calgary.

On June 24, 1944, Pte. Thomson was issued a Special Transport Warrant and on July 15, 1944, while in Calgary he was appointed to the Canadian Infantry. Pte. Thomson departed from Canada on July 21, 1944; disembarking in the U.K. on July 27, 1944. On August 10, 1944, James became a member of the Canadian Scottish Regiment. On August 12th Pte. Thomson embarked in the U.K., disembarking in France on August 13, 1944. James was assigned to the North Shore (New Brunswick) Regiment which was then in Normandy, France.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

On October 24th and while still in France, Pte. Thomson was injured in the left tibia (shinbone) by shrapnel. Despite his injury, he remained with his unit and on duty. When the wound did not heal and the leg started to become infected, he was admitted to hospital on November 18th for a period of 2 weeks. At the beginning of December 1944, he had recovered and he rejoined his regiment, which was then in Nijmegen, Holland.

Zutphen

The North Shore Regiment, together with the Regiment de la Chaudiere, had been ordered to liberate the city of Zutphen. It arrived near Zutphen on April 5th and concentrated 3 kilometers east of the city between the Almenseweg and the Twente Canal.



On April 6, the attack on Zutphen was launched and after a hard fight the Deventerwegkwartier (neighbourhood) was taken. On April 7th the advance continued and on April 8th, the regiment reached the river IJssel - and at 13:00 the city was "Cleared of enemy", as stated in the war diary of the regiment.

The North Shore Regiment took over the defense of the city from the Regiment de la Chaudiere on April 9. The city was not safe yet. It would take until April 14 until the Hoven, the part of the city on the west side of the river, was liberated. On the other side of the river, German snipers were still active and continued to harass the regiment. Two members of the North Shore Regiment were wounded on April 9th at the IJsselkade and Private Thomson was fatally wounded that day.

On April 9, 1945, Pte. James Robert Thomson was Killed in Action in Holland. Based on the information in the war diary of the Regiment, Private Thomson was killed in this area.

A letter dated April 23, 1945 was sent to Pte. Thomson's wife expressing a deep regret over her husband's death.

Pte. Thomson's remains were initially buried at the Canadian Temporary Cemetery (015/947 Zutphen 1/25,000 Cemetery) with Chaplain John Stewart officiating his burial service. A Canadian Message was dispensed on May 2, 1945; a Royal Message was sent May 16, 1945.

Pte. Thomson's respectful reburial took place at Holten Canadian War Cemetery on January 30, 1946. His Grave site is 11.H.3. A Burial Report, map and photo were sent to his family, and the family was assured that Pte. James Thomson's grave would receive care and maintenance in perpetuity.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT



K1853 PRIVATE

J.R. THOMSON

THE NORTH SHORE
(NEW BRUNSWICK) REGIMENT

9th APRIL 1945 AGE 30



HE LIVES IN OUR HEARTS

Pte. Thomson is also remembered on the Maple Ridge Cenotaph.

Pte. Thomson's Service:

Western Hemisphere:

191 days:

Overseas:

263 days for a total of 454 days.

Canada:

January 12, 1944 to July 20, 1944.

United Kingdom:

July 21, 1944 to August 12, 1944.

North West Europe:

August 13, 1944 to April 09, 1945.



Hammond (Maple Ridge) Cenotaph

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

Pte. Thomson's widow received her husband's military medals, which were the 1939-45 STAR, the France-Germany STAR, the War Medal (1939-45), the Defense Medal (NE Europe) and the CVSM with Clasp Medal. Both Pte. Thomson's widow and mother received the Memorial Cross.



Sources

- Ancestry .ca
- B.C. Archives
- Canadian Virtual War Memorial
- Canada War Graves Commission
- Find A Grave
- Google
- <https://ww2memorial.nl/james-robert-thomson-p92925.html> (regarding battle in Zutphen)

On the Front Cover . . . continued from page 4 . .

Years ago, in Cumberland in the 1930s, this picture was gifted to the donor's mother by a Japanese neighbour. The museum label notes "It is a powerful visual language that tells a story through subject matter, design, and each thread of colour". In the Archives, the history of the Japanese immigrants who came to this tiny town to work in the Coal Mines has been documented. In that era, Japanese workers and their families lived separately in No. 1 Japanese Town, close to No. 1 Mine (there were about 8 coal mines). Along with homes, they built a Buddhist temple, stores and businesses and a Japanese language school, *Dai Ichi Go Chi Gakko*.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS 1958

Submitted by Janice Kidwell
BCGS Member 5033

On August 2, 1858 Queen Victoria declared the Hudson Bay territory west of the Rockies a British Colony. She called it British Columbia and named James Douglas as its first Governor.

The colony was established to assert British control over the region and the establishment of a formal political and administrative presence in the region and to compete with the expansion of the United States into the Pacific Northwest.

In general, the establishment of the colony of British Columbia in 1858 was an important event that helped to shape the political, economic, and cultural development of the region, and set the foundation for the growth and development of the province that we know today.

The colony played an important role in the development of the region's economy, as it helped to spur the growth of industries such as fur trading, fishing, and logging and the growth of towns and cities, such as Victoria, which became the capital of the colony and is now the capital of the province. The colony helped to shape the cultural identity of British Columbia, as it brought together people of different backgrounds and cultures, including Indigenous peoples, European settlers, and immigrants from other parts of the world.

The centennial of this event was celebrated in 1958, marking 100 years since the founding of the colony of British Columbia. This celebration was marked by a number of events and activities, including parades, fairs, and the issuance of commemorative stamps and coins. The 1958 centennial was an important moment in the history of the province, as it helped to shape the provincial identity and marked a significant milestone in British Columbia's development as a distinct entity within Canada.

The B.C. Community Centennial Committee had a representative from communities both large and small, everywhere from Ainsworth to Zeballas.

Some of the celebrations and events that took place for the 1958 centennial of the colony of British Columbia included:

- The Centennial Parade, featuring floats and marching bands from communities across the province, and dignitaries from Canada and other countries.
- The Centennial Fair held at the Pacific National Exhibition grounds in Vancouver featured exhibits showcasing the province's history, culture, and industry.
- The Centennial Pageant, which was a historical reenactment of key events in British Columbia's history, performed in front of a large audience.
- The Centennial Air Show featured aerobatic displays and flyovers by military and civilian aircraft.
- Commemorative stamps and coins were issued by the post office and the Royal Canadian Mint, respectively, to mark the occasion.

POSTCARDS

- B.C. Centennial Stage Coach Run from Victoria to Barkerville (May 1-2, 1958).
- Municipalities, towns, and communities throughout the province held their own centennial celebrations, such as parades, open houses, and other events including the RCMP Musical Ride.
- Special Issue of a B.C. Centennial stamp, commemorating the 1858 Fraser Gold Rush
- Citizenship ceremonies held on July 1st.
- From September 1-15, 1958 Mart Kenney and his Western Gentlemen played in a Theatre Show in sixty communities throughout British Columbia
- A Museum train.
- A show in Vancouver by the Vancouver Symphony.

On July 12, 1958, Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret arrived for a two week visit. Her visit was featured in the B.C.G.S. July 2024 Newsletter.

Culture & Politics

The 1958 centennial celebration of the colony of British Columbia had a significant impact on the citizens as the celebration helped to shape the provincial identity and create a sense of pride among the citizens. Many people from throughout the province participated in the celebration, which brought people together and allowed them to learn about their shared history and culture.

The celebration helped to promote British Columbia as a tourist destination, resulting in many people from other parts of Canada and around the world coming to visit the province during the centennial year. The celebration also helped to spur economic development and investment and the growth of the province's infrastructure, including highways and airports.

Postcard Description

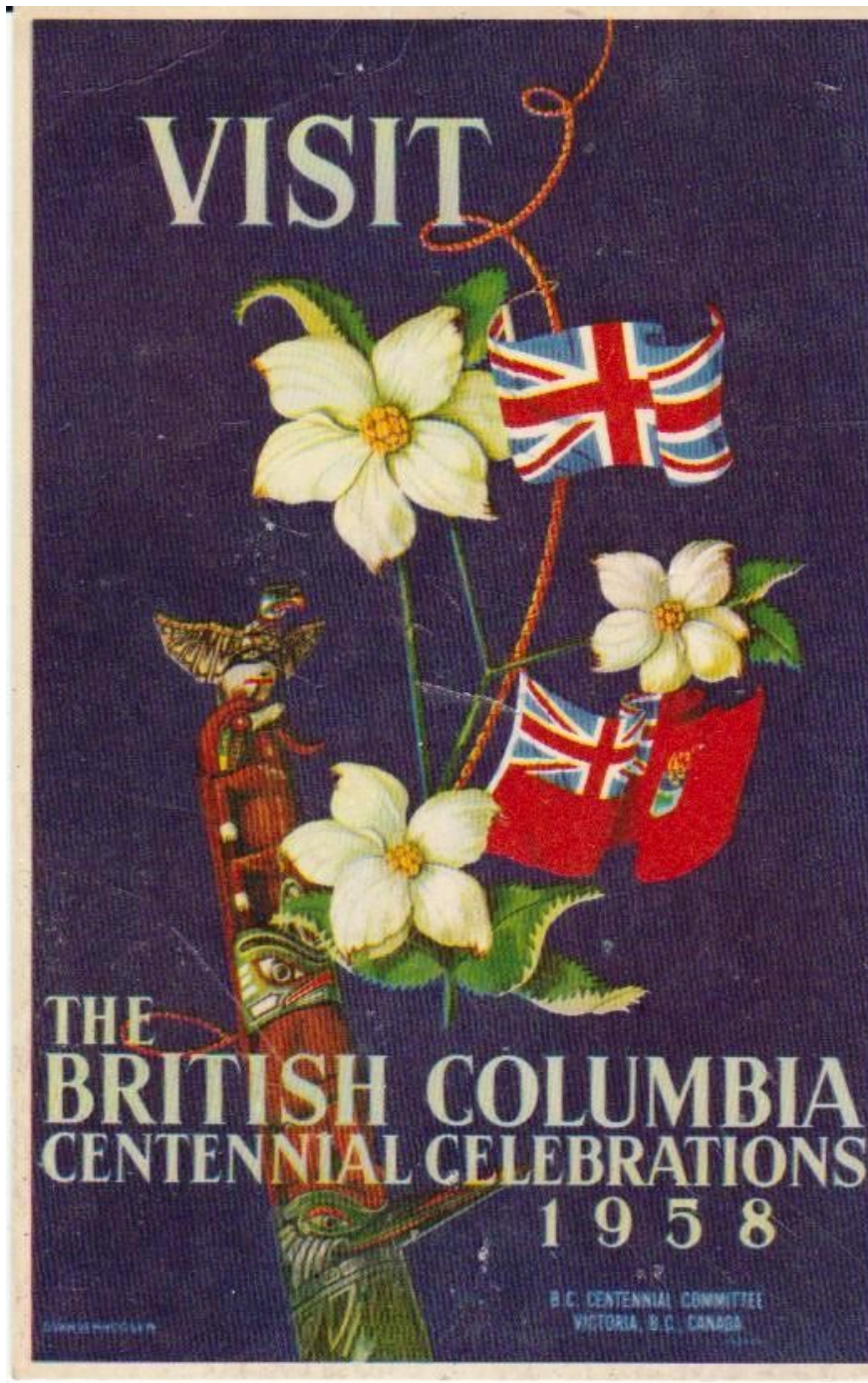
The front of this postcard features a Totem Pole, three Dogwood flowers, both the old British flag Union Jack and early Canadian Red Ensign flag as well as the wording: The British Columbia Centennial Celebrations. 1958. Below the year (1958) is the wording: B.C. Centennial Committee, Victoria, B.C., Canada.

The back of this postcard has the following wording:

BRITISH COLUMBIA 1858 -1958 A Century to Celebrate

The Province of British Columbia was founded at Fort Langley by Sir James Douglas on November 19, 1858. The people of B.C. are holding a year- long 100th birthday party in 1958 to celebrate their centenary. Pageants, festivals, gold rush jamborees and spectacular sporting attractions will take place in all parts of the Province. There's entertainment for everyone at B.C.'s Centennial Celebration.

Litho'd in Canada. There is neither a message nor a stamp on the back of the postcard.



Sources

- https://britishcolumbiahistory.ca/sections/periods/Growth_and_Social_Credit/BC_Celebrates_Centennial-X.html
- Book: British Columbia Official Centennial Record (Revised Edition) 1858-1958 A Century of Progress. Copyright 1957, Evergreen Press Limited, Vancouver Canada

STONE FAMILY

Stone Family in Australia Part II

Submitted by Ed Stone
Member # 6085

George Frederick Stone's son Sir Edward Albert Stone (1844-1920) was born in Perth, Australia. In 1876, with Septimus Burt, he formed the firm of Stone & Burt, eventually to become one of the largest legal corporations in the world. Edward wrote about his life in Australia called "Some Old-Time Memories, *being the personal reminiscences of Sir Edward Stone, K.C.M.G. Lieutenant-Governor of Western Australia.*"

<https://nla.gov.au/443/nla.obj-369023080>

George's daughter Alice (1848-1929), who was born in the Swan River Colony, married James Brown Roe J.P., who was born in Perth in 1833. Roe's father, John Septimus Roe (1797-1878), was a British Royal Navy officer serving on HMS Horatio during the Napoleonic wars and later patrolled the waters off Newfoundland. After his naval career John S. Roe became Surveyor-General for Western Australia and took his family to the Swan River on the barque *Parmelia* in 1829, where he helped set up the Colony.



Gravesite of John Septimus Roe



Gravesite of George Frederick Stone

STONE FAMILY



My two Auzzie cousins sent these gravesite photos of George Frederick Stone and John Septimus Roe! They had decided to visit the site after receiving my email with the Stone Family links. My cousin Jean Lukis is now 90 years young!

Both Alfred and George Stone were born in Tunbridge Wells, England (where my sister Elizabeth lived for many years). Their father was John Stone (c1774-1858), who established a successful lawyers office in Tunbridge Wells. Both Alfred and George served their articles of law, before moving to Australia.

Note of interest: Alfred was the first to photograph the Perth area c1860, and there is a great YouTube video 'slideshow' of his photographs:

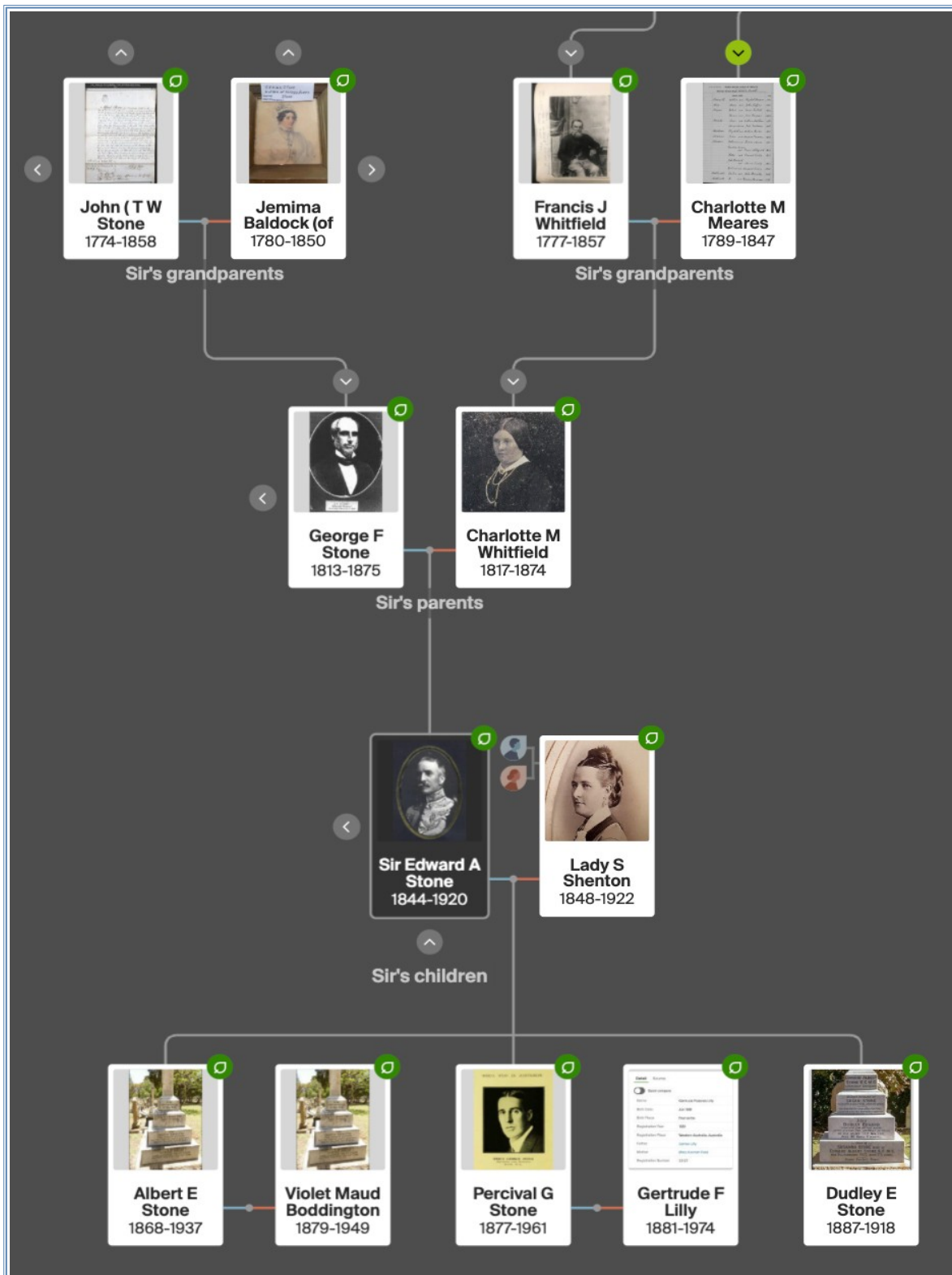
https://youtu.be/Le_wDidm040?si=x-d_8SRQKqNRI-RO

Ed has launched his 'new' website (finished with Amazon/KDP) exploring the work of his father, Edmund J.A. Stone, author and BBC playwright:

www.edmundastone.com

STONE FAMILY

Family Tree for Sir Edward A. Stone:



STONE FAMILY

Biographical Register of Members of the Parliament of Western Australia

[Home](#) → [Members' biographies](#)



Edward Albert Stone

Parliamentary Service

House MLC

Date Elected 24 November 1879

Electorate Nominated

Service

Electorates

MLC 24 November 1879–21 March 1880

Nominated MLC 15 July 1880–3 July 1882

Office

Acting Attorney-General 24 November 1879–21 March 1880

Year Retired/Resigned 1882

Personal Information

Birth date 9 March 1844

Place of birth Perth, Western Australia

Death date 2 April 1920

Place of death Perth, Western Australia

Cemetery Karrakatta Cemetery, WA

Parents Son of George Frederick Stone, Attorney-General, and Charlotte Whitfield Brother of [Frank Mends Stone](#)

Marriage and Family Married 13 July 1867, Wesleyan Chapel, Perth to Susannah Shenton (born 1 June 1847–9 February 1922), daughter of George Shenton snr and Annie Catherine Cousins, sister of [Sir George Shenton](#)
Children: three sons and seven daughters

Religion Church of England

Education

Educated Chigwell Grammar School, Essex, England

STONE FAMILY

Occupation Lawyer

Employment History 1860–1865 clerk in office Attorney-General and father's firm Stone and Landor
 1865 called to Bar, became partner with his father and later founded firm Stone, Burt & Co, (subsequently Stone James)
 Clerk to Legislative Council 1870–1874
 Acting Chief Justice 1880–1881
 Crown Solicitor 1882–1884
 Judge of Supreme Court 1884–1901 (first locally born man raised to bench), senior Puisne Judge from 1892, Chief Justice 1901–1906
 Administrator 4 March–30 April 1901, 14 August 1902–23 March 1903, 23 April–30 May 1909, 4 March–16 March 1913, 27 February 1917–8 April 1917

Principal Honours Knight (Kt) 1902

Background/Membership 1860 returned to WA on Lord Raglan
 Member Perth Board of Education 1874
 Vice-president Mechanics Institute 1875
 1876–1877 to England
 President Reform League, part proprietor *West Australian Times* 1871–1879
 President Victoria Institute for the Blind, Perth 1897–1920
 Chairman of Trustees WA Museum, Art Gallery and State Library 1916–1920

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 D Black and G Bolton, eds, *Biographical Register of Members of the Parliament of Western Australia: volume one 1870–1930*, Parliamentary History Project, Perth, WA, 2001, p. 22.
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Stone, Sir Edward Albert (1844–1920)

by F. M. Robinson

This article was published:

- in the *Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 12*, 1990
- online in 2006

Sir Edward Albert Stone (1844-1920), judge, was born on 9 March 1844 in Perth, Western Australia, third of nine children of **George Frederick Stone**, lawyer, and his wife Charlotte Maria, née Whitfield. At 11 he was sent to Chigwell Grammar School, Essex, England. After being articled to his father and to **E. W. Landor** of Perth, he was admitted to the Western Australian Bar in 1865, a third generation lawyer. On 13 July 1867 in the Wesleyan Chapel, Perth, Edward married Susannah Shenton; they were to have seven daughters and three sons.

Having gone into partnership with his father, in 1876 he joined **Septimus Burt** and founded the firm of Stone & Burt. Edward Stone appeared as counsel in many civil and criminal cases, among them the trial of a squatter, Lockier Clere Burges, for murdering an Aborigine, and the dispute over the will of William Henry Vincent: both cases aroused public interest and excited newspaper comment in 1871-72. Despite his plea of self-defence, Burges was sentenced to five years imprisonment for manslaughter. People in Perth were outraged. When Stone petitioned Queen Victoria the sentence was reduced. The Vincent case resulted in the conviction of Stone's opposing counsel (**Sir**) **S. H. Parker** and three newspaper publishers for contempt of court; Parker was fined and the publishers imprisoned. Stone represented two of the publishers and Parker in the contempt proceedings.

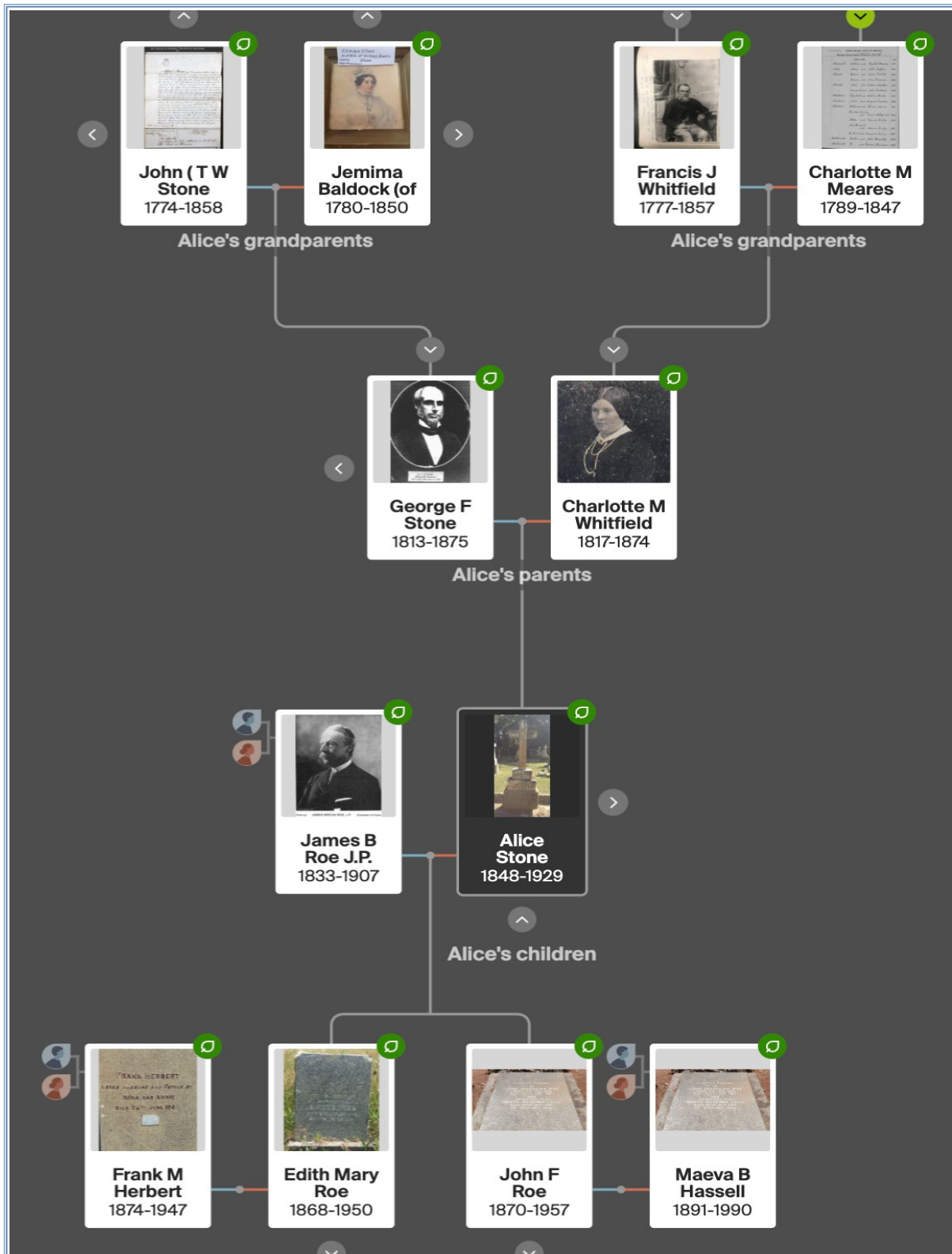
Stone was clerk to the Legislative Council in 1870-74 and a nominated member of that body in 1880-82. From 1879 to 1883 he held acting appointments as attorney-general and chief justice. Crown solicitor in 1882-83, he was appointed puisne judge of the Supreme Court in 1883. Turbulent times followed. Disputes between **Chief Justice Sir Alexander Onslow** and **Governor Sir Frederick Broome** resulted in Onslow's suspension by the governor and his reinstatement, twice, by the Colonial Office. As chief justice of Western Australia in 1901-06, Stone had an uneventful career. Handsome, austere and stately, he showed marked common sense and kindness, once addressing a man appearing in his own defence: 'You may be poor, but you are still entitled to justice'. Knighted in 1902, Stone was appointed K.C.M.G. in 1912 and was lieutenant-governor from 1906 to 1920.

In 1874-79 he had been chairman and part-time editor of the *Western Australian Times* and contributed regularly to its columns. A prominent lay reader and warden, he was choirmaster of St George's Cathedral, Perth. He also helped to found the Perth Musical Union, sang in oratorios and was an amateur actor. He was a trustee of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery of Western Australia, and a director of the Western Australian Bank and the Perth Building Society; his benevolence extended to Parkerville Children's Home, the Silver Chain Nursing League and the Victoria Institute for the Blind. Fond of cricket, football, boxing, riding and shooting, he organized and trained a roller-skating club in the Perth Town Hall.

Stone was well known and well liked; he revealed facets of his nature in his autobiography, *Some Old-Time Memories* (1918). Survived by his wife and nine of their children, he died on 2 April 1920 and, after a state funeral, was buried in the Anglican section of Karrakatta cemetery.

STONE FAMILY

Family Tree for Alice Stone:



STONE FAMILY



Alice Stone

BIRTH 8 MAR 1848 • Swan River Colony (Perth), Western Australia, Australia

DEATH 6 MAY 1929 • "Glynlee" 209 St Georges Tce, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

5th cousin 3x removed

View in tree View notes View comments Merge with duplicate Print Member connect

LifeStory **Facts** Gallery Hints 11

Facts

Filter

Name

Alice Stone

1 source

Gender

Female

Birth

8 Mar 1848 • Swan River Colony (Perth), Western Australia, Australia

1 source

Birth of sister Emily Charlotte Stone (1852–1927)

1852 • Perth, City of Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Birth of sister Ellen Isabella Stone (1854–1913)

7 November 1854 • Perth, City of Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Birth of brother Frank Mends Stone (1857–1942)

9 April 1857 • Perth, City of Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Marriage

29 Nov 1866 • St George's Cathedral, Perth, Western Australia, Australia

James Broun Roe J.P.
(1833–1907)

Birth of daughter Edith Mary Roe (1868–1950)

23 Jul 1868 • Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Birth of son John Frederick Roe (1870–1957)

2 June 1870 • Perth, Western Australia

Death of mother Charlotte Maria Whitfield (1817–1874)

18 August 1874 • Perth, City of Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Death of father George Frederick Stone (1813–1875)

18 August 1875 • Western Australia, Australia

Death of brother George Frederick Stone (1846–1876)

Sources

Ancestry sources



Ancestry Family Trees



Australia and New Zealand, Find A Grave Index, 1800s–Current

Search on Ancestry

Add source

Web links



Alice Stone (Roe)
[https://en.wikisource.org/...](https://en.wikisource.org/)

Add web link

Family

Parents



George Frederick Stone
1813–1875



Charlotte Maria Whitfield
1817–1874

Siblings



John Frederick Stone
1839–1909



Mary Eliza Stone
1842–1889



Sir Edward Albert Stone
1844–1920



George Frederick Stone
1846–1876



Emily Charlotte Stone
1852–1927



Ellen Isabella Stone
1854–1913



Frank Mends Stone
1857–1942

Spouse and children



James Broun Roe J.P.
1833–1907



Edith Mary Roe
1868–1950

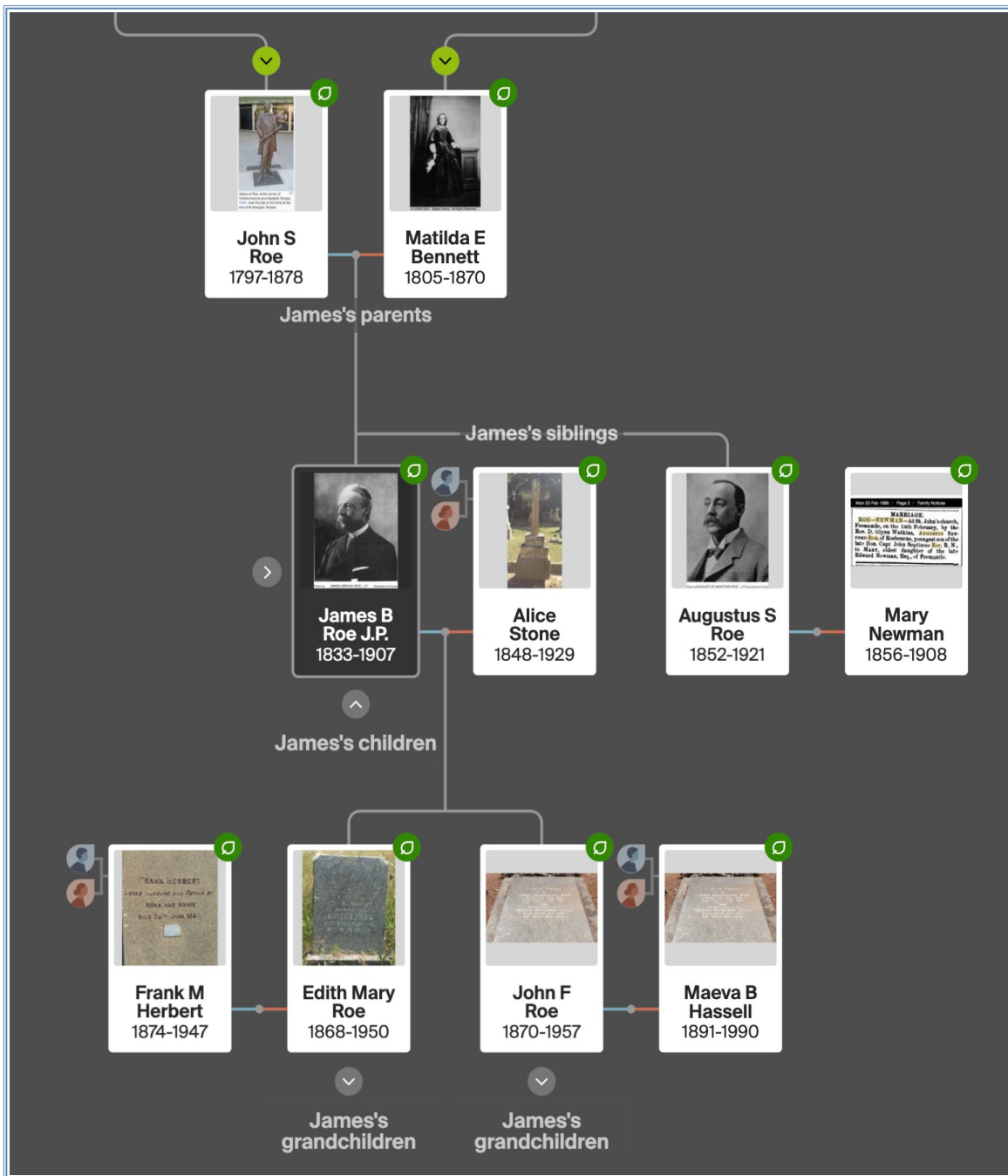


John Frederick Roe
1870–1957

Add family

STONE FAMILY

Family Tree for Alice Stone (Roe's) father-in-law - John Septimus Roe



John Septimus Roe

5 languages ▾

Article Talk

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Find sources: "John Septimus Roe" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (July 2017) ([Learn how and when to remove this template message](#))

John Septimus Roe (8 May 1797 – 28 May 1878) was the first [Surveyor-General of Western Australia](#). He was a renowned explorer, a member of Western Australia's [legislative](#) and executive councils for nearly 40 years, but also a participant in the [Pinjarra massacre](#) on 28 October 1834.

Early life [[edit](#)]

John Septimus Roe was born at [Newbury, Berkshire](#) on 8 May 1797.^[1] He was the seventh son of James Roe, the [rector](#) of Newbury.^[1] At 10 years of age, Roe was sent to [Christ's Hospital School](#) (which is still standing today) in [London](#), to study for a career as a [school teacher](#).^{[1][2]} There, he showed a great aptitude for [mathematics](#), and was selected for training by the Mathematical School, which trained selected students for service in the [Royal Navy](#).^[2] He was an outstanding student, and was apprenticed to the Navy at the age of 15.^[1]

Naval service [[edit](#)]

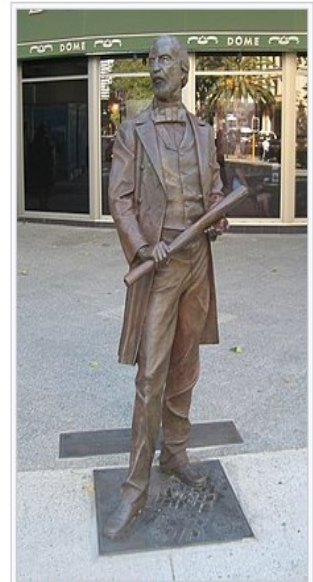
John Septimus Roe entered the Naval service on 11 June 1813. His first appointment was as a [midshipman](#) on *Rippon*, captained by [Sir Christopher Cole](#). Over the next year, the *Rippon* was engaged in a blockade of the [French coast](#). After the [Napoleonic wars](#) ended in 1814, the *Rippon* returned to England, and Roe was appointed as a midshipman to *Horatio* under Captain [William Henry Dillon](#) on 17 August. One of their first assignments was to escort a valuable convoy to North America and to then patrol the waters off Newfoundland, protecting the fisheries, under then Governor and Commander-in Chief, Vice Admiral [Richard Goodwin Keats](#).^{[3]:240} Roe travelled with *Horatio* until January 1817.

At the conclusion of the sea wars the prospects for a junior officer were limited. On the recommendation of his former captain, Dillon, his former Commander in chief, [Richard Goodwin Keats](#) recognising his aptitude for navigation and cartography provided a letter of recommendation to the [United Kingdom Hydrographic Office](#).^{[3]:265} On 4 February 1817, the Admiralty appointed him to the [surveying](#) service in [New South Wales](#), under the command of Captain [Phillip Parker King](#); Roe sailed for New South Wales on the troopship *Dick*, arriving on 3 September 1817.

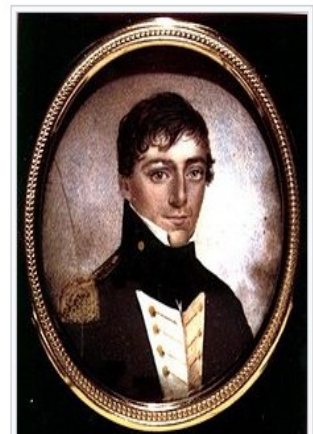
New South Wales survey service [[edit](#)]

Roe's first survey journey as assistant to King was the [King expedition of 1817](#), a rough survey of the northern and north-west coast of [Australia](#). The party sailed from [Port Jackson](#) (Sydney Harbour) on board the *Mermaid* on 21 December 1817, sailing south then west along the south coast of Australia. While anchored at [King George Sound](#) in January 1818, Roe nearly drowned in the [Kalgan River](#) while trying to circumnavigate [Oyster Harbour](#).

Later, Roe was permitted to name a bay on the northwest coast, which he named [Nickol Bay](#) in honour of a man who had been lost overboard. On the north coast, King named a point on the peninsula called Mount Roe in Roe's honour. The *Mermaid* eventually returned down the west coast and back along the south coast to [Sydney](#), arriving on 29 July.



Statue of Roe, at the corner of Victoria Avenue and Adelaide Terrace, Perth, near the site of his home at the end of St George's Terrace



John Septimus Roe, 1824



Surveyor-General of Western Australia [\[edit \]](#)

Back in England, Roe spent some time recovering his health, which had been poor, and visiting his family. When the position of [Surveyor-General of New South Wales](#) became vacant, he expressed interest, but was informed it had already been filled. Shortly afterwards, however, he was offered the position of [Surveyor-General of Western Australia](#), to be attached to an intended new settlement at the [Swan River](#). Roe accepted on the condition that the position be a civilian appointment, as he was keen to leave the navy.

Having accepted the position, Roe had little time to set his affairs in order, as the official party would soon be leaving on the [Parmelia](#). He then set about the purchase of equipment for his own requirements and for the surveying office. The Roes embarked upon the barque *Parmelia* on 3 February 1829.

Marriage and family [\[edit \]](#)

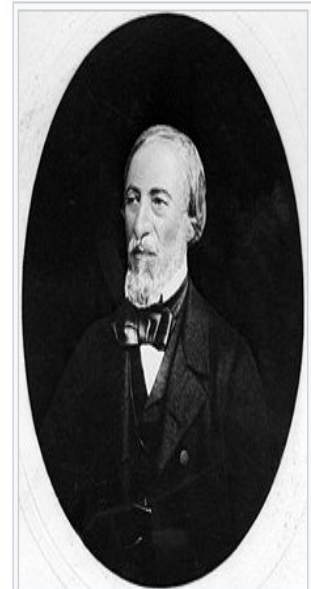
Roe proposed to Matilda Bennett and they married before leaving for Australia in February 1829. Matilda Roe's fondness for gardening is claimed to be the reason for the kink between [St Georges Terrace](#) and [Adelaide Terrace](#), the main streets through Perth's central business district.^[5] Their home in Western Australia for many years was "Mandalay", [Middle Swan](#), later the home of the art dealer and benefactor [Claude Hotchin](#).^[6]

Roe and his wife had thirteen children.^[1] The fifth son, Frederick Mackie Roe, was second-in-command on [Charles Cooke Hunt](#)'s 1866 expedition to [Lake Lefroy](#) in the [Coolgardie](#) region.

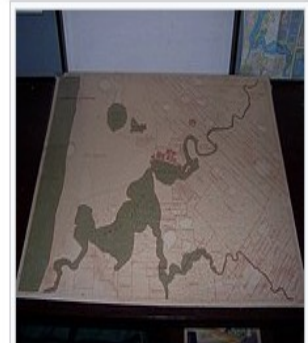
Establishing the Swan River Colony [\[edit \]](#)

The *Parmelia* arrived at the Swan River on 1 June 1829. Roe immediately set about making preliminary surveys of the harbour, river and surrounding land. The sites of [Perth](#) and [Fremantle](#) were chosen on his recommendation, and he was responsible for laying out the towns. During this period, Roe had only a single assistant to help him. Because of the immediate need to survey the harbour and lay out the towns, no rural blocks were surveyed until September. The unexpected arrival of three shiploads of settlers in August, all of whom expected to take up land immediately, put Roe's department under extreme pressure. By April the following year 36 ships had brought settlers to the colony, and Roe's department had a massive backlog of blocks to survey. Roe later said of this period:^[a]

I went there with the very first ship, with the first Governor, Captain Stirling. I had on my staff only one assistant surveyor, and what could be done with one assistant, with the whole of the townships to be fixed upon and surveyed, the country to be examined, the settlers located, the harbours to be surveyed, &c. &c.? It was perfectly impossible to do more than we did. Everything that could be done was done, but it was insufficient to place the people on their lands in time to prevent their sustaining very great losses.



John Septimus Roe, 1850s



Survey Map of the Swan River Colony circa 1830s



HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

Private Willard Albert Ellison

R.C.I.C. Service Number K/31036

January 15, 1916 – April 17, 1945

Submitted by Sean Vanderfluit and Colin Vanderfluit
BCGS Members 5530 and 5812

Private Willard Albert Ellison was born on January 15, 1916, in Preeceville, Saskatchewan, a small prairie town north of Yorkton. He was the eldest child of two American-born immigrants to Canada. His father was Frederick "Fred" Ellison, a farmer of Norwegian heritage, who immigrated to Canada in 1910 or 1911. Willard's mother was Clara Anderson, who was born in Minnesota to Norwegian parents. Clara's family came to Canada around 1912.

Fred and Clara, who married sometime before 1916, were part of the Lutheran community in the Hazel Dell and Ketchen areas of Saskatchewan. Fred and Clara had seven children – four boys and three girls. The census records show the family living in Hazel Dell, Saskatchewan in the 1920s and 1930s, where Fred farmed the land. Clara passed away in 1949, while Fred lived until 1969.

True to his paternal family heritage, Willard was fluent in both English and Norwegian. While he was raised Lutheran, Willard also attended the United Church later in life. He received a modest education at the Preeceville School, where he completed grade eight in 1930. By age 14, Willard had left school and was working on his father's farm.

Sometime in the mid-1930s, Willard left Saskatchewan behind and moved to British Columbia. Between 1935 and 1941, he worked as a driller at the Sheep Creek Mining in Salmo, B.C. While Sheep Creek was ostensibly a coal mining operation, it primarily produced gold. During his time as a miner, Willard was off work for ten days due to an injury to his right little finger, which was the subject of a workers' compensation claim. Willard also had a three-inch scar on the radial side of his right middle finger, but it is not clear whether he sustained that injury at the same time as the one to his little finger. Despite the difficult and dangerous nature of this work, Willard continued working at the mine until he enlisted in the military.

On August 9, 1940, he married Auga Steenhoff at Knox Manse United Church in Trail, BC. The officiant was Charles H. Daly. The witnesses were Anna Maria Steenhoff of Victoria and Cornelius Jacobus William Reyden of Erie, B.C. Auga was the sixth of eight children born to Dutch immigrants who had settled in the United States. She was a Christmas baby, born on December 25, 1919, in Lemmon, South Dakota. Around 1924 the Steenhoffs immigrated to Canada, settling in Loganton, Saskatchewan (now Vanscoy), about 25 kilometers southwest of Saskatoon.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

Sometime between 1926 and 1931, the family moved to Kootenay County in southeast British Columbia. By the time she married Willard, Auga was living in Salmo.

Willard enrolled in the Canadian Army in Trail, BC on June 23, 1941. We were unable to find any photos of Willard. His attestation forms indicate that he stood 5 foot 11 and weighed 154 pounds. They described him having light brown hair, a fair complexion, and blue eyes. With those blue eyes, Willard may have had some difficulty seeing things in the distance, as he had 20/40 vision. At the time of his enrollment, Willard stated that he had eight years' farming experience, but did not want to return to farming. Willard indicated that after his discharge from military service he hoped to become an electrician.

Willard participated in basic training in Vernon. Willard's military training included an automotive course and the "International Harvester Co." trades training school. He also received further mining and drilling training with the military.

A bout of tonsillitis in November 1941 interrupted his training. While most cases resolve in one to two weeks, Willard was in hospital for three weeks. Detailed chart notes show that he had a somewhat difficult recovery after surgery. Two months later Willard was back in the hospital with a case of the mumps. Fortunately, his hospital stay that time was only two weeks. According to his military hospital records, he also received a partial upper denture.

Willard was originally assigned to Unit #11 District Depot (RCE) A.F. The military deployed Willard's unit overseas on May 1, 1942, when they sailed from Halifax. They arrived in Liverpool twelve days later, on May 12, 1942. It appears that Willard originally served as a sapper, assigned to mining, tunnelling, and forestry duties in the UK until 1944.

On November 21, 1944, the military transferred Willard to the European mainland. By February 5, 1945, Willard had been assigned to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada (Princess Louise's), part of the 4th Canadian (Armoured) Division. According to the Argyll's war diary entry for that date, they were stationed in Waalwijk, Netherlands.

Tragically, Willard was killed in action on April 17, 1945, near Friesoythe in northwest Germany, just weeks before the end of the war in Europe. According to the Argyll's war diary, their goal that day was to build a bridge across the Küsten Canal, a few kilometers west of Friesoythe. Despite valiant efforts of their engineers, heavy German bombing throughout the day thwarted the task. The diary noted the much more successful actions of the Americans, who had "captured Nuremberg – ideological capital of Nazism."

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

M.F.M. 208
SOM-9-44 (9635)
H.Q. 1772-39-1990

**CANADIAN PACIFIC
TELEGRAPHS**

EMO FILE H.Q. 405-E-5859

CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY) OTTAWA 28 APRIL 1945

TO:-
MRS AUGA ELLISON
1392 2ND AVE E
TRAIL B C

REGRET DEEPLY K31036 PRIVATE WILLARD ALBERT ELLISON
HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION SEVENTEENTH APRIL
1945 STOP YOU SHOULD RECEIVE FURTHER DETAILS BY MAIL DIRECT
FROM THE UNIT IN THE THEATRE OF WAR STOP TO PREVENT POSSIBLE
AID TO OUR ENEMIES DO NOT DIVULGE DATE OF CASUALTY OR NAME OF
UNIT

PREPAID

DIRECTOR OF RECORDS

Former Salmo Man Killed In Action

NELSON, May 9. — A former Salmo boy, Pte. Willard Ellison, 28, has been killed in action overseas, his wife at Trail has been informed.

Born in Saskatchewan, Pte. Ellison, was working at Salmo, 27 miles south of Nelson, when he enlisted in 1941. He had served overseas for three years.

Also surviving are his daughter, Marilyn Anne, 4, at Trail; his parents, brothers and sisters in Saskatchewan.

1945-05-09 Willard
Ellison Death
(Vancouver Province)

We could not find Willard's death mentioned in the Argyll's war diaries, but it may be that he was a victim of the horrendous bombardment of the day. Ironically, the Argylls had one of the lowest casualty rates of all Canadian units, so it is a shame that Willard was one of the rare casualties of the unit. Captain Claude Bissell of the Argylls described it as "a happy regiment and a formidable one in action."

Willard had two wills. The first he wrote in 1941, when he was shipped from Canada to Britain. The second he wrote in 1943. In both wills, he named Auga as the sole beneficiary and executrix of his estate, which at the time of his death included \$183.91 in his pay account. While that might not sound like much, that amounts to \$3,286.39 in current dollars.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

Willard's effects included several mundane items one might expect a soldier to have, like a copy of the New Testament, a cigarette case and lighter, some letters and snapshots, souvenir German banknotes, and a pencil sharpener, to name a few. However, one item that stands out was a silver ring with an onyx stone. He also had f15.50 (Dutch guilders), further indicating that he had been with the Argylls during their time in the Netherlands.

Willard was originally buried on a makeshift cemetery near Friesoythe, at the "right side of road before crossing the bridge into town". In June 1946, his remains were transferred to Holten Canadian War Cemetery in Overijssel, Netherlands. Willard now rests in Grave 13, Row F, Plot 6, one of over 1,300 Canadians interred there.



After Willard's death, Auga moved to Nakusp, B.C., where she later worked as a housekeeper at Arrow Lakes Hospital. On September 3, 1949, she remarried, to Harold Witt. After Harold died in 1995, Auga retired to Princeton in the 1990s. She later relocated to Shawnigan Lake, where she passed away in 2004 at the age of 84. Auga was buried in the Nakusp Cemetery.

Willard's military honors include:

- The Good Conduct Badge (June 1943)

- The Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp (January 1944)

- The 1939–45 Star, France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, and War Medal (posthumously awarded in 1949)

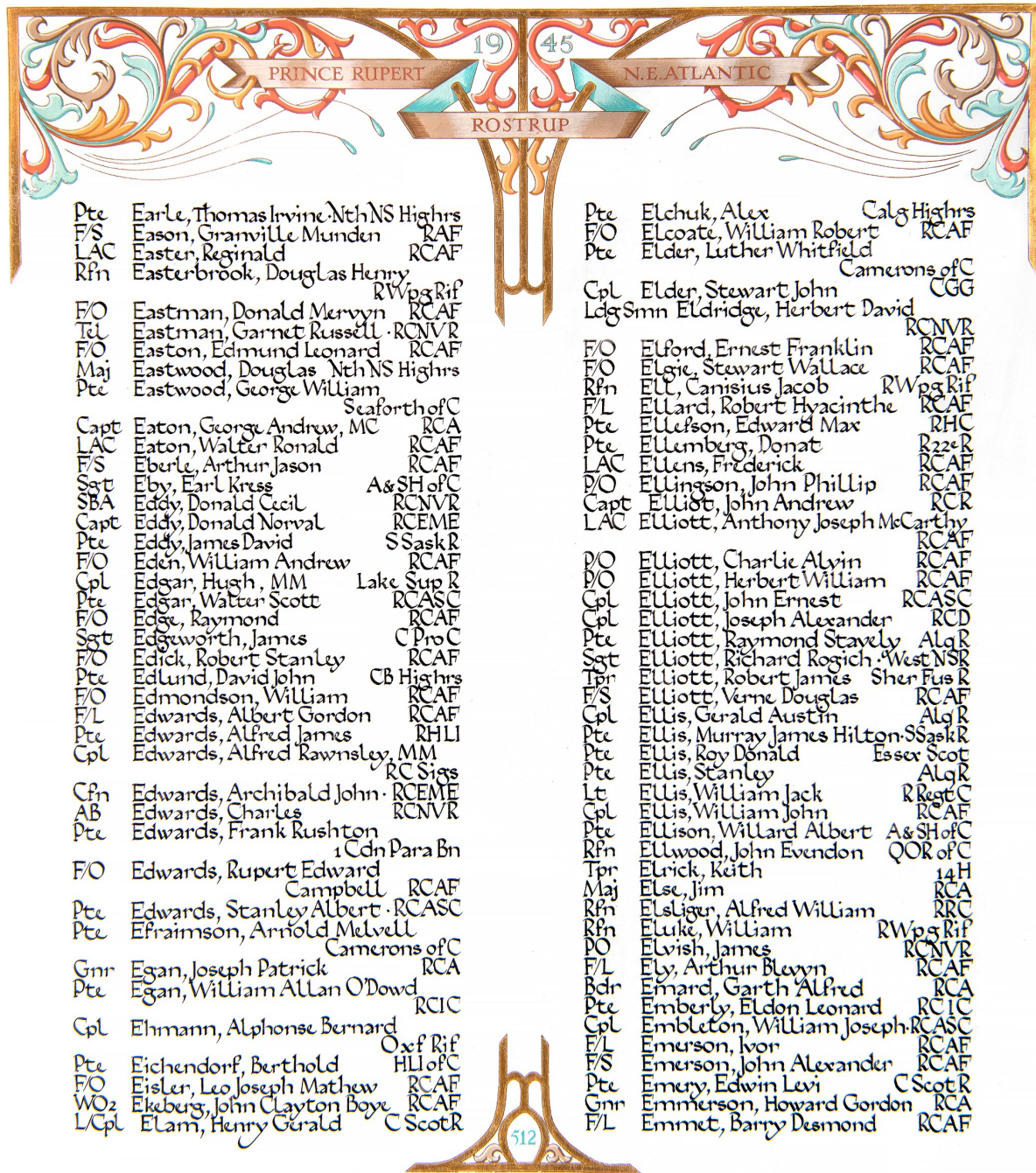
HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT



Willard's wife and mother both received the Memorial Cross in 1948 in recognition of his sacrifice.

Willard is commemorated on page 512 of the Second World War Book of Remembrance. This is one of seven books that record the names of over 120,000 Canadians who lost their lives in various conflicts Canada has been a part of. They are housed in the Memorial Chamber at the top of the Peace Tower of the Centre Block at Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Every morning a page of each book is turned. The page with Willard's name appears every October 30th.

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT



Canada WWII Book of Remembrance page 512 - Willard Ellison

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

His name also appears on the cenotaph in Trail, BC.



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Canadian War Monuments - "We Will Remember" <https://www.cdli.ca/monuments/bc/trail.htm>

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Find A Grave <https://www.findagrave.com/>

Willard: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/14040745/willard-albert-ellison> (Also memorial pages for his parents and spouse)

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY PROJECT

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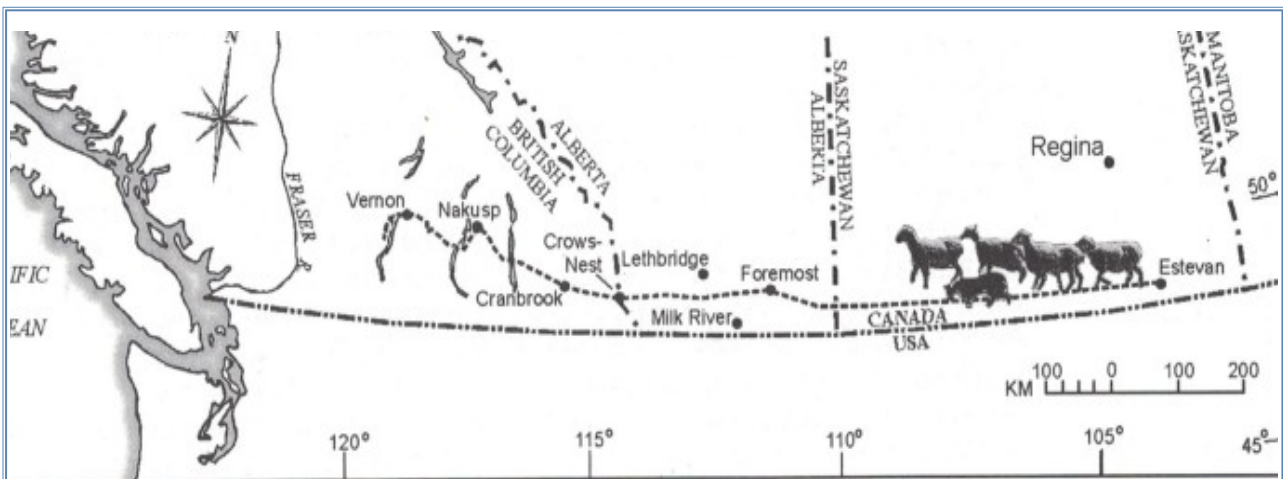
THE TREK

LOOKING FOR GRASS

Written by Lilian Corriveau
Submitted by Lynne Fletcher
Membership # 5353

Our story takes place during "The great Depression" from 1930 to 1939 when in the interior of both Canada and the United States nothing was being grown on the prairies. Besides, the stock market also collapsed and hard money was really at a premium. Thistles inundated the land, but they scratched the throats of sheep and left them starving. With no food for either man or beast, the farmers became desperate. At this time, a 75-pound lamb was selling for \$3.50.

Marion Epperd, his wife and sickly five-year old son Kenneth lived near Estevan, Sask. on the Souris River. This is from where they started their famous trek to look for grass somewhere out west. Right after shearing in the spring of 1933, the Eppards loaded everything of value into the wagon and along with their border collie and 300 sheep headed west. Their total wealth was \$3.40. They had no compass, no map, no gun, and only a slingshot for food and the sun and stars to steer by. The distance as the crow flies was probably 1,200 miles, but herding 300 sheep more than doubled the distance. They used mountain passes because the dust on the highway irritated the sheep's throats. Nothing hurried the sheep, so they travelled from four to six miles a day, letting the sheep graze as they went west, travelling parallel to the US border. Mrs Eppard drove the team and wagon, while Mr. Eppard and the collie herded the sheep. At night both the Eppards and the sheep were tired, the sheep settled right down where they stood, and the Eppards pulled a canvas over the ridge pole and slept on the bed in the wagon. Their food was mostly mutton, but they also lived off the wildlife caught by Mr. Eppard's trusty slingshot. When a sheep was slaughtered the mutton was traded for sugar, tea, flour and salt.



The incredible journey of the Eppards from Saskatchewan to the shores of Okanagan Lake.

THE TREK

By the end of October they had reached southern Alberta (near Foremost). They encountered Paul Medhurst and his neighbour threshing wheat in the Goddard district. These kind farmers shared what they had with these poverty-stricken creatures, giving Mr. Eppard a sheepskin coat, and when they found he had a family, they ordered a box of groceries from their chuckwagon. A few miles east the Eppards met Joe Detterman, who showed them an abandoned cabin on the Charles Swanson homestead and suggested that they stay the winter. Accepting this offer gladly, Mr. Eppard found occasional work from his neighbour Jim Houlihan, who supplied them with milk and food. When they needed other things, Mr. Eppard drove to Milk River, 35 miles away, where he said his limited money went further. Through the winter of 1933-1934, Kenneth attended school at King's Lake. Associating with other children was a whole new experience and he enjoyed their company immensely. Very early in the spring of 1934, Mr. Eppard sheared the sheep and hauled the wool to Lethbridge, where it sold for 4¢ a pound. Then the family continued on their trek.



The Eppards posing with their goat and the dogs.

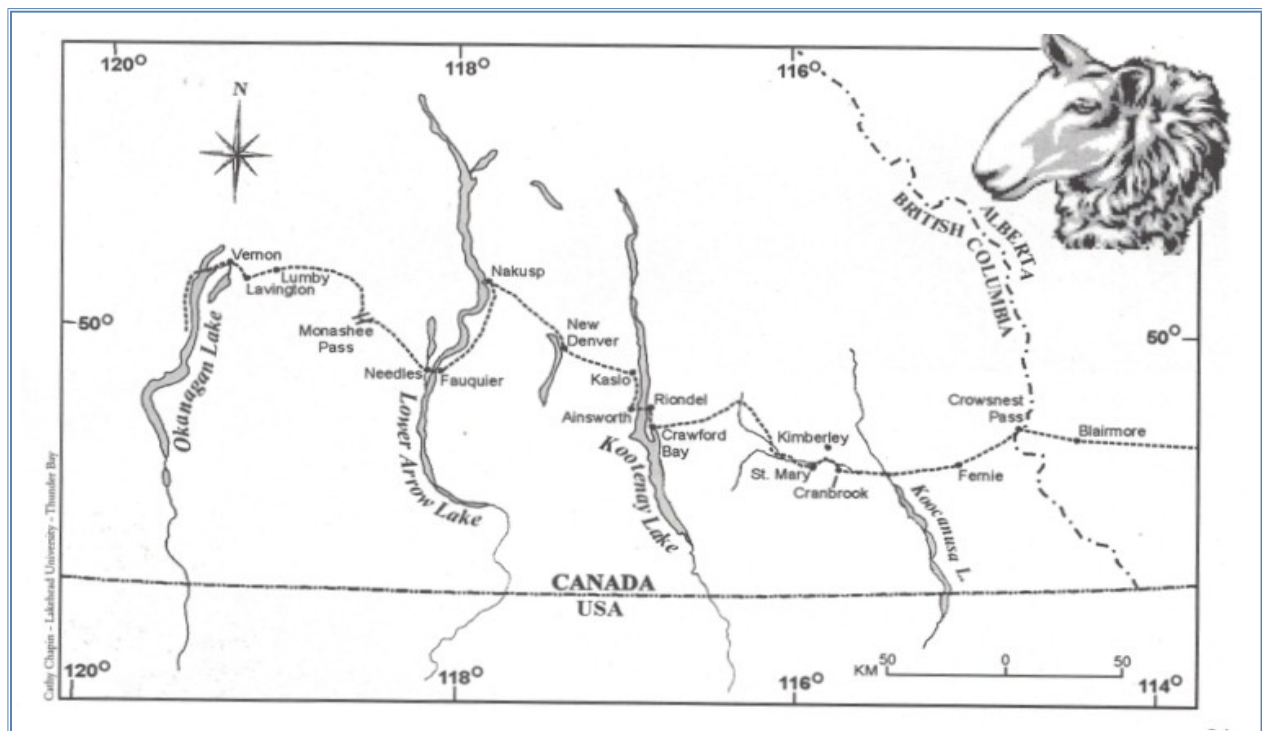
Counting the new lambs, the flock now numbered 600 animals. The Eppards' course took them through Warner, Magrath, and Pincher Creek. The wool money was all gone by this time, so they were again trading mutton for the necessities. Here they also traded for another sheep dog and a goat. Mrs. Eppard was very pleased with the goat and exclaimed loudly, "With a gallon of milk a day we can sure live good!". In the Crows Nest Pass both adults and children came to watch the sheep for they were a real novelty, as they wended their way through Blairmore, Fernie, and on to Cranbrook. Because of the heavy traffic on the road to the ferry, the public Works Department advised them to take the Rose Pass road. Public Works was supposed to have slashed a road through, but the slashing crew either ran out of money or effort, because there was no road.

THE TREK

The sheep now has sore feet from the gravel and sharp rocks of the highway, so the Eppards turned towards Marysville, near Kimberley, instead of going along Kootenay Lake. They proceeded up the St. Mary's River and Lake towards its source in the Selkirk Mountains.

After living on the prairies for so many years, the Eppards found this mountainous country both breathtaking and frightening. People who came from Kimberley to see the sheep told them they were "stupid fools" to try to take the sheep over the Rose Pass. There was only a foot path and this was "bear country". The bears were there, but possibly the dogs kept them away, or perhaps the good berry crop kept the bears well fed, for the Eppards had little trouble. This determined Dutchman refused to turn back, so he started up the north side of the river. The path was barely a trail. Poor Mrs. Eppard breathed a sigh of relief, thanking the Lord, and said, "At least we'll have milk and meat". Going over the trail, the Eppards often had to remove deadfall trees and huge rocks. Above them, they could see Mount Evans. Crossing and re-crossing the St. Mary's River, on they went. At one gorge, 60 feet deep, Mr. Eppard built a bridge, and here they left the wagon, the path being just impossible.

The two sheep dogs were a joy to behold, keeping the sheep together like a solid layer of woolly balls. The goat not only gave milk, but she was the leader of the flock and the sheep, lashed together, followed her across the gorges. The night before the Eppards reached the summit the female collie's puppies, who had been travelling in a lard pail, were lost when the lard pail fell over and rolled down the slope. Kenneth was devastated.



THE TREK

Nearing the summit, the Eppards encountered three girls from Kimberley who were travelling over the summit on horseback. These girls were Mabel McKay and Doris and Marguerite Dakin. Marguerite Dakin became a schoolteacher and is now retired in Chapman Camp. I visited Marguerite several weeks ago while she was working in her immaculate garden. I was really thrilled by this almost 93-year-old woman as she recalled some of her marvellous adventures.



Courtesy Marguerite Beley.

The Eppards encountered three girls from Kimberley who were travelling on horseback. These girls were Mabel (McKay) McLeish, Doris (Dakin) Riddell, and Marguerite (Dakin) Beley. Mable McKay became a nurse and she and her husband Roy retired to Riondel. Doris Riddell, an expert guide and horsewoman, lives at Silver Tip near Bull River and is a registered big game guide. Marguerite Dakin Beley became a schoolteacher and is now retired in Chapman Camp.

Mr. Eppard, thinking the road down to Kootenay Lake would be easier than up, left to find his wagon, taking his horses with him. He found his wagon and went down the mountain and proceeded along Kootenay Lake, marvelling at the huge expanse of water.

Think of it: Mrs. Eppard, Kenneth, two dogs, a goat, and 600 sheep all alone on top of Rose Pass. What would you have done? Sat down and cried, turned, and followed your husband, or what? Well, Mrs. Eppard just got going and, herding the sheep, she made her way down the far side of the mountain for 14 miles with an elevation drop of 4,400 feet. Fortunately, when the Kimberley girls reached Crawford Bay, they turned around and went back to help Mrs. Eppard bring the sheep down the mountain. Although food was scarce most of the time, not one of the sheep was lost from starvation. Only one ewe was snagged going over the Selkirks. This carcass was dressed out and used for food for the family and dogs.

A.R. McGregor, who lived at Crawford Bay, was scaling logs when he heard the sound of sheep coming over Rose Pass. Impossible! Sheep didn't come down over the pass.

THE TREK

But they did! After being lost several times, Mr. Eppard finally arrived at Crawford Bay, where he met Mrs. Eppard and the sheep. He had driven north along Kootenay Lake. Looking at the huge body of water, he wondered how he would ever cross it. The government agent at Nelson said it would cost \$50 - an impossible sum for the Eppards. So this very determined man walked to Riondel, where he found George De Mille who had a float with a small motor. This man, though poor himself, offered to loan Mr. Eppard his raft. After building a railing around the craft, Eppard found he could take 50 to 60 sheep at a time. Fred Watts of Riondel offered to be navigator. Fortunately the lake was very calm, but visibility was poor because of the smoke from forest fires. After two and a half days of very hard work, the flock was delivered to Mile point, a short distance south of Ainsworth. Mr. De Mille received three sheep and some small change for the use of his barge. It always amazes me that the people who have the least give the most to others in trouble.

Leaving Ainsworth, the Eppards proceeded up the Slocan country to Kaslo, New Denver and Nakusp, where they turned southward to Needles, crossing the Arrow Lakes to Fauquier on the government ferry. Sheep food was scarce here, so the Eppards started to look toward the Okanagan where there was rumoured to be perfect grass. Next they travelled over the Monashees on a trail built by German prisoners of war during the First World War. That was really some road. In 1936 with my family, we went over that road to Lumby. I think it was very much the same as in 1934. I've never seen so many bad curves and switchbacks. Your rate of travel was between five and ten miles an hour. Those poor people and their sheep! Now there was also snow on the top of the Monashees. Fearlessly, the Eppards plodded along until they came down the mountain to that wonderful scene of the Okanagan at Lavington (between Vernon and Lumby). Here they met another sheepman, R.A. Davidson, who asked where they were going. Eppard said they were looking for grass to feed their sheep. The amazed Mr. Davidson offered them his fenced pasture until other arrangements could be made. The Eppards accepted gratefully. They were also given the use of an old deserted house.

As Mrs. Eppard sat in the old empty house on an apple box (the only furniture there), she was heard to exclaim, "My, ain't it wonderful to be sitting in a real house!" How do you think you would have felt?



Marguerite Dakin fishing. Note the sheep across the water.

THE TREK

Now they were given permission to winter their sheep in a big orchard south of Vernon. They had temporarily reached the end of their journey with good grass everywhere. Neighbours couldn't believe they had travelled hundreds of miles for some dirty old sheep.

Following more trials and tribulations, the Eppards found their own grassy acres on the west side of Okanagan Lake. Now there were 1,000 sheep – the original 300 had multiplied, given them food, served for barter for other essentials during their 18-month trek, and now even helped them to buy their land. I certainly call them magnificent sheep. The Eppards sickly son Kenneth was now a hearty seven-year old used to hard work in the outdoors. They now had a home and wonderful grass in an excellent climate. They lived there until 1942, when Mr. Eppard passed away. We know Mr. Eppard was a very determined man, but he was very considerate of his sheep and animals and looked after them well. To me, Mrs. Eppard was the heroine of our story. She was very thankful for little kindnesses. She survived this trip without bitterness. Do you ever think you will see another trip like this?

Naomi Miller comments: Not only was the Kootenay part of the story confirmed by Marguerite Beley, it was vouched for by Mabel Stainton of Balfour, Mabel eagerly announced that she remembered the sheep being landed at their property near Ainsworth. Mabel (Lane) Stainton told me that she walked behind the dogs for a couple of miles as she was so fascinated by the dogs handling and herding the animals. And they were paid for the use of their orchard with a gift of two sheep, and Dad bought two extra, "We ate mutton for months."

Sources:

Blazing the Cattle Trail by Grant McEwan,
Crawford Bay Mainstreet by Tom Lymbery (September 1998)
Interview with Marguerite Beley

Editor's Note:

Lilian Corriveau (my mother) of Kimberley was a retired teacher, and the Kootenay director of the Seniors Foundation of BC. She told this story at the Kootenay Storytelling Festival in July 2001. Retired editor Naomi Miller attended and convinced Mrs. Corriveau to submit the text of her reading for publication in the Winter 2001/2002 edition of the British Columbia Historical News. It is reprinted with the permission of the British Columbia Historical Federation.

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