

# THE CABOOSE



NEWSLETTER OF THE CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CTHS)

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## President's message (by Jean-François Beaulieu)

I want to wish the CTHS members Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2012. The CTHS had a good, full year in 2011 with a range of activities and speakers. Please support the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum in its activities in the new year. Be careful during the Christmas season and we hope to see you at the January general meeting. I am confident that 2012 will be another busy year for the CTHS.

### *Our Society*

The Cumberland Township Historical Society (CTHS) was founded in 1986. We are a non-profit, volunteer and community-based organization whose goal is to preserve Cumberland Township history.

### *Our newsletter*

*The Caboose* is published six times each year by the Cumberland Township Historical Society.

### *Our Executive*

- Jean-François Beaulieu, President
- Dorothy-Jane Smith, Past President, Caboose editor
- Vice-President – vacant
- Gilles Chartrand, Treasurer
- Verna Cotton, Director
- Ross Bradley, Director

### *Ex-officio*

- Randall Ash, Caboose production
- Dan Brazeau, Website

### *Our address and local history room*

Cumberland Branch  
Ottawa Public Library  
Local History Room  
1599 Tenth Line Road  
Ottawa, ON K1E 3E8

### *Our World Wide Web address*

[www.cths.ca](http://www.cths.ca)



What is winter without street hockey?  
(Fitzpatrick boys and friends, from the Earle Fitzpatrick collection)

*Merry Christmas*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### ***Next meeting of the CTHS***

The General Meeting of the CTHS will take place on Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> in the boardroom of the Ottawa Regional Police Station, Tenth Line Road and St. Joseph Blvd. Plan to arrive at **6:30 pm** as the meeting will begin at **7:00 pm**. Lori Nash has prepared a history of daily life based on a taped interview she made some years ago with of a life-long resident of the Queenswood area. Be sure to bring a friend along. Light refreshments, as always, will be served.

## Society calendar



For more information on these and other upcoming 2009/10 events, please contact a member of the executive committee or visit our website at [www.cths.ca](http://www.cths.ca).

January 4th	Taped interview and photos on Queenswood by Lori Nash
March 7th	An Appreciation of the Valley from a Railroader's Perspective" by two railroad enthusiasts, Fred and Peter Mills.
May 2nd	Jean-Marc Lalonde, MPP
CTHS meetings - Unless other stated, all meeting are at 10th Line Road Police Station 2nd floor Boardroom. Doors open by 6:30 and start time 7:00 pm.	

Check for events at the Cumberland Museum: [www.Ottawa.ca/residents/heritage/museums/Cumberland](http://www.Ottawa.ca/residents/heritage/museums/Cumberland)

### Apologies...

...to our members for the confusion over the meeting of November 2, 2011. The police had an operational requirement for the boardroom and consequently our booking was cancelled at the very last moment. As we were sent the notice at 9 a.m. on the day and only received it at 4:45 p.m., we were caught in a hard place. Huge thanks are due to Ross Bradley who found us a room in a matter of minutes and, especially, to the Lions of Navan who allowed us to use their room that evening.

Calling volunteers!! We are at the point where we cannot lose more Board members without losing the Society. Think about coming out and being part of the gang.



### Did you know?

You can do searches on the web to learn more about a surname, but not all surname searches are created equal. Some are better than others and, always, you need to check on where the information is coming from.

If you want to know how a common or rare your surname is in England and Wales, one site ranks surnames according to the number of



time they appear in the 2002 British census - <http://www.taliesin-arlein.net/names/search.php> - or just google "surnames of England and Wales". I already had a pretty fair estimate of my own name, "Smith," and indeed it was ranked No. 1 with 652,563 of us in Britain in 2002- not to mention all of us here in Cumberland Township. I wondered if spelling could have made our family a more distinctive lot for my father was born "Smyth" but he and his brothers gave up the good fight and changed the spelling. Had they kept it, our surname would drop down to rank 677th in order of common-ness. Our past president's surname, Randall Ash, ranks 987 while Coburn is a much more exclusive name with only 1,891 people having that surname in the 2002 English and Welsh census. French origin names are of course quite rare but not unknown. There were no Dessaints in England or Wales in 2002 but there were 21 Fauberts and 85 Beaulieus. But this site is limited to England and Wales and gives no regional detail and no maps.

A team of geographers from University College London have created a site that maps surnames called [publicprofiler.org](http://publicprofiler.org). You need to provide the site with your email address but this is part of their research and does not create endless requests to buy things as can happen with other sites that we can all think of. You can learn the localities of English and Welsh names in 1881 by going to the great Britain section that is built on the 1881 English census. I started instead with their world search section which is based on eight million entries taken from

### Contact us

If you have questions or suggestions regarding any aspect of the Society including The Caboose, our local history room or anything else of interest to you or to the Society, you may contact any member of the executive by phone or by email:

- Jean-François Beaulieu, President (841-0424) [jeanfb@sympatico.ca](mailto:jeanfb@sympatico.ca)
- Dorothy-Jane Smith, Past President (225-3554), Caboose editor
- Verna Cotton, Director (835-2490)
- Randall Ash, Caboose production (833-3207) [randall2620@rogers.com](mailto:randall2620@rogers.com)
- Dan Brazeau, Website (834-8336) [danbrazeau@rogers.com](mailto:danbrazeau@rogers.com)

current phone directories and electoral rolls.

When I entered the surname Lough, the site informed that the name is present in North America and New Zealand as well as Britain. Clicking on North America gave more detail. There is a heavy concentration of Loughs in Manitoba but the motherlode of Loughs in North America is in West Virginia. Clicking on Europe gave more detail there showing the Lough name has been documented most often in northern England, followed by Northern Ireland and then Scotland. I clicked again on the map and eventually was taken down to the finest level of detail available, the locality. The name Lough appears most commonly in Britain around the Scottish borders with the heaviest Irish concentration in Ireland being in Antrim. This causes me to question the name-origin given by Ancestry.ca for the name Lough. Ancestry claims the name to be derived from a celtic name in the same manner as such Irish names as Loughlan. But if it is a Scottish border name, perhaps its origins come from the older name for Lake as found in northern Ireland, that is, a lough pronounced loch.

Since this claims to be a world site. I also tried some of local French-Canadian names. The heaviest concentration of Fauberts is in Canada with a smaller number in France and a moderate number in the United States. Within Canada, the greatest number of Fauberts are found in Ontario and Saskatchewan, followed by Quebec and British Columbia. Beaulieu is interesting in that we have the expected heaviest number in Quebec with a somewhat less dense number in France but it is also found in one small area of Norway, Sor-Trondelag, as well as being found in moderate numbers in England and Germany.

Dessaint is the opposite of these common French Canadian names. It is densest in France and uncommon in Canada, though slightly better represented in Louisiana, the New England states along the Quebec border, as well as Michigan, Minnesota and North Dakota. In France the name has a heavy concentration in Nord-Pas-de-Calais and Picadie.

Since I know the Cumberland Township family of Loughs came from Ireland, another way to map their surname is by looking at the index of Griffiths Valuation - <http://www.failteromhat.com/griffiths.php> or

google "Griffiths index extracts" . Griffiths was the first survey of property ownership in Ireland and was taken between 1848 and 1864. While it dates from about 32 years after "our" Loughs had left Ireland, it is still useful to give a sense of where there were concentrations of a particular surname.

You can search in a particular county but I started with searching "all." What was returned looked huge but the site had given me every instance where "lough" appeared somewhere in the surname. The exact matches was a much more select group of 43 householders who had sufficient property to be noticed by a taxman. What it does not do, however, is map the results so that the enquirer can see at a glance if the name is concentrated in any one place. Still, as long as you are not dealing with too common a name, you could type out the results and do your own mapping.

This is the kind of information that can help you to narrow down where to start a search if you have hit a wall in tracing your ancestors. While it will not give you your ancestor "wrapped up and on a plate," it will tell you the most probable place in which to start a search and then the next probable place, and so on.

A nice general site on surnames is found in the BBC history site - [http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/familyhistory/get\\_started/surnames\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/familyhistory/get_started/surnames_01.shtml) or google "BBC before surnames".

## Winter Pleasures

*by Dorothy-J. Smith*

Winter was not the time for cocooning in the Cumberland Township of the past. There were winter chores and livestock to be cared for, of course, but the work was light compared to the period from spring seeding through fall harvest. Just as importantly in the years before macadamized roads or even oiled and graveled roads, ice and snow made for easier travelling conditions than fall and spring mud. Winter was the time to be out enjoying sports, participating in community events and just plain visiting.

Past issues of the Caboose have looked at some of the sports events of the past. It seems, considering the number of photos we have of hockey teams, that hockey was the winter sport



Snowshoeing was so popular that it was a genteel sport for a lady's club circa 1900. Cumberland-Rockland Snowshoe Club, top row far right Susie Rice Ferguson Kennedy top row, far right.

in the Township. We have far fewer photographs or references documenting other winter activities but there was more to Cumberland winters than hockey.

Snowshoeing was an activity enjoyed by the family of Harvey Cameron in Cumberland village. He owned the store at the corner of Cameron Street and Old Montreal Road prior to 1925 (later McKeen's and then the Lancaster store). He and his wife, Stella (Knox) Cameron, regularly took their two daughters, Dorothy (Cameron) Chamberlin and her younger sister Mildred (Cameron) Smith, on long tramps in the bush on top of Cameron Hill in the period around World War I. This was the hill where the Cameron family owned and worked the quarry while Harvey's brother, Peter Stuart Cameron, owned the land. Now it is the subdivision, Cambrian Heights, west of Dunning along Lookout Drive. Mildred Smith told me that while it was beautiful up on top of the hill, the wind

could bite through the layers of wool clothing they wore.

If there is more to Cumberland than hockey, it is also true to say that there is more to winter than the outdoors. Winter is a time when people get together for community events. Pageants, costume balls and amateur dramatics were popular in both urban and rural Canada in the early twentieth century. Joan Lancaster researched the May 12, 1937 coronation pageant in which about 85 Cumberland students and teachers enacted the coronation parade of King George VI. They even borrowed the Victoria carriage which had been used when the Duke and Duchess of York (later King George V and Queen Mary) visited Ottawa in 1901 (see Caboose on the CTHS website Winter 2006 for Joan's article).

Amateur theatrics was another way to dress up and be anybody for a day. The Navan Tweedsmuir History Book (Volume 3, pages 318-21) documents the dramas staged in Navan for a number of years in the 1930s. Elda Bradley, mother of Lorne and Ross Bradley, was the organizer and director while the players were the members of St. Mary's Anglican Young People's Association. They performed in the Navan Orange Hall and then went on the road, to perform in Vars's Harmony Hall and in Cumberland Village. Syd Cotton made regular



Back Row, L to R: Stan Edwards, Norman Rivington, Adelaide Newton, Elda Bradley, Lorne Bradley, Syd Cotton, Percy Smith  
Front Row, L to R: Marion Deavy, Margaret Joyce, Maysie Rivington, Inez Smith, Vera

From Navan Tweedsmuir History vol. 3, 321, Verna Cotton compiler (Navan Women's Institute, 2009).

appearances and enjoyed it so much that he kept the scripts in two cigar boxes for the rest of his life. These scripts were comedies in three acts, published by T. S. Denison and Co or by The Dramatic Publishing Company. But purchasing plays for amateur performance goes well back before the 1930s. Robinson Plays was the Toronto distributor in 1919 for plays published by Walter H. Baker Company of Boston, selling each script for 45 cents (from the collection of Dorothy Smith). This was not a small amount of money in 1919 but the plays gathered a community together, both as players and as audience.

Church-based socializing went beyond theatrical events. When St. Andrew's United Church in Cumberland Village celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1978, the church presented a special program in which members recalled events from past decades. Hilda Caldwell remembered the young people's meetings of the 1920s:

*"Our Young People's Societies was a big group. We had 30, 40 or maybe more members. [Members included] Alta Moffatt, Loretta Cameron, Florence Kennedy, Margaret and Anna McCarthy, all the Garvock girls, John Kennedy, Gordon and Leslie and all the young Edwards family, Blanch Conway, to name a few. The meetings were held in the people's*



Winter is also a time for children to play in the snow. In 1942, Ken, Dodie and Dot Fitzpatrick made good use of a tree to create a snow fort.



These people were dressed up but was it for a play or for a New Year's Costume Party? The lady with the crown and starry dress is possibly one of the Taylor sisters (photo from the Kim Taylor collection) while the wedding couple were more likely residents of Cumberland Village as the photo comes from the album owned by Dorothy (Cameron) Chamberlin (collection of David Chamberlin).



*homes summer and winter, because we didn't have a church hall then. Some of my most pleasant memories are of sleigh rides to scattered homes in the winter. We went to Garvocks, MacMillans, Edwards,*

*Kennedys, Frasers, Beatons, Kinsleys, Finlays, Rothwells, McLaughlans, and so on. And such people as John Sharkey, Hec MacMillan, Edwin Williams, Eldred Hays, took great sleigh loads of us out to these wonderful homes in the country. Sometimes we went and sang all the way there and all the way back. I look back now and marvel at how generous these people were, opening their homes to such huge crowds of young people. They all had big houses and big families and seemed happy to have us. And*

*the food ... it was excellent and there was plenty of it. The hostesses spared no effort in making sure that everything was the best. I can still remember a chocolate cake that was so good that one of our members, Loretta Cameron, asked for the recipe. The hostess claimed that she didn't use a recipe but just threw together whatever was handy." (from "I Remember When - Personal Reminiscences of Cumberland" given at St. Andrew's United Church 150th Anniversary, Sept. 17th, 1978" used with the permission of the church)*

Community, of course, also happens in the support and fund-raising carried out by associations. Various community associations have through the years provided rural residents with the pleasure of sociability combined with the joy of giving. Helen Burns of Navan gave a talk at the Cumberland Museum in 2002 or 2003 on the community work of the Women's Institute. She writes that her involvement began when she joined the Navan Branch in 1959. With time she became a convenor and eventually President of the Navan Branch. She was also president with the Russell District Board of Directors as well as Provincial Board Director for Subdivision 1. She is, therefore, well positioned to write of the activities of the Women's Institutes of Cumberland Township as well as elsewhere.

*"During the war, socks were knit, garments were sewn, fruit and vegetables were canned, and things as simple as garden seeds were sent overseas. The W.I. worked closely with the Red Cross to send parcels, not only to the troops, but to people in Great Britain and other European countries where so many people were affected by the war. When a Red Cross appeal went out for pillows, Women's Institutes responded to that request, as well as everything else that was humanly possible... Many Institutes invite seniors in their communities to their Christmas parties where they are treated to dinners and a variety of*

*entertainment. Others make Christmas baskets of goodies and deliver them to sick and shut-ins. The Leonard Branch regularly holds a series of three euchre parties in a local Community Centre in the Fall and again in the Winter months. These parties not only raise funds to support their local W.I. projects, but they are also popular outings for people who enjoy the game of euchre..."*

WI meetings were, and are, both instructive and social. The meeting of the Navan W.I. on February 10, 1954 was held at the home of Mrs. Wesley Savage with Mrs. T. E. Downey hosting the lunch. The official part of the meeting was given over to health issues including instruction

of the members in artificial respiration. Later the men joined the Lions and started their own good works. The Navan's Lion Club received its charter in May 1952 having met in December 1951 to organize the new group. The Lions went on to provide winter amusement in the form of hallowe'en, Christmas and Valentine's Day dances, that also served to raise funds for the community. Meanwhile Francophone women of Sarsfield had formed a chapter of "l'Union culturelle des franco-Ontariennes" in 1939. They got together to knit bonnet and mitt sets for newborns at Montfort hospital and baby blankets for the Ottawa General Hospital. (Navan Tweedsmuir History Book, vol. 1).

But while sports, theatrics and community activism was common for both the

Francophones and Anglophones of Cumberland Township, the one thing we cannot see, but must have happened, is captured in the nineteenth-century diaries of a West Hawkesbury Township farmer, Thomas Tweed Higginson, a cousin of the local Lough family. (copy at Library and Archives Canada). He wrote of the pleasure of staying home on a cold day and reading. To which, I can only say "amen."



Mixing pleasure with community support was alive and strong in 1971 as the residents of Cumberland Village organized dances to raise funds for a new community centre.

## The McMillan Family Burial Plot

Lot 17, Concession 1, Old Survey,

Cumberland, Ontario

Your Input is Requested

by Gérard Boyer

On behalf of the Cumberland Township Historical Society, I will be preparing a proposal to have this family burial plot designated a heritage or historical site. As part of the preparation, some research has been carried out on the McMillan family. We are asking any of our readers to help us complete the gaps or mistakes in our research.

John Ban McMillan was born on July 12th, 1780, in Callop, Lochaber, Scotland (see family tree next page). He was baptized on July 23, 1780 in Kilmallie, Argyle, Scotland. It is likely that he came over to Upper Canada in the fall of 1792 on the ship *Unity* after a nine-week voyage from Greenock with forty families of Highland emigrants bound for Upper Canada (Marion McLean, *The People of Glengarry, Highlanders in Transition, 1745-1820* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1993)). He came with his father Duncan McMillan and his mother Sarah Cameron and five siblings: Mary, Florence, Christiana, Allan and Buchanan. John Ban would have been about 12 years old. His father Duncan established himself on lot 29, concession 4, Lochiel Township, Glengarry County.

John Ban married Elizabeth ("Betsey") Graham and they had fifteen children, all born in Glengarry, the last one being Margaret, born Jan. 22, 1831. The first mention of John Ban in Cumberland is in 1843, where he shows up on Cumberland assessment rolls for that year, on Lot 17, concession 1, Old Survey, Cumberland Township. From that point on there are many references to his family from assessment rolls, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church records in Cumberland, Ottawa and Buckingham and census data beginning in 1861.

John Ban settled in Cumberland along with two of his sons, Thomas and Lachlan. We're not sure if any of his other children came with him. Thomas married Isabel McMillan and they had six children: Margaret, Duncan, Alexander, Hugh, Mary, Thomas and Johanna. Lachlan married Flora McPhee in 1848 (the marriage was recorded in Buckingham but Lachlan

owned the north half of lot 17, concession 1, Cumberland Township at that time) and they had eleven children: Duncan, Angus, Sarah, John, Archibald, Margaret, Janet, Isabella, Flora-Ann, Mary and Elizabeth. These McMillans were farming families and members of the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Cumberland.

And now to the cemetery. From St Andrew's Presbyterian Church records in Cumberland, we learn that Margaret (Lachlan and Flora's daughter) died in 1859 at the age of two and was buried "in the cemetery on Mr. McMillan's own place 8th Nov 1859." Then John Ban passed away in 1860 and "was buried 4th February 1860 in the cemetery on his own place." Peter Lindsay was the minister on both occasions.

An interesting note from the 1861 census of Canada is that Peter Lindsay, the minister for the Church of Scotland, a widower with 3 children, was living in the same residence as Bishop McEwen, the minister for the Free Church, himself married with one child. (ed. - While both men were Presbyterian ministers, the secession of the Free Church from the main congregation of the Church of Scotland had been sufficiently acrimonious that this was indeed an unusual occurrence.)

In the cemetery itself, there are two stones standing. One reads

**LOVING REMEMBRANCE  
OF  
SARAH MCMILLAN  
Beloved WIFE of  
ALEX CAMERON  
DIED JUNE 15<sup>th</sup> 1889  
AGED 36 YEARS & 8 MOS.**

This Sarah we believe to be the daughter of Lachlan McMillan, born January 23 1851. However we have not as yet located a marriage record to confirm this, nor do we know from which Cameron family that Alexander came from. From Ontario death records, we also know that Sarah had just delivered a child who died a few weeks later (July 12, 1889).

The other is a double headstone which reads as follows: The inscriptions are beside each other.

Catherine McMillan Died April 24th 1855 AE. 14 yrs. 10 mos.	Alexander McMillan Died July 23rd 1840 AE. 29 yrs. 10 days
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We have not been able to determine the family link for these two people, and why they are on the same headstone.

If any of our readers can complete and/or correct the information above, would they please contact Gerard Boyer by e-mail at [gboyer@reztel.net](mailto:gboyer@reztel.net) or by mail at the following address:

G rard Boyer  
758 Round Lake Rd. RR5  
Killaloe, Ontario  
K0J 2A0

## The Family Corner

### The Ancestry and Descendents of John Ban McMillan of Lot 17 Concession 1 o.s.

by G rard Boyer

*Ed. Notes - G rard Boyer started out on an investigative journey to learn who was buried in the McMillan Cemetery on the hydro line in Cumberland Township. His investigations have led to a family tree that stretches from John MacMillan, the first Cumberland resident of the family, back to 1692 and a son of the Lochaber MacMillan chief. G rard extracted the Scottish information from a website that is sponsored by Clan McMillan in Scotland: <http://www.clanmacmillan.org/MAOL.htm>. While the site makes no claims for the accuracy of the family trees submitted to it, the information G rard found has sufficient source information to be treated as credible.*

#### Generation No. 1

(1) DUNCAN BAN MCMILLAN was born 1692 in Loch Arkaiside, Scotland and moved to Glenurquhart. (from <http://www.clanmacmillan.org/MAOL.htm>: "According to the Glenurquhart tradition recounted by Duncan Macmillan the Architect, Duncan Ban was one of three younger sons of the Lochaber Macmillan chief who came from Loch Arkaiside to settle in Glenurquhart. Since he advanced money in 1746 to The Chisholm - the laird of Buntait, on whose land his son Finlay

was a tacksman - he's assumed to have moved to the Glen by then.")

Child of DUNCAN BAN MCMILLAN is:  
(2) FINLAY MCMILLAN, b. 1725, Scotland; d. Glen Urquhart, Inverness, Scotland.

#### Generation No. 2

(2) FINLAY MCMILLAN (DUNCAN BAN - 1) was born 1725 in Scotland, and died in Glen Urquhart, Inverness, Scotland. He married CHRISTIANA MCKENZIE 1747 in Scotland. She was born 1727, and died 1781 in Glen Urquhart, Inverness, Scotland.

Children of FINLAY MCMILLAN and CHRISTIANA MCKENZIE are:

- (3) i. DUNCAN MCMILLAN, b. 1748, Glen Urquhart, Inverness, Scotland; d. Lochiel Township, Glengarry, Ontario.
- ii. JOHN MCMILLAN, b. 1749, Glen Urquhart, Inverness, Scotland; d. 1774, England.
- iii. MARY MCMILLAN.
- iv. ANN MCMILLAN.
- v. ALEXANDER MCMILLAN.
- vi. BUCHANAN MCMILLAN.

#### Generation No. 3

(3) DUNCAN MCMILLAN (FINLAY - 2, DUNCAN BAN - 1) was born 1748 in Buntait, Glen Urquhart, Inverness, Scotland, and died in Lochiel Township, Glengarry, Ontario. He married SARAH CAMERON. She was born 1745 in Lochaber, Scotland, and died in Lochiel Township, Glengarry, Ontario.

Children of DUNCAN MCMILLAN and SARAH CAMERON are:

- i. MARY MCMILLAN, b. 21 Jul 1776, Drumfern, Lochaber, Scotland.
- ii. FLORENCE MCMILLAN, b. 05 Jul 1778, Callop, Lochaber, Scotland.
- (4) iii. JOHN (BAN) MCMILLAN, b. 12 Jul 1779, Callop, Lochaber, Scotland; d. 02 Feb 1860, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The source for his birth is given as the Kilmallie records from Scotland which indicate that John was born 12 July 1780 and baptized 23 July, 1780. From the burial records of the Saint Andrew's Cumberland records: "Buried Feb 4 1860 in the cemetery on his own place." His death is also recorded in the 1861 Census of Canada, Cumberland Township, District 1, pg. 13: John

- iv. CHRISTIANA MCMILLAN, b. 01 Apr 1785, Glasgow, Scotland.  
 v. ALLAN MCMILLAN.  
 vi. BUCHANAN MCMILLAN.  
 vii. DONALD MCMILLAN, b. 1793, Williamstown, Glengarry, Ontario. (Baptized 5 Jan 1794 in St. Andrew's, Williamstown, Ontario as "Daniel" an anglicized variant occasionally used for the Gaelic form of the name Donald).  
 viii. ELIZABETH MCMILLAN.

#### Generation No. 4

- (4) JOHN (BAN) MCMILLAN (DUNCAN - 3, FINLAY - 2, DUNCAN BAN - 1) was born 12 Jul 1779 in Callop, Lochaber, Scotland, and died 02 Feb 1860 in Cumberland Township, Ontario. He married ELIZABETH ("BETSEY") GRAHAM. She was born 1790, and died 1869.  
 Children of JOHN MCMILLAN and ELIZABETH GRAHAM are:
- i. CATHERINE MCMILLAN, b. 1805, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - ii. DUNCAN MCMILLAN, b. 04 Mar 1808, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - iii. EWEN MCMILLAN, b. 10 Jul 1812, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - iv. JOHN MCMILLAN, b. 10 Jul 1812, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - v. MARY MCMILLAN, b. 16 Nov 1813, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - (5) vi. THOMAS MCMILLAN, b. 16 Nov 1815, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - (6) vii. LAUGHLAN MCMILLAN, b. 17 Oct 1817, Glengarry County, Ontario; d. 04 Jul 1873, Cumberland Township, Ontario.
  - viii. NANCY MCMILLAN, b. 21 Dec 1819, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - ix. BUCHANAN MCMILLAN, b. 1820, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - x. JANET MCMILLAN.
  - xi. ISABELLA MCMILLAN, b. Feb 1823, Glengarry County, Ontario.
  - xii. HUGH (EWEN) MCMILLAN, b. 02 May 1825, Glengarry County, Ontario.

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McMillan, born in Scotland, Church of Scotland, died this year at 76 years old, cause unknown.

- xiii. FLORA MCMILLAN, b. Jun 1827, Glengarry County, Ontario.  
 xiv. JOHN MCMILLAN, b. 21 Jul 1829, Glengarry County, Ontario.  
 xv. MARGARET MCMILLAN, b. 22 Jan 1831, Glengarry County, Ontario.

#### Generation No. 5

- (5) THOMAS MCMILLAN (JOHN (BAN) - 4, DUNCAN - 3, FINLAY - 2, DUNCAN BAN - 1) was born 16 Nov 1815 in Glengarry County, Ontario. He married ISABELLA CAMERON. She was born 01 Nov 1818.  
 Children of THOMAS MCMILLAN and ISABELLA CAMERON are:
- i. MARGARET MCMILLAN, b. 29 Oct 1842, Lochaber, Québec; m. GEORGE COAD, 28 Mar 1883, Cumberland, Ontario; b. 1843, Beckwith Township, Ontario.<sup>2</sup>
  - (7) ii. DUNCAN MCMILLAN, b. 29 Dec 1845, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>3</sup>
  - iii. ALEXANDER MCMILLAN, b. 08 May 1848, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>4</sup>
  - iv. HUGH MCMILLAN, b. 18 Apr 1850.
  - v. MARY MCMILLAN, b. 15 Jun 1853.
  - vi. THOMAS MCMILLAN, b. 31 Mar 1856.
  - vii. JOANNA MCMILLAN, b. 31 Aug 1859, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>5</sup>
- (6) LAUGHLAN MCMILLAN (JOHN (BAN) - 4, DUNCAN - 3, FINLAY - 2, DUNCAN BAN - 1) was born 17 Oct 1817 in Glengarry County, Ontario, and died 04 Jul 1873 in Cumberland Township, Ontario.

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<sup>2</sup> Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 – 1928. George is a farmer and a widower from Portland, Québec. Margaret is also a widow. Witnesses are Archibald McMillan and Flora Cameron from Cumberland. Groom is Episcopalian and bride is Presbyterian. Presbyterian service.

<sup>3</sup> Baptized St. Andrew's Cumberland 7 Mar. 1846.

<sup>4</sup> Baptized at St. Andrew's Cumberland, 5 May 1849.

<sup>5</sup> Baptized at St. Andrew's Cumberland, 25 July 1862.

He married FLORA MCPHEE Feb 1848 in Buckingham, Québec. She was born 1827 in Québec, and died 21 Nov 1899 in Minto Farm, Québec.

Children of LAUGHLAN MCMILLAN and FLORA MCPHEE are:

- i. DUNCAN MCMILLAN, b. 1848, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. C. HANES, 25 Dec 1876, Chaffey, Ontario; b. 1855, Dundas Township, Ontario.<sup>6</sup>
- ii. ANGUS MCMILLAN, b. 1850, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. MARION WILSON, 16 Aug 1876, Ottawa, Ontario; b. 1853, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>7</sup>
- (8) iii. SARAH MCMILLAN, b. 23 Jan 1851, Cumberland Township, Ontario; d. 25 Jun 1889, Cumberland Township, Ontario.
- iv. JOHN MCMILLAN, b. 02 Nov 1853, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. MARY LARWELL, 25 Sep 1880, Ottawa, Ontario; b. 1854, London, England.<sup>8</sup>
- v. ARCHIBALD MCMILLAN, b. 15 Sep 1855, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. ANN MCPHEE, 20 Jun 1883,

Cumberland, Ontario; b. 1859, Portland, Québec.<sup>9</sup>

- vi. MARGARET MCMILLAN, b. 24 Sep 1857, Cumberland Township, Ontario; d. 06 Nov 1859, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>10</sup>
- vii. JANET MCMILLAN, b. 22 Jun 1859, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. MICHAEL O'BRIEN, 18 Jun 1885, Cumberland, Ontario; b. 1849, Renfrew County.<sup>11</sup>
- viii. ISABELLA MCMILLAN, b. 18 Aug 1861, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. WILLIAM HERBERT SHAW, 21 Jun 1890, Ottawa, Ontario; b. 1862, London, England.<sup>12</sup>
- ix. FLORA ANN MCMILLAN, b. 22 Jul 1863, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>13</sup>
- x. MARY MCMILLAN, b. 1866, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. JOHN MCPHEE, 19 Jun 1882, Cumberland, Ontario; b. 1857, DenHolland, Portland, Québec.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 – 1928. Duncan is a farmer living in Chaffey. Witnesses are Frederick Alonzo Hanes & Nina Eval Casselman. Presbyterian service.

<sup>7</sup> Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 – 1928. Angus is a farmer. Witnesses Daniel McPhee and Mary Cameron (Ottawa). Presbyterian service.

<sup>8</sup> For birth information see St. Andrew's Cumberland, also Donald McKenzie, in *Anglo-Celtic Roots* (British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, 2011, 29): John McMillan, son of Lauchlin McM & Flora McFie b. Nov. [2] 7, bp. March 12, 1854; Marriage information from Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 - 1928, John is a farmer in Cumberland, Ontario. Mary is from Buckingham. Witnesses are Angus McMillan and Robert Graham.

<sup>9</sup> Baptized at St. Andrew's Cumberland, 29 Feb 1856; Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 – 1928. Witnesses Angus McMillan and Mrs. J. McMillan. Archibald is a laborer working in Cumberland. Ann is living in Portland, Québec. Presbyterian service.

<sup>10</sup> Baptized at St. Andrew's Cumberland 24 Sept 1857; Burial register (St. Andrew's Cumberland) states "was buried in the cemetery on Mr. McMillan's own place 8th Nov. 1859."

<sup>11</sup> Baptized St. Andrew's Cumberland 27 Nov. 1860; Marriage from Ontario Civil Registration from 1869 to 1927, from Ontario Archives, microfilm MS 932 and Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 - 1928, Michael is a laborer working in Buckingham. Witnesses John Gamble and Christina McPhee. Presbyterian service.

<sup>12</sup> Baptized at St. Andrew's Cumberland as Isabella Florence 15 Nov. 1861; Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 – 1928. William is 28 years old and a labourer from Buckingham, Isabella is 26. Witnesses Robert Stewart and Mary Wood. Presbyterian service.

<sup>13</sup> Baptized at St. Andrew's Cumberland 18 Aug 1864.

<sup>14</sup> Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 – 1928. Witness for the groom: Angus McMillan, Buckingham, Witness for the bride: Janet McMillan, Cumberland. Groom is 25 yrs. old, bride 17. Married in Presbyterian church.

xi. ELIZABETH MCMILLAN, b. 1867, Cumberland Township, Ontario; m. AUGUSTE PARISIEN, 07 Mar 1905, Webbwood, Algoma, Ontario; b. 1861, Hogansburg, U.S.A.<sup>15</sup>

#### Generation No. 6

(7) DUNCAN MCMILLAN (THOMAS - 5, JOHN (BAN) - 4, DUNCAN - 3, FINLAY - 2, DUNCAN BAN - 1) was born 29 Dec 1845 in Cumberland Township, Ontario. He married MARGARET CAMERON 09 Jun 1872. She was born 20 Nov 1847.

Children of DUNCAN MCMILLAN and MARGARET CAMERON are:

i. FLORA MCMILLAN, b. 22 Sep 1873.

ii. HUGH MCMILLAN.

iii. WALTER C. MCMILLAN, b. 07 Nov 1876.

iv. ANNA BELLE MCMILLAN, b. 23 May 1878.

v. LILY MAY MCMILLAN, b. 26 Sep 1880.

vi. SAM D. MCMILLAN, b. 29 Oct 1883.

vii. THOMAS A. MCMILLAN, b. 26 Mar 1886.

(8) SARAH MCMILLAN (LAUGHLAN - 5, JOHN (BAN) - 4, DUNCAN - 3, FINLAY - 2, DUNCAN BAN - 1) was born 23 Jan 1851 in Cumberland Township, Ontario,<sup>16</sup> and died 25 Jun 1889 in Cumberland Township, Ontario. She

married ALEXANDER CAMERON.

Child of SARAH MCMILLAN and ALEXANDER CAMERON is:  
i. (Name Unknown) CAMERON, b. 25 Jun 1889, Cumberland Township, Ontario; d. 12 Jul 1889, Cumberland Township, Ontario.<sup>17</sup>

Key sources:

[www.clanmacmillan.org](http://www.clanmacmillan.org).

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Cumberland, Ontario, Register of Baptism, Marriage and Deaths Cumberland and Clarence, United Church Archives, Ottawa Archives, MC/CU/32.

## Genealogist and Local Historian, Robert (Bob) Serré

Ed. Notes - We all know Bob Serré's enthusiasm and infectious enjoyment of research and writing local history. Below are his responses to the questions we posed in trying to understand what makes this particular history-keeper pursue the history of the various communities with which he has come into contact.

*When did you become interested in family history? In local history? Did one lead to the other?*



Bob Serré with Glen Charron of the City of Ottawa at the City Collections Interim Preservation Centre, Blair road.

RS: I became interested in family history in the fall of 1972. I had registered for an evening course at the University of Ottawa, but I found the course disappointing on the very first evening, so I cancelled it, and spent the rest of the semester doing research in the library's genealogy section.

My interest in local

<sup>15</sup> Ontario Canada Marriages, 1801 – 1928. He is a widowed bartender. She is a widowed washwoman. Witnesses: Joseph Parisien & Ira Parisien. Married by Rev. Fr. Ferron Roman Catholic service.

<sup>16</sup> Baptized St. Andrew's Cumberland 5 Oct 1853. Ontario Canada Deaths, 1869-1938, Mrs. Sarah Cameron, 30 yrs. old, died of pulmonary apoplexy. Tombstone, McMillan family graveyard, Cumberland, Ontario "Loving Remembrance of Sarah McMillan Beloved Wife of Alex Cameron Died June 15th 1889 Aged 36 years & 8 mos."

<sup>17</sup> Ontario Canada Deaths, 1869-1938, Baby of Mrs. Sarah Cameron, 19 days old, died of infantile cholera.

history is another matter altogether. It came much later. A childhood friend of my sister was editing a community newspaper in Lower Town in 1996. My sister submitted a few illustrations, and I started writing a column on local families. I focused quite naturally on the family's genealogy, but then described business, ethnic and other aspects of the family's history. In this way I submitted interesting stories about people like King Clancy (hockey player), Norman Levine (short story writer) and Sam Bingham (mayor of Ottawa). I wrote a dozen stories, the paper folded, and within a few months I was deeply involved in the history of Cumberland Township through the CTHS, of which I became a life member.

*What do you think sparked your interest? And what elements continue to interest you?*

RS: My interest was sparked by a deep curiosity about my ancestors on both my father's and mother's side. I was curious about everything, including medical antecedents. With the years, my interest in genealogy, while still fairly strong, was surpassed by my much broader search for information on everything and everyone at every level of society over the last two centuries.

*You sat on the Board of the Cumberland Township Historical Society and edited its newsletter for several years. You are now President of the Gloucester Historical Society and are compiling and publishing pioneer family history books with them. You have also been secretary of the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. What else have you been involved in?*

RS: I also sat on the Board of the Société d'histoire et de généalogie d'Ottawa (now defunct). I am a past member of the Institut canadien-français d'Ottawa, and of the Société franco-ontarienne d'histoire et de généalogie. I am a member of the Historical Society of Ottawa and the Bytown Museum, and I'm a volunteer at the Muséeprc Vanier Museopark. The point of all this is to know what's

going on in genealogical, historical and heritage circles. Both wide-angle lenses and zoom lenses can be useful.

*What are your particular areas of interest?*

RS: Through the years, Sandy Hill, the neighbourhood where I grew up, and Bytown, the rough-and-rowdy village from which Ottawa grew to maturity, have been of particular interest to me, but just as special have been my ties with Cumberland, where my family owned a summer residence for 46 years, and with Gloucester, where I have lived for the past 43 years.

*Why did you get involved in organized activities as well as doing your own genealogical and historical research? What did these groups offer?*

RS: I grew up in a very close-knit French-Canadian enclave of Ottawa, and gradually developed an insatiable curiosity about other cultural groups, because they broadened my horizons, and helped explain how all of us came together to form one of the most interesting countries in



A meeting of future local historians circa 1957-58 on the bank of the Ottawa river where Jeannie and Glen Smith now have their residence, in the village of Cumberland. On the far left is Jeannie (Ferguson) Smith while Bob is the first boy on the left. Jeannie's father (Dr. Ferguson) is on the right.

the world.

*What value do you see in researching family histories and in connecting them to local history?*

RS: Most researchers would probably agree that everything is connected to everything. Local history is made up of family histories, plus church histories, plus school histories, and so on. The search is never finished, but if each generation manages to fill in a few pieces of the puzzle, the result can be amazing. One of my greatest joys is to receive a book order for some distant place in Canada or the United States, from some descendant of a Gloucester family, knowing that our small Society is reaching out to the rest of the world with well-documented information that will bring joy and satisfaction to other people.

