



# *Ewing Family Journal*

**Volume 22 – Number 1**  
May 2016

ISSN: 1948-1187

**Published by:**  
**Ewing Family Association**  
[www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org](http://www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org)

# Ewing Family Association

1330 Vaughn Court  
Aurora, Illinois 60504

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

## CHANCELLOR

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[WKEwing1@gmail.com](mailto:WKEwing1@gmail.com)

## PAST CHANCELLORS

2006-2012

David Neal Ewing

[DavidEwing93@gmail.com](mailto:DavidEwing93@gmail.com)

2004-2006

George William Ewing

[GeoEwing@aol.com](mailto:GeoEwing@aol.com)

1998-2004

Joseph Neff Ewing Jr

[JoeNEwing@aol.com](mailto:JoeNEwing@aol.com)

1995-1998

Margaret (Ewing) Fife

1993-1995

Rev. Ellsworth Samuel Ewing

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[MBToscos@comcast.net](mailto:MBToscos@comcast.net)

Jane P. (Ewing) Weippert  
[JaneWeippert@windstream.net](mailto:JaneWeippert@windstream.net)

## ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

### Archives

Daniel C. Ewing  
[DC.Ewing@frontier.com](mailto:DC.Ewing@frontier.com)

### Genealogist

Karen Avery  
[BAvery2@comcast.net](mailto:BAvery2@comcast.net)

### Gathering

Wallace K. Ewing  
[WKEwing1@gmail.com](mailto:WKEwing1@gmail.com)

### Internet Services

Martin S. Ewing  
[Ewing@alum.mit.edu](mailto:Ewing@alum.mit.edu)

### Journal

John A. Ewing, *Editor*  
[JohnEwing2003@msn.com](mailto:JohnEwing2003@msn.com)

### Membership

Walter E. Ewing  
[Wallygator57@hotmail.com](mailto:Wallygator57@hotmail.com)

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[JaneWeippert@windstream.net](mailto:JaneWeippert@windstream.net)

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Commander Thor Ewing, *ex officio*  
[Thor@ThorEwing.net](mailto:Thor@ThorEwing.net)

### Y-DNA Project

David Neal Ewing  
[DavidEwing93@gmail.com](mailto:DavidEwing93@gmail.com)



Ewing of Craigtoun and Keppoch

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Published by:

Ewing Family Association, 1330 Vaughn Court, Aurora, IL 60504

Web Site: [www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org](http://www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org)

The *Ewing Family Journal* is published semi-annually. Members of the Ewing Family Association receive the *Journal* as part of their membership. Copies of previous issues are \$5.00 each, and copies of previous volumes are \$10.00 (\$20.00 for overseas mailings). For copies of previous issues or volumes, contact John A. Ewing at [JohnEwing2003@msn.com](mailto:JohnEwing2003@msn.com).

Through 2008, this publication was titled *Journal of Clan Ewing*. The name was changed in January 2009 to reflect a change in the name of the publishing organization from Clan Ewing in America to Ewing Family Association.

All contributions are subject to editing. The Ewing Family Association does not assume liability for statements of fact or opinion by contributors, but proven errors will be corrected. In addition, the opinions of contributors are not necessarily those of the Ewing Family Association or its Officers, Board Members, or Activity Coordinators.

ISSN: 1948-1187

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## ***From the Editor***

**John A. Ewing, EFA Journal Editor ([johnewing2003@msn.com](mailto:johnewing2003@msn.com))**



In my introductory remarks to you, I usually preview the various *Journal* entries of significance that you will find within the covers of this publication. But, on this occasion, I will let the articles, announcements, and genealogical queries speak for themselves out of deference to one of our own, the late Joseph Neff Ewing, Jr.

Joe passed from our midst on April 8, 2016. A true renaissance man, Joe was highly instrumental in the formation of the Ewing Family Association and served on the board of directors and as chancellor for several years. His obituary may be found on page 67, as well as the fitting tribute to Joe by David Neal Ewing that follows on page 68.

Joe Neff, we know that somewhere, as we remember you, a Scottish bagpiper is in somber strains memorializing your life and many contributions. The Ewing Family Association and all of its members will miss you!

# Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson) – Part 3

## Her Famous Friends in Philadelphia from 1779 to 1844

David ‘Bruce’ Frobes ([brucefrobes@gmail.com](mailto:brucefrobes@gmail.com))



Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson)  
20 Jan 1751 - 24 May 1844

*Painted by  
Charles Willson Peale  
Philadelphia, PA 1797*

### Introduction

Part 3 includes our exploration of the “silver decade” of Philadelphia and the active, iconic residents, many of whom became famous, that Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson) befriended from 1787-1810.

On June 21, 1788, just 70 years after Amy’s grandfather, Thomas Ewing (1690-1747), emigrated from Londonderry, Ireland, to South Hampton, Long Island, his descendants became citizens of the newly-founded United States of America. That was the day that 9 of 13 states ratified the US Constitution.

These new citizen descendants included Amy, Amy’s parents (Maskell and Mary Padgett Ewing), her 10 siblings, and 5 of her children.

The new Federal government and its leadership moved from New York to Philadelphia in 1790. This was a big deal for Philadelphians, as it brought swelling pride and worldwide notoriety to the city of almost 30,000 inhabitants. As the new capital of the United States, Philadelphia experienced a significant amount of economic growth and a major population increase. By 1810, the census recorded 58,000 citizens in the City of Brotherly Love.

In Part 2, I profiled George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Meriwether Lewis, and Charles Willson Peale and how they were introduced as friends of Amy and her husband, Robert. Well, the Pattersons also knew many more “famous historical figures” as part of their everyday life. Almost all of these people were in Philadelphia during the last decade of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the opening decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

According to my research, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania collection of city directories lists Amy and Robert living at 148 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street from 1793 to 1801.<sup>1</sup> The addresses in those days were loosely numbered by the count of buildings in each block. Nevertheless, the Pattersons were located within 3 to 4 blocks of the people in the list on the next page. Their home, at that time, was within a couple of blocks of Independence Hall, the American Philosophical Society (APS), the University of Pennsylvania campus, and dozens of homes of prominent neighbors and neighborhoods.

<sup>1</sup> Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

### **More Friends of Amy and Robert**

Following is the partial list of more of the historic figures who were “friends” of Amy and Robert, who will be highlighted in this article.

Thomas Leiper [1745-1825], Benjamin Franklin [1706-1790], and Dr. Benjamin Rush [1746-1813]. These gentlemen represent a cross-section of the historically significant people during Amy’s lifetime. Naturally, some were close friends and some were just acquaintances. All of these gentlemen and their families, along with those we presented in Parts 1 and 2, spent quality time with Professor Patterson and his wife, Amy. These articles are but a small snapshot of the life and times of this Ewing ancestor.

### **Ancestors Link Up**

The Robert Patterson and the Thomas Leiper families in my ancestral tree were linked on April 20, 1814, when Robert Maskell Patterson (Amy’s third son, 1787-1854) married Helen Hamilton Leiper (1792-1874) in Philadelphia in 1814. These families were, however, connected in a number of ways long before the wedding.

Thomas Leiper, Helen’s father, was a wealthy, successful tobacconist (maker of snuff), and also operated several stone quarries that provided material for curb stones and door steps for the row houses that were cropping up all over the growing city. As the colonies increased their efforts to separate from England, Leiper helped organize The Light Horse of the City of Philadelphia (now The First City Troop), the first volunteer organization to oppose the British.

During the Revolutionary War, Sergeant Leiper and The First City Troop served many times as an escort for General Washington. The first escort assignment was to accompany the newly- appointed Commander-in-Chief on June 22, 1775, on his way to Cambridge, Massachusetts, to take charge of the Continental Army. They escorted him to Kings Bridge, New York, and the tour of duty lasted 7 days. Leiper and the Troop also were alongside General Washington in the Battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Trenton, and Princeton. The First Troop crossed the Delaware River on December 26, 1776, with General Washington, and in performing his military duties on horseback, Leiper and others carried the flag shown here.

“On the Standard of 76, or Markoe Standard (Abraham Markoe, a neighbor of Leiper on Market Street, who lived not far from the



**The First City Troop Flag**

Patterson residence) was named for the Troop's first Captain. As for the flag, 13 blue and silver stripes alternate in the top left corner set against the it's gold background. In the center of the silk square, an Indian warrior and a winged angel flank a shield and a horse's head. The warrior symbolizes liberty. He holds a bow in on hand, and in the other, a pole with a liberty cap. The angel symbolizes fame. She blows a trumpet and carries a wand. Beneath the warrior and angel reads the motto: *For These We Strive.*<sup>2</sup>

The Markoe Standard is one of the first known depictions of the 13-stripe motif representing the 13 American colonies. We only can guess, but since Amy's son Robert Maskell Patterson married Leiper's daughter, that the "flag" was observed by him and perhaps by the elder Pattersons too. It would be fun to know if Leiper reminisced, with the flag in hand, and entertained the children and grandchildren with the story of The Troop crossing the Delaware with General Washington and participating in the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. The modern day Troop carries this same flag in ceremonies.

### **Revolutionary War Memories**

In Volume 17, No 1 (February 2011) of the *Ewing Family Journal*, I authored an article about a letter that Robert wrote to Amy from New York on July 29, 1776. His unit participated in the Battle of Long Island. One of the sentences in that letter describes the day that Robert and Amy's brother, Dr. Thomas Ewing, as members of the New Jersey Militia, were "introduced by Genl Reed to his Exclly Genl Washington and were invited to dine with him."

My imagination visualizes the parents of the groom and the bride, Robert and Amy, and Thomas and Elizabeth Leiper, reminiscing while attending the wedding on April 20, 1812. It had been 29 years since the end of the Revolutionary War. But, after a couple of glasses of Madeira, I can hear them conversing at the wedding reception about the history of Philadelphia during those amazing days and nights of the birth of a new nation and some significant moments of their lives during the Revolutionary War. What are the chances that each of these soldiers "dined" with George Washington during the fight for American independence and that both then shook the hand of "His Excellency" in Philadelphia at a Presidential "levee" 15 years later?

When Thomas Jefferson became George Washington's Secretary of State, he commissioned Leiper in 1790 to build a home for him in the city of Philadelphia at 274 Market Street. Through this venture, they became very good friends, and so began a long period of correspondence that lasted until Leiper's death on July 8, 1825.

By the time Leiper started building the house for Jefferson on Market Street,<sup>3</sup> Amy and Robert were already friends with the new Secretary of State. Over the next 35 years, Professor Patterson and Thomas Leiper each exchanged dozens of letters with Jefferson before he was President, while he was President, and into his retirement.

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<sup>2</sup> History of the First Troop Philadelphia City Calvary, 1774, November 17, 1874.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Jefferson, Statesman of Science, Silvia A. Bedini, MacMillan Publishing Co. 1990.

The professor's letters were strictly about math, science, astronomy, ciphers, and subjects of the US Mint, while Leiper's were mostly about business (tobacco) or politics. Jefferson did sell tobacco to Leiper. Most of their letters are housed in the Library of Congress.

### **The Grand Federal Procession**

The summer of 1788 found the Pattersons with 5 children and the Leipers with 3 children. The previous year, September 17, 1787, the new U.S. Constitution was submitted to the states for their approval; Delaware was the first to ratify on December 7, 1787. Nine states were needed to fully ratify and New Hampshire cooperated by ratifying on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The ratification brought on a spirit of patriotism in Philadelphia as prominent citizens along with Frank Hopkinson, Librarian, The Library Company, and Charles Willson Peale, artist, organized what came to be called, "The Grand Federal Procession."



**Tobacconist Banner carried by  
Thomas Leiper in the  
1788 Grand Federal Procession**  
*Photo Courtesy of the  
Thomas Leiper House, Wallingford, PA*

At 9:30 a.m., on July 4, 1788, the procession started with 5,000 strong participating. The Trades and Professions marched representing their respective specializations. It was quite a show of "capitalism" in the new country. According to accounts written at the time, upwards of 17,000 people lined the streets to watch this parade. Leiper marched with the Tobacconists, some 70 persons. At the left is a photo of the 5'x 5' silk banner he carried when he walked at the head of his group. The banner photo is courtesy of The Thomas Leiper House, Wallingford, Pennsylvania. The banner is now housed at The Library Company of Philadelphia, 13<sup>th</sup> and Locust, on long-term loan.

It is possible that Robert marched with students from the University along with members of the College of Physicians. Amy and her young family had a clear view to watch them pass by since the route of the procession traveled down 4th Street to Market Street, right past their home. As she

waved, holding 4-month-old Robert Maskell, and her other 4 children next to her, I imagine that she might have called out to many of the marchers she recognized and called them by their first names.

### **Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)**

Unfortunately, Benjamin Franklin just "heard" the Grand Federal Procession. Amy never saw him that day because "during the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration in 1788, Franklin was too sick to leave his bed, but the parade marched under his window" on Market Street. However, according to the early proceedings of the American Philosophical Society in the year 1788, Franklin was quite

active in their meetings as its president. In fact, he was in the “chair” of the Society on June 20<sup>th</sup>, one day before the procession.

Following is an excerpt of that meeting:

*“1788. June 20. (6 present; Franklin presiding)*

*Matthew Carey presented a short-hand Bible, and Forme du Government de Suede.*

*Franklin presented “a specimen of the ancient short-hand;” an engraving of the Duke de Chaulnes’ improvement of Franklin’s Electric Kite; and F.A. Eckhardt’s description of his Canal Dredger; proposals of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, &c., of a premium for an invariable standard of Weights and Measures; a description of the Chinese method of making large sheets of Paper; and an account of Ingenhaultz’s experiments on the heat-conducting power of Metals, under Franklin’s direction.*

*An essay on “a Universal Language” was offered for the Magellanic premium.*

*Daniel Byrnes’ paper on an improvement for finding the Longitude by Lunar Observations, was read; and Ewing, Rittenhouse, and Patterson appointed to test his instrument invented for the purpose.*

*Rediger’s (Janitor’s) account for L5—4—18, approve.”<sup>4</sup>*

Did Robert come home and mention the “short hand bible” to Amy and the family?

*“...the feelings and views of Dr. Patterson and his wife were in unison... She was a pious woman; and her piety was fervent and consistent. There was evidently a real and habitual interest in religion; all her conduct and conversation proved that it was uppermost in her affections ...”<sup>5</sup>*

As you can see in these minutes, Professor Patterson attended the APS meeting the night before the Grand Federal Procession, and Dr. Franklin was presiding as its president. This recording of the minutes and the variety of subjects is typical of the time. It is a classic look at the objectives of the APS “to promote useful knowledge.”



**Benjamin Franklin**

*Portrait permission of the University of Pennsylvania Archives.*

<sup>4</sup> Early Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society for the promotion of useful knowledge compiled by one of the secretaries for manuscript minutes of its meetings from 1744 to 1838, Philadelphia, Press of McCalla & Stavelly 237-9 Dock Street 1884.

<sup>5</sup> A Record of the Robert Patterson Family (The Elder), Press of John C. Clark, 1847.

The Ewing mentioned in the minutes is Dr. John Ewing (1732-1802), Provost, University of Pennsylvania. You may recall, Dr. Ewing hired Professor Patterson in 1780. The member, David Rittenhouse (1732-1796), was a renowned American astronomer, inventor, clockmaker, mathematician, surveyor, scientific instrument craftsman, and public official. He also was the first director of the U.S. Mint.

Franklin spent his last 4-1/2 years of life presiding at most of the APS meetings every couple of weeks. During these final years, many of the meetings were held at the Franklin home on Market Street. Some ideas were pursued with vigor, but others were dropped immediately as not possessing any "useful knowledge." When Franklin returned from France in August 1785, he was immediately elected and stepped into the APS role as president on September 27, 1785.

From the minutes<sup>6</sup> during that period, I found that these interesting subjects were discussed by the elite members from 1785 until Franklin's death in the spring of 1790:

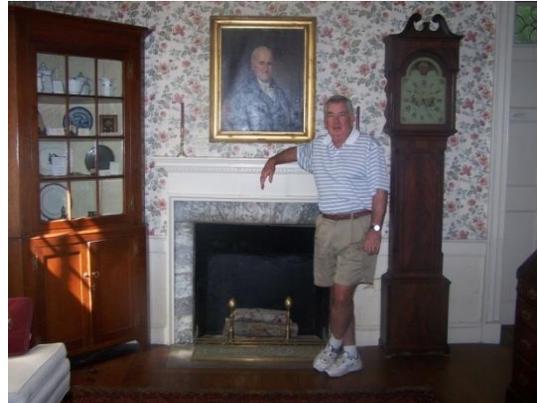
1. Nov 4, 1785, [David] Rittenhouse's letter to Dr. Ewing "a new invention for fixing a Median Mark to an observatory and crosshairs on the telescope."
2. [Prof. John] Ewing's method of calculating the size of the Earth.
3. Copies of Fitch's drawing and description of a machine for rowing a boat against the current presented.
4. Jan. 28 1786, [Benjamin] Franklin's description of an Urn Stove, read.
5. Feb 3, 1786, [Dr. Benjamin] Rush's paper on Martin's cancer powder.
6. Feb 27, 1786, Procession to the University. Oration by Dr. Rush "On the influence of physical causes on the moral faculty" "before a very respectable assembly of gentlemen and ladies convened for the purpose."
7. Sept. 21, 1787, Dissertation by Dr. [Casper] Wistar (a new member) "Experiments upon evaporation in cold air."
8. Mar 7, 1788, "on the Notation of music....by the common alphabetical characters," by [Prof. Robert] Patterson.
9. May 15, 1789, "Petroleum found in Oil Creek which flows into the Alleganey" (sic) was presented in a phial by Mr. Patterson as from Mr. Wm Turnbull (sic).
10. August 21, 1789, "Sundry Meteorological Observations." "It appears that the changes of the weather marked by the Thermometer are sudden and extraordinary." Referred to Rittenhouse, Patterson and Wistar.

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<sup>6</sup> Early Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society for the promotion of useful knowledge compiled by one of the secretaries for manuscript minutes of its meetings from 1744 to 1838, Philadelphia, Press of McCalla & Stavely 237-9 Dock Street 1884.

11. April 21, 1790, Special Meeting, called by the Vice Presidents at 3 ½ p.m., in the Hall; twenty-three members present, who “went in procession to the funeral of their late illustrious President, Dr. Benjamin Franklin.

And finally, on Oct 16, 1790, at the regular meeting of the APS.... “The effects of lightning on Mr. Leiper’s house at his mills near Chester, August 17, 1789, were described in a letter from Rittenhouse and Hopkinson, a remarkable case; the house having been furnished with two conductors.”<sup>7</sup>



**Thomas Leiper House built in 1785 as a summer residence and home to a quarry and mill in Wallingford, Pennsylvania.**

*Photos courtesy of Bruce Frobes, 2009.*

You may recall that the late Dr. Franklin was a pioneer in the study of lightning and its effects. It is only a guess, but since Franklin encouraged owners of buildings to install lightning rods, I assume Leiper listened and his house survived a lightning strike as a result.

### **Ewing Family Patriotic Zeal**

Amy had a front row seat to the historic relationships of her husband, her sons, siblings, and the in-laws all of whom were filled with patriotic zeal.

While Amy was raising her family in Philadelphia, one of her brothers, James Ewing (1744-1823), the youngest son of Thomas Ewing, Sr., and Mary Maskell, was significantly involved in politics and government a short way up the Delaware River in Trenton, New Jersey. James was, for a short time, a partner in printing the *New Jersey Gazette*. For several years, he was one of the Commissioners of the State Loan Office. He was author of an ingenious “Columbian Alphabet” which was an attempt at a reformed system of spelling. And, he served as Mayor of

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<sup>7</sup> Early Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society for the promotion of useful knowledge compiled by one of the secretaries for manuscript minutes of its meetings from 1744 to 1838, Philadelphia, Press of McCalla & Stavely 237-9 Dock Street 1884.

Trenton from 1797-1803. His son, Charles Ewing (1780-1832), graduated from Princeton in 1798 and was a Chief Justice of New Jersey from 1824-1832, dying in office.

I have not discovered evidence that Amy and James visited one another during this period, but I would guess that their letters to each other described lots of family activities and dozens of historical events. Nevertheless, the following quoted information leads me to believe that they visited in person on a regular basis.

### **Yellow Fever of 1793...A Pandemic in Philadelphia**



**Dr. Benjamin Rush**

Printed with permission of the  
University of Pennsylvania Archives.

In 1847, one of Amy's grandsons, William Ewing DuBois (1810-1881), compiled a rather extensive narrative record of the families of Patterson, Ewing, and DuBois. He was the son of Uriah DuBois (1768-1821), a minister in Doylestown, and Amy's daughter, Martha Patterson (1779-1844). This record has been quoted in previous articles about Amy's family.

On page 25 of that record, DuBois recounts the Yellow Fever epidemic that started in mid-summer of 1793, continued in to the fall until cold weather arrived in November. "In the summer of 1793, the two eldest girls, Mary [1777-1861] and Martha [1779-1856] [the future Mrs. Uriah DuBois], had gone to pay a visit to their uncle (James) Ewing [1744-1823], at Trenton; not knowing that they were taken away from the evil to come. The rest of the family were in the city; two parents, four children; these latter from three to eleven years old. They were living in Fourth Street below Spruce, in those times pretty far westward from

the river. It was an oppressive summer; a long drought was attended by a stagnant, breathless atmosphere, under which laborers gave out, even when the thermometer was no higher than 84 degrees."<sup>8</sup>

### **Dr. Benjamin Rush (1746-1813)**

"On August 19, 1793, a cloudy, not excessively warm, but rainless day following upon weeks of similar dry weather, Philadelphia's best known physician, Dr. Benjamin Rush, conferred with two other members of this profession about an illness whose appearance in the city had caused him growing alarm through the preceding weeks."<sup>9</sup>

It is reported that at the height of the health crisis, Dr. Rush was treating 100 of the sick each day. He also was a fellow faculty member with Robert as a professor of medical theory and clinical practice at the University of Pennsylvania where he taught until 1813. Interestingly, he

<sup>8</sup> A Record of the Robert Patterson Family (The Elder), Press of John C. Clark, 1847.

<sup>9</sup> Philadelphia, A 300 Year History, A Barra Foundation Book, W.W. Norton & Company.

was also the treasurer of the U.S. Mint from 1779-1813. He and Robert worked side by side in the academic world from 1805 until 1813 while Patterson was the Director of the U.S. Mint, having been appointed by his friend and colleague, President Thomas Jefferson.

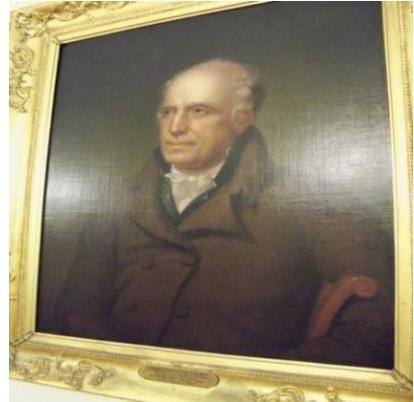
Fortunately, Dr. Rush was not needed to treat any of Amy's family for Yellow Fever.

Amy and Robert did not remove their family. They "were kept day and night up two pair of stairs; an atmosphere of tobacco – smoke, filling the chambers, ceased to be disgusting, in the belief that it was protective; and no one went abroad, except the father of the family."<sup>10</sup>

"He could not be satisfied that it was lawful for a Christian man to fly from a visitation, believed to be directly from God."<sup>11</sup>

However, Robert eventually came to the conclusion that they should exit the city. But how would they leave?

His decision found that "he had outstaid all means of escape. There were no public conveyances, and no place to be conveyed to; country people were hardly willing to look at a Philadelphian, reeking with fatal miasmas. At the outskirts of towns and villages, all vehicles were intercepted by vigilant committees, escorted along the thoroughfare, and prevented from setting down any passenger."



**Robert Patterson (1743-1824)**

"At this junction, on a day in the middle of October, a knock was heard at the front door; an unusual sound. Grandfather went down, and found there his brother-in-law, David Ewing, of Greenwich (New Jersey). Captain Ewing, a roving, fearless spirit, then a little over thirty, of whom we have some adventures to tell in another place, had just come up the river with a boat-load of wood; fuel commanded a high price, and it was a temptation to brave the danger. But David had with this a more generous purpose. "David said to Robert as he opened the door, 'I have come to take you all down to Greenwich; my shallop lies at Arch street wharf; you must get ready immediately, and if possible go this evening, as my men are not willing to remain.'"<sup>12</sup>

The episode of peril was now over, and they prepared to leave the city.

"By nine o'clock, all were ready; the house was locked up, and the two parents with their children, William, Emma, Robert, and Susanna (little flaxen-haired lass, for whom it was a respite of two years,) set out, by the light of a full moon; and in a walk from Fourth and Spruce streets, to the wharf at Arch Street, nearly a mile, through a densely settled part of the city, they met not a single person."<sup>13</sup>

<sup>10</sup> A Record of the Robert Patterson Family (The Elder), Press of John C. Clark, 1847.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

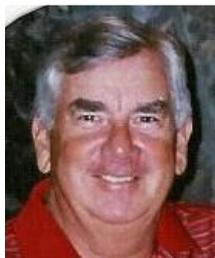
<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

The notion at the time was that probation of nine days would clear the family and all the neighbors of all danger. However, at the end of 14 days, Robert was taken very ill. Even though Amy's relatives and Greenwich town folk thought it must be something else, it was, indeed the very disease. As he recovered slowly, the Ewing family rejoiced that not one member was missing, and they returned to Philadelphia.

The Ewing relatives in Greenwich in October 1793 included Maskell and Mary Ewing, Maskell, Thomas Ewing, Jr., Captain David Ewing, and an assortment of cousins. None of these folks were infected. During the Yellow Fever scourge in Philadelphia of 1793, 5,000 people died out of a population of 45,000. And it is estimated that 17,000 fled.

In Part 4, we will meet many more of Amy Hunter Ewing (Patterson)'s famous friends including Adam Eckfeldt, a member of the U.S. Mint's first family, whose daughter, Susanna, married Amy's grandson, William Ewing DuBois. The Eckfeldts and many of Amy's family were significant to the history of the first 50 years of the Mint.

**...to be continued!**



*David 'Bruce' Frobes earned his bachelor degree from DePauw University. He is attached to the Ewings of Greenwich, New Jersey through Amy Hunter who married Robert Patterson there in May 1774. He has made several on-site trips to Greenwich, New Jersey, and Philadelphia to study more about his Ewings and the history of that area. His career included the Air Force and 35 years in the investment management and trust administration business. Now retired in Rio Verde, Arizona, Bruce has built his genealogical files to include 3,800 names with the Ewings as a prominent focus of his research. When not searching the past and contributing articles to the Ewing Family Journal, he is an avid golfer in the mountains and the deserts of Arizona. You can reach Bruce via email at [BruceFrobes@gmail.com](mailto:BruceFrobes@gmail.com).*



**Scottish Thistle**

## ***Ewing History of Middle Tennessee and Western Kentucky: A Modern Reference – Part 2***

**Jean Carter Wilson ([peanut123@comcast.net](mailto:peanut123@comcast.net))**

*(All photos by Jean Carter Wilson, 2015, unless otherwise indicated.)*

In Part One of this article, published in the *Ewing Family Journal*, Volume 21, Number 2, the reader may recall an introduction to settlers Andrew Ewing, signer of the Cumberland Compact establishing the first European colony in the settlement now known as Nashville, Tennessee, and who served as the City's first Clerk for over three decades; Captain Alexander "Devil Alex" Ewing, who built a circa 1822 mansion still standing in the White's Creek Rural Historic District; and Brigadier General Robert Ewing II, a surveyor who served as an early Justice of the Davidson County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions and who represented the area to the North Carolina legislature before his resettlement in Logan County, Kentucky (where he became President of the State Senate and, for a time, Lieutenant Governor). What follows is a continuation of the inventory of some of the structures these men and their families created, along with a discussion of the lasting contributions they made to the fabric of a distinctive American region and culture.

### **Woodlon Hall**

A 640-acre grant Alexander "Devil Alex" Ewing received in 1787 was located on the Big Harpeth River. He and wife Sarah (née Smith) lived at that location until about 1795. In the next few years, he purchased 300 acres of land in the Whites Creek area of north Davidson County, possibly with the involvement of his cousin Robert II who had lived nearby. Alexander's will dated June 6, 1822, confirms he owned holdings in surrounding counties as well.

Woodlon Hall, the "Alexander Ewing House," is thought to have been built shortly before Alexander Ewing's death. Located at 5101 Buena Vista Pike, the structure is in good condition and has clearly been well-kept. Unfortunately, the nearby Ewing family cemetery has deteriorated.



**Woodlon Hall, August 2015\***

Accounts differ as to the provenance of the house. Jim McMichael, a former EFA genealogist, believed the structure came into the Ewing family as a settlement of a debt that was owed to Alexander Ewing by Frederick Stump (another signer of the Cumberland Compact.)

\* *Woodlon Hall (private residence), 5101 Buena Vista Pike, Nashville, Tennessee.*

However, the application by the owners of the house to the National Register of Historic Places in the late 1970s indicates they believed the house to have been constructed by Ewing: “The house Alexander Ewing built was strongly reminiscent of the architecture found in his native Maryland. Paired connecting end chimneys, exterior brick walls and the original flat roofed portico provided rural Davidson County with an excellent example of Federal Period Architecture.”<sup>14</sup>

According to *Nashville Architecture: A Guide to the City* published in September 2015 by Tennessee State Historian Dr. Carroll Van West, “the twelve over twelve windows with wood architraves are original as are the fanlight, sidelights, and double left doors of the central entrance.”<sup>15</sup> At one time the grounds would likely have included a number of outbuildings, with barns and stables. In another Ewing association with President Andrew Jackson, an advertisement for Jackson’s horse Young Truxton reads, in part: “dam by Young Wildair, grandam by imp Master Stevens out of Capt. Alexander Ewing’s fine brood mare.”<sup>16</sup> (Young Truxton was the son of Jackson’s first horse, known simply as Truxton, which played a role in the narrative of Andrew Jackson’s famous duel with Charles Dickinson at Harrison’s Mill.<sup>17</sup> The mill itself was located near modern Logan Mill Road, two miles west of Adairville, KY – the town cofounded by Robert Ewing II. See “Red River Meeting House” section for more information.)

The Metro Nashville Historical Commission maintains a record of a marker which once stood at the intersection of Knight Road and Ewing Drive in north Nashville:<sup>18</sup>

*“Capt. Alexander Ewing - "Devil Alex"”*

*“Early settler of N.W. Davidson Co. Served in Revolutionary War as Aide-de-Camp to Gen. Green. Wounded at Guilford. Earned nickname and 2666 acres. Built and owned first brick plantation house in area, 1/4 mile east. Later built Ewing Mansion on Buena Vista Pike. He and his wife Sarah are buried directly across in Ewing Plantation cemetery.”*

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<sup>14</sup> United States Department of the Interior, “National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form,” June 1979, <http://focus.nps.gov/pdfhost/docs/NRHP/Text/80003790.pdf>, accessed September 2015.

<sup>15</sup> Dr. Carroll Van West, *Nashville Architecture: A Guide to the City*. (Knoxville, Tennessee: University of Tennessee Press, 2015), page 253.

<sup>16</sup> James Douglas Anderson and Balie Peyton, *Making the American Thoroughbred: Especially in Tennessee, 1800-1845*. (Norwood, Massachusetts: The Plimpton Press, 1916), page 64.

<sup>17</sup> Robert V. Remini, *Andrew Jackson: The Course of American Democracy, 1833-1845, Volume III*. (Baltimore, Maryland: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1984), page 434.

<sup>18</sup> “Historical Markers – Notable People,” Metro Government of Nashville and Davidson County Tennessee Historical Commission, <http://www.nashville.gov/Historical-Commission/Services/Historical-Markers/Notable-People.aspx#alexanderewing>, accessed September 2015.

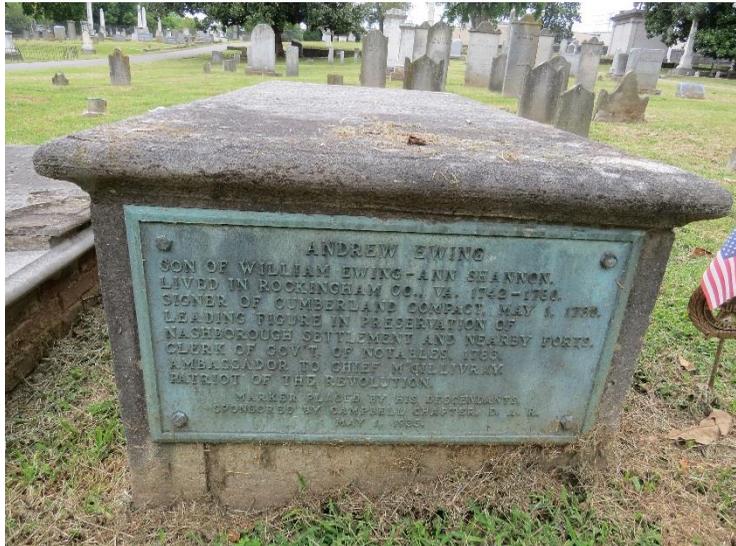
It is important to note the marker refers to the immediate area; the Bowen-Campbell House, built about 1787, is still standing in Goodlettsville.<sup>19</sup> The “first brick plantation” that Alexander Ewing built after the family’s relocation to Whites Creek was destroyed by fire in 1933.

Woodlon Hall was added to the National Register of Historic Places on November 25, 1980. On September 22, 2015 the influential nonprofit organization Historic Nashville, Inc. included Woodlon Hall and the surrounding Whites’ Creek Rural Historic District in its annual “Nashville Nine” listing of important properties endangered by demolition, neglect or development.<sup>20</sup> Historic Nashville, Inc. plans to “work with property owners, government agencies, and the public to educate, evaluate and create solutions for preserving these important elements of Nashville’s unique history and sense of place.”

### **Ewing Graves, Nashville City Cemetery**

City Cemetery, founded in 1822, is the oldest public cemetery in Nashville. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural and historic significance, its huge, old-growth trees alone make it worthy of veneration. Many important figures in Nashville city history are among its estimated interments, numbering over 20,000.

Andrew Ewing’s grave plot is located in Section 8. Many family members are buried in the immediate area, including Andrew’s son Nathan Ewing, father of U.S. Congressmen Andrew II and Edwin Hickman Ewing; as well as Andrew Ewing II himself. (Andrew II’s son Robert, elected Nashville mayor in 1915, is buried in Mount Olivet cemetery. Mount Olivet, founded in 1856, also serves as the final resting place for many of Middle Tennessee’s political and business leaders.)



*City Cemetery, 1001 4th Ave South, Nashville, Tennessee. <http://www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org>*

<sup>19</sup> James A. Hoobler, *A Guide to Historic Nashville, Tennessee*. (Charleston, South Carolina: The History Press, 2008), page 22.

<sup>20</sup> Historic Nashville, Inc. “Historic Nashville Joined by Mike Wolfe of *American Pickers* to Announce the Nine Most Threatened Historic Properties in Davidson County,” September 22, 2015.

[http://www.sitemason.com/files/eeq3VS/2015 Nashville Nine Press Release\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.sitemason.com/files/eeq3VS/2015%20Nashville%20Nine%20Press%20Release%20FINAL.pdf)



Nearby are the graves of General James Robertson and his wife Charlotte Reeves Robertson, close to a fenced area housing memorials to descendants of “Devil Alex” Ewing: John L. Ewing, infant grandson of “Devil Alex” by his son, Randall McGavock Ewing, as well as Randall’s wife, Martha Vaulx Drake Ewing.

There are a total of 45 graves for people named Ewing in City Cemetery. Many more, however, have Ewing ties, such as 1844 Nashville mayor Robert Bell

Castleman, a grandson of Andrew Ewing by his daughter Margaret. Future scholarship on early Ewing lines might include an endeavor to resurrect the family ties of some of these more obscure Ewing graves.

### **Red River Meeting House**

In 1792, Robert Ewing II, along with his family, left Nashville for western Kentucky. Many of Robert II’s siblings were already living in that state. His older brother, Baker, was a member of the important Danville Political Club, as well as a representative of Lincoln County, Kentucky to the Virginia Legislature beginning in 1778.<sup>21</sup>

Baker was Kentucky’s first Land Office Registrar<sup>22</sup> and one of only eight business owners paying taxes in Frankfort, Kentucky’s capital, as late as 1797.<sup>23</sup> Ewing Street, one of the main thoroughfares in south Frankfort, is named for Baker Ewing.<sup>24</sup>



<sup>21</sup> Thomas Speed, *The Political Club of Danville, Kentucky, 1786-1790..* (Louisville, Kentucky: John P. Morton and Co. for the Filson Club, 1894), page 89.

<sup>22</sup> Boutwell Dunlap, “Augusta County Virginia in the History of the United States,” in *Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society*. Volume 16, Number 47 (May, 1918), page 113.

<sup>23</sup> Nettie Henry Glenn, *Early Frankfort Kentucky 1786-1861*. Self published, 1986, page 21.

<sup>24</sup> Mrs. Jennie C. Morton, “Streets of the Capital of Kentucky,” in *Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society*. Volume 13, Number 39 (September, 1915), page 53.

Nearly immediately upon arrival in Kentucky, Robert II would have assumed the style of public life to which he had become accustomed in Davidson County. (Photos alleging to show the ruin of Robert's estate feature a largish wooden building; however, it is more likely the house would have been considerably more elaborate and at least partly made of brick. Additionally, the site now occupied by the home of Gilson Ewing is probably the location of the original home of Robert II.) By 1797, Robert represented Logan County to the newly-formed Kentucky Legislature. In 1802 he began service in the state Senate and by 1818 was its President. In this role, he served as acting Lieutenant Governor to the unpopular Gabriel Slaughter.<sup>25</sup>

A news article in the *Logan County News Democrat*, January 24, 1935, mentions that 1818 was also the year Robert Ewing II was one of two men who petitioned the County court for the creation of the town of Adairville. An 1815 letter to Robert from his brother in law, Captain Alney McLean – first Congressman from the Jackson Purchase area of Kentucky, for whom McLean County in the Bluegrass State is named – expressed admiration for General John Adair, who led McLean's brigade on the front lines at the Battle of New Orleans.<sup>26</sup> Later Adair was instrumental in refuting Andrew Jackson's assertion a group of Kentucky men had shown cowardice in the face of the British assault. Despite his prior relationship with Jackson, it isn't difficult to imagine what inspired Ewing to name the new town for a state and local hero.

Although some historians ascribe a large role to Robert Ewing II in the construction of Red River Meeting House, which has been characterized as the first Cumberland Presbyterian Church, local sources estimate the building was likely constructed around 1790 – just before Robert decamped from Nashville.<sup>27</sup> However, many family ties link Robert to the site, chiefly that of Robert's brother Reverend Finis Ewing, one of three cofounders of the modern 70,000+ member Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The Revival of 1800, which began at Red River as a Scottish sacrament, brought about the tradition of serial religious services called camp meetings. This trend had a strong influence on Barton Stone and other leaders of the Second Great Awakening, causing a renewed focus on one's personal experience and testimony in relationship to religion.<sup>28</sup>

The Ewings who settled Logan County came by their Presbyterian faith honestly. In addition to Thomas Brown Craighead, many other ministers who arrived on the Kentucky frontier first settled in parts of Virginia known to be inhabited by Robert I and Charles Ewing. This includes the Bedford area,<sup>29</sup> but also Prince Edward County.

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<sup>25</sup> G. Glenn Clift, *Governors of Kentucky 1792-1942*. (Cynthiana, Kentucky: Hobson Press, 1942), page 159.

<sup>26</sup> Williamsburgh, Ohio *Western American*, February 11, 1815. Volume 1, Issue 28, page 4.

<sup>27</sup> Rev. Hughlan P. Richey, "Red River Church and the Revival of 1800," *Adairville Enterprise*, August 14, 1969, page 2. From "Red River Meeting House," Historical Foundation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, <http://www.cumberland.org/hfcpchurches/RedRivKY.htm>, accessed September 2015.

<sup>28</sup> Dickson Bruce, *And They All Sang Hallelujah: Plain-Folk Camp-Meeting Religion, 1800-1845*. (Knoxville, Tennessee: University of Tennessee Press, 1981), page 3.

<sup>29</sup> Matthew Harry Gore, *A History of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Kentucky to 1988*. (Memphis, Tennessee: Joint Heritage Committee of Covenant and Cumberland Presbyteries, 2000), page 10.

Members active in the Presbyterian settlement at Buffalo Creek later served as founding members of Hampden-Sydney College near Farmville. One such person was Caleb Baker Wallace, an initial trustee of Hampden-Sydney<sup>30</sup> and the first cousin of Robert II. Another founding trustee of Hampden-Sydney was Colonel John Nash, for whose son the city of Nashville was named.



Red River Meeting House Cemetery

It is certain that Robert II would have helped financially support the settlement at Red River. Many records exist showing descendants of Robert Ewing I of Peaks of Otter attending meetings of the Cumberland Presbytery and other offshoot groups. In 1805 Robert II's eldest daughter Elizabeth "Betsey" Davidson Ewing married Thomas Jefferson Townsend, who gave an adjacent plot of land on which the second Red River house of worship was built after the collapse of the initial structure in 1856. This second building, known as the Red River Cumberland Presbyterian Church, was located where the present meeting house stands today.<sup>31</sup>

What is surprising is not that Robert II is buried at the grounds of the Red River Meeting House, along with his wife Jane McLean Ewing, but that his siblings do not have memorials there. The gravesites of most of the Ewing siblings are not known. Although much of the family can safely be assumed to have died and been buried in the vicinity of Logan County, only two other Ewing siblings have marked graves that survive to the present day: Jane Ewing Kelly,<sup>32</sup> d. 1838 in Marengo, Alabama, and youngest brother Rev. Finis Ewing. Although he was the most notable member of the family in relation to Red River, Finis decamped for Missouri in May 1820, following the emigration of much of his congregation to the newly opened territory.<sup>33</sup> He is buried in Machpelah Cemetery, Lexington, Missouri.

<sup>30</sup> John Luster Brinkley, *On This Hill: A Narrative History of Hampden Sydney College*. (Farmville, Virginia: Hampden Sydney in-house publishers, 1994), page 9.

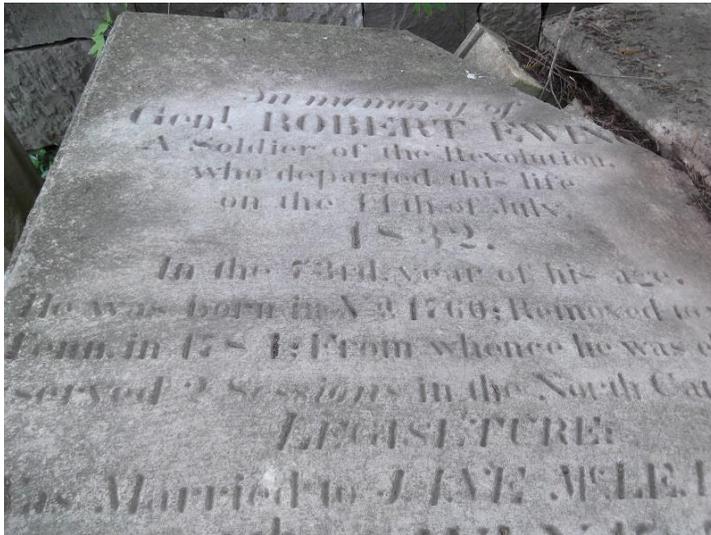
<sup>31</sup> "Red River Meeting House Cemetery Tour," Red River Meeting House, accessed September, 2015, [http://www.rrmh.org/grounds/cemetery\\_tour](http://www.rrmh.org/grounds/cemetery_tour).

<sup>32</sup> Presley Kittredge Ewing and Mary E. Williams Ewing, *The Ewing Genealogy with Cognate Branches: A Survey of the Ewings and Their Kin in America*. (Houston, Texas: Hercules Printing Company, 1919), page 50.

<sup>33</sup> Joe Ben Irby, *The Life and Thought of Rev. Finis Ewing: A Founder of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church*. (Memphis, Tennessee: Cumberland Presbyterian Board of Christian Education, 2006), page 33.

While Robert II's graveslab is in rough condition, much of its original text can still be read. Although the stone makes the proud statement "Soldier of the Revolution," no reliable evidence of this claim has been found. Oddly, the stone does not report Robert II's documented service during the War of 1812's Battle of the Thames, along with his younger brothers Hon. Reuben, Rev. Finis, and Lieutenant Colonel Young Ewing, as well the son of brother Baker, Dr. Robert Ewing III.<sup>34</sup>

At Thames, Lieutenant Young Ewing commanded not only his brother Robert II, but also future Kentucky Attorney General Solomon P. Sharp and Major Alexander Adair, probably a close relative of John Adair, who served as an aide-de-camp to Governor Isaac Shelby during the 1812 conflict.<sup>35</sup>



**Graveslab of Brig. Gen. Robert Ewing II**

Rumors occasionally indicate the final resting place of Mary Brevard Davidson Harris, the widow of General William Lee Davidson (namesake of the Tennessee county and close cousin to Robert Ewing II's wife Jane McLean) might be found at Red River since she is known to have spent the last years of her life in Logan County. However, no evidence of the location of her grave is currently known.

The current reconstruction of Red River Meeting House, the fifth on the site, was created in 1994. It is the location of an annual membership meeting

each September and a primitive encampment in October. The nearby cemetery features over 400 interments dating to 1815.<sup>36</sup> Red River is popular with schoolchildren and historians. Local preservationists are currently raising funds to construct permanent restroom facilities and make repairs to gravestones, among other improvements.

*Red River Meeting House, Schochoh Road (near the intersection of Wheeley Road), Adairville, Kentucky.* <http://www.rrmh.org> (270) 539-6528

<sup>34</sup> Office of the Kentucky Adjutant-General, *Kentucky Soldiers in the War of 1812*. (Frankfort, Kentucky: 1891), page 255. (Reprinted Genealogical Publishing of Baltimore, 1969.)

<sup>35</sup> Bennett Henderson Young, *The battle of the Thames, in which Kentuckians defeated the British, French, and Indians, October 5, 1813, with a list of the officers and privates who won the victory*. (Louisville, Kentucky: J. P. Morton & Co. for the Filson Club, 1903), page 42.

<sup>36</sup> Logan County, Kentucky Genealogical Society, *Logan County Cemeteries*. (Russellville, Kentucky: Printed by A.B. Willhite, 2007), pages 513-518.

### Red Brick Inn

In Nashville in 1794, Nancy Agnes Linn, granddaughter of Robert I of Peaks of Otter through his second daughter Sidney Ewing, married Abraham Boyd. Nancy's father was Adam Linn, a Nashville official and associate of Robert Ewing II and his father in law, Capt. Ephraim McLean. Abraham was the son of James Boyd of Bedford, Virginia, who died in a South Carolina British prison camp during the Revolutionary War.<sup>37</sup> Afterward Abraham is alleged to have traveled to Nashville with future President Jackson:



“After the close of the revolutionary war, and about the year 1788, Andrew Jackson and Abraham Boyd, crossed the mountains into Tennessee, with no fortunes but their clear heads and strong hearts, and no friends but the good God above, and the great country around them, which they had aided to save from despotism. They both located at Nashville, and though subsequently separated, and occupying different spheres, they were through life, without interruption, ardent and devoted friends. Various instances and anecdotes of their mutual friendship might be related, did our limits permit.”<sup>38</sup> The couple shortly relocated to Logan County, in the portion that later became Trigg.

Abraham Boyd and Nancy Linn Boyd established the town of Boyds Landing, now known as Canton – likely originally “Cairnton,” after the Native burial mounds in the immediate area. As part of the settlement the family built the Red Brick Inn, near a ferry crossing over the Cumberland River – the metal pilings of the old ferry landing are still visible on the shore of what is now Barkley Lake.

During the building's heyday, it was visited by such luminaries as the singer Jenny Lind and U.S. President James Polk. In 1825, the hotel is said to have been the site of a reception for General Marquis de Lafayette as part of his Grand Tour.<sup>39</sup>

<sup>37</sup> “James Boyd, Ancestor A013341,” Daughters of the American Revolution Genealogical Research System. [http://services.dar.org/Public/DAR\\_Research/search/?Tab\\_ID=1](http://services.dar.org/Public/DAR_Research/search/?Tab_ID=1), accessed September 2015.

<sup>38</sup> George Western Thompson, *Biographical Sketch of Hon. Linn Boyd, of Kentucky, The Present Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States*. (Washington: Printed at the Congressional Globe Office, 1852), page 6.

<sup>39</sup> Western Kentucky History and Genealogy, “The Canton Hotel,” <http://www.westernkyhistory.org/trigg/kylines/then/canton.html> Accessed September 2015.

On November 20, 1861, the Red Brick Inn stood witness as the Federal gunboat USS *Conestoga* conducted ship to shore combat against the troops of Confederate Army commander Nathan Bedford Forrest stationed nearby.<sup>40</sup>

Abraham and Nancy Linn Boyd had several children, the great-grandchildren of Robert I of Peaks of Otter. Their third son, Linn Boyd – born November 22, 1800 – showed an early proclivity for politics.

In 1831, he was elected to the Kentucky legislature, and in 1835 Linn became a U.S. Congressman (representing the same Jackson Purchase area as had his cousin by marriage,



**Hallway mural with protective material.**

Capt. Alney McLean). Eventually Linn Boyd was voted 24th Speaker of the U.S. Representatives. In 1859, Linn was elected Lieutenant Governor of the state of Kentucky, but died before he could take office.<sup>41</sup>

*The Canton Hotel, intersection of Mound Road and Boyds Landing Road, Canton, Kentucky.*  
[TheCantonHotel@gmail.com.](mailto:TheCantonHotel@gmail.com)

<sup>40</sup> Dan Lee, *The Civil War in the Jackson Purchase, 1861-1862*. (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland and Company, 2014), page 130.

<sup>41</sup> "Biographical Directory of the United States Congress,"

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=b000719>. Accessed September 2015.

The next year Boyd County, Kentucky was named for Linn Boyd.<sup>42</sup> The home where Boyd spent his childhood was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 10, 1980.<sup>43</sup>

In late 2013, the building was purchased by a group of investors intent on preserving it for eventual use as a bed and breakfast. The hotel is being renovated, including a historically accurate reconstruction of portions of the foundation, which had decomposed. Original woodwork built into the roof of the building remains exposed, revealing fascinating details about building construction at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A previous owner commissioned a mural featuring the building's past, still on view in the master hallway. Although not quite ready for business, the old hotel will likely soon be accommodating visitors as a lodging house and a venue for special events.

### **Logan County Historic Homes**

On April 22, 1819, a younger daughter of Robert II, Sophronia McLean Ewing, married Dr. James Butler Bowling, a native of Westmoreland County, Virginia.

The Bowlings were a prominent Virginia family, tied to Edith Bowling, wife of Woodrow Wilson.<sup>44</sup>

In 1829 the couple began preparation of a stately manor home off Kentucky's Route 431 overlooking the Red River, just over the state line from Tennessee. The land on which they lived, about 400 acres, was a gift from Robert Ewing II. James B. Bowling also received a land grant of 334 acres on 25 March 1834 on the middle fork of Red River.<sup>45</sup>

The home built by Dr. Bowling and his wife is still standing in good condition. It is a private residence not open for tours, but photos may be viewed at the offices of the Logan County Genealogical Society. Sophronia Ewing Bowling is buried next to her father in the Red River Meeting House cemetery.

In 1862, Gilson Payne Ewing, younger son of Robert Ewing II, began construction of a large home on the site of the former family homestead near Adairville.

The house is standing, but has fallen into disrepair. Its roof, walls and grand stairway are intact and portions of its original architectural detail remain. Very large trees and landscaping provide a sense of lost splendor. Local historians are working to determine whether an opportunity may exist to renovate the old home. Gilson died unmarried and is also buried next to his father at Red River.

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<sup>42</sup> Boyd County, Kentucky government official website homepage, <http://www.boydcountyky.gov>. Accessed September 2015.

<sup>43</sup> United States Department of the Interior, "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form," 1977, <http://focus.nps.gov/AssetDetail/NRIS/80001672>. Accessed September 2015.

<sup>44</sup> Logan County, Kentucky Genealogical Society newsletter *Logan Links*. Editor Judy Lyne, LCGS President. Volume 4, Issue 12, December 2014. Page 7.

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*



***Sophronia Ewing Bowling home, Adairville.  
Photo courtesy Logan County, Kentucky  
Genealogical Society.***



*Bowling home, private residence. Main Street near 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Adairville, Kentucky.*

*Gilson Ewing House, intersection of Trimble Road and Roy Orndorff Road, Adairville, Kentucky.*

*Logan County Genealogical Society, 278 West 4th Street, Russellville, KY.  
[www.logangenealogy.com](http://www.logangenealogy.com) 270-726-8179*

Hopefully, these details about the contributions and sacrifices of our ancestors will serve as catalyst for further questions and research on the part of Ewing family scholars, and will help encourage future generations to take inspiration from their bravery and determination. Thank you for your interest and for your support of the Ewing Family Association.



*Jean Carter Wilson (peanut123@comcast.net) is the fourth great granddaughter of Brigadier General Robert Ewing II. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee and Canton, Kentucky. She is a member of the (Nashville) Gen. William Lee Davidson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and of the (Richmond, VA) Jamestowne Society. Her hobbies include evading snakes in old graveyards, as well as studio drawing and attending games of her beloved Nashville Predators ice hockey team.*

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## **Margaret and Anne Ewing of Rowan County, NC: Sisters of Nathaniel Ewing (1747-1822)**

**Gary A. Murrell (GaryMurrell@yahoo.com)**

**Preface** -- *The following research was published in the November 2009 edition of the Ewing Family Journal. The article's subject was the completion of the Joshua Ewing family of Cecil County, Maryland.*

*Joshua and his half-brother, Nathaniel, immigrated to British America in the early 1700s and settled in Cecil County, where they raised their families. Joshua Ewing died in 1753 at or near his home, and he left a will that named five of his children. His youngest son, Nathaniel, had been well researched; he had moved to Rowan County, North Carolina, in the 1760s. The claims of prior researchers had Nathaniel marrying Rebecca Osborn, daughter of Colonel Alexander Osborn.*

*My research led me to two 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfathers, John Thompson and James Edmiston, both residing on the western North Carolina frontier in the 1760s. The search for their wives, Margaret Edmiston and Anne Thompson, prompted this research and the writing of this story. The reason for this reprint is twofold: to provide post-2009 readers to obtain this material and to introduce some new research and discoveries that will be an extension to this article.*

*When I made this breakthrough in my own tree about the relationship between the family lines of EWING, EDMISTON and THOMPSON, I discovered that no one else in the United States had published anything about these Ewing sisters and their husbands. I was definitely in virgin territory!*

Gary Murrell

\* \* \* \* \*

Over the years, many Ewing researchers have investigated the earliest Ewings in America. Among those early Ewings is one Joshua Ewing, son of William Ewing (born about 1660 in Scotland) and his second wife (name unknown). This Joshua Ewing was born about 1704 in Ulster, Ireland, and died in August 1753 in Cecil County, Maryland, leaving a family and a will. In his will, Joshua names his wife, Jane (Patton), a married daughter, Catherine, and four sons, Patrick, Robert, Samuel, and Nathaniel. No other children are mentioned. Patrick, identified as his oldest son, is named co-executor along with Joshua's wife Jane.<sup>46</sup>

Several researchers have also included a second daughter, Margaret, as a child of Joshua even though she is not named in the will. Based on an uncorroborated entry in the LDS's IGI file, this Margaret was a daughter of Joshua and Jane and was supposedly born in 1730. Some say she died by 1753, which was the reason she was missing from the list of heirs. Another school of thought is that she was born and died in 1730. If this is the case, her existence certainly does not preclude there being another Margaret born to this family in later years. Such

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<sup>46</sup> A transcription of the will appears in the section, below, titled Appendix: Joshua Ewing's Will.

was the case with my Thompson family with a daughter named Elizabeth who died in infancy with her given name being 'reused' for a later-born child.

I have recently found new evidence that needs to be considered to create a coherent body of knowledge concerning this family. It is predicated on something that I cannot substantiate, but has received widespread acceptance among Ewing historians. This evidence says that the Nathaniel named among the sons of Joshua of Cecil County is the same person who married Rebecca Osborne daughter of Alexander Osborne, of Rowan and Iredell Counties in North Carolina. If this is the case, then I am suggesting here that Joshua had two daughters not named in his will. Their names are Margaret Ewing and Anne Ewing; they are the focus of this article.

My great-great-great-great-grandmother, Margaret Edmiston (c1743-1807), was born, I believe, Margaret Ewing. She married James Edmiston about 1765, but the marriage record has never been found. Nor have the parents of James Edmiston (c1740-1803) been identified. I will make the case here that I believe her maiden name was Ewing and that she was the sister of Nathaniel and Anne. From 1778 to 1803, James and Margaret Edmiston lived in Burke County, North Carolina. One of their children was a son named Moses James Edmiston who I will discuss below.

Another great-great-great-great-grandmother of mine, Anne Thompson (1745-1815), was born Anne Ewing and married John Thompson in 1767, as recorded in Rowan County, North Carolina. We know that Anne's maiden name was Ewing. When they were married, they were living in the Davidson Creek area of what was later to become Iredell County, North Carolina. They were documented in this area in the 1768 Rowan County Tax List prepared by John Brevard. In 1769, John and Anne (Ewing) Thompson moved a few miles south to what would later become York County, South Carolina. Here they brought into the world a set of twins, Nathaniel Thompson and Mary Ann Thompson, followed by seven other children.

In 1793, there was a marriage that is recorded in the family Bible, but not found in any marriage book, between Moses James Edmiston and Mary Ann Thompson. I descend from this Moses James and Mary Ann; hence their mothers are both great-great-great-great-grandmothers of mine. In searching for the maiden name of my great-great-great-great-grandmother Margaret, I made some discoveries that made me come to the realization that Margaret and Anne were sisters, and that their brother was Nathaniel Ewing, husband of Rebecca Osborne. That would mean that Moses James Edmiston and Mary Ann Thompson, who married in 1793, were first cousins. But marriages between cousins were not at all uncommon in those days.

This article presents a number of hypotheses that lead me to the conclusion that Nathaniel, Margaret, and Anne were siblings and most probably the children of the Joshua Ewing of Cecil County, Maryland, who died in August 1753. The intent is to present and prove these hypotheses. The pedigree on page 30 will hopefully help readers follow my discussion.

### **Hypotheses About Margaret Edmiston and Anne Thompson and Their Proof**

#### **1. Nathaniel Was Anne (Ewing) Thompson's Brother:**

In the 1768 Rowan County, North Carolina, tax list in John Brevard's district (which would later become southern Iredell County), Nathaniel Ewing, future husband of

Rebecca Osborne, is listed as living in the household of one of two John Thompson families appearing in the tax list. Nathaniel would have been age 16 or older in order to be listed. Nathaniel married Rebecca Osborne about two years later – about 1770. We know that the John Thompson, with whom Nathaniel lived, is the same person as Anne Ewing's husband, as his mother's second husband, Andrew Simeral, is a neighbor in the tax list.

This suggests that Nathaniel was living with his sister, Anne (Ewing) Thompson (age about 23 in 1768), who was the wife of John Thompson, later of York County, South Carolina. Nathaniel was the 'baby' of the Joshua Ewing family and probably the last to marry. There is some disagreement over Nathaniel's birth year. Some claim February 1741. Others cite 1742, and still others, 1747.<sup>47</sup> A 1747 birth year would have him being about 21 years old at the time of the 1768 Rowan Tax List. Whether 21 or 27, he was single and living with his 23-year-old sister, Anne, in the 1768 household of John Thompson.

2. **Moses James Edmiston and Mary Ann Thompson Knew Each Other Only Because They Were First Cousins:**

Mary Ann Thompson was born and raised in York County, South Carolina, just a few miles south of today's Charlotte, North Carolina. Moses James Edmiston was raised along the upper reaches of the Catawba River in Burke County, North Carolina. They married in 1793. It is not known where they were married, but it was most likely in the county of the bride's residence, York County, South Carolina.

This leads to the question: How did they come to know each other? They were raised about a hundred miles apart. In the 1790s, travel was difficult, and people did not court across long distances. There is no known reason for Moses James Edmiston of Burke County, North Carolina, to have met Mary Ann Thompson of York County, South Carolina, other than through common Ewing relatives. Their mothers being sisters is a most plausible, even compelling, reason for this couple to meet, court, and marry.

3. **James Edmiston and Nathaniel Ewing Were Relatives or Good Friends:**

There is a recorded land sale made by Nathaniel Ewing in 1777 in Rowan County. One of the two witnesses to the transaction was James Edmiston, father of Moses James Edmiston. There was always good reason to name a relative (blood or in-law) as a witness to a deed recording. This land was next to the land of Samuel Baker on Davidson's Creek in what would become Iredell County in 1788.

4. **James Edmiston and John Thompson Were Linked by George Davidson:**

George Davidson was the bondsman (best man) for the marriage of John Thompson and Anne Ewing in 1767 in Rowan County.

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<sup>47</sup> This is further discussed in the following material.

George Davidson and James Edmiston later lived near each other in Burke County as evidenced by a group of men living near the upper stretches of the Catawba River petitioning the court on January 29, 1792, with George Davidson's and James Edmiston's names adjacent to each other in the document. On January 3, 1793, the court ordered a new road from an 'Old Fort' to Mumford's Cove, both in Burke County. Both of these men were among those ordered to participate.

James Edmiston's first property deed in Burke County in 1778 describes his property as being next to the property of George Davidson. Obviously a friend and neighbor of James Edmiston, and the equivalent of best man for John Thompson (husband of Anne Ewing), George Davidson is an undeniable link between James Edmiston and John Thompson, whose wives I am suggesting were sisters. The James Edmiston and George Davidson families probably migrated together from Iredell County to Burke County in late 1777 or early 1778, and settled next door to each other on the upper Catawba River.

**5. Margaret Edmiston's Will Names Adlai Ewing, Nathaniel's Son, as an Executor:**

Perhaps the most striking evidence of Margaret being related to the Ewing family is the fact that after her husband, James Edmiston, died in Burke County in 1803, she moved to Iredell County just to the east of Burke County, where she made a will, dated 1807, with her son, Samuel Edmiston, listed as co-executor along with Adlai Ewing. Adlai is known to be the son of Nathaniel and Rebecca (Osborne) Ewing of Iredell County. Nathaniel named his son, Adlai, after his wife's uncle, Adlai Osborne.

Margaret Edmiston no doubt moved to Iredell County between 1803 and 1807 to be near her brother Nathaniel Ewing and his family after the death of her husband. We know that all of Margaret's children had gone west, and were no longer in or near North Carolina, or were deceased by 1807. Except, that is, for sons George and Samuel. The whereabouts of George in 1807 is not known. Samuel must have been close enough to serve as a co-executor. Nathaniel Ewing, her supposed brother, was known to be in Iredell County at this time, along with his son Adlai. They are in the 1810 census of Iredell County.

In support of all of this, Margaret's will reads as follows:

*Margaret Edmiston, Iredell County, North Carolina*

*In the name of God Amen. I Margaret Edmonston widow of the County of Iredell & State of No.Carolina, being weak of body but of perfect mind & memery & calling to mind my mortality knowing that it is appointed to all once to die & therefore I do make & ordan this as my last Will & Testamont. Viz first I recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God and my body to recceive a Christian Burial & that at the discretion of my Executor. 2nd., I leave & bequeath to my son Saml one bay mare & saddle, beads & bead Clothes & all my wearing Clothes & Cupboard & Kitchon furniture. 3rd. I also leave to my daughter Molly Anny likewise to my sons James & George*

*Edmonston each & every one the sum of 5 Shillings. I leave my Son Samuel Edmonston & Adlai Ewing as the executors of this my last will and testomont and I do thereby disallow revoke & Disanul all & every other former Testaments wills legalies & Executon by me in any Wise beforenamed Ratifying & confirming this & no other in [illegible] whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and affictst my Seal the 20th March 1807. Margaret Edmonston (mark) Teste John Walls Jurat.*

**6. Blount County, Tennessee, Marriages Link Margaret Edmiston to Ewings:**

The bondsman for the marriage of Margaret's son, James Edmiston, Jr., in 1797 to Agnes Alexander in Blount County, Tennessee, was James Ewing, Sr. (1766-1856), son of Alexander Ewing (c1733-1826) and Rachel Margaret Ewing (this was both her married and maiden name).

A year later in the same county, this same James Ewing married Mary Thompson (no known relation), and James Edmiston was his bondsman. This James Ewing is known to be the first cousin once removed of Nathaniel Ewing. If Margaret, James Edmiston, Jr.'s mother, is indeed a sister of Nathaniel Ewing, then James Edmiston, Jr. and James Ewing, both of Blount County, Tennessee, are doubly second cousins, as the ancestry of this James Ewing of Blount is well-documented.

**7. Given Names of Margaret Edmiston's Descendants Show Many Ewing Names:**

David Crawford Edmiston, son of David Edmiston and grandson of James and Margaret Edmiston, named one of his children Elizabeth Ewing Edmiston. Many of his other children carry middle names of known surnames in the family tree, for example, White, Henderson, and Brevard. As David Edmiston was a brother of Moses James, his son David Crawford was not a descendant of Anne (Ewing) Thompson, so he did not get the Ewing name from her.

In addition, at least two other descendants of David Edmiston carried middle names of Euwin, probably either a misspelling of Ewing or an offshoot of the Ewing name. An extremely likely Ewing connection that David Edmiston's son and later descendants would find worthy to use in naming their children would be to David Edmiston's mother, Margaret Edmiston.

Further, my great-grandfather Thomas F. Edmiston had a brother named Andrew Ewing Edmiston, the middle name of which he acquired from either his great-grandmother, Margaret (Ewing) Edmiston, or his great-grandmother, Anne (Ewing) Thompson, or – possibly – from both. Although not as strong evidence as Margaret's use of Adlai Ewing for an executor, these multiple occurrences of Ewing among her descendants contribute to the case for her maiden name being Ewing.

**8. Margaret Was More Likely a Sister Than a First Cousin of Nathaniel Ewing:**

If we accept the evidence suggesting that Margaret Edmiston was a Ewing, was she a sister or first cousin of Nathaniel Ewing? Would she have asked a nephew (Adlai Osborne Ewing) to be a co-executor along with her son, or would she have

asked a first cousin once removed? The odds, I think overwhelmingly favor a nephew. And that would make Nathaniel Ewing a brother.

**9. Anne and Margaret Are a 'Perfect Fit' in the Joshua Ewing Family:**

Here is a listing of the estimated birth years for the children of Joshua and Jane Ewing. In the cases of the first four children, dates are from Margaret Ewing Fife's book:<sup>48</sup>

- Catherine, born about 1735
- Patrick, born February 1737
- Robert, born 1739
- Samuel, born about 1740/1741
- Margaret, born about 1743
- Anne, born 1745
- Nathaniel, born 1747

If Nathaniel was born in 1747, he would have been 21 when staying with his older sister and brother-in-law in 1768 in Rowan County. Had he been born in 1741, he would have been 27 and still single. That's a possibility, but a stretch to be sure. Which is correct?

In Chapter XXV of Margaret Ewing Fife's book, on page 202, she presents three deeds dealing with the property of Joshua Ewing (who died in 1753) of Cecil County, Maryland. The first deed was dated August 9, 1766, and included all of the land of heirs of Joshua except for his son Nathaniel, suggesting Nathaniel was under the age of 21. The other two deed recordings are dated May 31, 1769, and cite all four sons of Joshua, including his youngest son Nathaniel.

A 1741 birth would have made Nathaniel 25 years old at the time of the 1766 property transaction, and Nathaniel would no doubt have been included in that transaction. Therefore he was not born in that year. However, if he was born between 1745 and 1747, then by 1769 he would have attained the age of 21. Further, it is reasonable to think that the reason for these two land transfers occurring in 1769 was because Nathaniel had just reached age 21, perhaps just a few months before. This makes a strong case for a 1747 birth, two years after his (hypothesized) sister, Anne.

This establishes a very plausible birth-year sequence for the seven children of Joshua and Jane (Patton) Ewing as listed above. Note the every-other-year pattern of their births. Our two additions to this family, Margaret and Anne, are a near perfect fit with respect to the other five children. Anne's birth year is known. Margaret's birth year is inferred, but is consistent with independently-established evidence that Margaret was born between 1740 and 1745. Randomly selecting two women and finding a family for them where birth years merge with already

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<sup>48</sup> Fife, Margaret Ewing (ed. James R. McMichael). *Ewing in Early America*, Family History Publishers, Bountiful, Utah, 84101. Available from [www.HigginsonBooks.com](http://www.HigginsonBooks.com) and online at [www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org](http://www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org). [Short Citation: Fife - Ewing in America]

known children and no breaks in normal birth patterns is next to impossible. Yet that is exactly what we see here: A merged family with a perfect birth-year sequence.

### **Conclusions**

What about that will of Joshua Ewing in Cecil County, Maryland, written in 1753? Margaret and Anne would have been minor daughters, ages about ten and eight, respectively in 1753, when their dad died. This is not the first will I have seen which does not name daughters who are otherwise known to exist. The one daughter, Catherine, who was named was married and would therefore have been a likely recipient of personal property. But the minor girls could easily have been excluded simply because of their ages and their gender. The boys were named, even though several were minors, because males traditionally received the land bequeathed in wills of the period.

So I am of the opinion that exclusion from this will for two young daughters is a weak argument for Margaret and Anne not being a part of this family. Admittedly, proof of any one or two of the hypotheses presented above, taken alone, would make for a pretty shaky argument. But when they are considered together, in total, one has to admit the case for these three individuals – Nathaniel Ewing, Margaret (Ewing) Edmiston, and Anne (Ewing) Thompson – being siblings cannot be summarily dismissed. In my opinion, the arguments presented here collectively make a compelling case for Margaret and Anne being siblings of Nathaniel and bona fide members of the Joshua Ewing family of Cecil County, Maryland.

### **Major Questions Needing Answers**

1. Where did James Edmiston and Margaret Ewing marry? Cecil County, Maryland? Prince Edward County, Virginia? Another county in Virginia where Ewings lived? Or did they meet in Rowan County where, in 1777, we find the first documented evidence of the presence of James Edmiston in any county or state?
2. What brought Anne Ewing to Rowan (later Iredell) County where she married John Thompson, a product of Chester County, Pennsylvania? Who accompanied her to Rowan?
3. Where did James and Margaret (Ewing) Edmiston live between their marriage circa 1765 and their first documented presence in Rowan County in 1777?<sup>49</sup>
4. What was James Edmiston's home county before his marriage?<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>49</sup> I need to review deed records and tax lists for Rowan and adjoining counties between 1765 and 1777 for this couple.

<sup>50</sup> 50 He was known to be Scots-Irish, so it is likely he was born in Cecil County, Maryland, or Chester County, PA, or a nearby county. There were known Edmistons (sometimes spelled Edmondson, etc.) in both counties.

Chart no. \_\_\_\_\_  
No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. \_\_\_\_\_ on chart no. \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Moses James EDMISTON**

b: 2 March 1770  
p: Virginia or North Carolina  
m: 21 November 1793  
p: prob York Co., SC  
d: before 16 August 1845  
p: Washington Co., AR

**1 John Thompson EDMISTON**

b: 14 May 1799  
p: Buncombe Co., NC  
m: 15 November 1821  
p: Clark Co., AR  
d: 4 October 1846  
p: Washington Co., AR

sp: **Rebecca MOORE**

**3 Mary Ann THOMPSON**

b: 16 June 1769  
p: NC (now York Co., SC)  
d: about 2 May 1854  
p: Washington Co., AR

**4 James EDMISTON Sr.**

b: about 1740  
p:  
m:  
p:  
d: 1803  
p: Burke Co., NC

**5 Margaret Ewing**

b: prob between 1740/1745  
p:  
d: after March 1807  
p: Iredell Co. NC

**6 John THOMPSON Sr.**

b: 1743  
p:  
m: 24 September 1767  
p: Rowan Co., NC  
d: 24 November 1795  
p: York Co., SC

**7 Anne Ewing**

b: 1745  
p:  
d: 7 January 1815  
p: York Co., SC

8

b:  
p:  
m:  
p:  
d:  
p:

9

b:  
p:  
d:  
p:

**10 Joshua Ewing**

b: about 1704  
p: Ireland (now Northern Ireland)  
m:  
p:  
d: 9 August 1753  
p: Cecil Co., MD

**11 Jane Patton**

b:  
p:  
d:  
p:

**12 Moses THOMPSON**

b:  
p:  
m:  
p:  
d: 1745  
p: Chester Co., PA

**13 Mary Sheldon (Shelton)**

b:  
p:  
d: after 1773  
p:

**14 Joshua Ewing**

b: about 1704  
p: Ireland (now Northern Ireland)  
m:  
p:  
d: 9 August 1753  
p: Cecil Co., MD

**15 Jane Patton**

b:  
p:  
d:  
p:

Prepared 3 May 2009 by:  
Gary Murrell  
3512 Yellow Sky Circle  
Edmond, OK 73013  
405-341-1610

### **Interesting Tidbits**

Margaret (Ewing) Edmiston's supposed nephew, Adlai Osborne Ewing, is the grandfather of Adlai Ewing Stevenson, Vice President of the United States from 1893 to 1897, and the great-great-grandfather of Adlai Ewing Stevenson who was governor of Illinois and twice Democratic presidential candidate (in 1952 and 1956).

Another interesting tidbit is that Joshua Ewing's brother, William, had a son named Samuel (c1740-1806) who lived in Prince Edward County, Virginia, and Laurens County, South Carolina, before moving, prior to the 1800 census, to York County, South Carolina. He settled on Bullock's Creek just 18 dwellings away from the home of one of our subjects, Anne (Ewing) Thompson, a widow in the 1800 census. He attended the same church, Beersheba Presbyterian, which our John and Anne (Ewing) Thompson attended, and is believed to be buried in the same cemetery as John and Anne, the Beersheba Church Cemetery in York County, South Carolina. Anne and Samuel would have been first cousins. Those Ewing family ties were strong!

### **Final Comments**

I was unaware of my Ewing lineage until about three years ago when I began to 'connect the dots' on small pieces of evidence that had been accumulating for several years. What had previously been a brick wall – hopeless to further pursue – began to get cracks and soon various pieces of the puzzle came together.

Once this happened, what remained was to share my findings with others who might be interested. The Ewing-related researchers involved with the Ewing Family Association seemed to be the best venue for that sharing. Hence this article.

I would very much welcome any input from readers who might be able to shed some light on either the hypotheses and proofs presented here or the questions I have posed. I am a firm believer in the sharing of ideas among cousins and the concept of team research with its powerful synergies.

My genealogy can be found on Rootsweb's WorldConnect<sup>51</sup> in the database named 'gmapr2009'. I have withheld notes and sources from the posting in order to encourage other genealogists to contact me. I have many notes and source citations; they are in my genealogy database on my personal computer.

### **Appendix: Joshua Ewing's Will**

Joshua Ewing prepared his will on August 9, 1753. It was probated on August 16, 1753, and recorded in Cecil County, Maryland (Will Book Liber BB #2, Folio 125). A transcription appears in Chapter XXV of Margaret Ewing Fife's book is reproduced here for reader convenience:

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<sup>51</sup> [wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com)

*In the name of God, Amen. I, Joshua Ewing of Cecil County and Province of Maryland, Yoeman, being in perfect mind and memory, calling to mind the mortality of this life and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and constitute this my last Will and Testament in ye manner and form following, Viz.*

*First of all I recommend my Soul to ye hand of Almighty God that gave it, and my body to be buried in a Christian and decent manner at ye discretion of my Executors, nothing doubting but I shall receive ye same at ye Reserection by ye mighty power of God. And as touching ye worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I order in ye manner and form following:*

*1st. I order all my just debts and funeral charges to be justly paid and discharged.*

*Item 2. I order and appoint my beloved wife, Jane, to have a third part of all my lands together with its improvements during her lifetime or widowhood. But if she marry she must leave it, taking for it ye yearly Dower of twelve pounds per annum "for no stranger shall ever inherit here", and this twelve pounds shall be paid in this manner, Viz: The inheritors of Borans Forrest and Addition to Success shall pay eight pounds equally betwixt them, and the inheritors of Dividing four pounds equally betwixt them.*

*Item 3. I order and appoint my daughter, Catherine, or her husband in and through her to have one hundred pounds value of goods or chattels, out of my whole moveable Estate, by way of Dower, whereof there is seventy-eight pounds already paid, and further I order her to receive twenty pounds more out of the said moveable estate by way of gift, to be paid at ye discretion of her mother or brothers when they can conveniently do it. And I hereby depose said daughter or her husband and their heirs of any power or right, either by law or equity, forever to claim any more either by legacy or Dower of or from me or my heirs forever.*

*Item 4. As touching ye rest of my moveable Estate I order my eldest son, Patrick Ewing, to have ye value of thirty pounds of ye goods as he shall choose, and ye remainder to be divided into five equal shares between my wife and four sons, Viz: Patrick, Robert, Samuel and Nathaniel, each of the five having an equal share.*

*Item 5. As touching my real Estate in land, I order and appoint my two eldest sons, Patrick and Robert Ewing to have ye Plantation I bought of Jared Nelson called Borans Forrest and Addition to Success. I appoint it to them and to ye lawfully begotten heirs of their body forever.*

*Item 6. I appoint my two youngest sons, Viz: Samuel and Nathaniel Ewing to have ye Plantation I now live on called ye Dividing, containing three hundred acres, and I order it to them and ye lawfully begotten heirs of their body forever.*

*And further I do hereby depose for ever all my four sons and their heirs of all power and authority forever to sell or alienate, or to sell, mortgage, or rent said lands. But in process of time, if they and their best friends see cause, they may sell one to*

*another. But ye lands not to depart from ye family while there is a righteous or lawfully begotten heir to be found belonging to me.*

*And if any of my four sons die a minor before they come of age, his part I appoint to be equally divided among ye other three. But if Patrick or Robert die a minor his part of ye estate I appoint to be also equally divided only Samuel to succeed ye deceased brother in his part of ye land and said Samuel deliver up his right and title to ye part of ye Dividing to be equally divided among the three remaining brothers. Further, I also order and appoint ye there be no division made between my sons until the two eldest come of age or see cause to marry, and longer if possible.*

*I order and appoint [that] ye two plantations be subservient one to another both in meadow and in timber as occasion may require, and if they see cause to make any improvements by a mill on any of ye places, either before or after ye division, they must all be equal in the expense and equally in the benefits arising from thence.*

*I do hereby order and appoint my beloved wife and oldest son, Patrick to be my Executors, and further appoint James Porter, William Ewing, Snr. [Alexander Ewing's son] and John Ewing, Junr., be my guardians, to see that justice and equity be done.*

*And lastly revoking and disannulling all Will or Wills before made by me, I do hereby make and constitute this my last Will and Testament. As witness my hand and seal this Ninth day of August in ye year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and fifty three.*

*Joshua Ewing [signature of] [Seal]*

### **Margaret Ewing Fife adds the following comments:**

This Will was signed, sealed and acknowledged in presence of John Ewing, and probated August 16, 1753, in Cecil County, Maryland. On the back of the foregoing Will was thus written,

*Viz: Cecil County, August 16th 1753, John Ewing the subscribing witness to the within Will ... saw the testator, Joshua Ewing sign the within Will ...*

The William Ewing, Sr. [mentioned in the will] is, surely, the son-in-law of Joshua Ewing [husband of his daughter Catherine] as we saw in the preceding Chapter XXIV. William Ewing, Sr. was the eldest [son] of Nathaniel Ewing. William Ewing, Jr. was 3rd son of Alexander Ewing of THE LEVEL, Cecil Co., MD who died 1738. John Ewing, [the witness to the will], is the 2nd son of Alexander Ewing of THE LEVEL and was married with one child by 1753 as proven by family records. John Ewing, Jr. is one of the twin sons of Nathaniel and Rachel (Porter) Ewing. He was, at that time, almost 22 years old and said to be teaching in Dr. Allison's school there.

**Addendum**

Further research performed by this author after the 2009 publishing of the preceding story resulted in additional evidence that the Ewing sisters, Margaret and Anne, were daughters of Joshua and Jane (Patton) Ewing. The reader will get an exposure to the North Carolina frontier with a close look at Davidson's Creek Settlement in the 1760s. This material will be the subject of an article in the November 2016 issue of the Ewing Family Association Journal.



*Gary Murrell is a family historian living in Edmond, Oklahoma, a few miles northeast of Oklahoma City. He has been interested in genealogy since the 1960s, but did not get serious about research until the early 1990s after his children were gone from the nest. He has been married to Marilyn for 50 years, and has 4 children and 15 grandchildren. He and his wife are retired and enjoy traveling in their RV and doing genealogy research along the way.*

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**Scottish immigrants from the early 1900s.**

*(Courtesy of the New York Public Library's digital collections.)*



# ***Robert Watson Ewing of New South Wales, Australia***

**b. 15 August 1861 in Lanarkshire, Scotland  
and  
d. 30 December 1938, in Lidcombe, Australia**

## **His Ancestry And Descendants**

Margaret Ewing Fife in her research of *Ewings in Early America*, Chapter IX, discusses members of a Ewing family in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, and their members in America.

Does Robert Watson Ewing connect in any way to that Ewing family?

## **A STUDY**

**(15 December 2015)**

Collaboration: John William (Ewing) Riley of Rubyvale, Queensland, Australia  
and  
Richard C. Jonsson of Warrenton, Virginia, USA

**Acknowledgements**

(alphabetically)

Karen Avery, Ewing Family Association (EFA) Genealogist, who suggested that a study related to John’s Australian family and ancestry be submitted as a research paper to the (Clan Ewing) EFA Journal, for potential publication.

Ruth Burkholder, Canadian genealogist, historian, educator, and owner of her own company. who has, over the years, provided guidance in things genealogical. (RCJ Cousin)

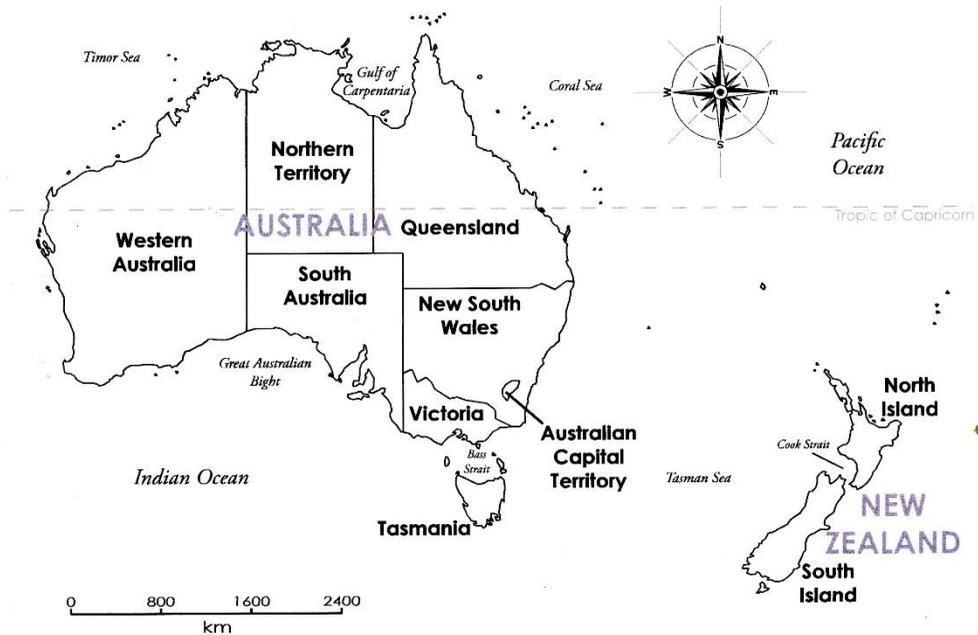
David Ewing of New South Wales who first pointed out a member of the ancestral line, namely John Soloman (Solomon) Ewing, and then suggesting that he look to a John Soloman Ewing. (JWER Uncle)

The late Bill Riddle, former *EF Journal* Editor, who previously provided much assistance in the preparation of two research studies for publication in the EFA Journal, and as such, assisted in establishing the format of this submission.

And – Our gratitude to all the researchers and historians, on several continents, who created the variety of publicly available records, enabling the modest success of this study.

JWER  
RCJ

**Australia and New Zealand**



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\* Page numbers are listed as shown in this publication, not the original Study document.

## Preface

The genesis of this study is a request during 2015 from a New Zealand-born Australian Ewing family, asking if the EFA Genealogical Section knew anything about his parentage. The response in Ewing Family Journal, Vol 21, No 2, (November 2015) was, "unfortunately there was no knowledge of that family in the files."

## Frederick John Ewing

### Message to Karen Avery from John William ([the\\_oasis\\_rubyvale@bigpond.com](mailto:the_oasis_rubyvale@bigpond.com))

*Folks, I had a grandmother living in Sydney, Australia at the same time I was living in Dunedin, New Zealand. My Mother was Evelyn Thora Larson, and she married Frederick John Ewing in Mosgiel, New Zealand in either 1953 or 1954. The only reason I know I had a Grandmother living there was because I received gifts at Christmas from her. As far as I know, Fredrick John Ewing was on the run from New South Wales Police around 1950 to 1953 and ended up in Mosgiel, New Zealand. He is on my birth certificate as my father in 1954. I don't know my Grandmother's name; I assume it was Ewing and that she lived in the Sydney area. I had no correspondence with her after I was married in 1976. I would like to know if you know of any Ewings who lived in the Sydney area around the early 1970's.*

### Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))

*Unfortunately I do not know anything about your Ewing Family. We would be happy to publish your information in the Ewing Family Association Journal, if you would like for us to do that. Perhaps one of our members might know of your line and would contact you.*

*Perhaps the thing that would be most helpful to you is for you or another Ewing male of your line to join the Ewing Y-DNA Project. Following is a direct link for a man to join:*

*[http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/DNA\\_Project/index\\_Y-DNA\\_ToJoin.html](http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/DNA_Project/index_Y-DNA_ToJoin.html)*

*There is information on this page about testing. The link to actually join is located at the bottom of the page. It is best to purchase the test for 37 markers. The test is simply swabbing inside the cheek two different times in a day. Then return the samples in the provided envelope to the lab. Results usually are returned in six to eight weeks. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.*

Then, an EFA member offered to assist in a search. During initial contacts, a few key and pertinent items surfaced: An Uncle, David, had suggested that John William look for a John Soloman Ewing. Also, John William had determined that his Grandmother's name was Beatrice. Then the search for family, represented by this brief study, commenced in December 2015. The wonders of electronics, e-mail contact, and input from other researchers, has enabled us to delve, not only into the history of this continent, but also to establish a familial trail for John William Ewing, covering approximately 250 years from Sydney, Australia, to Lanarkshire and Ayrshire, Scotland.

John William Ewing was born in the Mosgiel Hospital, Mosgiel, New Zealand. His mother, Evelyn Thora Larson, was the daughter of Alfred and Esther (Tournelle) Larson, of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. Evelyn Thora had a sister, Myrtle, and two brothers, Victor and William.

His father, Frederick John Ewing came from Sydney, Australia, the son of John Soloman (sic) Ewing and Beatrice Ethel Johnston of Sydney, Australia. John Soloman was the son of Robert Watson Ewing, the Immigrant Ancestor of this study.

About the time of the birth of John William Ewing, his father decided to return to Australia – without the family – and disappeared from their lives. His Grandmother, Beatrice, kept in periodic contact with young John William until her death in 1971.

John William's mother, Evelyn, remarried a few years later to an Allan Riley, and John William grew up in that household. As brothers and sister arrived, he was the Ewing in a family of Rileys, so he used the New Zealand Deed Poll system (pictured) and officially changed his name to John William Riley.

John William married Janice Shirley Ballantyne of Careys Bay, New Zealand on 19 June 1976. John William and Shirley now live in Queensland, Australia, and their children live in both Australia and in New Zealand.

### Introduction

Much has been written about the early exploration of the land, and formation of the colonies that became the great nation of Australia. However, the study will simply note a few stages in order to provide a touch of history and immigration, and to establish the arrival time frame of the immigrant, Robert Watson Ewing.

Over the centuries, seafaring nations have endeavoured to expand trade routes and develop colonies in order to sustain their internal economic machinery. The land mass of Australia, first called *Terra Australis Nondum Cognitum*, then *The Great South Land*, then *New Holland*, then *Australia*, received a great deal of attention.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Registrar-General P.O. Box 5025 Lambton Quay WELLINGTON C.1.	Registrar-General's Office Stout Street WELLINGTON C.1.
---	---

29 March 76

Mr. J. W. Riley,  
 Henry St.  
 Careys Bay,  
FORT CHALMERS.

Dear Sir,

CHANGE OF NAME BY DEED POLL

I have your ~~document~~ Deed Poll documents and \$5.00.

The Deed Poll has been deposited and the change of name registered on the copy of birth.

Yours faithfully,  
*J. L. Wright*  
 (J. L. Wright)  
 Registrar-General

R.G. 205

In reply please quote.  
 R.G. 76/339

1581 – The Dutch East India Co. charted the North, West and South shores of the sub-continent. To the exploring mariners, the subcontinent appeared too bleak and hostile for any trade activity. (gov.au)

1606 – The small Dutch ship, *Duyfken* (small dove) – Ship's Captain, Willem Janzoon – sailed from Indonesia and appeared to be the first European to map and record the northern shores of Australia. (gov.au)

1626 – The first recording of the south Australian coast was by a Dutch ship, the *Gulden Zeepaerdt* (Golden Seahorse) – the ship's commander was François Thijssen. (Wikipedia)

1642 – Able Tasman landed on the West Coast and named the place Van Diemen's Land (now called Tasmania). (gov.au)

1674 – Ferdinand Verbiest, a Jesuit priest in China, created a map called *Kangyu Wanguo Quanto*. (gov.au)

1699 – William Dampier sailed around Western Australia and made a detailed survey. (gov.au)

1764-1766 – The French and British sent numerous scientific expeditions to Australia. (gov.au)

1768 – Lieutenant James Cook (Captain Cook) surveyed the coast of New Zealand. (gov.au)

1770 - Lt. James Cook landed on the East Coast of Australia at a point he called Botany Bay. He claimed possession for Great Britain and named the landfall New South Wales. (gov.au) See Appendix 2.

13 May 1787- 20 Jan 1788 – The *First Fleet* left Portsmouth and began the journey to Botany Bay. This armada of 11 ships (6 convict ships, 2 naval vessels, and 3 supply ships) began their historic journey of approximately 9 months, and became the precursor of a convict resettlement program that lasted eighty years. (Ballyn) See Appendix 1.

1804 – Matthew Flinders (1774-1814) circumnavigated Australia charting most of the coastline. (gov.au)

1830's – It became apparent to the British Parliament that the colony could not be self-sustaining on the backs of a convict culture, so land was opened for settlers. See Appendix 3.

1836 – A flotilla of 9 ships, carrying 636 settlers, set sail from London for an eight-month voyage to establish a colony to be called South Australia (Wikipedia). See Appendix 2.

1700's-1800's - "Highland Clearance" - Highland Gaelic - *Fuadach nan Gàrdheal* – "the eviction of the Gael" as land owners consolidated their holdings into larger farms in order to compete. In the process thousands of crofters were evicted, which resulted in another migration period. This was a significant migration of Highlanders to coastal areas, to the Scottish Lowlands, to Australia and North America. (BBC)

1845-1857 – The Irish potato blight (famine) and the subsequent migration. There were over half a million people evicted from their land and transshipped to the Americas and Australia. (Wikipedia). See Appendix 3.

1846-1857 – The Scot potato blight (famine), while less severe than the Irish famine, resulted in major migration to Canada and Australia. (Wikipedia)

1848 – Australian Anti-Transportation (of convicts) movement started with significant public pressure. (White p.330)

1850 - October 1850 the transportation of convicts to New South Wales was officially abolished. (Ballyn)

1851 - Discovery of gold which caused a large influx of prospectors. Australia's population tripled. (Wikipedia)

1860 – Immigration from Scotland in full force to the colonies of New South Wales and South Australia, and to the Americas. See Appendix 3.

10 Jan 1868 – The last convict ship landed at Freemantle, Australia. Convict traffic had ended. (Ballyn)

17 November 1869 – The Suez Canal opened, reducing the need for shipping to go around the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa. This significantly reduced the distance, and travel time, to the east coast of Africa, India and the Asia Pacific. (Wikipedia)

### **Discussion**

This portion of the study will be in two sections, the first being Robert Watson Ewing and a summary of his descendants.

Robert is seen with his family in the 1871 Scotland census, Registration District, Cambusnethan, Town of Washaw, and County of Lanarkshire.

The occupants of, 1 Berryhill, 1st Row were:

John Ewing 52

Jane (Proven) Ewing 45

James Ewing 23

Charles Ewing 21

David Ewing 12

Robert Ewing 9 – (Robert Watson Ewing)

Thomas Ewing 7

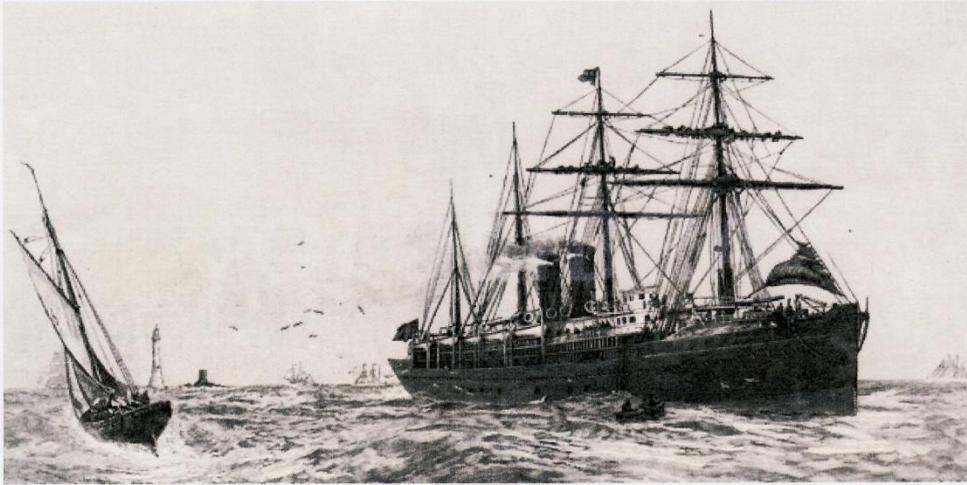
They were a mining family and John (52) is listed as, Miner, “top hole man.” This role appears to be a miner with the responsibility to ensure that the lifts, for miners and ore, are continuously functional. John died – 6 April 1874.

Robert was 13 at the time of his father's death, and as seen from a later account, it appears that Robert had been put-to-trade as a watchmaker. At the end of the apprenticeship, and now a journeyman, Robert married a Mary Selfridge on 9 June 1882, in Wishaw, Lanarkshire. Unfortunately Mary died on 8 May 1885.

Robert's Mother, Jane (Proven) Ewing, died on 12 April 1894, and in 1896, a young Scot from Lanarkshire, Robert Watson Ewing, the "Immigrant" of this study booked passage from Glasgow, Scotland to Sydney, Australia on the P&O Liner, "Ormuz," newly built for Scotland/Australia traffic. (My Extended Family)

This sailing, steamship was advertised as making the journey in four to six weeks. (Wikipedia)

The steamship (and sail) Ormuz. Built in 1886 for UK to Australia/New Zealand traffic



Ormuz

In 1894, Robert Watson Ewing married Esther May Bromfield in Parramatta, New South Wales, Australia. Their children:

Jean Orchard

John Soloman (sic) m. Beatrice Ethel Johnston – G'parents to John William(See Appendix 6)

Esther May

Robert Henry

Ruth

Gladys Hope

Grace Olive

Caleb

Benjamin

George Alexander



**Robert Watson Ewing**  
(15 Aug 1861 - 30 Dec 1938)



**Esther May Bromfield**  
(20 Feb 1879 – 11 Mar 1960)

(Photographs – Courtesy of *Bromfield Family* (Bryan Bromfield))

In 1897, shortly after arriving in Australia, Robert registered a complaint with the police over a theft of a personal, small silver case.

In 1908 Robert had a brush with the law. He was accused of larceny in the theft of a gold ring. This resulted in a three month jail term. The 14 July 1908 charge sheet was most interesting as the contents verified his birth, his parents, his arrival in Australia on the *Ormuz*, and his trade as a watchmaker. We have found no further incidents.

The next section will include the ancestral study that takes Robert Watson's ancestry back to Lanarkshire, Ayreshire, and possibly Dumbarton, Scotland. The earliest known relatives found in this search are William Ewing (b. about 1760) and Margaret Currie (b. about 1760).

The following composite descendant chart represents presently researched ancestors, extended family, and descendants of Robert Watson Ewing.

## *Descendants of William Ewing*

### *Generation No. 1*

1. WILLIAM<sup>1</sup> EWING was born Abt. 1760. He married MARGARET CURRIE. She was born Abt. 1760.

Children of WILLIAM EWING and MARGARET CURRIE are:

2.
  - i. JAMES<sup>2</sup> EWING, b. 1789, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland; d. October 13, 1884, Road Meetings, Carlisle, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
  - ii. WILLIAM EWING, b. 1798, Old Kirkpatrick, Dumbarton, Scotland; d. April 04, 1882, Road Meetings, Carlisle, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

*Generation No. 2*

**2.** JAMES<sup>2</sup> EWING (*WILLIAM*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1789 in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, and died October 13, 1884 in Road Meetings, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He married (1) MARGARET SPENCE Abt. 1814. She was born February 1786 in Carstairs, Lanarkshire, daughter of John Spence and Jean Weir who were married 16 July 1769 (Information from The Gray Nation), and died February 05, 1829 in Lanarkshire, Scotland. He married (2) GRIZZELL EASTON Abt. 1831. She was born 1800 in Lesmahagow, daughter of Robert Easton and Margaret Frood, and died December 31, 1882 in Road Meetings, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Children of JAMES EWING and MARGARET SPENCE are:

- i. MARGARET<sup>3</sup> EWING, b. 1815, Carnwath, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. May 08, 1895; m. JOHN ANDERSON.
4. ii. WILLIAM EWING, b. 1816, Carnwath, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. November 15, 1896, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
- iii. JAMES EWING, b. 1817, Carnwath, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. November 16, 1859; m. MARGARET PELLING.
5. iv. JOHN EWING, b. 1819, Mayfield Row, Carnwath, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. April 06, 1874, 1 Berryhill Rows, Wishaw, Cambusnethan, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
- v. AGNES EWING, b. 1824, Carstairs, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. March 29, 1903; m. WILLAM EWING, March 24, 1844; b. 1820, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. April 04, 1887.

More About WILLAM EWING:

Census: 1851, Lived in Carluke, Lanarkshire

- vi. ROBERT EWING, b. 1826, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
- vii. JEAN EWING, b. 1827, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
- viii. ALEXANDER EWING, b. 1829, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Children of JAMES EWING and GRIZZELL EASTON are:

- ix. ELIZABETH<sup>3</sup> EWING, b. 1834, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. September 27, 1897; m. JOHN BROWN.
- x. GEORGE EWING, b. 1839, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; m. MAGARET PHIM.
- xi. THOMAS EWING, b. 1844, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. November 02, 1924; m. MARGARET GILCHRIST WADELL.

**3.** WILLIAM<sup>2</sup> EWING (*WILLIAM*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1798 in Old Kirkpatrick, Dumbarton, Scotland, and died April 04, 1882 in Road Meetings, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He married ELIZABETH EASTON September 1818 in Lesmahagow. She was born April 19, 1798 in Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

More About WILLIAM EWING:

Census 1: 1851, Living at Lainsuir Muir. Occupants - William, Elizabeth: Margaret, Jane, Robert, Janet, George, Marion, Elizabeth, +Elizabeth Platt (1)

Census 2: 1861, Living at Langshan Moor. Occupants - William, Elizabeth: Janet, George, James, Marion, Elizabeth, +Elizabeth Platt (11)

Census 3: 1871, Living at Roadmeetings. Occupants - William, Elizabeth: James, Elizabeth, +William Paterson (4)

Census 4: 1881, Retired Weaver. Living on Radical Road, Carluke - Occupants: William, son James b. 1838

Children of WILLIAM EWING and ELIZABETH EASTON are:

6.
  - i. WILLIAM<sup>3</sup> EWING, b. 1820, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire, Scotland.
  - ii. MARGARET EWING, b. 1822, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire; d. 1907.
  - iii. JANE EWING, b. 1824, Hazelbank, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire; d. 1888.
  - iv. ROBERT EWING, b. 1827, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire; d. 1917.
  - v. AGNES EWING, b. 1828, Inchanon, Renfrewshire.
  - vi. JANET EWING, b. 1831; d. 1902.
  - vii. GRIZEL EWING, b. November 22, 1832, Roadmeetings, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. 1917.
  - viii. GEORGE EWING, b. 1835, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. 1915.
  - ix. JAMES EWING, b. 1838, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. 1919.
7.
  - x. MARION EWING, b. 1840, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. 1907.
  - xi. ELIZABETH EWING, b. 1843, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. 1923.

### *Generation No. 3*

**4.** WILLIAM<sup>3</sup> EWING (*JAMES*<sup>2</sup>, *WILLIAM*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1816 in Carnwath, Lanarkshire, Scotland, and died November 15, 1896 in Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He married SARAH WEIR LAW Abt. 1853 in Probably, Carluke. She was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland.

More About WILLIAM EWING:

Census 1: 1851, Handloom Weaver - Lived at Lainshaw Muir, Carluke. Occupants: William, Sarah,

Census 2: 1861, Cotton Weaver - Lived at Mount Pleasant, Carluke. Occupants: Wlliam, Sarah, William L (7), Robert M (1)

Census 3: 1871, Town Crier - Lived at Bridge End, Carluke. Occupants: William, Sarah, William (17) Miners Drawer, Robert (10) Scholar, Sarah W (6), Margaret S (3)

Census 4: 1881, Pedlar and Town Crier - Lived at Bridge End, Carluke. Occupants: William, Sarah, William (27) Ironstone Miner, Robert (21) Ironstone Miner, Margaret (13)

Census 5: 1891, Lived on John Street - Occupants: William, Sarah, Sarah (1) Granddaughter

Census 6: 1901, Wm. not listed - Sarah listed - Living at Old Bridge End - Occupants: Sarah, (76), Margaret (34) Dom servant, Margaret (3) b. Edinburgh, granddaughter, Sarah (5 mos) granddaughter

Children of WILLIAM EWING and SARAH LAW are:

- i. WILLIAM<sup>4</sup> EWING, b. 1854.
- ii. ROBERT M EWING, b. 1860.
- iii. SARAH W EWING, b. 1865.
- iv. MARGARET S EWING, b. 1868.

**5.** JOHN<sup>3</sup> EWING (*JAMES*<sup>2</sup>, *WILLIAM*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1819 in Mayfield Row, Carnwath, Lanarkshire, Scotland, and died April 06, 1874 in 1 Berryhill Rows, Wishaw, Cambusnethan, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He married JANE PROVEN April 23, 1847 in Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland. She was born 1826 in Auchengray, Carnwath, Lanarkshire, Scotland, daughter of Charles Proven and Jane Ballantyne, and died April 12, 1894 in Wishaw, Cambusnethan, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

More About JOHN EWING:

Census: 1891, 1st row, Berryhill, Cambusnethan, Wishaw, Lanarkshire

Children of JOHN EWING and JANE PROVEN are:

- i. JAMES<sup>4</sup> EWING, b. 1848.
- ii. CHARLES EWING, b. 1850.
- iii. DAVID EWING, b. 1859.
8. iv. ROBERT WATSON EWING, b. August 15, 1861, Mayfield Row, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland; d. December 30, 1938, Lidcombe Hospital, NSW, Australia.
- v. THOMAS EWING, b. 1864.

**6.** WILLIAM<sup>3</sup> EWING (*WILLIAM*<sup>2</sup>, *WILLIAM*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1820 in Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He married AGNES. She was born 1824 in Lesmahagow, the daughter of James Ewing and Margaret Spence.

Children of WILLIAM EWING and AGNES are:

- i. MARGARET SPENCE<sup>4</sup> EWING, b. 1846; d. 1921.
- ii. WILLIAM EWING, b. 1849; d. 1884.
- iii. ELIZABETH EASTON EWING, b. 1850; d. 1928.
- iv. JANE EWING, b. 1852; d. 1921.
- v. JAMES EWING, b. 1855; d. 1928.
- vi. JANET JESSIE EWING, b. 1856; d. 1913.
- vii. ROBERT EWING, b. 1859; d. 1860.
- viii. GRACE EWING, b. 1861; d. 1915.
- ix. MARION EWING, b. 1863; d. 1949.
- x. ROBERT EWING, b. 1868; d. 1929.

**7.** MARION<sup>3</sup> EWING (*WILLIAM*<sup>2</sup>, *WILLIAM*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1840 in Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland, and died 1907. She married ALEXANDER LINDSAY.

Children of MARION EWING and ALEXANDER LINDSAY are:

- i. JOHN<sup>4</sup> LINDSAY.
- ii. ELIZABETH EASTON LINDSAY.
- iii. WILLIAM LINDSAY.
- iv. ROBERT EWING LINDSAY.
- v. GEORGE EWING LINDSAY.
- vi. JAMES LINDSAY.

**8. ROBERT WATSON<sup>4</sup> EWING** (*JOHN<sup>3</sup>, JAMES<sup>2</sup>, WILLIAM<sup>1</sup>*) was born August 15, 1861 in Mayfield Row, Carluke, Lanarkshire, Scotland, and died December 30, 1938 in Lidcombe Hospital, NSW, Australia. He married (1) **MARY SELFRIDGE** June 09, 1882 in Main Street, Wishaw, Lanarkshire, Scotland. She was born September 30, 1863 in 21 Russell St, Wishaw, Lanarkshire, Scotland, and died May 08, 1885 in Old Monkton, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He married (2) **ESTHER MAY BROMFIELD** February 20, 1904 in Parramatta, (Blacktown?) NSW, Australia. She was born July 09, 1879 in Hartley, NSW, Australia, daughter of John Bromfield and Jane Orchard., and died March 11, 1960 in Narrabee, NSW, Australia.

More About **ROBERT WATSON EWING**:

Burial: December 31, 1938, Rookwood Independent Cemetery, NSW, Australia

Immigration: 1896, Scotland to Australia on the ship "Armuz"

More About **ESTHER MAY BROMFIELD**:

Burial: Rookwood Independent Cemetery, NSW, Australia

Children of **ROBERT EWING** and **ESTHER BROMFIELD** are:

- i. **JEAN ORCHARD<sup>5</sup> EWING**, b. 1904, Sydney, NSW, Australia; d. February 26, 1963; m. **HUGH GODFREY**.
9. ii. **JOHN SOLOMAN EWING**, b. February 17, 1906, Hurstville, NSW, Australia; d. July 14, 1977, Auburn, NSW, Australia.
- iii. **ESTHER MAY EWING**, b. 1907, Sydney, NSW, Australia; d. 1907, Redfern, NSW, Australia.
- iv. **ROBERT HENRY EWING**, b. Abt. 1908, Sydney, NSW, Australia; m. **NETTA HAZEL BASTIAN**.
- v. **RUTH EWING**, b. 1911, Sydney, NSW, Australia; d. June 01, 1978; m. **NORMAN EDGAR RUSSELL**.
- vi. **GLADYS HOPE EWING**, b. Abt. 1913, Sydney, NSW, Australia.
- vii. **GRACE OLIVE EWING**, b. March 19, 1916; d. October 27, 2009; m. **WALTER FRANCIS CAULFIELD**.
- viii. **CALEB EWING**, b. May 14, 1918; d. February 13, 2000, Boonah, Queensland, Australia; m. **OLGA ARGERAKIS**.
- ix. **BENJAMIN EWING**, b. October 02, 1920; d. March 02, 2000, Wyoming NSW, Australia; m. **ISABEL MAUDE FLUKE**.
- x. **GEORGE ALEXANDER EWING**, b. Abt. 1923, Sydney, NSW, Australia.

#### *Generation No. 5*

**9. JOHN SOLOMAN<sup>5</sup> EWING** (*ROBERT WATSON<sup>4</sup>, JOHN<sup>3</sup>, JAMES<sup>2</sup>, WILLIAM<sup>1</sup>*) was born February 17, 1906 in Hurstville, NSW, Australia, and died July 14, 1977 in Auburn, NSW, Australia. He married **BEATRICE ETHEL JOHNSTON** 1929 in Sydney, NSW, Australia. She was born 1907 in Sydney, NSW, Australia, daughter of William James Johnston and Agnes J. Cummins of Orange, NSW, Australia, and died May 13, 1971 in Auburn, NSW, Australia.

More About **JOHN SOLOMAN EWING**:

Burial: July 19, 1977, Rookwood Independent Cemetery, NSW, Australia (Zone F, Independent R, 558)

Military service: April 24, 1920, Royal Australian Naval Brigade

More About BEATRICE ETHEL JOHNSTON:

Burial: May 17, 1971, Rookwood Independent Cemetery, NSW, Australia (Zone F, Independent R, 558)

Children of JOHN EWING and BEATRICE JOHNSTON are:

- i. FREDERICK JOHN<sup>6</sup> EWING, b. Abt. 1931, Auburn, NSW, Australia; m. EVELYN THORA LARSON, Mosgiel, Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand; b. October 26, 1935, Mosgiel, Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, daughter of Alfred? Larson and Esther Tourelle of Mosgiel, Dunedin, Otago, NZ; d. August 23, 2008.

More About EVELYN THORA LARSON:

Obituary: August 2008, As Evelyn Thora Riley, wife of Allan Riley

Residence: 1957, Evelyn Thora Ewing, housewife, Electoral Roll, Morningside District - Carlisle Road, Mosgiel, Otago, New Zealand

- ii. DAVID EWING.

Note: Frederick John Ewing (b. about 1931) is the father of John William (Ewing) Riley of Queensland, Australia, who is co-author of this work.

The research to create the Family Descendant Profile has been assisted by the work that others have done:

- The Gray Nation (Scotland)
- The MacFarlane Family (Scotland)
- My Extended Family (Australia)
- The Bromfield Family Tree (Bryan Bromfield)

### **Conclusion**

At the initiation of this study it had been thought that, from repetition of names, and origins in Kilmarnock, Ayreshire, that this researched family might possibly be related to the Ewing family discussed by Margaret Fife, *Ewing in America*, Chapter IX. We have not proved that there is a connection.

### **Areas For Further Study**

From the official (census) data it appears that this Australian family has early roots in Carluke, Lanarkshire; Kilmarnock, Ayreshire; and possibly Dumbartonshire.

1. Who are the parents of William Ewing, and Margaret Currie, both born about 1760, and which families do they represent?

- Their son, James Ewing born 1789, Kilmarnock Ayrshire, died 13 October 1884 in Roadmeetings, Carluke, Lanarkshire. This James (b.1789) is married (1<sup>st</sup>) to Margaret

Spence, and married (2<sup>nd</sup>) to Grizzell Easton, (b. 1800) in Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire.(Gray Nation)

- In the 1881 census of Scotland we find another son: William Ewing born 1796 in Old Kilpatrick, Dunbarton. He is listed as a Retired Weaver, with his son, James born 1838 in Carluke, Lanarkshire. Further research shows this William Ewing (b. 1796) married to Elizabeth Easton born 19 April 1798 in Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire (Gray Nation)

An Interesting Note: *Agnes, the daughter of James Ewing, born 1789 in Kilmarnock, Ayresshire, married William, the son of William Ewing, born 1796 in Old Kilpatrick, Dumbarton.*

2. Another question for further research relates to John Ewing (baptized 8 July 1719) – see Fife, *Ewing in Early America* Chapter IX. A 1761 Will of John Ewing, gunner at Dumbarton Castle indicates he was 45 years old at time of death. His birth thus is very close to the baptism date of the John Ewing, the brother to Hugh Ewing. Family letter references John as having joined the Army (at age 13) and being sent home due to illness. (Fife) However, we know not when.

A fascinating story has surfaced:

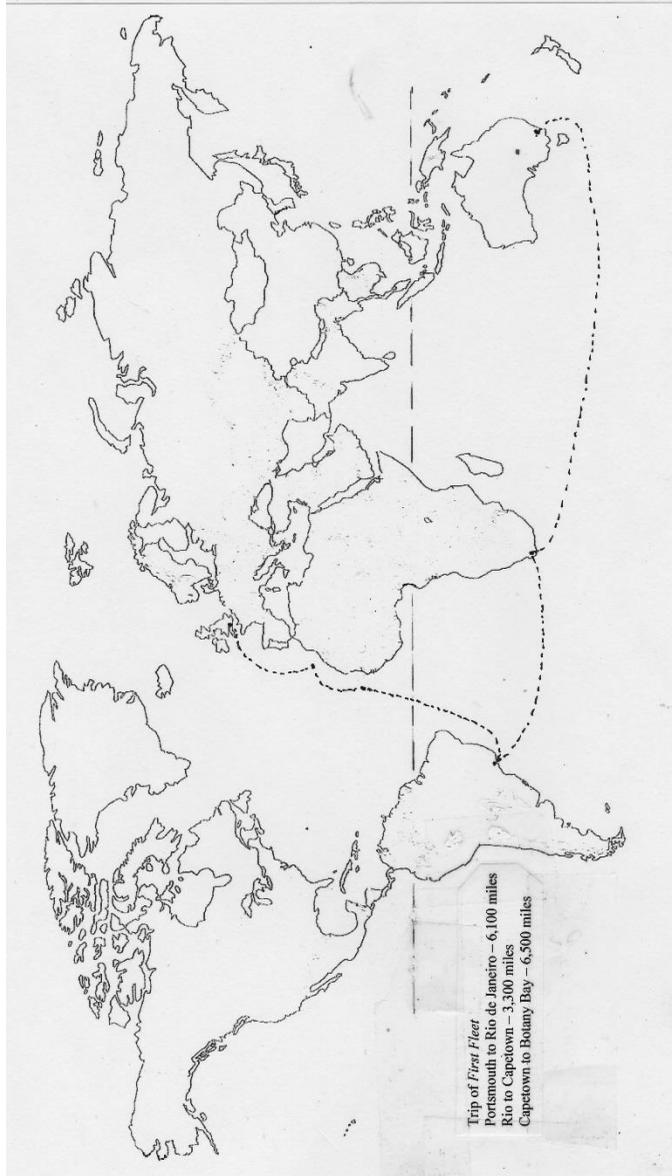
- John Ewing, gunner at Dumbarton Castle, married Marion Campbell, the daughter of William Campbell, of Succoth, and Lillias Houston. One of three children of William and Lillias Houston. This John Ewing died in 1761. William Campbell was the son of Robert Campbell of Succoth and Janet Glen. William was a Maltster, and was Burgess of Dumbarton in 1637, Sheriff clerk of Dumbarton in 1641, and Provost of Dumbarton in 1652. (Burkes Peerage)

Other than a few notes, very little has surfaced about this John Ewing. Is this the John Ewing of Kilmarnock, Ayresshire, as discussed in Fife (*Ewing in America*), chapter IX?

Appendix pages follow:

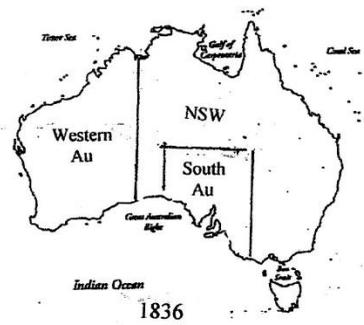
**Appendix 1**

Route of *First Fleet* to Australia – Info - Courtesy of *Fatal Shore*, after page xviii (Hughes)



**Appendix 2**

Historical Internal Boundaries of Australia – Info - Courtesy of *Fatal Shore*, after page xviii (Hughes)



**Appendix 3**

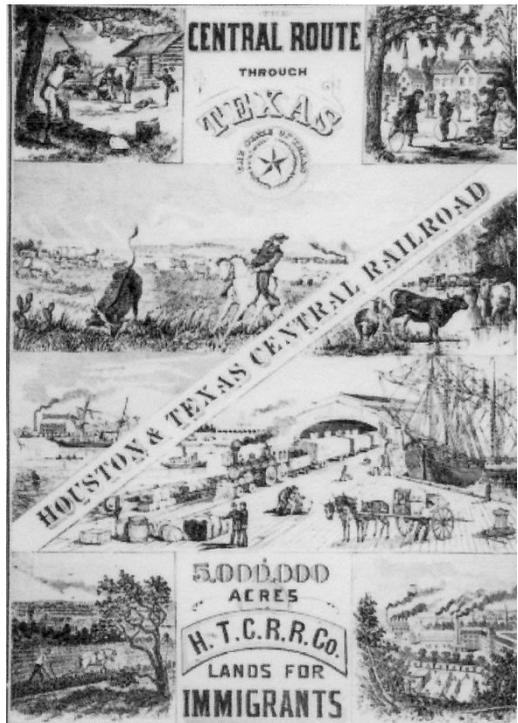
UK - 1835 Advert for Australia.  
(Courtesy of Wikipedia)



  
 BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING  
**Colonization Commissioners**  
 FOR HIS MAJESTY'S PROVINCE OF  
**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,**  
 THAT THE COMMISSIONERS ARE NOW  
**SELLING ORDERS**  
 FOR  
**Town and Country Sections**  
**LAND,**  
*Reserving the Holders of the first 400 Orders to*  
**PRIORITY OF CHOICE.**  
 The Commissioners are also prepared to receive applications  
 from such intending Settlers as may wish to have their Servants  
 or Labourers conveyed to the Colony  
**FREE OF COST,**  
*By means of the Emigration Fund.*  
 The GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONERS, and other ORDER  
 OFFICERS will depart in view to the preliminary arrangements for the purpose.  
 Copies of the Regulations for the disposal of Public Land and the Emigration of  
 Labourers, may be obtained of the Surveyor General, or of any of the Agents, to whom applications for Land may be  
 made at the Office, No. 6, Adelaide Street, London.  
*By order of the Board.*  
**ROWLAND HILL, Secy.**

1835 advertisement

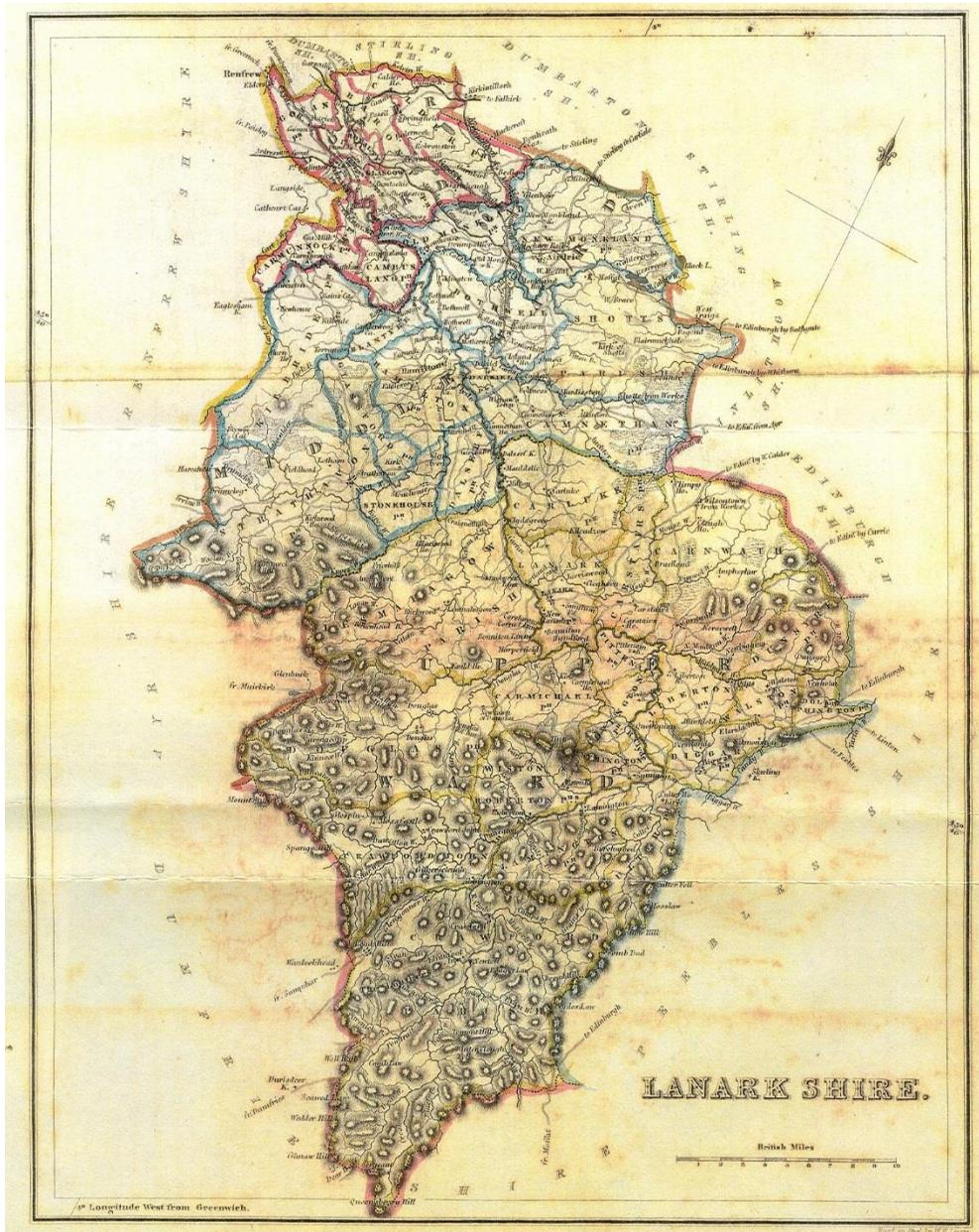
UK - 1860 Advert for Texas.  
Courtesy of Wikipedia



**CENTRAL ROUTE**  
 THROUGH  
**TEXAS**  
 THE GREAT PACIFIC OCEAN  
  
**HOUSTON & TEXAS CENTRAL RAILROAD**  
**5,000,000 ACRES**  
**H. T. C. R. R. Co.**  
**LANDS FOR IMMIGRANTS**

**Appendix 4**

Map of Lanarkshire, Scotland



**Appendix 5 (Page 1 of 3)**

Birth Certificate – Robert Watson Ewing



1861 – 1965

**Extract of an entry in a REGISTER of BIRTHS**

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965

016413

No.	1 Name and surname	2 When and where born	3 Sex	4 Name, surname, and rank or profession of father Name and profession of mother Date and place of marriage	5 Signature and qualification of informant, and residence, if out of the house in which the birth occurred	6 When and where registered and signature of registrar
148	Robert EWING	1861 August Fifteenth 5h. 0m p.m. Mayfield Row Carl Luke	M	John Ewing Pitheahman  Jane Ewing m.s. Provan 1847 April 23rd Carl Luke	Signed John Ewing Father	1861 August 22nd At Carl Luke  Signed John Fraser Registrar

The above particulars are extracted from a Register of Births for the Parish of Carl Luke  
in the County of Lanark

Given under the Seal of the General Register Office, New Register House, Edinburgh, on 7th March 1966

The above particulars incorporate any subsequent corrections or amendments to the original entry made with the authority of the Registrar General.

**Warning**

It is an offence under section 53(3) of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965 for any person to pass as genuine any copy or reproduction of this extract which has not been made by the General Register Office and authenticated by the Seal of that Office.  
Any person who falsifies or forges any of the particulars on this extract or knowingly uses, gives or sends as genuine any false or forged extract is liable to prosecution under section 53(1) of the said Act.

RMB 5171

Appendix 5 (Page 2 of 3)

Marriage license for Robert Watson Ewing

**MARRIAGE REGISTERED IN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.**

**CERTIFIED COPY FURNISHED UNDER PART V OF THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES ACT, 1973.**

No.	Date and place of marriage	Names and surnames of parties	Usual occupation	Usual place of residence	Conjugal status	Birthplace	Age	Father's name, mother's name and maiden surname	Father's occupation
92	20 February 1949 Blacktown	Robert Ewing Catherine Ewing	Business Housewife	Blacktown Blacktown	Single Single	Woolahra Woolahra	32 31	John Ewing Jane Ewing	Engineer Business
<p>Maiden at the house of the bride's parents, Blacktown</p> <p>Consent of the bridegroom, was given in writing by the bride and groom, being under the age of twenty-one years.</p> <p>The Consent of the Minister of Health, was given in writing to the bride and groom, being under the age of twenty-one years.</p> <p>Witnesses: <i>John Bennett</i> and <i>George Woodcock</i></p> <p>According to the rites of the Church of England</p> <p>Signature and Registered by me, this 20th day of February 1949  <i>James May</i>      District Registrar</p>									

I, VERNON MARK BENNETT, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF PARTICULARS RECORDED IN A REGISTER KEPT BY ME.

ISSUED AT SYDNEY, 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 1965.

*Vernon Mark Bennett*  
PRINCIPAL REGISTRAR





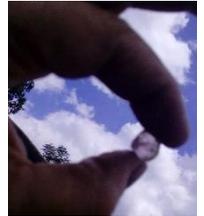
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-

**Co-Authors**

*John and Shirley Riley were both born in New Zealand. They were married on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1976 in Carlton Hill, New Zealand, and moved to Australia in 2003. John now carries Australian citizenship, but Shirley is still a Kiwi. They presently live in Rubyvale, Queensland, a sapphire and gemstone region, and have three sapphire claims outside Rubyvale. The family owns a gold mine on their property in New Zealand which he visits when on vacation. John has been known to spend some time in the mine, and prospect for a few ounces of gold to use as pocket change. He has recently become interested in his Ewing origins/roots, and contacted the Ewing Family Association to see if their records had any information on his line.*

*Note: John found this sapphire on  
19 Feb 2016, the day we  
completed the study.*



*Richard C. and Cheryl Lee Ewing Jonsson, members of the EFA and contributors of two previous studies (re Sam'l Ewing d. 1810) to the Journal (Cheryl – deceased January 2014). Richard lives in Warrenton, Virginia, and is an engineer out of the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). Born in Bihar, India, Richard graduated from high school in the Himalayas, has lived and worked in the Near East and the Asia Pacific Region for 20 years, and is widely traveled. He has traced one line of his heritage from New York, to Dalarna Province, then Helsingland Province, Sweden (circa 1680), and the other line from N.Y. to Canada, to New Zealand (thru Jamaica, BWI), then to Middlesex, London, UK (circa 1780), and has visited most of the locations of his ancestry.*

# ***General Membership Meeting Announcement***

**Jane P. (Ewing) Weippert, Secretary (JaneWeippert@windstream.net)**

The next General Meeting of the Ewing Family Association will be held during the 2016 Gathering during the Saline Celtic Festival, Saline, Michigan at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 9, 2016, in the Clan Ewing tent.

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## **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA**

1. Call to Order – Chancellor Wallace K. Ewing
2. Approval of Minutes for August 22, 2015 – Jane (Ewing) Weippert
3. Officers and Committee Reports
  - a. Treasurer’s Report – Prepared by Lynn (Ewing) Coughlin
  - b. Secretary’s Report – Jane (Ewing) Weippert
  - c. Archivist’s Report – Daniel C. Ewing
  - d. Membership Report – Terry (Ewing) Schulz
  - e. Clanship Committee Report – Walter E. Ewing
  - f. Bylaws Amendment Report – Beth (Ewing) Toscos
4. Election of Chancellor and Directors
  - a. Presentation of Slate Developed by Nominating Committee – Martin S. Ewing
  - b. Additional Nominations from the Floor
5. New Business<sup>52</sup>
  - a. Membership Approval of Bylaws -- Amendment to Change General Membership Meeting Scheduling (see next page)
  - b. Recognition Process for honoring Ewing Military Veterans
6. Comments from the Floor
7. Adjournment

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<sup>52</sup> Ten (10) minutes will be allocated per person with a maximum of two opportunities for each individual to speak. In the interest of time, it would be a good idea for those with specific views to identify a spokesperson who can present their arguments in a logical, organized manner.

# ***Amendment to Bylaws***

**Beth A. (Ewing) Toscos, Board Chair ([MBToscos@comcast.net](mailto:MBToscos@comcast.net))**

**The Board of Directors has amended the Ewing Family Association Bylaws as follows:**

## Article X

### Member Meetings

10.1 Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Corporation's Membership shall be held on a date to be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be for the purpose of the Chancellor and Board of Directors and transacting any and all business that may be brought before the meeting. Any business may be transacted at the meeting, irrespective of whether the notice of such meeting contains a reference thereto, except as otherwise required by these Bylaws, by pertinent State and Federal Statutes, or by the Code.

As amended 7/20/2014

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Amended by vote of the Board of Directors in response to a motion initiated January 23, 2016, as follows:

## Article X

### Member Meetings

10.1 General Membership Meeting. A General Membership Meeting will be held no less frequently than at the regularly scheduled gathering of the Ewing Family Association. This meeting shall be held on a date to be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be for the purpose of the Chancellor and the Board of Directors and transacting any and all business that may be brought before the meeting. Any business may be transacted at the meeting, irrespective of whether the notice of such meeting contains a reference thereto, except as otherwise required by these Bylaws, by pertinent State and Federal Statutes, or by the Code.

As last amended 1/23/2016

## Commander's Comments

**John Thor Ewing ([thor@thorewing.net](mailto:thor@thorewing.net))**

I'm looking forward to meeting everyone at Saline, Michigan, July 8-10, 2016. This will be a chance to see old friends within the clan and, no doubt, to meet new faces too. I know that Major Ewing has been putting a lot of work into this, and it looks set to be a lot of fun.



Another Ewing Gathering in Scotland this year will be somewhat less ambitious. As the first meeting of its kind on this side of the Atlantic, the purpose is to make contact with interested Ewings in the UK, briefly to explain the history of the clan, and to discuss options for clan societies and so on. This will take place on Saturday, August 6th at Strathleven House, Dumbartonshire, once the home of James Ewing of Strathleven (1775-1853) and owned by the Crum-Ewing family until 1947.

Partly in preparation for this, I've been working towards a new book on the clan. Many people are still uncertain about the difference between Clan Ewing and other MacEwen clans, and this confusion goes back to the 1904 book, *Clan Ewen: Some Records of its History* by R. S. T. MacEwen, which has some interesting information; however it gets the overall story spectacularly wrong. To set the record straight, I'm re-publishing MacEwen's text alongside my own notes, and this book should be available shortly.

I really hadn't expected to still be writing about progress towards our second bale of tartan which was ordered at the turn of the year, but I can now announce that it is finally being woven. I have no idea why it was so delayed, and can only apologize to everyone who has been waiting. I'm also hopeful that a cheaper option of wool-blend tartan will shortly be available. Unlike the premium quality, pure wool tartan from Lochcarron, the blended tartan won't be woven in Scotland, but it will make Highland dress that much more affordable for our clan.

## Chancellor's Letter

**Wallace K. 'Wally' Ewing, EFA Chancellor ([WKEwing1@gmail.com](mailto:WKEwing1@gmail.com))**



After the death of my grandfather, A. E. Ewing, in early 1945, I donned his self-made mantle of amateur genealogist and his copious correspondence on that subject. I remember especially writing letters to a descendant of Frederick See, an early settler in Greenbrier County, Virginia, where my ancestor, Pocahontas James, bought acreage in 1745. I wrote as if I knew what I was talking about, mostly family history and our distant relationship with the Sees. The fact that I was 12 years old was hidden, I'm sure, in the wisdom and maturity with which I must have filled my letters. Receiving a return note from my correspondent was thrilling. Why didn't I have the wisdom and maturity to save that correspondence, coming and going?

I have noted before that A. E. Ewing was the quintessential grandfather, a dedicated genealogist, historian, and letter writer. It was he that initiated correspondence with the See family that I took up after his death. A.E.'s vocation as an attorney seemed more like a hobby, and his preoccupation with genealogy seemed more like a career. (I suspect his wife, Carlotta, took issue with his nonchalant attitude toward their means of income.)

I inherited some of A.E.'s characteristics, especially his devotion to history. My sister, Nancy, had similar impulses, and when I went off to college and on to a career, she took over the family genealogy and followed through with it for the rest of her life. She died in 1987, only 65 years old, just as she was completing her masterful 1,500-page opus, *James Ewing, Pioneer*. The genealogical mantle was again draped around my shoulders.

A. E. and Nancy garnered their genealogical information the old fashioned way, via telephone, letters, and personal visits. It was time consuming and exhausting work, especially for my sister, who dedicated the remainder of her life to it. Nevertheless, they soldiered on, recorded what they found, and sometimes corrected what looked like solid information a short time earlier.

Written genealogical communication continues today, although now it typically is in the more ephemeral form of email and Instagrams. All of us genealogists, I'm sure, have added a quantity of Internet cousins to our list of relatives because of the new technology, and we can accumulate boxes of data through various on-line sources, each one fraught with dangerous traps and misinformation. Just as in the past, data needs to be verified, and errors are difficult to purge.

The Ewing Family Association provides a variety of ways for its members to find and exchange information, including our bi-annual Gatherings. As everyone knows by now, our Gathering format, month, and venue have shifted from past customs. We will meet in Saline, Michigan, the weekend of July 8-10. In addition to our usual membership meeting and social opportunities, we will take part, actively or passively, in the Highland Games that Saline hosts each summer. Perhaps my 1940s correspondent from the Frederick See family will be there. Maybe he was only 12 years old, too, at the time we wrote each other. I wonder . . .

## ***Board Chair's Message***

**Beth Ewing Toscos, EFA Chairwoman ([mbtoscos@comcast.net](mailto:mbtoscos@comcast.net))**

The 2016 Gathering of the Ewing Family Association should prove something of a throw-back as well as a step forward. We'll meet on the sunny fields of the Saline Celtic Festival. Although I was not an early member of Clan Ewing in America, my understanding is that early gatherings offered a simpler, more collegial environment at these events than we've seen at recent Gatherings. With the reconstitution of Clan Ewing and renewed waves of interest among younger Ewing family



members, we can expect a vigorous weekend. The entire family (including children) will experience a new approach to the biennial gathering concept – one that offers fellowship and fun with an emphasis on heritage activities.

To add to the flavor of this Gathering, we once again welcome Clan Ewing Commander, John Thor Ewing, to the event. I encourage all of you to join us July 8-10 in Saline, Michigan. See pp. 79-80 for registration information.

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## ***Ewing Veterans Honorary Group Established***

**Walter E. Ewing, Chairman–Membership Committee ([wallygator57@hotmail.com](mailto:wallygator57@hotmail.com))**

The Board of Directors of the Ewing Family Association (EFA) has approved the creation and development of an honorary veterans' group. The EFA hereby recognizes and salutes those EFA members and immediate family members who have faithfully served as veterans of the Armed Forces of the USA.

Veterans wishing to be formally recognized and become part of the EFA veteran's group, called the 'Warrior Regiment', may now apply for membership. Simply go to the EFA webpage, and under the Membership Committee's page find a link to the membership application. Mail the application and a \$5 fee to the 'Adjutant', Walter (Major) Ewing, or contact him at [wallygator57@hotmail.com](mailto:wallygator57@hotmail.com). Members of the Warrior Regiment will be awarded a special Certificate and a 'flash' of Clan Ewing Tartan. The flash is the group's symbol of membership and is to be worn on a Scottish cap or civilian hat. In the near future a Clan Ewing 'Badge' will be available to wear with the flash. Members may now wear their Military Branch (Scottish style) badge. The flash and badge combination is a nice addition to a kilt outfit.

The veterans' group will exist as an honorary roster of veterans. However, there may be times at Scottish Heritage or EFA events whereby group members could 'muster up' and experience the *esprit de corps* that comes from not only being veterans but being of Ewing Scottish descent. The Clan Ewing Commander, Thor Ewing, has also given EFA approval for establishing the Warrior Regiment.

Our EFA veterans group will surely promote a sense of pride and energize the EFA membership. Let us hope our younger generations of Ewings appreciate this and other special groups within the EFA.

## ***New EFA Members – Welcome Aboard!***

**Linda Asberry** (Member #1193) lives in Tombal, Texas, and may be contacted at [linda.asberry@att.net](mailto:linda.asberry@att.net). See more about Linda's family in the Information Exchange on page 76.

**Jay Harlan Ewing**, (Member #1194) lives in Champaign, Illinois, and can be reached at [jewing145@yahoo.com](mailto:jewing145@yahoo.com).

I am 42 years old, and was born and raised in Central Illinois. My grandfather, Wallace Ewing, Jr., owned a Standard Oil service station. My father, also Wallace Ewing, was a self-employed entrepreneur. At age 15, I took flying lessons, and by age 16, had earned my private pilot's license. I attended Parks College of St. Louis University, where I earned a B.S. In Aeronautics. For a period of time after graduation, I worked for my father. Then, in 1999, I got my first job as a pilot with American Eagle Airlines; and I'm currently employed with American Airlines. I am a single father with one teen-aged daughter. I joined the Ewing Family Association because I don't know much about our history, and I am curious!!

**Michelle Kay McGuire** (Member #1195), and her husband, reside in Moscow, Idaho, and may be contacted at [smcguire@wsu.edu](mailto:smcguire@wsu.edu).

**Edward Wallace Ewing** (Member #1196) and his wife, Modell, reside in Seagoville, Texas, and may be contacted at [ewewing9@msn.com](mailto:ewewing9@msn.com). Edward joined the Ewing Family Y-DNA Project and is EW2-2\* in the project.

**Carolyn Jackson McCulla** (Member #1197) resides in Oakland, California, and may be reached at [canative41@aol.com](mailto:canative41@aol.com).

I am related to (Indian) John Ewing (1747-1824) through his daughter Susannah Ewing (1776-1855), who married Stephen Holcomb (1773-1857), my fourth great-grandfather in 1796. Two generations later, my second great-grandmother, Roxsena Holcomb (1821-1893), married Harrison Jackson in 1840. I live in Oakland, California, have been married for 51 years, and have two daughters.

I was excited to meet a cousin, Larry Ewing, at the Ewing Clan booth during the Highland Games in Pleasanton, California, in September 2015. I am looking forward to getting the Ewing tartan scarf and shirt to celebrate my Ewing Clan heritage.

**Steven Ray Ewing** (Member #1198) lives in Newport, Oregon, and may be contacted at [420bon3z@gmail.com](mailto:420bon3z@gmail.com).

**Stephen Leland Ewing** (Member #1199) and his wife, Carolyn, reside in Jackson, Michigan, and may be reached at [stephenewing101@gmail.com](mailto:stephenewing101@gmail.com). Stephen is SL2-4d in the Ewing Y-DNA Project.

**Karen Avery**, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery2@comcast.net) responded:

I am so pleased that you have become a member of EFA and that you are also a member of the Ewing Y-DNA Project. Your Y-DNA testing placed you in Group 4d.

From our phone conversation last evening, learning that you and your parents will be joining us in July at the 2016 EFA Gathering is wonderful. I look forward to meeting each of you.

**Eric Todd Ewing** (Member #1200) and his wife, Tammi, reside in Marshall, Michigan, and may be reached at [tntewing1@netzero.net](mailto:tntewing1@netzero.net).

**Karen Avery**, EFA Genealogist (BKAvery2@comcast.net) adds:

Eric is a brother of **Walter 'Major' Ewing** (Member #1170) and is helping to organize the Biennial EFA Gathering to be held in Saline, Michigan, July 8-10, 2016 Major is (WE4-2b) in the Ewing Y-DNA Project.

**John W. Riley** (Member #1201), and his wife, Shirley, live in Queensland, Australia, and may be contacted at [the\\_oasis\\_rubyvale@bigpond.com](mailto:the_oasis_rubyvale@bigpond.com).

I was born in Mosgiel New Zealand, and in 1958, my family moved to Careys Bays, a small fishing village on the Otago Harbour. I married Shirley in 1976, and we have three sons, and four grandchildren. (She's a good girl to put up with me.) In 2003, we moved to Australia, to have a look around, and here we stayed. We work three sapphire claims in the Rubyvale area. I've since retired (but still mine Sapphires), and Shirley is a high-school teacher. Special thanks to Richard Jonsson, for all his work, on the study of the Ewing family in Australia.

***Editor's Note:** See this Study on page 35.*

**Harvey Lee Ewing** (Member #1202), and his wife, Sharon, reside in Brooksville, Florida, and may be reached at [hill2sharen@yahoo.com](mailto:hill2sharen@yahoo.com).

Hello, thank you for accepting our family into the Ewing Family Association. My family comes from Harford County, Maryland. I can trace the family back as far as John Amos Ewing (my great-great-grandfather), his son Amos Ewing (my great-grandfather), Oscar Ewing (my grandfather) to my father Raymond Edward Ewing, who were all born in Maryland. I was born in Baltimore. Meeting other members of the Ewing family at the gathering in July will be interesting. Looking forward to expanding our knowledge from where we came!

**Douglas Eric Ewing** (Member #1203), and his wife, Jacqueline, reside in Columbus, Indiana, and may be reached at [dougewing2002@yahoo.com](mailto:dougewing2002@yahoo.com).

**Darrell Glenn Ewing** (Member #1204) lives in Mobile, Alabama and may be reached at [dg@dgewing.com](mailto:dg@dgewing.com).

**Reva Kadlec Smock** (Member #1205) lives in Fort Scott, Kansas, and may be reached at [rrsmock60@yahoo.com](mailto:rrsmock60@yahoo.com).

I have been involved in genealogy since the 1980's, and I just stumbled onto information about my GGGG Grandfather, George Ewing, who was in the Revolutionary War. I knew I wanted to become a DAR member, so I got right to work and decided to join the Ewing Family Association. I connected with distant cousins through Ancestry.com™ and before I knew it, I was on my way with my research. I had gotten stuck however, in Ohio in the late 1700's and early 1800's. I called several offices, but there were no records to be found before 1867. In Indiana, there were two kind souls that were helpful, Tony Collegian and Cindy at the Tell City Library. But. Again, no death records before 1882. I went to our local DAR Chapter and was helped there. I finished my paperwork, sent it in, and now must wait two months for the response. I enjoy the search, so if I can help anyone else, I would love to do so.

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## ***Passings***

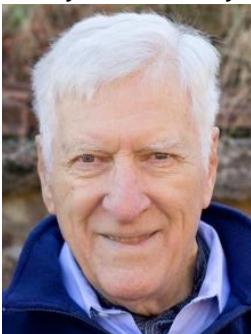
With sincere condolences to their family and friends, we note the passing of:

### **Joseph Neff Ewing, Jr. (EFA Member #227)**

Ewing Family Association Chancellor, 1998–2004

JN-2a in the Y-DNA Project

*(Courtesy of the Family of Joseph Neff Ewing)*



Joseph Neff Ewing, Jr., of Newtown Square, died peacefully on Friday, April 8, after living with MDS and leukemia for three years. He was 90. Son of Joseph Neff Ewing and Anne Ashton Ewing, he was born on November 10, 1925, in Valley Forge, PA. He was a graduate of Haverford School, Princeton University, and University of Pennsylvania Law School. Joe served in the US Marine Corps at the end of World War II in Okinawa, Japan. In 1951, he married Margaret Converse Howe, and together they had three daughters, Margaret Ewing Lloyd, Anne Ashton Ewing, and Elizabeth Ewing Peifer.

Joe practiced law for 46 years at Saul, Ewing, Remick & Saul, in a broad range of areas including health law; eminent domain; railroad law; law concerning oil and gas production and distribution; arbitration; general civil litigation; and municipal planning, building and zoning. Believing that all politics is local, he served on the planning commission, zoning board, and as supervisor of Willistown Township for 22 years, and later on the zoning hearing board of East Goshen Township. In other public service, he was

active on numerous boards: Bryn Mawr Hospital, four Medical Specialties boards, United Fund, Princeton Club, Pickering Hunt, Eagle Farms Hunt, Devon Horse Show, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Historic Sugartown, Dunwoody Village, Ewing Family Association; he was a founding member of Waynesborough Country Club.

A lifelong athlete, Joe played football and threw the hammer in his youth and officiated at the Penn Relays for many years. He was passionate about spending time out of doors: playing tennis, sailing, skiing, gardening, fox hunting; when he turned 75 he became scuba certified, taking his last dive at the age of 87. Indoors, he was an avid reader, puzzler, putterer, fixer, and model railroad enthusiast. He owned one of the earliest commercially available calculators and was an early adopter and devoted user of the personal computer.

With a quick wit, a playful sense of humor, and a somewhat gruff exterior, Joe was the consummate family man, vacationing and traveling with immediate and extended family and hosting gatherings of the clan.

He is survived by his wife and daughters, their spouses, Katherine Hancock Ragsdale, Lawrence Henry McCauley, Alan Maier Peifer, and former son-in-law R. McAllister Lloyd III; grandchildren Robert McAllister Lloyd IV, Nadine Nilles Lloyd, Margaret Howe Lloyd, Joseph Ewing Lloyd, Samuel Ashton McCauley, William Henry Ewing McCauley, Emma Dease Peifer, Janet Forrester Peifer; great grandchildren Brooke Arvida Lloyd, Robert McAllister Lloyd; siblings Anne Ewing Zettek, Thomas Ashton Ewing, William Henszey Ewing; 18 nieces and nephews and many cousins, in-laws, and greats.

A celebration of his life was held on Saturday, April 16, at 10:30 a.m., at Saint Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, 689 Sugartown Road, Malvern, PA. Interment followed at Washington Memorial Chapel Churchyard, Valley Forge, PA.

Contributions in his name may be made to: Bryn Mawr Hospital, Attn: Development, 130 S Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010; or Island Community Medical Services, 15 Medical Center Loop, Vinalhaven, ME 04853; or by donating blood at your local Red Cross Donation Center.

## **Tribute to Joseph Neff Ewing**

*From David Neal Ewing, Immediate Past EFA Chancellor, April 11, 2016*

Joe was a selfless volunteer and dear friend to many of us and was one of the most influential leaders of the organization that became the *Ewing Family Association*. He was Chair of the "Executive Council" of *Clan Ewing in America* when it was first formally organized in 1993, and he wrote the Bylaws when we incorporated as 501(c)(6) corporation in September 1995. He was elected Chair of the first Board of Directors and was instrumental in opening membership in the organization to all Ewings, as opposed to just those understood to have been descended from William Ewing of Stirling, as had been Ellsworth Ewing's original intent.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>53</sup> To learn more about his central role in the *EFA*, go to <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/431003/History%20of%20EFA.doc>

Joe served as Chancellor from 1998 to 2004, and as a member of the Board of Directors for much of the time since then. He also served on the *EFA* clanship committee with Wally, David Neal and Thor Ewing that was instrumental in achieving formal recognition for Clan Ewing by the Lord Lyon in Scotland. He attended 13 gatherings in a row, missing only the first one in Vincennes, Indiana, in 1988, and the last one in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 2014, after he had already been diagnosed with the leukemia that ended his life this year. May we all extend our condolences to Peggy Ewing, his wife of 64 years, and to their entire family.

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## **Paul T. 'Tom' Austin**

Spouse of Member Judy Ewing Austin #633 (Twin Sister of Member Jill Spitler #502)

*(Courtesy of McIntire Bradham & Sleek Funeral Home, Wooster, OH)*



Paul T. "Tom" Austin, 72, of Wooster died Friday, March 11, 2016, at LifeCare Hospice. Tom was born May 3, 1943, in Wooster to William Henry and Laura Smith Austin. On May 3, 1997, he married Judy Ewing. She survives.

Tom was a truck driver and a member of the Moose Lodge. He loved camping and fishing.

Along with his wife, Tom is survived by his children James (Elise) Hartmann of Oceanside, CA, Michael Hartmann of Glendale, AZ, Matthew (Carol) Austin of Orrville, Jennifer Austin of Springfield, VT and Julie (Josh) Hookway Greene; step-children Lonnie D. (Mis) Lawson of Shreve and Shannon E. (Stephanie) Lawson of Holmesville; 10 grandchildren; 7 step-grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren and sisters Glenna Austin Schwartz of Millersburg, and Darlene Austin Watkins of Lynn, AR.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents; sister Erma L. Austin Tisdale and brothers Charles William Austin and Kenneth R. Austin, Sr.

A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, March 26, 2016 at 5:00 PM at Central Christian Church, 407 N. Market St., Wooster with Pastor Ben Robinson officiating. Friends were received one hour prior to the service.

Contributions may be directed to LifeCare Hospice, 1900 Akron Rd., Wooster, OH 44691.

Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.mcintirebradhamsleek.com](http://www.mcintirebradhamsleek.com)

Memorial Contributions: LifeCare Hospice, 1900 Akron Road, Wooster, OH 44691

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## **Dr. Thomas Dale Ewing**

Y-DNA Project Participant and First Cousin of Member Georgia Morgan #611

*(Courtesy of Beckwith Services & Monuments, Larned, KS)*



Dr. Thomas Dale Ewing, 92, passed away August 22, 2014, at the Rice County District Hospital, Lyons, Kansas. He was born May 17, 1922, at Kanopolis, Kansas; the son of Thomas Henry and Iris Ulrickson Ewing. A longtime area resident; he was a Medical Doctor, Chief of Staff at the St. Joseph Memorial Hospital, Larned and a family practice physician.

He was the Mayor of Larned for two terms, graduated from University of Kansas School of Medicine in 1946. He served in the United States Army at Sam Houston, Alaska, and the Occupation of Japan and was a Summerfield scholar at the University of Kansas., He loved fishing and hunting at the cabin in Platoro, Colorado and also loved spending time at the family farm south of Larned.

On March 17, 1946, he married Geraldine Ann Humphrey in Topeka, Kansas. She passed away Feb. 6, 2000.

Survivors include; two sons, Thomas H. Ewing and wife Marsha, Salida, Colorado and Gerald H. Ewing and wife Jean, Portland, Oregon; a daughter, Ann H. Ewing-Kimmitt and husband David, Salida, Colorado; a grandson, Matthew; a step-grandson, Michael and a great grandson, Damien.

He was preceded in death by; a brother, Dean Ewing and a sister, Margaret Faye Plank.

A private family service was held. Friends signed the register book from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday at the Beckwith Mortuary Chapel, Larned.

Memorials may be given to the Pawnee County Humane Society or the University of Kansas Alumni Association, both in care of the Beckwith Mortuary, P.O. Box 477, Larned, KS 67550.

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## Information Exchange

This section of the *Ewing Family Journal* provides members with transcripts of dialogues initiated by queries or offers of information sent to the EFA Genealogist, the *Ewing Family Journal's* Editor, the following websites, and others. Including these items here is intended to entice others to join the dialogues and help respond to the queries or amplify the provided information.

Ewing-related requests for information and offers of information are often posted to various Internet web sites including:

- EFA's Forum at [groups.google.com/group/EwingFamilyAssociation](https://groups.google.com/group/EwingFamilyAssociation),
- EFA's Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/ewing.family.association](https://www.facebook.com/ewing.family.association),
- Ewing Family Genealogy Forum at [genforum.genealogy.com/ewing](http://genforum.genealogy.com/ewing), and
- Rootsweb's Ewing Message Board at [boards.rootsweb.com/surnames.ewing/mb.ashx](http://boards.rootsweb.com/surnames.ewing/mb.ashx).

Readers should periodically view and search these sites to find queries and offered information related to their Ewing-related genealogy research.

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### Thomas of Inch Island and his son, Capt. John Ewing (1727-1754)

#### Message from Charise DeMao ([chadema@aol.com](mailto:chadema@aol.com))

*Hi, I just recently discovered that we have Ewing ancestry on my paternal grandmother's side of the family. I have been looking through all the great info on the Ewing Family Association website, but I am confused.*

*I believe it begins with William Ewing (b. abt. 1605, d. abt. 1718) who was married to Elizabeth Milford. Then, it traces to their son, James Ewing of Inch Island, married to Anne (last name?). His dates are really confusing – seems like everyone has different ideas on that. Next, is their son, Thomas (b. abt. 1704), married to Rebeccah (last name? (And, supposedly he emigrated from Ireland to Chester County, Pennsylvania with his brothers John, Henry, Samuel, and Alexander sometime around 1728 to 1730*

*I would like to know for sure the name of the ship, the year, and where it docked in America. The following information I know to be correct, since it is my own family history. They are all in Pennsylvania:*

*"Captain" John Ewing, Sr. (1727-1754) married to Sarah Yeates (1731-1823); then their son:*

*John Ewing, Jr (1755-1799) married to Elizabeth Keen (b. abt 1759)-not positive on their exact dates; and*

*Their daughter Mary Jane Ewing married John Murray (abt 1786-1824). They were in both Huntington and Clearfield Counties in Pennsylvania.*

*It continues, of course. Is there anyone I might contact to try and confirm some of these dates, places, and names on the William, James, and Thomas Ewings of Inch Island?*

**Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*Yes, I do have the group which includes Thomas of Inch Island and his son, Captain John Ewing (1727-1754) who married Sarah Yeates, in my data base.*

*As you have discovered, there is conflicting information everywhere you look. My advice is to study the books in the Ewing Family Association website Reading Room.*

*<http://www.ewingfamilyassociation.org/resources/books>*

*Give special attention to those written by Margaret Fife and James McMichael. These are well researched and contain few errors. The other books listed also contain valuable information. My information comes from many, many different sources. You are correct in that it is thought that the lines likely go back to a man that I call William (Baron; Londonderry Merchant) Ewing (born c. 1625/1628 probably near Stirling Castle). It is probably true that there are a huge number of descendants of this line. William married at least twice and probably more than twice. He emigrated to Ulster, Ireland about 1685, near Coleraine where many of his kin had lived for many previous years.*

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**Margaret Ewing (married to Sherwood Wilkinson, abt. 1784)**

**Message from John and Susan Sloan ([jandssloan@mindspring.com](mailto:jandssloan@mindspring.com))**

*Dear Friends: I was referred to you by the Cecil County, Maryland, Historical Society. I am researching Margaret Ewing who married a Robert Morrow. He was born in Ireland about 1742 and was Capt. in the Revolutionary War, serving from Maryland. I am trying to find documentation of the children of this couple, who moved to Georgia in the 1780s. I am especially interested in their daughter, Margaret, who married Sherwood Wilkinson about 1784 in Prince Edward County, Virginia.*

**Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*Unfortunately, I can be of no help in your quest. We will share your query with our members via our Journal. There is a chance that other members have the information you seek. As you continue research for these folks, please let us know of any new information you find.*

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## **General George Ewing, Sr. (1754-1824)**

**Message from Jay Harlan Ewing (Member # 1294) lives in Champaign, Illinois and may be contacted at [jewing145@yahoo.com](mailto:jewing145@yahoo.com).**

*Hello, I'm not well educated on my family history. My Aunt, Margaret Ewing Givens, has done quite a bit of research on her own. My father was Wallace Harlan Ewing, 1935-2012, Champaign Illinois. My grandfather was Wallace Henry Ewing Jr., 1899-1989, Champaign Illinois. My great grandfather was also named Wallace Ewing, born? Died Champaign Illinois I believe. My father said that my great grandparents came over from England. My grandfather and great-grandfather were musicians in a marching band for the University of Illinois. I was told that Wallace Sr. could play every instrument equally well at that time. This is all I know about my father's side. With more time, I could provide additional information; however, I'm in a career transition and will be busy the next few months.*

### **Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*My records are in agreement with you in believing that General George Ewing, Sr. (1754-1824) is your 5th great grandfather and Rachel Harris (1754-1825) was his spouse. However the vital dates in my file appear to be a little different than those you show. We have one man in the Ewing Y-DNA Project who is of the same lines. I think he is your 3rd cousin twice removed. You may view his lineage chart here:*

*[https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/431003/Lineages/WC3\\_William%20Curtis%20Ewing.pdf](https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/431003/Lineages/WC3_William%20Curtis%20Ewing.pdf)*

*You will note that William lists three more generations! A copy of this message was sent to him.*

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## **Ewings of Massachusetts**

### **Message from Sylvia Free ([Sfree@fltg.net](mailto:Sfree@fltg.net))**

*I am inquiring about my great grandmother's line which was from Inch Island, Ireland. I have a lot of info for her parents, who emigrated to Massachusetts in 1850. What is their connection to those Ewings that came here much earlier, many of whom came from Inch, Burt, etc.? There is a large gap - can I fill it in? William and Mary were married at the Presbyterian Meeting house on Inch and left for Massachusetts. She was an Ewing too - her dad was Samuel. William had 2 brothers, John and Alexander, who came over too. All settled in East/Westhampton, Massachusetts. William had a large family of 11 children - one of whom was my great grandma, Margaret, who died in 1947, when I was a year old.*

*Is it possible to find out more? I have been to Inch and the church too. Thank you for any potential help!*

### **Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*Thank you for your query. I'm not positive that we can answer your most important question as to how your Ewing line is related to the Ewing families who came to America in the early 1700s, but we will definitely compare data with you and work on that.*

*From the information you have shared, I'm thinking that your group is with those listed in the 1850 Easthampton, Hampshire County, Massachusetts census, pages 176 and 179. I do have these folks in my data base, and would love to have additional information as to vital dates of birth, marriage, and death. Also especially helpful is any known maiden names. Please share all that you have, and I will enter it into my large Ewing data base. Do let me know your exact lineage from Margaret so that I may put your name in and include you as the source.*

*Now to the really good news! I have shared your query with your cousin, Steven C. Ewing, since he descends from these same lines and will be able to share all that he knows about the lines. Steve has completed the Y-DNA testing. Do you know of any living male Ewing? It would be great if another man from these lines would also complete the test.*

*I look forward to learning much more on these lines.*

### **Response from Steve C. Ewing ([aquamv@gmail.com](mailto:aquamv@gmail.com)) – Member #1129**

*Karen thank you for introducing me to my cousin. Sylvia great to meet you! The Alexander you mention, your William's brother, is my 3rd Great Grandfather.*

*I too have traveled to Ireland and have found our families' old homestead in Glentougher.*

*If you have not done so you should check out the Ewing Family Association web site. There is lots of info about our extended family there. Looking forward to sharing family history*

### **Response from Sylvia Free ([Sfree@fltq.net](mailto:Sfree@fltq.net))**

*In 2010, we found inch island and the church, etc., where William and Mary married. We have some things on Thomas Ewing who was an artist – I think he was Alexander's son? I have a photo of the farm in Florence, Massachusetts, that the family owned, which is still there. Mom grew up in Springfield, and spent lots of time in Westhampton on her uncle's farm.*

*Thanks for contacting me. Let's see where this all goes.*

### **Response from Steve C. Ewing ([aquamv@gmail.com](mailto:aquamv@gmail.com))**

*These are my Ewing male ancestors so you can see how we are related.*

*Alexander Ewing (1774/1832), Muff/Glentougher, Ireland,*

*John Ewing, Glentougher*

*Alexander John Ewing, (brothers, John and your William), the immigrants*

*Thomas Butler Ewing*

*Albert Edward Ewing*

*Bertram Thayer Ewing  
Harvey Sterling Ewing  
Steven Craig Ewing (me)*

*I would like to connect you with Dorothy (Dottie) Stewart. She descends from Thomas Butler's brother Matthew. She has lots of photos and info she has shared with me. Do you mind if I forward these e-mails to her?*

**Later Response from Steve C. Ewing ([aquamv@gmail.com](mailto:aquamv@gmail.com))**

*I wanted to talk a bit about the questions you posed in your initial e-mail to Karen Avery, the genealogist of the Ewing Family Association. You asked her what connection our line of Ewings had with the Ewings from Inch who emigrated in the 16-1700s.*

*I have always been interested in that too. I was wondering how we could live so close but, other than William and Mary, not seem to interact. The daily radius of people in those days was 5-10 miles. People stayed at home, but you would think, since DNA says most of us Ewings are related, there would be more interaction. Maybe there was.*

*We all probably came from Scotland. Thomas Butler, in his diary, says our ancestors came at the time of Cromwell around 1649. Supposedly, we are related to a William from Sterling. He lived in a house on Castlehill. There is an engraving of the house done by a fellow named Sleazer.*

*We are also said to be related to another William who carried the banner of Mary, Queen of Scots at the battle of Langside in 1568.*

*Some Ewings, I believe the ones at Inch, fought on the side of William of Orange at the Battle of the Boyne. That was the clash of Catholics and Protestants in Ireland in 1690. I don't think our line fought in that battle. The Inch gang left soon after. Our line doesn't show up in Ireland, officially, until 1744 (Alexander my 5th, your 4th great grandfather). He was in Muff, a small town on the East coast of the peninsular of Inishowen.*

*Muff, Glentougher (where our ancestors settled) and Inch are in a triangle with each side of the triangle less than 10 miles.*

*Our Ewings did not leave until 1848-1850. Alexander left in 1848, his son William and Mary in 1850. Maybe our group was not as politically or religiously inclined as those from Inch. We left as the great famine was ending, and we all went to Massachusetts, as you know. One reason was that Alexander was sponsored by Samuel Williston who paid his way and gave him work when he arrived. I am very interested in that connection and plan on visiting the Williston archives to see if I can learn more, someday.*

*All this may or not be familiar to you but I wanted you to know I too share your question of how all us Ewings were connected back in Ireland, Scotland and beyond.*

**Response from Sylvia Free ([Sfree@fltg.net](mailto:Sfree@fltg.net))**

*I have a clipping mom saved on Thomas Ewing (his wife was Marion Steele), a daughter, Marjorie of Worcester, and a sister, Olive Dorman of Shrewsbury. He died in 1963. How is your relative connected? If it's helpful, I can send you his obit.*

*Also, my Mom knew Marjorie and a Marion, too. His mother was mom's aunt and dad was John Ewing, who married Isabel Howard.*

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**James Henry Ewing (b. 1847)****Message from Linda Asberry ([linda.asberry@att.net](mailto:linda.asberry@att.net)) – New Member #1195**

*My Ewing ancestor is my g-grandfather, James Henry Ewing, b. 1847 in either Wabash, Illinois, or Wabash, Indiana, and died in Johnson County., Texas in 1912. The informant is a Sam Ewing of Joshua, Texas.*

*Here is my problem. I am 68 and my brother is 70. We are the end of the line as far as we can tell. Neither of us know, nor can we determine who Sam Ewing is/was. We grew up in the same small farming/ranching community and neither of us can ever remember a Sam Ewing. My grandmother was James Henry Ewing's daughter and I have all her papers, bibles, etc., and nowhere is there a Sam mentioned.*

*The reason for the quest for Sam Ewing is that the death certificate we have is the only document where there is a name of James Henry Ewing's mother and father. His father's name is listed as Moses Ewing and his mother is listed with just the surname of Stillwell. There is a Moses Ewing and a Nancy Stillwell in the Indiana census with a son, James. However, I just don't know if I trust the information.*

**Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*I do have a little information on the line of Moses and Nancy (Stillwell) Ewing. More work needs to be completed to help confirm the line as there may be some incorrect information on the internet and some folks mixed up and on the wrong branch. How much census work have you recorded for your line? I had done 1880, 1900 and 1910 for what I thought was correct Moses Ewing (1806- ??).*

*Could you please share more vital data with me? Do you descend from Charles H. Ewing (1871-1963) who married Cordelia Reece Asberry (1874-1968)?*

**Response from Linda Asberry ([linda.asberry@att.net](mailto:linda.asberry@att.net))**

*I believe the Moses you found may be a Moses (Jr.), or better said, the son of Moses and Nancy (see the 1850 census list below), not the father of James Henry Ewing but rather a brother IF these are correct parents.*

*I am descended from James Henry Ewing and Mariah Sprague's oldest daughter, Mary Mariah Ewing and John Wesley Asberry's youngest son, Mount Vernon Asberry. The*

*Charles H. Ewing you found is my oldest great uncle. Charles Henry Ewing and Mary Mariah Ewing (brother and sister) married brother and sister, John Wesley Asberry and Delia (Dee) Asberry in a double ceremony in Johnson County, Texas.*

*All of the male Ewings (here in Texas) are now gone, so I don't know if having my brother's DNA repeated will be of any help to us at all. I had the Ancestry DNA performed which proved to be of absolutely no use. I didn't know about Family Tree DNA at the time.*

*I can further complicate this by telling you there was a James Herbert Ewing and still another James Henry Ewing in Johnson County. I just this week found the second James Henry Ewing in an old newspaper celebrating their 50th anniversary in 1928. So I knew it wasn't mine and that there was another.*

*The internet has much incorrect information, particularly mixing up my James Henry and James Herbert who it seems were both born in 1847. I have tried to no avail to try to stem the flow of this misinformation.*

*The 1830 and 1840 census has Moses (b. abt 1806) in Harbison, Dubois County, Indiana.*

*The 1850 census has Moses and Nancy, both 44, in Bainbridge, Indiana with*

<i>Richard Ewing</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Joshua Ewing</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Elizabeth Ewing</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Jane Ewing</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Nancy Ewing</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Moses Ewing</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>James Ewing</i>	<i>3</i>

*This would be the correct age for my James Henry Ewing (b. 1847), but I don't know if it is the correct one. If I only could place the "Sam Ewing" who was the informant on my James Henry Ewing's death certificate, I would place more truth to him being this James, age 3 in 1850, as the youngest of Moses and Nancy. I know where most of the ones who came to Texas are buried or can locate their graves, but haven't gone on that tangent yet.*

*Most of them did not have children, and it took until about 5 years ago to discover why. There was Huntington's gene in the Sprague, Mauck, and perhaps the Ewing lines which caused the death of several family members. Three of my grandmother's aunts and some of their children died with Huntington's disease. Of course, back then no one knew exactly what it was, except of the risk for it to continue down the generations. Oddly enough, it was only when they married in Indiana did the Huntington's appear, and once they intermarried with persons in Texas, their children did not have it. Both my brother and I asked and asked as children, teenagers, and adults about family history and were told to just leave it in the past, which, of course, made us all the more curious. Today, we both have an intense genealogy bug. He volunteers, and I still work full time, but I do what I can for anyone.*

*I hope part of the mystery can be solved. It would be wonderful if we could. I have worked in the UK and know that Ewings (many spellings) were in Ireland, Scotland, and England. I am going back next June to all three countries which will probably be my last long trip across the pond and would love to be able to do a bit of research there. It will do me no good without a solid tie back to there first. Even if we don't find mine and there is anything I can research there for you, you have only to ask and point me in the right direction.*

**Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*Your brother's Y-DNA will not be of help on your quest in the Ewing line. The Y-DNA test is strictly a straight line down from father to son, etc. So his test only helps in your Asberry surname project. Now if you knew of any Ewing males, then we would want to have a sample from him.*

*As we know, there is conflicting information on some of the 'facts' we see online, I think the first one we need to solve is that of Joshua Ewing born about 1833 in Indiana. The easiest one to follow is Joshua, son of Patrick (1803-1883) and wife Lydia Morgan (1809-1889). This particular Joshua was a triplet, his siblings being Able Abraham and Putnam (plus twelve more). The triplets were born September 8, 1833 in Decatur County, Indiana. This was a prominent family and there are things published that are hopefully true.*

*If you could research (or already know) the name of the wife of 'your' Joshua, then we can begin to sort through these two distinct families.*

*The marriage we find of a Joshua marrying Alice Russell in Decatur County, Indiana, on August 26, 1855, is in fact, the marriage of Joshua the triplet.*

---

## **George Ewing**

**Message from Reva Kae Kadlec Smock ([rrsmock60@yahoo.com](mailto:rrsmock60@yahoo.com)) – New Member #1205**

*I am in the process of becoming a DAR member, and I am at a standstill. My Revolutionary Ewing was (my GGGG Grandfather) George Ewing born in Greenwich, Cumberland County, New Jersey, on March 18, 1754, son of Thomas Maskell Ewing, Jr. (b. October 6, 1722, in Greenwich, Cumberland County, New Jersey – d. March 27, 1771, in same place as birth) and Thomas, Jr.'s third wife, Sarah Vickers (b. November 6, 1731, in Southampton, Suffolk County, New York – d. June 19, 1773, in Greenwich, Cumberland County, New Jersey.*

*George married Rachel Harris (b. September 2, 1750, in Hunterdon County, New Jersey) on August 7, 1778, in Cumberland County, New Jersey, and they had 7 children. One of the sons was George Ewing born also in Greenwich, Cumberland County, New Jersey, on March 11, 1779. He married Hannah Boyle (b. November 7, 1789, Ames, Athens County, Ohio) at Athens County, Ohio on August 19, 1809, and they had 10 children. I need birth, marriage, and death records on all of them, if possible. They are all buried at Cannelton, Perry County, Indiana. Thanks for your help.*

**Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*Much has been published about this family line. My personal Ewing data base contains much about the line, but my sourcing is from others. Unfortunately I have no primary proof that could help you. I believe there are currently others who are researching this family line. The EFA will be happy to publish your query in the Ewing Family Journal with hopes that you will find a connection to someone who might have some of the documentation that you are seeking.*

**Response from Reva Kae Kadlec Smock ([rrsmock60@yahoo.com](mailto:rrsmock60@yahoo.com))**

*I called the DAR office in Washington DC and the information I have is enough, so I recently sent my application. I will need to wait two months for the response.*

**Response from Karen Avery, EFA Genealogist ([bkavery2@comcast.net](mailto:bkavery2@comcast.net))**

*Wonderful news for you that your documentation is sufficient to join the Daughters of the American Revolution.*

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## Ewing Naming Scheme

**Message from Lars Eighner ([ewing@larseighner.com](mailto:ewing@larseighner.com))**

*I am thinking of trying to see how well Ewing families I know of in the traditional period (say 18th and 19th century) fit the supposed Ewing scheme for naming children. However, this looks like a lot of work, so I thought I'd ask if anyone has already done this.*

*Anyone who dips a toe into Ewing genealogy is all too familiar with the repetition of given names. We notice when the rules seem to hold and also when a wild-card name gets in the mix. But I wonder if it really holds very often, or do we just notice it more when it seems to? For those who have never heard of it, the rule for naming children is supposed to go like this:*

*First son named for the father's father;*

*Second son for the mother's father;*

*Third son for the father;*

*Subsequent sons for the father's brothers;*

*First daughter for the mother's mother;*

*Second daughter for the father's mother;*

*Third daughter for the mother; and*

*Subsequent daughters for the mother's sisters.*

*Pretty often, it seems, subsequent children are given the name of a sibling who has died young. This seems inauspicious to my modern ears, but perhaps it was intended to preserve the naming convention's intention.*

**Response from Martin Ewing ([martin@aa6e.net](mailto:martin@aa6e.net))**

*Yes, naming is an interesting issue. I am aware of the "tradition" -- at least in my other, non-Ewing lines. Also, the reuse of the name of a child that died young.*

*My earliest known Ewing was Noble Ewing (from New Jersey, apparently, b ~1783). That's a very unusual name. Where would it have come from? A genealogist once mentioned that there was a Noble family in those times, who might have had some influence on the parents. (Noble's parents are unknown, alas.)*

*Then Noble had children George Clinton, Mary Ann, Charlotte Amelia, Harriet Newell, Eliza, and Julia. George Clinton was born in 1810 in Hudson, New York, and the name obviously (?) refers to the New York Governor of that name (1739-1812). Charlotte Amelia might derive from Charlotte Amalie of Hesse-Kassel (1650-1714) -- maybe just a popular name in the 1800s. Harriet Newell was a well-known Christian missionary (1793-1812). Like Clinton, she died around the time the Ewing children came along.*

*So are there hints of names of Noble's Ewing (or his wife's Walcott) parentage? I don't see them! If anyone can think of "Noble" connections in 18th century New Jersey, I'm all ears.*

---

## 2016 Ewing Family Association Gathering



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# 2016 Ewing Family Association Gathering

July 8-10, 2016 in Saline, Michigan



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Send check for Total, payable to "Ewing Family 2016 Gathering," with completed registration form to: **Lynn Coughlin, EFA Treasurer, 1330 Vaughan Court, Aurora, IL 60504**

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**Ewing Family Association**  
1330 Vaughn Court  
Aurora, IL 60504

The Ewing Family Association fosters interest in the Ewing family; promotes gatherings of its members; publishes a journal with biographical, genealogical, and historical information; encourages identifying the relationships among Ewing families; and encourages genealogical research and the sharing of results.

Membership is open to all persons with the surname of Ewing or who are descended from anyone with that surname; to anyone who is, or has been, the spouse of such a person; and to anyone who otherwise supports the organization's purposes. To join, send a membership form to Ewing Family Association, 1330 Vaughn Court, Aurora, IL 60504.

Forms are available at [www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org](http://www.EwingFamilyAssociation.org). Annual dues are \$25.00. Membership includes the semi-annual Ewing Family Journal.

Publication of the Ewing Family Journal began in 1994. Through 2008, the publication was titled Journal of Clan Ewing. The first two issues were published in August and November 1994. They were not designated with a Volume and Number. The February 1995 issue was designated as Vol. 1, No. 4, as it was the third issue of the Journal. The Journal is currently published semi-annually in May and November.

We welcome contributions to the Journal from Ewing Family Association members and others. Electronic copy is preferred and should be sent to the Editor at [johnewing2003@msn.com](mailto:johnewing2003@msn.com). Hardcopy submissions should be sent to John Ewing, 7910 Moss Grove Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. If you would like to discuss a potential submission, please call John Ewing, +1-260-704-1392.