This was originally part of the book *Skidmore Families of the Black Country and Birmingham 1600-1900* by Linda Moffatt, published in 2004.

For an Introduction to this branch of the family and an account of the first five generations of this branch, see *Skidmore Families Of The Black Country, the first five generations* on the website [www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com](http://www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com).

This account begins at Generation 6, denoted by superscript ⁶ next to the name of the head of household.

**DATES**

- Prior to 1752 the year began on 25 March (Lady Day). In order to avoid confusion, a date which in the modern calendar would be written 2 February 1714 is written 2 February 1713/4 - i.e. the baptism, marriage or burial occurred in the 3 months (January, February and the first 3 weeks of March) of 1713 which 'rolled over' into what in a modern calendar would be 1714.

- Civil registration was introduced in England and Wales in 1837 and records were archived quarterly; hence, for example, 'born in 1840Q1' the author here uses to mean that the birth took place in January, February or March of 1840. Where only a baptism date is given for an individual born after 1837, assume the birth was registered in the same quarter.

**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS**

Databases of all known Skidmore and Scudamore bmds can be found at [www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com](http://www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com)

**PROBATE**

A list of all known Skidmore and Scudamore wills - many with full transcription or an abstract of its contents - can be found at [www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com](http://www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com) in the file Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study Probate.

**PRIVACY**

The Skidmore/ Scudamore One-Name Study does not, as a matter of course, publish any biographical detail from the last 100 years, unless with permission of descendants. Information posted online, for example at Ancestry.com, is considered to be posted with permission of descendants and is always acknowledged as deriving from an online pedigree.
The Skidmore families described here are descendants of two of the sons of Edmund Skidmore [15] 1,2 of Amblecote and Brettell.

Benjamin Skidmore [35] was baptised in 1736 and married Hannah Arden/Harden in 1756. Job Skidmore [36] was baptised in 1743 and married Mary Harrison in 1764, all events taking place at St Mary’s church in Kingswinford parish.

The first four men whose descendants are described below are in my opinion likely to be the sons of either Benjamin [35] or Job [36]. Both Benjamin and Job had sons called Benjamin who are very difficult to distinguish in records. Benjamin [71] and Benjamin [72] are described first.

They are followed on page 14 by Thomas [73] and James [74] who are most probably sons of Job [36].

Genealogy is an art which requires at times an element of informed speculation. In the UK, this is particularly true of the period covering the mid- to late 1700s, when families were on the move and an increasing number were using non-conformist places of worship (i.e. not Church of England). These registers have not survived from this period and might explain the appearance in the mid- to late-1700s of several men who lived and married in Bilston, Wednesbury, Tipton and Birmingham. The final descendants (page 27) are those of two men who appear in Tipton parish registers in the late 1700s and who were in my opinion grandsons of Edmund Skidmore [15]. These are Job [123] and John [126].

The families described in this work originated in the areas of Kingswinford parish known as Brettell Lane and Brockmoor, with moves to

- Tipton in the 1790s & the 1820s (→ Handsworth) (→ Middlesbrough)
- Birmingham in the mid-1800s,
- Southwark, London in the mid-1800s (→ South Australia),
- Quarry Bank & Halesowen in the 1860s (→ Bristol) (→ Normanton),
- Rotherham in the 1870s,
- Wisconsin in the 1870s,
- Pensnett in the 1880s,
- Wrexham in the 1890s.

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1 See Skidmore Families Of The Black Country, the first five generations by the author on the website www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.
2 The descendants of Edmund’s son Solomon Skidmore [35a] can be found in Skidmore Families of Whitechapel and Hackney, London 1760-1900.
**71. BENJAMIN⁶ SKIDMORE** is I believe the man of that name from Brockmoor buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill aged 60 on 12 June 1824. He can perhaps be distinguished from Benjamin [72], the husband of Ann Ashton, because when his wife Sarah died in 1810 she was buried as the wife, not the widow, of Benjamin Skidmore. He appears to be the son of either Benjamin Skidmore [35] or of Job Skidmore [36].

He or Benjamin [72] are of an age to be the Benjamin Skidmore apprenticed on 23 March 1781 to James Compson, a cordwainer of Stourbridge.

Ben Skidmore married Sarah Bate at St Giles, Rowley Regis on 14 March 1784. Richard Bowater and John Auden were witnesses. Sarah Bate was born about 1765 and buried on 10 April 1810 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill aged 45. Only three of their eleven children are definitely known to have survived. In 1796 they suffered the tragedy of losing three of their children in two weeks. Their daughter Sarah, as the oldest of the surviving siblings, could be in 1822 the lady tenant of a house and garden on a plot at the corner of the High Street and Sun Street in that area of Brockmoor called Holland or Holland. Her brother Edward later lived in Holland, which adds weight to this idea. Holland is marked on the 1901 Ordnance Survey map of Brockmoor and Bromley and covers the area south of Brockmoor High Street centred on Sun Street (now called Norwood Road). Note that Benjamin was still alive in 1822 and could be the tenant of a house and garden nearby, Plot 910a³.

The children of Benjamin and Sarah (Bate) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. Burials at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill.

i. Benjamin, baptised 25 December 1786 and buried 17 April 1812 aged 26.
ii. Thomas, baptised 25 December 1788. Presumably died young.
iii. William, baptised 24 April 1791 and buried 30 June 1796 aged 6.
iv. Ann, baptised 13 January 1793 and buried 23 June 1796 aged 3.
v. Joseph, baptised 1 February 1795 and buried 19 June 1796 in infancy.
vi. Sarah, baptised 16 April 1797. She is probably the Sarah Skidmore who married Edward Higgs (baptised 25 December 1793 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, son of Joseph and Mary (Botham) Higgs) on 27 August 1815 at St Mary’s, Kingswinford. Walter Cooper was a witness.

144. vii. JAMES, baptised 12 May 1799, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

viii. Mary, baptised 24 January 1802. She married David Beckley, from a family of grocers and butchers in Cressett Lane, Brockmoor (baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 26 March 1797, son of John and Sarah Beckley) at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 19 October 1822. Edward Beddard was a witness. David Beckley died in 1855, Mary in 1869Q4 aged 67. Children, as known - John, Sarah, David, Benjamin, Mary Ann, Samuel, Eli and Priscilla.

ix. Thomas, buried 14 April 1805 aged 1.

x. Elizabeth, baptised 20 May 1804 and buried 25 August 1806 aged 2.

145. xi. EDWARD, baptised 16 February 1806, TO WHOM WE SHALL RETURN, p.9.

The fifth son of Benjamin and Sarah (Bate) Skidmore,

144. JAMES⁷ SKIDMORE, baptised 12 May 1799. He was a glass maker of Netherend, Cradley at the time of his marriage to Elizabeth Ingley at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 3 April 1820. The witnesses were J. C. Brettell and W. Gregory. She is named in the banns register, and later when their children were baptised, as Charlotte Ingley. Charlotte Ingley was baptised at Cradley Chapel on 17 March 1799, the daughter of William and Diana (Dutson) Ingley. James and Charlotte’s first child was also baptised at this chapel, but they spent their married life in Dudley, the evidence from the baptism register of St Thomas’, Dudley showing that they had moved into Dudley parish by December 1821.

The family lived in Constitution Hill, Dudley where James was a glass maker or glass blower, though he was recorded as blind in the census of 1861 - he presumably employed others. James Skidmore of Constitution Hill appears in a voter’s list of 1874 - he owned land in Albert Street, Brierley Hill. His wife was a provisions dealer.

Their son Thomas moved to Birmingham whilst son Benjamin married in Southwark, London and youngest son John remained in Dudley. James Skidmore died in 1874Q2 in Dudley aged 76, Charlotte in 1876Q4 aged 77.

The children of James and Charlotte (Ingley) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Thomas', Dudley.

i. Joseph, born 26 October 1819 and baptised 24 September 1820 at St Peter's, Cradley (Cradley Chapel). He died at the age of 3 and was buried on 2 March 1823.

ii. Thomas, baptised 25 December 1821, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

iii. Joseph, baptised 28 November 1824. He was buried on 30 July 1829 aged 5 years 9 months.


v. Benjamin, baptised 26 September 1830, OF WHOM MORE BELOW, p.7.

vi. Francis Zachariah, born 7 June (baptised 1 September) 1833. He died aged 14 on 25 August 1847.

vii. Sarah, baptised 9 August 1835 and buried 7 February 1837 aged 1 year 9 months.

viii. John, born 13 June (baptised 23 July) 1837. He married Sarah Ann Round (born about 1839 in Dudley, daughter of Abigail Round who later married Elisha Willetts) in 1869Q4 at St Andrew's, Netherton, and they raised their nephew Joseph Thomas Skidmore, son of John's brother Benjamin. In 1871, when Joseph was only 5 months old, they were living at 7 Pit Leasow, Dudley and later lived at 8 Church Street before settling at 38 Campbell Street. John was a bricklayer's labourer, his wife a chain maker.

John Skidmore died between 1901 and 1911. Mrs Skidmore reported at the time of the 1911 census, when she was living in the home of her nephew Joseph Thomas Skidmore, that she had had a child who did not survive. The name of this child is presently unknown.

The second son of James and Charlotte (Ingley) Skidmore, 272. Thomas Skidmore, baptised 25 December 1821 at St Thomas', Dudley. Like his father he was a glass bottle maker. He married Martha Bunn of Chapel Street, Dudley (baptised 26 May 1822 at St Thomas', Dudley, daughter of William Bunn, glass blower, and his wife Ann), on 26 June 1843 at St Thomas', Dudley. Edward ?Helson and Joseph Hill were witnesses. They began their married life in Constitution Hill, Dudley, but moved around 1850 to Stour Street in Birmingham4.

They were in nearby Springfield Street West, Ladywood in 1853 and by 1864 had moved to 6 Ct 12 Bordesley Street in central Birmingham, where they remained. Thomas Skidmore died on 23 February 1885, leaving a will (not seen) proved at Birmingham on 23 November 1885 and making his wife his executor. Martha remained at the same address, where she died in 1905Q1 aged 82, making her son Thomas Skidmore, glass bottle blower, her executor.

The children of Thomas and Martha (Bunn) Skidmore, born in Dudley,

i. Sarah Elizabeth, born 1843Q3. She married Henry Jukes (born about 1838 in Birmingham, son of Benjamin Jukes, a master fire iron maker, and his wife Silvey) in 1861Q4. Henry had many jobs - tobacconist in 1871, brush maker in 1881, publican in 1891 and retail confectioner in 1901. Mrs Jukes had 14 children, seven of whom were living at the time of the 1911 census. Henry Jukes died in 1906, his wife in 1913.

ii. James, born 29 August 1845 at Campbell Street, Dudley. This child had died before the 1851 census.

487. iii. Benjamin9, born 12 June 1847 in Dudley. He moved with his family to Birmingham, where he was a brush maker. He married firstly Louisa Price of Macdonald Street (born 6 December 1847 in Birmingham, daughter of John Price, a brush maker) on 12 October 1868 at Bishops Ryder in Birmingham. Henry Jukes and Sarah Jukes, his sister, were witnesses. At first they lived in the house adjacent to that of his parents but moved, by 1881, to Court 13, 1 Hope Street, Balsall Heath in Birmingham. Louisa Skidmore died in 1881Q3 aged 33.

Benjamin married secondly in 1883Q3 in Aston, Elizabeth Craven, who appears to have been born 1859Q2 in Birmingham, the daughter of William Craven, a shoemaker originally from Pershore, Worcestershire, and his wife Eliza. In 1891 they were living at 79 Upper Highgate Street, Bordesley and by the time of the 1901 census at 72 Cheapside, Aston. They had moved by 1911 to Jakeman Road in Balsall Heath. Benjamin Skidmore's death is probably that registered at Birmingham in 1916Q2, aged 68. Elizabeth Skidmore died on 10 March 1932.

The children of Benjamin and Louisa (Price) Skidmore, born in Birmingham,

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4 Thomas is called William in the census of 1851. Lodging with them were four brothers called Scott – Richard 20, Samuel 14, Thomas 11 and John 9 - the three eldest being glass blowers. Thomas Scott was born in Dudley, the others in Birmingham, apparently children of Richard and Mary Ann (Tunks) Scott who were married at Kingswinford in 1825.
i. Louisa, born 30 March 1870. She could be the Louisa who married John Pritchard in Kings Norton registration district in 1890Q4. She is called Louisa Skidmore but married, living at her parents' home at the time of the 1891 census, a lace maker. The author, in the absence of other information, speculates that she is the Louisa Pritchard whose death was registered at Birmingham in 1892Q3, aged 22.

ii. Benjamin, born 11 June 1871. He died in 1874Q3 aged 3.

iii. Martha Maria, born 17 August 1872. A press worker in 1891. She is presumably the Martha Skidmore who married neighbour Harry Harbon, a white metal roller of 73 Upper Highgate Street (born about 1872 in Balsall Heath, Birmingham, son of Thomas Harbon, pork butcher, and his wife Caroline) in 1893Q1 in Kings Norton registration district. They were living by 1911 with their children at 8 Albert Terrace, Ladydool Road Balsall Heath. Mrs Harbon died in 1949 aged 76.

iv. THOMAS10, born 8 November 1873. A polisher in a brass foundry, he married Nellie Bateman (born in Dudley about 1876, daughter of Stephen and Charlotte Bateman) on 30 May 1898 at Bordesley and was living by 1901 in Kyrwicks Lane, Aston. His family moved before the census of 1911 to 7 Main Street, Sparkbrook, Birmingham. Children of Thomas and Nellie (Bateman) Skidmore, born in Sparkbrook,
   ii. Leslie, born 1901Q3.
   iii. Hilda Nellie, baptised 9 August 1905.
   v. Frederick, baptised 19 October 1909.
   vi. Doris N., born 1912.
   ix-x. A further daughter & a son.

v. Jane Beatrice, born 18 January 1875. An electroplater in 1891. She married Charles Henry Hutchings, a metal roller (born in 1875Q4 in Birmingham, son of George Hutchings, railway labourer of Lawley Street, Aston, and his wife Mary) on 18 April 1897 at Holy Trinity, Bordesley. They were living at 6 Gibb Street, Bordesley at the time of the 1901 census, moving before 1911 to Francis Street, Ashford, Birmingham. Mrs Hutchings died in 1948 aged 73.


vii. Florence, born 20 February 1880. She died in 1881Q1.

The children of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Craven) Skidmore, born in Balsall Heath, Birmingham,

viii. Elizabeth, born 1883Q2. She was an ironer at the 'pinafore works' in 1911. Miss Skidmore died on 6 May 1941.


x. Frederick Arthur, born 1886Q4. A fitter in the brass trade in 1901. He died on 3 September 1916, a Lance Corporal in the 14th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He is buried in Delville Wood Cemetery, Longueval, France.

xi. John Henry, known as Jack, born 1889Q2. He worked, at least in his early years, in a brush factory. Mr Skidmore died unmarried on 13 November 1964.

xii. JOSEPH LEONARD10, born 1898Q2. He married in 1925 and had, as known, a daughter and a son.


iv. Martha, born in 1849Q4 or 1850Q1 in Dudley and baptised 5 June 1851 at St Mark's in Birmingham. She died in 1851Q2.

v. Emma, baptised 29 May 1853 at St Mark's. A dressmaker, she married Arthur Eisen, a watchmaker (born about 1856 in New Orleans, USA, son of Joseph Hermann Eisen, watchmaker) on 11 April 1875 at St Alban's, Cheetwood, Manchester. They moved from Birmingham to 5 Mylne Street, Clerkenwell. Mrs Eisen was widowed by 1901 when she lived with her mother and ran her dressmaking business from their home. She died in Birmingham in 1912Q4 aged 60.
vi. Francis Ingle, born 1855Q4 in Birmingham. A glass blower who lived at his mother’s house. His appears to be the death registered as Francis H. Skidmore in Birmingham in 1916, aged 60.

vii. **THOMAS**, born 1858Q3. A glass bottle blower of Birmingham, he married Lydia Elizabeth Pegg in 1877Q1. She was born in 1858Q4 in Repton, Derbyshire, daughter of George, a gardener, and Sarah Pegg and was living by the time of the 1871 census in Barn Street, Birmingham with her uncle Frederick Wheeler, a gun barrel maker, and aunt Mary. Thomas and Lydia Skidmore lived in Barn Street until at least 1891, before moving to 57 Bordesley Street, close to that of Thomas’ mother and brother Francis.

They settled at 112½ Cattell Road, Small Heath and Mrs Skidmore reported at the time of the 1911 census that she had given birth to 19 children, of whom seven were still living.

Lydia Skidmore died in Aston registration district in 1920 aged 61. Mr Skidmore’s death was perhaps that registered at Birmingham in 1937, aged 79.

**The children of Thomas and Lydia Elizabeth (Pegg) Skidmore, born in Birmingham**, 

i. Martha, born 1877Q2. She married gas lamp fitter John Charles Orton in 1900Q4.

He was born early in 1871, son of John Orton, gas fitter of Coventry, and his wife Alice, who moved to Bordesley Street in the mid-1880s. They had settled by 1901 at 20 Rea Terrace, Milk Street, Birmingham. Mrs Orton was a machine hand in the chandelier trade and reported in 1911 that she had had four children, one of whom did not survive. She had, in addition, twin girls in 1913. Mr Orton died in 1937 aged 66.

ii. **THOMAS JOSEPH**, born 1880Q2. An umbrella maker he married Mary Jane Harrison (called Jennie, a daughter of Walter Harrison) at Bordesley on 30 November 1902. At the time of this census he was a brass dresser and living with his family at 87 Cattell Road, Small Heath, Birmingham. Mr Skidmore died in Birmingham in 1951 aged 71.

**Children of Thomas Joseph and Mary Jane (Harrison) Skidmore, born in Birmingham**, 

i. Emily Lydia, born 1903Q4.


iii. Gladys, born 1908Q1.


Mr Skidmore died in 1984.

iii. **GEORGE FREDERICK**, born 1882Q1. He married Madeline May Cumberland (born 1883Q2, daughter of James Cumberland, comedian & artist, and his wife Agnes) in Birmingham in 1905Q3 and they were living by 1911 at 90 Cattell Road, Small Heath where he was a brass worker.

The military service of George and his brother Frank of 112½ Cattell Road, Bordesley Green appears in the National Roll of the Great War. He volunteered as a rifleman with the King’s Royal Rifle Corps in January 1915 and went to France in August of that year, seeing much fighting at Loos, on the Somme, at Arras and Vimy Ridge. He was taken prisoner at Cambrai on 30 November 1917 and remained in captivity for 12 months. Returning home, he was demobilised in February 1919 and held the 1914-15 Star and the General Service and Victory Medals.

**Children of George Frederick and Madeline May (Cumberland) Skidmore, born in Birmingham**, 

i. Agnes Lydia, born 1906Q2.

ii. May, born 1907Q3.

iii. Lilian M., born 1912Q3.

iv. Emma Elizabeth, born 1883Q3. She married Robert Warrior, a general dealer (born 1881Q4 in Darlington, Co. Durham) in Birmingham in 1907Q2. They were living in 1911 at 7 Rea Terrace, Aston. They had, as known, two sons and two daughters and appear to have moved to Southwark, London before 1919. Emma E. Warrior’s death at the age of 76 was registered at Southwark in 1960.

v. Arthur James, born 1889Q4. He died at 2 years of age in 1892Q1.


vii. Francis William, born 1893Q3, called Frank. He volunteered with the Royal Fusiliers in October 1915, and in November of the following year was drafted as a private to
the Western Front, where he saw much heavy fighting at Arras and Vimy Ridge, and throughout the Retreat and Advance of 1918. He died on 17 February 1919 whilst home on leave and was entitled to the General Service and Victory Medals.

viii. Elsie, perhaps Annie Elsie born 1894Q3.

viii. Martha, born in October 1860 and baptised with her younger brother Joseph on 25 January 1864 at Edgbaston, Birmingham. She married Frederick William Jones Meads, a machine paper cutter (born 1860Q4 in Foots Cray, Kent, son of William Meads), at St Mary’s, Birmingham on 17 May 1880. They lived at first at 4, Ct 4, Pickford Street, Birmingham before moving near to her mother at 66 Bordesley Street by 1891. Mr Meads became the manager of a printing firm and they moved to premises at 67 Jamaica Row. Both Mr Meads and his wife died in 1930.

489. ix. JOSEPH HENRY, born in December 1863 in Bordesley Street, Birmingham. He married Ada Wilkinson (born about 1863 in Oldbury, Worcestershire or London) in Birmingham in 1883Q3. A barber by trade, his shop was in Edward Street or Road, Balsall Heath. Ada Skidmore died in 1909Q2 aged 45 and he married secondly Ellen Poole (born about 1868 in Warwick) in 1910Q2. Mr Skidmore died in 1945 aged 81.

Children of Joseph Henry and Ada (Wilkinson) Skidmore, born in Birmingham and registered there,

i. Beatrice Alice, born 1884Q3. She married William Josiah Cole (born 1882Q4 in Long Eaton, Derbyshire, son of Enos Cole, a railway wagon repairer, and his wife Margaret) on 26 December 1908 at St Lawrence, Long Eaton. They were living in 1911 with their daughter in the home of Mr Cole’s widowed father at 32 Upper Wellington Street, Long Eaton.

registered in Kings Norton,

ii. JOSEPH HENRY, born 1886Q3. A tool maker, he married Susan Sampson (born 1886 in St Peter’s parish, Worcester, daughter of Henry Sampson, a labourer, and his wife Harriet) in 1909Q1. He became a van driver for the oil trade and they were living in 1911 in Hallam Street, Balsall Heath.

Children of Joseph Henry and Susan (Sampson) Skidmore, born in Balsall Heath,


ii. Edward, born 1913Q1.


v.-ix. 4 further daughters and a son.

iii. Gertrude Maud, born 1888Q3. She appears to be the lady who married Charles A. Lancaster in 1914Q3.

iv. WILLIAM WALTER, born 1891Q3. A hairdresser of 3 Mansfield Place, Clifton Road, Birmingham, he enlisted with the Coldstream Guards on 12 December 1915 and was sent to France on 12 December 1916. His army records show that he married Elsie May Marriott at St John’s, Sparkhill, Birmingham on 24 September 1916. They had, as known, a daughter born in 1926.


The fifth son of James and Charlotte (Ingley) Skidmore,  

274. BENJAMIN SKIDMORE, boiler maker of Southwark, London, was born in Dudley (probably in Constitution Hill) and baptised in Dudley on 26 September 1830. It is not known when Benjamin moved away from Dudley but he married at St George’s in Southwark, London on 5 March 1855 at the age of about 24. His wife was Sarah Ann Matthews, baptised at St Mary’s, Taunton, Somerset, on 11 October 1835, the youngest child of Richard Matthews, a coach painter, and his wife Sarah (Trott). The witnesses were James Woolfenden and Christiana Woolfenden (said on the International Genealogical Index to hail from Rochdale, Lancashire).

In 1856 Benjamin and Sarah lived at 14 The Grove in Southwark, but by the time of the 1861 census had moved to 9 Townsend Yard. Sarah bore eight children before her death in 1871Q1 and her last child Joseph Thomas was raised in Dudley by Benjamin’s brother John and his wife Sarah Ann. At the time of the census a little later that year Benjamin and his children were living at 1 Taylors Yard; his work in that census being given as a steam boiler rivetter.
By 1881 Benjamin had moved yet again, to 17 Noahs Ark Alley in Southwark before going to live with the family of his married daughter Sarah Maybank. One of Benjamin and Sarah’s sons is said to have been in the police force in Liverpool. He died in Lambeth in 1897Q4 aged 67.

**The children of Benjamin and Sarah Ann (Matthews) Skidmore, born in Southwark,**

i. Charlotte, born 5 November 1855 at 14 The Grove, Southwark. She married George Barnes, an engineer of 40 King and Queen Street, Southwark (born 6 April 1854 in Staines, Middlesex, son of Thomas, carpenter, and Frances (Goldsmith) Barnes) on 30 August 1875 at St John’s, Walworth, Southwark. William Nunn Lovett and Marian Lovett were witnesses. George and Charlotte Barnes lived in Staines, at first in Edzell Road before settling in Gresham Street. Charlotte Barnes died in 1904Q3 aged 48.

George Barnes worked at Ashby’s brewery in Southwark. The Ashby family owned Ashby’s bank and its local branches, as well as Ashby’s brewery. The bank was taken over by the National Westminster. The brewery was taken over by Courage, but closed in recent years. The company still produces canned and bottled beer under the name of the Ashby Beer Company, Staines. Ian Venn (1957-2001), gt gt grandson of George and Charlotte (Skidmore) Barnes, kindly provided information on this family.

ii. Sarah Elizabeth, born 21 December 1856. She married Edward Charles Maybank, a draper’s assistant of 28 Castle Street, Guildford (born 29 July 1855 at Angel Gate, Guildford, son of William Maybank) on 7 August 1876 at St Mary’s in Guildford, Surrey. Edward was later a draper’s packer and warehouse porter, his family living at 44 Castle Street in Southwark and later in Mitre Street, Lambeth. Mr Maybank died in 1911Q1, his wife in 1913Q3 aged 55.

Roy Maybank, gt grandson of Edward Charles and Sarah Elizabeth (Skidmore) Maybank, kindly supplied information on this family.

iii. Ellen Amelia, born 1858Q4. She was living at 19 New Park Street at the time she married George Sinclair, a baker of 78 Rockingham Street (born about 1857 in Liverpool, son of James Sinclair, baker) on 8 July 1878 at St John’s, Walworth. They were living with their first child at 34 Holland Street, Southwark, in 1881, but later moved to Gresham Road, Staines, in the house adjacent to that of her sister Charlotte, and again to Edmund Street, Camberwell. Mrs Sinclair’s death appears to have been that registered in 1939 in Essex.

iv. Harriet, born 6 April 1861. She married Dennis McCarthy, a general dealer of 2 Charles Street (born about 1859, son of John McCarthy, commercial traveller) on 2 November 1885 at Christchurch, Blackfriars. The witnesses were Benjamin Skidmore and Sarah Maybank, her brother and sister. Dennis McCarthy later gave his occupation as boiler maker/ fitter and lived with his wife in Lambeth. No offspring.

v. **Benjamin**, [was 489a] born 1864Q4. A printer’s cutter of Lambeth, London, he married firstly Emma Dunning of 15 Industrial Buildings, William Street (born 1867Q2, daughter of John W. Dunning, bookbinder, and Ann Mary) on 26 April 1886 at Christchurch, Blackfriars. The witnesses were Benjamin’s sister and brother-in-law George and Ellen Sinclair. Benjamin and Emma were living at the time of the 1891 census at 36 Holland Street in Southwark. Mrs Skidmore died at the age of only 30 in Lambeth in 1897Q2.

He was living with his wife Catherine (born about 1866 in Westminster) and children at 17 China Walk, Lambeth at the time of the 1901 census. Catherine reported at the time of the 1911 census that in the 14 years of her marriage she had had seven children, of whom five were living; I have found the death registrations of three of their children and only Ellen and Sarah were living with them in 1911.

Benjamin Skidmore’s death was perhaps that registered at Lambeth in 1920, aged 55. Catherine R. Skidmore died in Lambeth in 1956 aged 90.

**Children of Benjamin and Emma (Dunning) Skidmore, born in Southwark,**

i. **James**, born 1888Q1. A brewery labourer in 1911, living in the home of his aunt Sarah Elizabeth Maybank. He married Ellen Duff (daughter of James Duff, a machine ruler) on 23 February 1913 at Christ Church, Southwark.

A son of James and Ellen (Duff) Skidmore,

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5 In the 1841 census at Church Street, Staines, are found Skidmore Ashby aged 30-34 and Emma Ashby aged 25-29. Skidmore Ashby was a son of William Ashby a mealman of Staines, Middlesex (born 1768, died 1832) and his wife Susannah (1772-1858), daughter of Joseph Skidmore, a maltster of Rickmansworth and his wife Elizabeth (Emmott).
i. James B., born 1913.

ii. John William, born 1890Q1. He was in the 1st Bn Lancashire Fusiliers, serving in 1911 in Multan, Punjab, India. Corporal Skidmore was serving in the same Battalion when he died on 15 April 1917. His name appears on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

iii. ARTHUR ERNEST10, said to be aged 9 at the time of the 1901 census, apparently Arthur Ernest registered in St Saviour district in 1892Q3. Arthur E. Skidmore married Louisa Ellen Bradford (daughter of John Bradford, a dairy carman) on 10 March 1912 at St Thomas', Lambeth. Arthur Skidmore died aged 39 in 1932 in Reading, Berkshire. 5 sons and 2 daughters, as known.

Children of Arthur Ernest and Louisa Ellen (Bradford) Skidmore,


iii.-vii. 3 further sons and 2 daughters.

Children of Benjamin and Catherine Skidmore, born in Lambeth,


vi. William Henry, born early in 1901. He died later that same year.

vii. Ellen, born 1902Q2.

viii. Sarah, born 1905Q1.

vi. James, born 1866Q4. At the age of 18 years 11 months James Skidmore, a labourer of Southwark, enlisted on 19 September 1885 in the Royal Artillery at Woolwich with army number 50568. His army records show that he deserted on 10 February 1886. He assumed the name of Herbert Mitchell and reenlisted on 4 April 1887 and was given number 60738. It is this second set of army records which reveal that he 'died of sudden syncope at London 10 Mar 1895'. His death was registered was at 5 Mardale Street, Hammersmith and the certificate states he had an aortic aneurism. James had been granted the Queen's pardon for his deception and was transferred to the Army Reserve in April 1894. His occupation was given as a 'collector' at the time he died.

vii. William, born 1868Q3. William Skidmore, a brushbinder of St George's parish, Southwark, was admitted on 11 November 1887 to St George's Workhouse, Mint Street, Southwark. He was a market porter at the time he was readmitted on 10 December 1889 and transferred that same day to Newington Workhouse, Westmoreland Road. This readmittance and transfer was repeated early in 18906.

A soldier in 1891, he was living at his sister Sarah's home in Lambeth. Not yet found after 1891.

491. viii. JOSEPH THOMAS9, [was 490.] born 27 December 1870 at 1 Ely Place in Southwark. His mother died at or just after his birth - she was deceased when his father registered his birth on 6 January 1871. Joseph, aged 5 months, was living with his uncle and aunt John and Sarah Ann Skidmore at the time of the 1871 census and was raised by them in Dudley. Joseph married Mary Ann Talbot (born 1870Q1 in Kates Hill, Dudley, daughter of William Talbot, railway signalman, and his wife Elizabeth (Woolley)) in 1891Q3 at St John's, Dudley. He was a bricklayer's labourer, living at the Back of 12 Bishop Street, Dudley at the time of the 1901 census and at 38 Campbell Street by 1911. Mr Skidmore died in Dudley in 1960.

The children of Joseph Thomas and Mary Ann (Talbot) Skidmore, born in Dudley,


ii. Mary Ann, born 1892Q3, died 1896Q2 aged 3.


iv. JOHN10, known as Jack, born in Bishop Street, Kates Hill, perhaps registered in Dudley in 1899Q1. He married in 1938.


vi. Sarah Ann, born on 30 November 1903 in St Johns Road, Kates Hill.

A son,

i. JOHN WILLIAM11 SKIDMORE who has descendants in Adelaide, Australia.

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6 London Workhouse Admission and Discharge Records, 1659-1930.
vii. **WILLIAM HENRY**
, born 1906Q4 at 38 Campbell Street, Dudley. He married in 1934.

viii. **JAMES**
, born perhaps 1909Q4. He married in 1939.

ix. Ellen, born 1913. She married in 1938.

We now return to the seventh son of Benjamin and Sarah (Bate) Skidmore.

145. **EDWARD SKIDMORE**, baptised 16 February 1806. He lived in Brockmoor and was an iron puddler in a forge. He married firstly Susannah Marsh of Sedgley who was probably baptised 20 May 1804 at Sedgley, daughter of Henry and Hannah Marsh. Their marriage, at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 16 October 1826, was witnessed by Lucy Cooper. Lucy Marsh was baptised 21 July 1799 of the same parents and could be the lady who married Michael Cooper on 28 March 1820 at St Peter's, Wolverhampton.

Susannah Skidmore died at the early age of 28 and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 3 June 1832. Edward's second wife was Elizabeth Walker (baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 29 Dec 1811, the daughter of William Walker, nailer, and Jane). They were married at St Thomas', Dudley on 14 July 1833, witnessed by David Jewiss. Elizabeth bore Edward's last child at Brockmoor in 1844. It is interesting that the children of his second marriage were baptised not at St Michael's, Brierley Hill but Holy Trinity, Wordsley, from 1836.

Edward Skidmore died in 1844Q4 and his widow married secondly, on 25 June 1848 at St Mary's, Kingswinford, Charles Jackson. He was a labourer from Commonside (the road leading north out of Brockmoor) and the son of William Jackson, also a labourer. The witnesses were Thomas Walker, presumably the bride's brother, and Sabra Smith. Elizabeth Jackson's death was perhaps that registered at Stourbridge in 1881Q1, aged 71.

By 1851 Maria Skidmore - Edward's fifth child - was head of the household, her elder sister Sarah having married a year earlier and Eliza living nearby with her grandfather. The census records their residence as 'By the Sun', perhaps a public house or a reference to Sun Street in that area of Brockmoor called Holland. Maria was a brickyard worker and Sabra (Sabina) appears to have cared for the younger siblings. By 1861 Maria had married and Sabra and William were running a tobacconist and newsagent shop in Holland.

The children of Edward and Susannah (Marsh) Skidmore, born in Brockmoor and baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,

i. Sarah, baptised 29 June 1828. She married Thomas Winnall, coal miner of Oldnall Lane, Cradley (born in Cradley and baptised 4 March 1827 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen, son of John Winnall, nailer, and Elizabeth (Heathcock)) on 13 May 1850 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. Richard Cartwright and John Beckley were witnesses. Thomas and Sarah were living with his mother in 1851 at the Old Workhouse, High Park, Cradley. One child Emma Winnall born about 1852 is known and she was visiting her aunt Sabra's home at the time of the 1861 census. Thomas Winnal died in 1851 and Sarah married secondly widower Walter Homer, a nailer, on 28 February 1858 at Rowley Regis. They lived in Crab Street, Wollescote where she had children by this second marriage.

ii. Benjamin, baptised 11 October 1829. Buried on 13 December at St Michael's, Brierley Hill.

iii. Mary Ann, baptised 3 April 1831. Buried on 1 March 1838 at Holy Trinity, Wordsley.

The children of Edward and Elizabeth (Walker) Skidmore, born in Brockmoor,

iv. Eliza, baptised 24 November 1833 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. In 1851 she worked in the brickyard and was lodging in Holland in the home of her grandfather William Walker, a nailer. She married Thomas Ince, a glassblower who was born in Birmingham, on 2 May 1858 at St James', Dudley. They lived in Brockmoor and later Wordsley. Eliza Ince's death was perhaps that which registered in Stourbridge in 1888.

Children, as known - Elizabeth A., Joseph, Alice, Thomas H., Mary, Albert.

v. Maria, baptised 15 March 1835 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. She was married at Holy Trinity, Amblecote on 29 October 1854 to William Shaw, a brick and tile maker (born about 1831 in Tunstall, Staffordshire, the son of Thomas Shaw, collier). Witnesses were Jesse Brooks and Maria's sister Sarah Winnall. William and Maria moved around 1865 from Brockmoor to Netherend, Cradley. In the late 1870s William took his wife and nine children to Herefordshire, where at the time of the 1881 census he was a brick maker, living at Pine Tree Cottage, Tedstone Wafer. By the time of the 1901 census the Shaws had returned to the Midlands and were living in Amblecote Road, Amblecote, where their son Frank E. Shaw had a painting business. Mr Shaw died in 1907Q1 aged 75 and his wife shared a home with her sister Mary Ann until her death in
and baptised at Holy Trinity, Wordsley,

vi. Sabra, baptised Sabina on 2 October 1836. A tobacconist. She married Francis Harvey, a coal miner (born about 1837 in Holly Hall, Dudley, son of Joseph Harvey, a nailer of Low Town, Dudley, and Elizabeth), on 22 February 1863 at St Thomas’, Dudley. The marriage was witnessed by her sister and brother, Mary Ann Skidmore and William Skidmore. Francis and Sabra lived in High Street, Pensnett before moving with their four sons to Lower Gornal where they lived in Abbey Street and later at 8 Bank Road. Their son James was an elementary schoolmaster. Mrs Harvey died in 1905Q4 aged 69, her husband in 1909Q4 aged 71.

Children, as known - Joseph, Francis, William, James.

275. vii. DAVID, born in Brockmoor and baptised 11 March 1838. His father died when he was only eight years old and his mother remarried four years later so that David was raised by his older sisters. Like his father, he entered an iron forge some time before 1851, and he remained a puddler in Brierley Hill until at least 1881. David married firstly Maria Millington (born about 1840, daughter of John Millington) on 14 September 1862 at All Saints’, Sedgley. She died aged 23 and was buried at Kingswinford on 24 March 1863.

He married his second wife Ann Davies on 4 March 1866 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. The witnesses were Matilda Slinn and William Skidmore, presumably David’s brother. Ann was baptised on 15 September 1838 in Hammerwich, Walsall, the daughter of Thomas Davies, a miller of Lye, and his wife Ann. David and Ann Skidmore lived in Brierley Hill, at the time of the 1871 census at 11 High Street, and in 1881 at 39 Church Street, where Ann Skidmore died aged 43 (buried 13 October 1881 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill).

David married thirdly Mary Ann Aston (born in Pedmore, Worcestershire) at Netherton in 1883Q2 and they were living at 51 Delph Lane in both 1891 and 1901. In 1891 he was still an iron puddler but by 1901 was running a milk delivery service from his home. At both of these dates a niece shared their home - she was recorded as Mary Ann Bath in the census of 1891 and Lily Bath in 1901, born about 1883 in Daisy Bank, Staffordshire.

David Skidmore died in Birmingham in 1925 aged 87.

The child of David and Maria (Millington) Skidmore,

i. Maria, born in Brockmoor. She is called Ann M. in the 1871 and 1881 censuses but was apparently registered as Maria Skidmore in 1863Q1. She appears to be the Maria, daughter of David Skidmore, who married Thomas Woodcock, a draper’s manager of St Matthias parish, Birmingham on 30 August 1890 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. The witnesses were David Skidmore and Eliza Maria Gibbs, a teacher at the Board School (born about 1867, daughter of Mrs Mary Ann Gibbs). Thomas Woodcock was born about 1864 in Wake Green, Moseley (Birmingham), son of William Woodcock, labourer, and Sarah. Thomas and Maria lived at 98 Wheeler Street, Aston Manor.

Children - David W.S., Thomas H., Reginald.

viii. Mary Ann, baptised 5 January 1840, thought to be the female child registered with no name in the Stourbridge registration district in 1839Q4. She was a domestic servant in 1861 and living with her cousin William Beckley, butcher of Cressett Lane in Brockmoor, though later she was for many years in service in Birmingham in the home of James and Ann Allen. When the widowed Mrs Allen went to live with her nephew at Shaftmoor Farm, Hall Green, Birmingham, Mary Ann went with her. She returned to Brockmoor in her later years to live with her widowed sister Maria Shaw in Amblescote Road, Quarry Bank. She died in 1917 aged 77.

276. ix. WILLIAM, baptised 22 May 1842. He kept a newsagent shop with his sister Sabina at the time of the 1861 census. When he married two years later on 5 April 1863 at St Thomas’, Dudley he said he was a book keeper. His wife Elizabeth Homer was born about 1845 in Brierley Hill, the daughter of Thomas Homer, a furnaceman. Mary Ann Allport and Ira Coniah Hill were witnesses to the marriage.

William had become a letter carrier (postman) by 1871 and remained so. He lived at that time with his family in Holland (Brockmoor) but moved to Brierley Hill around 1874 and lived at 5 Fenton Street in 1881. And what an interesting neighbourhood this was at the time the census was taken. At the corner, no.1, Fenton Street, was the Lamp Tavern, run by Joseph Arimathea Skidmore. Between the pub and William’s house lived a comedian, a cordwainer, an ironworks
labourer and a pork butcher. Beyond them lived more labourers but also a manager of a
glassworks, a teazer in the bottle works, commercial clerks and a tobacconist.
By the time of the 1891 census William had retired to Bank Street, Brockmoor and later moved
with his family to Kinver, Staffordshire, where they were living in 1901 at Hope Cottage, Church
Hill. William, his wife and daughter Elsie were living at the time of the 1911 census in the home of
his daughter Annie Elizabeth Holmes in Cressett Lane, Brockmoor. His death at the age of 71 was
probably that registered at Stourbridge in 1913Q4, his wife following in 1914Q4 aged 70.

The children of William and Elizabeth (Homer) Skidmore, born in Brockmoor,

i. William Thomas, born 1864Q1. A letter carrier employed by the Post Office, he
married Joanna Morris (born about 1863 in Commonsie, Pensnett) in 1888Q1 in a
Register Office/ Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at Stourbridge (perhaps a
Methodist ceremony?) and they lived in Bank Street, Brierley Hill until at least 1901
and then in Adelaide Street. Mrs Skidmore died in 1925 aged 62.

ii. JAMES ERNEST\(^9\), [was 491.] born 1866Q4. He was a post office clerk and lived in Bent
Street, Brierley Hill, in 1889. He married dressmaker Alice Lawrence (born about
1862 in Brierley Hill, daughter of George Lawrence, labourer of Cricket Field, and
his wife Eliza) on 15 December 1887 at New Road Methodist, Stourbridge. Arthur
Malpass, a post office clerk in Stourbridge, and his wife Eliza Malpass were
witnesses. At some time between 1892 and 1898 they moved to Church Street,
Rubon, Wrexham in Denbighshire, where James was a sorting clerk and
telegraphist for the Post Office.
Mrs Skidmore died in Wrexham in 1911Q3, aged 47. The death of James E.
Skidmore aged 71 was registered at Stafford in 1938Q3.

The children of James Ernest and Alice (Lawrence) Skidmore, baptised at
Brockmoor,

i. James Harold, born 1 February (baptised 31 March) 1889. He died in
1892Q4 aged 3.

ii. Ernest Wilfred, born 27 November 1891 and baptised 26 June 1892.
He died in 1893Q1 aged 1.

iii. Elsie May, born 1898Q1 in Ruabon.

iii. Ann Elizabeth, born 1869Q2. Annie Elizabeth Skidmore married Thomas Holmes, a
house and sign painter, and decorator (born about 1864 in Brierley Hill) in 1891Q1
in a Register Office/ Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at Stourbridge. They
lived in New Street and later Williams Street, Brierley Hill before moving, by 1911,
to 75 Cressett Lane, Brockmoor, where Mrs Holmes ran her ‘fancy draper's'
business.

iv. Mary Ann, born perhaps 1871Q4. She was a domestic servant to the Price family in
Bordesley, Birmingham before her marriage to William Alfred Player, a carpenter
(born in Coventry about 1872, son of William Player) on 9 December 1899 at St
Peter’s, Kinver. They were living in Gordon Street, Coventry in 1901.

v. JOSEPH EDWIN\(^9\), [was 492.] born 1875Q2 and baptised at Moor Street Methodist
Chapel, Brockmoor, in June 1875, the son of William [276] and Elizabeth (Homer)
Skidmore. He is found as Edwin Joseph Skidmore in the Brockmoor register at the
time of his daughter's baptism. He was a stock taker in the steel bar rolling mill and
lived in Victoria Street, Brierley Hill. He married Jennie Helen Norwood on 29
December 1900 at St Peter’s, Kinver. She was a British subject born in
Susquehanna, Pennsylvania about 1878, daughter of mechanic Samuel Norwood.
Joseph and Jennie Skidmore lived at Bank Villa, 59 Bank Street, Brierley Hill.

Children of Joseph Edwin and Jennie Helen (Norwood) Skidmore,

i. Gladys Mabel, baptised 15 December 1903 at St John’s, Brockmoor.

ii.-iii. 2 further children who did not survive.


vi. Sarah Maria, born 1877Q4 in Brierley Hill, baptised on 8 January 1878 at Moor
Street Methodist Chapel in Brockmoor. She was by 1911 a children's nurse to the
family of stockbroker Frederick Ryamond Burton in Victoria Road, Harborne,
Birmingham.

vii.? A further child who did not survive.
viii. Elsie Mabel, born 1887Q1.
x. Elizabeth, baptised 17 November 1844. She died in 1845Q2.
72. **BENJAMIN⁶ SKIDMORE.** He married Ann Ashton (probably baptised 6 February 1763 at St Mary's, Oldswinford, the daughter of Thomas and Mary Ashton) at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 25 December 1786. Mary Ashton was a witness. They moved to Tipton before 1799 but were still using a burial plot at Brierley Hill as late as 1808. He is perhaps the son of Benjamin Skidmore [35] or of Job Skidmore [36] and appears to be the Benjamin Skidmore buried on 10 April 1803 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill aged 40.

The children of Benjamin and Ann (Ashton) Skidmore,

i. Thomas, baptised 13 May 1788 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. It seems he died aged 19 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 25 January 1808.

ii. Susannah, baptised 15 February 1789 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. She had a child. Nothing further is known of mother or son.

   i. Job Skidmore, baptised 16 March 1806 at St Martin’s, Tipton.

iii. Mary, baptised 13 February 1791 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. She is perhaps the child who died aged 5 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 15 February 1795, said to be the child of Benjamin and Nancy Skidmore.

iv. Benjamin, baptised 25 May 1795 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. He died ‘of Tipton’ aged 17 and was buried on 7 January 1813 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury.

v. Sarah, baptised 26 May 1799 at St Martin’s, Tipton.

vi. Job, baptised 25 December 1802 at St Martin’s, Tipton. He died aged 3 and was buried at Brierley Hill on 13 October 1805.

vii. [perhaps] Enoch, ‘of Tipton’, died aged 21 and was buried at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 6 May 1823.
Skidmore Families of Brettell Lane and Brockmoor.

73. **THOMAS**§ SKIDMORE, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 24 January 1768, I believe to be the son of Job [36] and Mary (Harrison) Skidmore. He married Sarah Lowe (born early-mid 1770s) at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 27 November 1792, witnessed by Ann Martin and Francis Alden. Interestingly, the children of Thomas and Sarah were baptised at St Mary’s, Kingswinford and not at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, perhaps suggesting they lived closer to the parish church. The family were, however, buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. Thomas Skidmore died at the age of 39 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 23 January 1807.

After Thomas’ death Sarah Skidmore married secondly Moses Tether, a boatman, on 8 April 1809 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen (witnesses Sarah Wood and Ann Parkis). Moses and Sarah Tether had two children baptised in Brierley Hill in 1810 and 1812 and were living in 1841 in Brockmoor. He is perhaps the man of this name whose death was registered at Stourbridge in 1842Q1, his wife perhaps in 1845Q3.

The children of Thomas and Sarah (Lowe) Skidmore, baptised at St Mary’s, Kingswinford. Burials at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill.

i. Jane, baptised 24 November 1793. She probably married Joseph Cornwell at Kingswinford on 25 December 1820. John Walker was a witness. A child Thomas Cornwell was born to them and baptised at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 21 July 1822 - perhaps the boatman living in Wolverhampton in 1841 with his wife Jane.

Jane Skidmore of Brockmoor had a daughter,

i. Hannah Skidmore baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 5 October 1818. She married Uriah Capewell bachelor (baptised Uri son of Joseph & Ann/ Nancy (Cole) Capewell at St Mary’s, Kingswinford 30 May 1802) on 25 January 1836 at All Saints’, Sedgley. The witnesses were Thomas Billingham and Sarah Billingham (perhaps Sarah Southall, married 25 December 1829 Oldswinford).

Uriah and Hannah were living in 1841 in Rock Hill Street, Brierley Hill and had moved by 1851 to Sun Street, Brockmoor. Hannah was widowed in the late 1850s and moved to Blue Ball [Thorns Road] and later Maughan Street, Quarry Bank, supporting her family as a messenger for B J Company and later as a washerwoman.

ii. Thomas, baptised 11 May 1795 and died in infancy, buried 24 April 1796.

iii. Sarah, baptised 5 February 1797 and buried 14 February 1798, an infant.

iv. Elijah, baptised 30 December 1798 and buried 1 February 1801 aged 2.

v. Maria, baptised 5 October 1800 and buried 13 August 1801, an infant.

vi. Anna Maria, baptised 29 August 1802. She married John Harvey at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 5 August 1827, witnessed by James Haynes. Nothing further presently known.

145c. vii. **ELIJAH**§, baptised 13 May 1804. He married Sarah Powers (perhaps baptised 14 June 1807 at All Saints’, Sedgley, daughter of Edward and Hannah Powers) at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 21 February 1825. The witness was Michael Mallen. Elijah Skidmore died in Brockmoor in 1835 aged only 31 (buried 8 April at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill). Sarah Skidmore was perhaps the lady of that name buried at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 6 September 1827, aged 21 of Bromley. Even as late as the time of the 1901 Ordnance Survey map of Brockmoor and Bromley, Bromley was a group of housing separated from Brockmoor to the south and Pensnett to the north by colliery land.

Probable children of Elijah and Sarah (Powers) Skidmore,

i. Sarah, an infant buried at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 6 November 1825.

ii. Emma, an infant buried at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 29 April 1827.

viii. Noah, baptised 2 November 1806.

ix. Adam, baptised 2 November 1806 and buried 14 September 1809 aged 3.
74. **JAMES SKIDMORE**, coal miner of Wormwood Bank, off Brettell Lane, was probably the son of Job [36] and Mary (Harrison) Skidmore, baptised on 30 October 1781 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. He married Ann Bird (said in the 1851 census to have been born about 1782 in Amblecote) at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 21 August 1803. The marriage was witnessed by Aaron Simpson and Mary Simpson (presumably Mary Hall who married Aaron Simpson at St John the Baptist, Halesowen earlier that year on 21 March).

The Brierley Hill baptism registers reveal that James and Ann Skidmore lived at Wormwood Bank from 1813 until 1825, with the address specified as Plant’s Hole in 1815. James' widowed mother Mary Skidmore probably lived with his family, since she died at Wormwood Bank in 1817. Fowler’s Kingswinford survey of 1822 shows twelve houses and gardens immediately west of the Stourbridge Canal, and on the southern side of Brettell Lane. These included Peter Plant’s timber yard and were adjacent to three pairs of coal pits belonging to William Wheeleley⁷. James appears as tenant of one of the four houses in the land called Plot 1043b. Aaron Simpson, presumably the man who witnessed his marriage, was one of the other tenants there. Plant’s Hollow can be found on the 1901 Ordnance Survey map of western Brierley Hill as a collection of a few isolated dwellings adjacent to and north of the boundary between Brierley Hill to the north and Amblecote to the south. Along the boundary at this point the land falls steeply away to a fireclay pit south of the boundary - perhaps the origin of the name Wormwood Bank.

James and Ann Skidmore were still at Wormwood Bank at the time of the 1841 and 1851 censuses. In the 1841 census Benjamin Sidaway aged 8, James’ grandson was at the house in Wormwood Bank. By 1851 only Job Skidmore remained at home with his parents, together with grandson James Sidaway aged 13. Job Skidmore died in 1853, his mother Ann Skidmore three years later on 17 November 1856, aged 77 (buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 23 November). In 1861 James Skidmore, widower, was boarding at the home in Wormwood Bank of David Fulford, aged 30, a boat unloader born in Alvechurch, Worcestershire. James died aged 85 on 6 January 1867 at the Union Workhouse in Wordsley.

**The children of James and Ann (Bird) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,**

i. Job, baptised 1 July 1804. He remained unmarried and was a potter by trade, perhaps at Francis Smith and Sons, the largest concern in the area, or at Samuel Edge’s smaller establishment. These adjacent potteries were on the north side of Brettell Lane just to the west of the Stourbridge Canal. He died aged 49 (buried 6 November 1853 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, of Wormwood Bank).

146. ii. JOSEPH, baptised 21 December 1806, **OF WHOM MORE BELOW.**

iii. Sidonia, baptised 20 May 1810. She married firstly Joseph Sidaway at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 25 July 1832, witnessed by her brother Job Skidmore and by Ann Simkiss. Sidonia was living, a charwoman in 1841 with her children in Robin Hood Building, Bromsgrove Road, Oldswinford, and next to the household of Mary Sidaway, a wool carder and perhaps the mother of Sidonia’s husband. At the County General Sessions held on 24 February 1842 Sidonia was tried for larceny, for which she imprisoned for one month. She married secondly Edward Russell, a shoemaker (born about 1798 in Pensnett) in 1849Q4 and they were living in 1851 at 27 Rocks Hill, Brierley Hill, with her children Joseph Sidaway and Ann Sidaway. Edward and Sidonia later lived in Lye. After the death of her husband in 1875 Mrs Russell moved to Chapel Street, Netherton where she lived in 1881 with two grandchildren. She died in 1883Q3 aged 75. Children, as known - Benjamin 1832, Ann 1839, Joseph 1843 and Job Skidmore Russell 1851 and Noah Russell.

iv. Phoebe, baptised 15 August 1813 and buried 11 October 1813 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, an infant of Wormwood Bank.

147. v. JAMES, baptised 4 June 1815,. **OF WHOM MORE BELOW.**

vi. Noah, baptised 29 November 1818 but probably born in 1817. He was an iron puddler of Brettell Lane at the time of his marriage to Mrs Mary Welch (daughter of Joseph Priest, labourer, and widow of John Welch who probably died 1845Q1) on 29 September 1846 at Holy Trinity, Wordsley. The witnesses were William Green and Mary Dubberley. I have not found Noah in the census of 1851 but he was widowed or separated by 1861 and lodged in the area of Brettell Lane before spending at least twenty of the latter years of his life in Wordsley workhouse. He died in 1902Q3, said to be aged 86.

⁷ Richardson, E., p.16.
The second son of James and Ann (Bird) Skidmore.

146. **JOSEPH SKIDMORE**, baptised 21 December 1806 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. He married Louisa Cooper (baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill 22 April 1810, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Cooper) at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 3 June 1832. The witnesses were Thomas Penn and Louisa's sister Augusta Cordelia Cooper.

Joseph was a clay potter, firstly in Brierley Hill and later Quarry Bank. In 1841 he is found with his young family living at the back of Mill Lane. Mill Lane was towards the northern extremity of Brierley Hill and where Brierley Hill merges into Brockmoor to the west. The census commentary describes the area as 'All the road at back Mill Lane and Turnpike Road [presumably the High Street of Brierley Hill] from Bonds Liquor Shop and Pearson's Beer? Shop opposite to Corner of Level [Street] and Gorsty Bank [presumably Bank Street]'.

Between 1845 and 1881 Joseph and Louisa were in Quarry Bank, living in The Thorns and Merry Hill area from 1845 until at least 1861, and in Mount Pleasant in 1871 (when Joseph was unemployed). When their son Joseph Skidmore was buried in 1861 his address was given as Blue Ball. The Blue Ball was an inn on the corner of Merry Hill and the High Street of Quarry Bank and the name also described the surrounding small cluster of houses. Joseph Skidmore was resident in Paskins Yard in 1879 when he died aged 73. He was buried at Christ Church, Quarry Bank, on 21 December of that year. Louisa Skidmore his widow was living in Oak Street, Quarry Bank, in 1881 with her son John Skidmore and next door to her son Richard Skidmore. She died in 1890Q1 aged 78.

The children of Joseph and Louisa (Cooper) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,

i. **Elizabeth**, baptised 30 June 1833. A dressmaker before her marriage. She appears to have married Richard Patrick Evans, coal miner of Kingswinford parish (son of John Patrick Evans, furnaceman) at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 25 April 1859. Note her father’s occupation is given as puddler, not potter. Stephen Adams and Elizabeth Porter were witnesses.

Richard and Elizabeth Evans lived in Albion Street, Brierley Hill in 1861. I have not found them in later British censuses.

ii. **JAMES**, baptised 8 November 1835. A potter, he was boarding at the time of the 1861 census in Broseley, Shropshire and two years later in 1863Q3 married a Broseley girl Louisa Gething. She was born in 1841, daughter of William Chadwick, a coal miner of the High Street, Broseley, and his wife Ann, and the widow of Henry Chadwick who died early in 1861 after only about a year of marriage.

James and Louisa lived for a while in the Broseley area but moved back to Quarry Bank, where their third child Joseph William was born in 1867. By 1871 they moved again, to Malt Mill Lane, The Hill, Halesowen. James Skidmore died in 1908Q4 aged 72, his wife in 1914Q4 aged 73.

The children of James and Louisa (Chadwick) Skidmore, born in Broseley,

i. **Mary Louisa**, baptised 1 May 1864 at St Leonard's, Broseley. She married Samuel Fletcher in 1884Q3 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen. She had a daughter Sarah Roberts Fletcher (born 1885Q2 in Broseley) before separating from her husband. She lived until at least 1901 in her parents' home and later in the Blackheath home of her daughter, who married Joseph Chatwin.

ii. **Ann**, born 1865Q3 and baptised 7 October 1866 at Broseley. She appears to be the 2-year old child, of Cakemoor, who was buried at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 13 July 1868.

The second son of James and Ann (Bird) Skidmore.
Skidmore Families of Brettell Lane and Brockmoor.

Halesowen) on 8 April 1888 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen. She appears to be the child aged 11 in 1881 who was nurse to the children of Henry Hicklon, innkeeper of the Beech Tree in Tump Road, Blackheath, Rowley Regis.

In 1901 Joseph Skidmore was living two doors from the family of his younger brother James in Hays Road, The Hill. The intervening house was occupied by Joseph and Ellen Barnsley, who are probably the parents of Mary Ann who married Joseph's brother and perhaps also of Joseph's wife Agnes. By 1911 they were living at 20 Holly Road, Blackheath. I am grateful to their great-grandson Brian Gibbs Skidmore for information on this family.

Agnes Skidmore died in 1944 aged 74, Joseph in 1946 aged 79.

The children of Joseph William and Agnes (Barnsley) Skidmore, born in Halesowen,

i. **SAMUEL**, born 1 August 1888. A bricklayer, he married Matilda Rollason (daughter of John Rollason, a rivet maker, and his wife Mary) on 12 February 1910 at St Paul's, Blackheath. Their home was at 47 John Street, Blackheath though Samuel was working for builder Thomas Vale and Sons of Stourport at the time he enlisted in November 1914. He joined the 3rd Bn Dorset Regiment but was transferred soon after to the 13th Bn Worcestershire Regiment. He was posted to France in June 1917 where he joined 1st Battalion in the field. He suffered a gunshot wound to his right hand on 7 December 1917, requiring the amputation of the ends of two of the fingers. He received treatment at the 2nd Australian Hospital in Wimereux, France and at Colchester Military Hospital in the UK, followed by convalescence at Weymouth Military Hospital. Mr Skidmore died in 1966.

Children of Samuel and Matilda (Rollason) Skidmore,


iv. Rita Mary.


ii. Mary Louisa, born 1890Q1. (Apparently called Sarah in the census of 1891).

iii. William Arthur, born 1892Q4. He served in World War I as Private in the 298th Company of the Labour Corps. William Arthur died on 13 January 1918 and is buried in the Blackheath Baptist Chapelyard, Rowley Regis. The army records of the return of his effects to his simply say that he died 'of illness' at Ripon, Yorkshire. Ripon Camp was one of the main centres for the organisation of troops being sent to and returning from the Front. The vast army camp had been constructed in 1915 on the western and southern outskirts of the city. Ripon Camp had a hospital within the army base with 670 beds. However, it was also the home of the Northern Command Labour Centre, Labour Corps, which in 1917 housed 297th & 298th Depot Labour Companies, Labour Corps, so it seems more likely that William was employed in some non-combat capacity at the camp rather than arriving there as a patient.

iv. Ernest, born 1894Q4. A nut and bolt maker in Blackheath, he enlisted for six years on 11 August 1911 with the 3rd Division Royal Field Artillery Reserves. He was mobilised on the outbreak of war and spent four years in France as a gunner. In April 1916 he was made Corporal. In March 1918 he was attached to HQ Cavalry Corps and posted to Base Depot. He eventually returned to 20 Holly Road, Blackheath on demob in March 1919.


vi. Florence, born 1904Q1 in New John Street, Halesowen.
vii. Eleanor Ivy, born 1910Q1 in Holly Road, Blackheath. She married in 1933.

iv. Henry Chadwick, born 1868Q2, died 1873Q4 aged 5.

v. JAMES, born 1875Q1 in Malt Mill Lane, The Hill, Halesowen. At the time of the 1901 census he was a fitter in the tube works, living in Hays Road, the Hill. He married Mary Ann Barnsley (born 1874Q2 in Halesowen, perhaps the daughter of Joseph and Ellen Barnsley) in 1895Q3 at St Paul's, Blackheath.

Children of James and Mary Ann (Barnsley) Skidmore, born in Halesowen,

i. Frederick James, born 1896Q3.

ii. Mary Ann, one of two girls called Mary Ann Skidmore registered in Stourbridge, one in 1898Q3 the other in 1898Q4. See also Mary Ann daughter of Daniel [591].


vi. Florence, born 1877Q2 in Halesowen. She married John Careless, a boat unloader at the iron tube works (born about 1872 in Halesowen, son of Joseph Careless, a farm labourer, and his wife Ellen of Hill, Halesowen) in 1900Q4 at Halesowen and their home was in Malt Mill Lane.

Children, as known - James, Joseph, Edward Henry, Ellen, Louisa, Katie W., Clifford J., Dora M., and a further daughter born in 1922.

Florence had a son before her marriage,

i. James, born 1898Q3, known as Skidmore.

iii. Emma, born 2 (baptised 27) January 1839. A domestic servant before her marriage to Enoch Stevens Wood, an iron worker (born 1840Q4 at Quarry Bank) at Netherton in 1864Q2. With her husband she witnessed the marriage of her brother John [280]. Enoch and Emma lived in Quarry Bank Road. Mr Wood died in 1905Q1 aged 63. Mrs Wood's death was perhaps that registered at Stourbridge in 1927, aged 87.

Children, as known - Mary, Dudley, Alice Maud.

iv. Joseph, born 29 May (baptised 19 June) 1842. A potter of Blue Ball, he died aged 19 and was buried at Christ Church, Quarry Bank on 6 November 1861.

278. v. RICHARD COOPER, born 14 July 1845 and baptised Richard at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 10 August of that year. He married Hannah Grainger (born about 1849 in Kingswinford parish) at St Andrew's, Netherton in 1869Q3. Richard was an iron puddler of Quarry Bank. At the time of the 1871 census his family was living at Paskins Yard and by 1881 had moved to Oak Street, close to his brother John Skidmore.

The death of Richard Cooper Skidmore aged 45 was registered in 1890Q1. Mrs Skidmore was living in Oak Street, Quarry Bank at the time of the 1911 census.

The children of Richard Cooper and Hannah (Grainger) Skidmore,

i. Richard, born 1868. Died 1872Q1 aged 3.

ii. Alice, born 1870Q3. She married Josiah Street, a miner of Three Street, Quarry Bank, aged 25 (son of James Street, mine manager, and his wife Ruth) on 1 November 1891 at Christ Church, Quarry Bank. The witnesses were Joseph Skidmore, presumably Richard's brother, and Martha Bowen. They lived at 9 Maughan Street, Quarry Bank.

Children, as known - Bert, Lily, Olive May, Elizabeth C.

iii. Richard Thomas, born 1872Q1. He died in 1889Q1 aged 17.

iv. Joseph, born perhaps 1873Q4. He was a coal miner lodging at the time of the 1901 census in Oak Street, Quarry Bank. Not yet found after this date.

v. [perhaps] Albert, of Quarry Bank, buried there on 20 October 1875 aged 7 months.

504. vi. JOHN, born 1876Q1 in Quarry Bank, perhaps the daughter of Peter Weaver, chain maker of Oak Street) in 1897Q2 at Christ Church, Quarry Bank. They were living in 1901 at 31 Oak Street, Quarry Bank with Ellen's child John Leonard Weaver aged 4 and their two known Skidmore children.

John Skidmore died in 1903Q1 aged 26, his wife in 1906Q2 aged 29.

Children of John and Eliza Ellen (Weaver) Skidmore, born in Quarry Bank,

i. Alice Maud, born 1898Q3. She was apparently raised by her uncle
Enoch Ford, chainmaker of Vicarage Road, Wollaston, and his wife Dorothy (Billingham).

ii. Harry, born late in 1900. After the death of his parents he was adopted by Elijah and Mary Maria (Billingham) Hart of Evers Street, Quarry Bank.

279. vi. THOMAS MATTHEWS⁸, born 15 October 1848 and baptised on 26 November of that year at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. A puddler of Quarry Bank, he married Georgina Homer (born about 1853 at Dudley Wood, the daughter of William Homer, a miner) in 1872Q2 at Netherton. She was a chainmaker at the time of the 1881 census, when the family shared a house in Vine Street, Quarry Bank, with William Pegg and family.

Thomas died at the age of 43 in 1891Q1 and on 3 April 1892 at Christ Church, Quarry Bank Georgina Skidmore married secondly Benjamin Gill, a miner and a widower of Warmfield, Wakefield, Yorkshire (perhaps baptised 3 July 1854 at Sheffield, son of Edwin and Elizabeth (Saynor) Gill). John King and Jane King were witnesses. Benjamin and Georgina Gill, the three younger Skidmore sons and children Albert Gill (aged 7) and Ada Gill (aged 6) were living in 1901 in Pine Apple Hill, Warmfield.

The children of Thomas Matthews and Georgina (Homer) Skidmore, born in Quarry Bank,

505. i. JOSEPH⁹, born perhaps in 1873Q1. He became a glass blower and at the time of the 1901 census was boarding (along with Frederick Cartwright, 29, born in Brierley Hill) in the home of Brierley Hill-born James and Hannah (Godman) Roberts at 69 York Street, Bristol. He married Lilian Augusta Hill in Bristol in 1908Q4 and they were living in 1911 at 4 Waterloo Place in the St Philip’s area of that city.

Mr Skidmore died in 1958 in Bristol, aged 84, his wife in 1961, aged 79.

Children of Joseph and Lilian Augusta (Hill) Skidmore,

i. Doris Lilian, born 1909Q4 in St Philip’s, Bristol.

ii. Frederick V., born 1911Q4. He married firstly Kathleen M. Moss in 1939 in Bristol (died 1941). He married secondly Rosia W. Terry in 1944.

iii. ARTHUR L.¹⁰, born 1913Q4. He married in 1936.

iv. Maurice G. 1917Q2.

James, born 1876Q2. A coal miner in 1901, as was Laurie. He married Annie Ridsdale in 1910Q4 and was living in 1911 with his wife and stepdaughters Madge and Mary Ridsdale at 8 March Street, Normanton.

iii. [presumably] Harry, born 1879Q2, buried as Harry Lorry Skidmore, of Quarry Bank, aged 1 year 5 months, on 26 September 1880 at Holy Trinity there.

280. vii. JOHN⁹, born 17 November 1851 and baptised at Christ Church, Quarry Bank on 14 December of that year. A puddler of Quarry Bank and Tipton, he married at Christ Church, Quarry Bank on 25 January 1881 Sarah Jane Bishton of Primrose Hill in Netherton (born 1858Q1 in Netherton, daughter of Thomas Bishton). The witnesses were John’s sister and brother-in-law Emma and Enoch Wood. John and Sarah lived in Oak Street in 1881, with his widowed mother Louisa Skidmore. At some time before 1888 they moved to 29 Bell Street in St Matthew’s parish in

⁸ Note also James Parsons Skidmore registered at Stourbridge in 1876Q4.
Tipton. Mr Skidmore died in 1909Q3 aged 57.

The children of John and Sarah Jane (Bishton) Skidmore,
Mrs Skidmore had 9 children, of whom 7 were living in 1911.

i. Esther Louisa, born 1881Q2 in Merry Hill. A servant in Dixons Green, Dudley in 1901 and a cook to a family in Hamstead Hill, Handsworth by 1911. She married Albert Jeavons at St Matthew's, Tipton in 1911Q2.

508. ii. JOSEPH THOMAS⁹, born 1883Q1 in Merry Hill. A wood Sawyer in 1901. He married Martha Ingram in 1904Q2 at St John's, Tipton and was living in Park Lane West. In 1911 he was involved in bridge building as a driller.

Children of Joseph Thomas and Martha (Ingram) Skidmore, born in Tipton,

i. James Ernest, born 1904Q3.
ii. Nellie Evelyn, born 1907Q1. She married in 1931.
iii. Irene, born 1909Q3.

iii. George Edward, born 1888Q3 in Oak Road, Quarry Bank. He enlisted at Dudley on 25 August 1905 with the 3rd Battalion, the Worcestershire Regiment (service number 9404) After initial training in Worcester and then Aldershot, he arrived in Capetown in November 1907. The threatened trouble with native tribes in South Africa did not materialise and after an uneventful year in Wynberg, the battalion returned home in October 1908. The battalion returned to the Shaft Barracks in Western Heights, Dover, Kent. In July 1911 he transferred to the Reservists but was recalled at the outbreak of war. The 3rd Bn had a truly miserable time during August and September; this is told in detail on the regiment’s website. George, now a Lance Corporal, was a signaller (used in forward positions to assist the artillery and provide information on their enemy targets).

He died in France, though perhaps not on the date of 26 August 1914 recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Andrew Johnson, creator and researcher of the Tipton Remembers website, presents evidence for his death occurring on 20 September 1914⁹. The map reference of the original burial is Soissons Sheet 33 299.6 x 196.4. He was reinterred in Vailly British Cemetery in Aisne on 5 December 1919.

iv. Alice, born 1890Q2 in Tipton. In 1911 she was a servant to the Johnson family in Villa Road, Handsworth. She married William H. Blount at St Martin’s, Tipton in 1917Q4.

v. Sarah Jane, born 1892Q3 in Tipton. Said in her brother George’s army records to have married Mr Saunderson.

vi. Maud Ethel, born 1894Q4 in Tipton.

vii. Emma, born 1898Q3 in Tipton. She married John H. Turley in 1919Q2 at St Matthew’s, Tipton.

viii. Ann Maria Cooper, baptised 27 July 1856 at Christ Church, Quarry Bank. I have not found this lady in British censuses later than 1871.

The third son of James and Ann (Bird) Skidmore.

147. JAMES⁷ SKIDMORE, born at Plant’s Hole [Hollow], Wormwood Bank, off Brettell Lane, and baptised 4 June 1815. A coal miner of Brierley Hill, he married Margaret Eardley, who was born at Shifnal or Madeley in Shropshire. The marriage was witnessed by Caroline Eardley and by John Smith. Five children of the marriage were baptised at St George’s Pains Lane Chapel (later the parish of St George’s and called the Chapelry of Donnington Wood, Shropshire) between 1814 and 1824 including Margaret on 9 June 1816 and Caroline on 20 March 1814. Margaret’s name at marriage is given as Eardley but when she registered the birth of her son Sidney Harley Cain in 1862 she gave her maiden name as Harley, and this name persists in the family through this son. I have not seen birth certificates of the other children and do not know whether Margaret consistently called herself Harley. The wedding of James and Margaret took place at Harborne, Staffordshire, on 2

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⁹ The author gave a talk about George Edward Skidmore in March 2015 to the Skidmore Family History Group. This talk can be found at [www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com](http://www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com) and includes Andrew Johnson’s convincing evidence in full. See also tiptonremembers.net.
Skidmore Families of Brettell Lane and Brockmoor.

September 1838, when James was described as a potter of Harborne (he perhaps worked for a time with his brother Joseph Skidmore) though thereafter he was a coal miner.

At the time of the 1841 census James and Margaret were living with their first child in Dudley Road, Brierley Hill in the same general area as his brother Joseph. They were in Locks Lane in 1851 but by 1853 lived in Level Street where they remained. The 1871 census finds Margaret at No. 22 with four of her sons, Thomas, Benjamin, Abel and Cain, with her husband boarding nearby. Margaret Skidmore died on 19 January 1879 (said to be aged 65) and by 1881 James lived at 21 Level Street (possibly the house previously occupied by his wife) with his daughter Jane aged 15 and his 'stepson' Sidney Handey (probably Sidney Harley Cain Skidmore) aged 18. Two households are recorded at this address; Benjamin Skidmore, James' son, was also there with his wife Rosannah and their first two children.

In his later years James was employed to grease mineral wagons at Lord Dudley's private railway which served Round Oak steelworks. He was involved in an accident there when caught between the buffers of two mineral wagons and died at Dudley Guest Hospital from his injuries on 5 October 1888 aged 74. The Brierley Hill Advertiser reported that 'The deceased was a well known character. He was an old miner and has had narrow escapes from death on more than one occasion. As the father of the man 'Mughouse' [George] who was one of those stopped in the Nine Locks pit years ago, the deceased will be remembered by many in the locality'.

The children of James and Margaret (Eardley) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,

i. Caroline, baptised 22 September 1839. She married Thomas Williams, miner of Round Oak (born about 1837 in Little Seaton, Shropshire, son of Robert Williams, miner) at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 29 March 1858. The witnesses were Robert Williams and Ellen Humphries. Thomas and Caroline moved from Brierley Hill to Church Street, Pensnett around 1860 and were living there in 1881 with seven of their children, and four doors from her brother Abel Skidmore. By 1901 Thomas and his sons Benjamin and Cain Williams were mining in Staveley, Derbyshire. Mr Williams died in 1909 or 1910, his wife in 1912 aged 72.
ii. Ann, born 30 June (baptised 18 July) 1841, buried 5 January 1843 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill.
iii. James, born 26 February (baptised 19 March) 1843. A coal miner in 1861, living at home. He was an assisted migrant to New South Wales, arriving at Sydney on 8 April 1862 aboard the Annie Wilson. He is described in the passenger list as aged 20, from 'Bryleigh', Staffordshire, Church of England and unable to read and write. He appears to have travelled with a William Smith. He is probably the James Skidmore who married Mary Ann Hughes in Sydney in 1874. No children have been found in the Australian Birth Index to this couple. Her death was perhaps that registered at Kogarah, New South Wales in 1894, James' at Ryde, New South Wales in 1895.
iv. Joseph, born 19 April (baptised 11 May) 1845, buried 15 September 1847 Brierley Hill, aged 2 years 5 months.

281. v. GEORGE®, born 3 April 1847 and baptised on 25 April at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. He was a survivor of the famous Nine Locks pit disaster which took place at No.29 Pit of the Earl of Dudley's Wallows Colliery in Locks Lane, Brierley Hill in March 1869. He recalled the events in 1896 when in conversation with other miners in the Duke of Sussex public house in Stafford Street, Dudley, where he was landlord. This was recorded by Thomas Siviter in his family Bible and relayed to a local magazine by Mr Siviter’s son nearly one hundred years later. The following account of events also includes material collated by Mrs Sue Brown, great granddaughter of George Skidmore’s brother Thomas. Mrs Brown has spoken with Mr Alec Garrett whose father worked in mines all his life and for several years travelled with ‘Muggers’ Skidmore. The fact that ‘Muggers’ was George Skidmore was confirmed by a Mrs Millward of Stourbridge, granddaughter of George’s brother Benjamin Skidmore [283] and by the account of the death of his father James [147] in the Express and Star.

On Tuesday 16 March 1869 ten men, three boys aged 14 and six ponies went down Nine Locks pit to cut coal overnight. George Skidmore, aged 21 and single, was amongst them. Once underground the men and boys separated into two teams to carry out their work in different tunnels. When they started to go up after the shift the shaft was blocked with water. George found himself with four other men and two lads. They found the safest place they could and soon fell asleep. George said he had been drinking and did not need his supper of pork and bread and when the young lads of the shift began to cry with hunger, along with the other men he gave them his meal. For water they drank the flood water using their metal flasks and taking the precaution of covering the mouthpiece with cloth in an effort to purify it. Timothy Taylor, aged
24, is reported to have regularly swum to the shaft to report back on the rescue attempts, and on one occasion narrowly missed being hit by the draggon. Above ground, the flood was first discovered around 3.00 am in the morning of March 17 and the pumps were set to work. The engine house pump was capable of pumping out 540 gallons per minute. In addition a draggon was geared to the upper shaft and emptied at the rate of 30 hundredweight per hour. Pumps were brought in from other pits and the combined efforts removed 250 tons of water per hour – yet in the first 24 hours the level of water in the shaft had only fallen by 16 inches. Around 1.00 am on the following Sunday morning, part of the machinery broke free and a section of the pumps had to be closed down to repair it.

George Skidmore
Reproduced with the permission of the Black Country Bugle, from a photograph of the following survivors, pictured in 1869.
Names are taken from The Colliery Guardian of 26 March 1869
Killed - William Ashman 50
During the ensuing quiet the trapped men’s voices were heard, but it took a further nine hours of pumping, and battling against the ‘black damp’ which followed the dropping level of water, before the first men could be brought out. Thomas Brown sailed a raft into the tunnel from the shaft, collecting the men one at a time and swimming alongside the raft to get them out. By 4.00 pm on Monday George was brought out, still strong enough to walk unaided and declaring he could walk home and needed no medical attention. A cab was provided for him, while the others remained under medical supervision. George was of the opinion that if they had worked for any firm but the Earl of Dudley, they would not have survived. Amongst the team of ten mining staff organising the above-ground rescue were John Skidmore, presumably John [244], and Jeremiah Skidmore, presumably John’s brother [243]. George recalled that a day or two after their rescue they had their portraits taken and the next Sunday they attended church where the parson took for his subject ‘Noah in the whale’s belly’. He went on to describe how, when working in a Yorkshire mine some time after this, one of his fellow miners tapped an old working and there was a rush of water. “I had a pair of clogs on but you should have heard them patter up that there road. The butty said he would put us in Wakefield Jail for deserting our work”.

George would appear to be the 23 year old man living in 1871 with the family of miner Thomas Page at 26 Cleton Street, Tipton. George married Mary Walton (born about 1849 in Hill Top, West Bromwich) in 1880Q3 at St John’s, Dudley. At the time of the 1911 census she reported that they had been married for 38 years and had 5 children, of whom 4 were then living. It seems likely, therefore, that George Skidmore was the father of all five children listed below.

Mr Skidmore returned to coal mining and by 1911 his daughter Margaret Cornfield and her husband had taken over the running of the public house in Stafford Street. George Skidmore died in 1921Q4 aged 73, his wife in 1923Q1 aged 75.

The children of George and Mary (Walton) Skidmore,

i. Emily, born about 1869 in Kingswinford. Not found after 1881.

509. ii. JOB. (was 497.) His birth at Brockmoor was registered at Stourbridge with the surname Walton in 1876Q3, but he was known as Skidmore. A driver of colliery horses, he married Betsy Hadley (born 1876Q2 in Dudley, perhaps the daughter of Charles and Betsy Hadley of Stafford Street) on 25 December 1899 at St Thomas’, Dudley and they were living in 1901 at 16 Dock Lane, Dudley and by 1911 at 79 Stafford Street.

Children of Job and Betsy (Hadley) Skidmore,

i. Harry, born 1901.
ii. Elsie, born 1902Q4. She perhaps married in 1919.
iii. Gladys May, born 1905Q4. She married in 1927.
vi. James, born 1915Q2.
vii. A further son.

iii. Margaret Rebecca, born 1879Q2 in Dudley. She married William Cornfield, a brickyard labourer (born about 1876 in Dudley, son of Hugh, coal miner of Stafford Street, and Sarah Cornfield) in 1900Q4 at St John’s and was working at her father’s pub at the time of the 1901 census. Mrs Cornfield died in 1921 aged 42. Children, as known - George, Hilda and William.

iv. Maud Mary A., born 1882Q1. She was married in 1898Q2 at St John’s to Daniel Hanson, a coal miner (born about 1877 in Netherton). They lived in Charlotte Street, Dudley. Children, as known - Job, Gertrude, Maud, Nellie, Lily M., Daniel and George.

v. Ann Elizabeth, born 13 May 1887 in Rowley. School admission registers show that in April 1895 she transferred from Knowle Board School to St Thomas’s Girls’

10 The family of Thomas E. Page (born about 1841 in ‘Kings Winbest’, probably an enumerator’s attempt to record Kingswinford) is found at 38 Industry Road in Ardsley, Yorkshire, at the time of the 1881 census.
Primary School, Dudley but was withdrawn two months later. She spent a term at Alma Place before being admitted to Park Girls' School in January 1896 (called Annie Skidmore) where she remained until October 1898.

282. vi. **THOMAS**, born 22 April 1849 and baptised on 13 May at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. He was still at his mother's home in Level Street, Brierley Hill in 1871 when he was a puddler, but moved north soon afterwards. On 7 April 1873 at Christ Church, Parkgate, Yorkshire, he married Mary Ann Maskill, witnessed by Thomas Jarden and Hannah Jarden. Mary Ann stated in censuses that she was born in 'Reading, near London' and at another time in Abingdon, Berkshire. She would appear to be the young lady, born 1845Q2 in Steventon, Berkshire, living at the time of the 1871 census with her widowed mother Hannah Maskill and her younger siblings in Wallows Common, Brierley Hill. Her father John Maskill was an agricultural labourer from East Hendred. It is understood that three new pits were sunk in the Parkgate area in 1871, two more in 1873 and four more soon after. It is possible that an associated ironworks was built or extended at this time. Thomas and Mary Ann remained in the Rotherham area, with various addresses in Parkgate. Thomas Skidmore died on 12 December 1906 and is buried at St Mary's, Rawmarsh.

The children of Thomas and Mary Ann (Maskill) Skidmore, born in Parkgate,

i. Ellen, born 1875Q1. Nothing known after 1881.

ii. Rosa, born 1878Q4. She married Charles Chafer, a labourer in the steel works (born about 1868 in Epworth, Lincolnshire) in Rotherham registration district in 1897Q4. They lived in Station Row, Rawmarsh. Mrs Chafer died in 1932 aged 53.

iii. Children, as known - Thomas, Amy, Annie, Emily, Florence, Lily, William, George.

510. iii. **CAIN SIDNEY ARLEY**, [was 498.] born on 18 May 1882 at 34 Dicks Street, Rawmarsh, South Yorkshire. A labourer in the iron and steel works, he married Edna May Wright on 3 July 1905 and they were living by 1911 at 14 Station Row, Parkgate, Rotherham. Mr Skidmore died in 1937 aged 55.

The children of Cain Sidney Arley and Edna May (Wright) Skidmore,

i. Edna May, born 8 February 1906, died 21 September of that year.

ii. Sidney, born 31 March 1907, died 3 February 1910.

iii. Margaret Ellen, born 26 November 1908, died 13 December 1908.


v. Violet, born 20 February 1911.

vi. Gladys, born 29 March 1912, died same day.

vii/viii. Twins May and Cain, born and died 4 May 1913.

ix. James, born 23 August 1914, died 4 April 1915.

x. Elsie, born 5 December 1915, died 27 August 1918.

xi. Doris, born 3 July 1920, died 6 January 1967. She married in 1940.


vii. Job, born in 1851Q2. He died at the age of 16 and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 22 December 1867. The UK Coal Mining Accidents and Deaths Index, 1700-1950 lists a J. Skidmore aged 17 who was killed on 17 December at Wallows Colliery as a result of the fall of a cage while ascending.

viii. Jane, born 30 August (baptised 18 September) 1853. She was at the time of the 1871 census a servant to the family of coal agent Thomas Hughes in Canal Wharf, Amblecote. She was living with her father in 1881 [though her age is recorded wrongly as 15 years] but I have not yet identified her with certainty in later censuses.

283. ix. **BENJAMIN**, born in 1855Q3 in Brierley Hill. He was a miner and later an iron puddler of Level Street in Brierley Hill. He married Rosannah Bate (born in Walsall around 1857, daughter of labourer Charles Bate) on 12 February 1881 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. The witnesses were Edward Pearsall and Phoebe Banks. Rosannah said at the time of the 1881 census that she was born about 1857 in Brierley Hill, but the 1901 census gives her birth around 1861 in Walsall. Benjamin and Rosannah moved in the 1890s to 20 New Town (behind St John's Church in Brockmoor). Mrs Skidmore died there aged 56 and was buried at St John's on 1 March 1913.

The children of Benjamin and Rosannah (Bate) Skidmore, born in Brierley Hill,

Mrs Skidmore had 9 children, of whom 7 were living in 1911.

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Skidmore Families of Brettell Lane and Brockmoor.

i. Mary Jane, born about 1877, perhaps one of the two girls called Mary Jane Baté whose births were registered at Stourbridge in 1876Q3 and 1877Q1. Mary Jane Skidmore married Samuel Curtis, an ironworker (born about 1871 in Brierley Hill) in 1893Q4 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill and their home was in Level Street.

ii. Mary, perhaps registered as Mary Skidmore at Stourbridge in 1879Q4. She was called Mary in the census of 1881 (aged 1) and Margaret in the census of 1891. Not yet found later.

511. iii. GEORGE\(^9\), born 1881Q4. An iron worker in Brockmoor in 1901. He appears to be the man who married Jane Elizabeth Raybould in 1905Q3 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at Stourbridge\(^{12}\). They were living by 1911 in Post Office Yard, Lower Delph, Brierley Hill.

Children of George and Jane Elizabeth (Raybould) Skidmore,

i. A daughter, born in March 1911 and not named by the time of the census on 5 April.

ii. Fanny, born 1914.

iii. Benjamin, born 1916.

iv. Alice E., born 1918

v. A daughter born in 1924.

iv. Susannah, born 1885Q3. Sight of the marriage is needed but she appears from census information to have married Richard Price, a labourer (born about 1875 in Brierley Hill, son of William Price) in 1903Q2 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at Stourbridge. They were living in 1911 at 44 Mill Street, Brierley Hill.

v. John Thomas, born 1887Q4. A mill boy in 1901, presumably in the same iron works as his father. He joined the army and was stationed in 1911 in Karachi, India, a gunner with the 94th Battery of the Royal Field Artillery.

512. vi. JAMES\(^9\), born 1889Q4. A tin worker, he married Amy Boden in 1910Q4 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at Stourbridge.

Children of James and Amy (Boden) Skidmore,

i. [presumably] Charles Patrick Skidmore, who was living at the time of the 1911 census with James’ parents. He died later that year at 22 New Town and was buried at Brockmoor on 18 October 1911.

ii. Evelyn G., born 1912Q2.

iii. James, born 1914Q1.

vii. Hannah, born 1892Q1. She appears to have married Herbert Patrick in 1911Q4 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at Stourbridge. Children, as known - Lily M., Rose A., John H.

viii. Lucy May, born 1894Q2. She married Frank Millward in 1913Q3 at St John’s, Brierley Hill. Children, as known - George T., Frank R., Maisey.

ix. Mary Ann, perhaps the Mary Skidmore registered in 1896Q3.

284. x. ABEL\(^8\), born in 1857Q4 in Level Street, Brierley Hill. He was a labourer at the time of the 1871 census but like his older brother Ben had become an iron puddler by 1881. He married Esther Williams (born about 1861 in Dudley and perhaps the daughter of Ezra and Emma Williams of Level Street) on 4 November 1878 at St James’, Lower Gornal. At the time of the 1881 census they were living in Church Street, Pensnett, four doors from his sister Caroline Williams, in 1881. Some time between 1882 and 1886 the family moved to Ilkeston in Derbyshire and by 1891 Mr Skidmore was working at Trowell Forge in nearby Trowell, Nottinghamshire. Around 1892 they moved to Rotherham in Yorkshire where they were living at the time of the 1901 census at 52 Wortley Road and 64 Chapel Walk by 1911.

Esther Skidmore died in 1935 aged 75, her husband in 1942 aged 84.

The children of Abel and Esther (Williams) Skidmore,

1. Emily Elizabeth, born in 1880Q2 in Pensnett. She married Harry Russell, an ironworks roller in 1898Q4. They lived in Masbrough, Yorkshire and by 1911 at 57 Midland Road, Rotherham, the street in which Mr Russell was born.

\(^{12}\) This could have been a Registrar-Attended ceremony in a non-conformist church.
Children, as known - Emily E., Frances E., William H., James A., Charles H., Esther, George T., Frank.

ii. George Thomas, born 25 December 1881 in Pensnett. An iron worker in 1901 but not yet found in 1911. He died in Rotherham in 1971 aged 89.


iv. Esther, born in Ilkeston in 1886Q2. She married Frank Oldham, a coal miner, in 1905Q4.

Children, as known - Esther, Doris, Frank, Margaret, Violet N., Irene.

513. v. ABEL\(^9\), born in Ilkeston 1887Q4. A clipper below ground, presumably at the same colliery as his brother Cain. He married Mary Britton (daughter of Walter and Ann Britton of Chapel Walk, Rotherham) on 25 December 1907 at Masbrough. He died in 1937 in Rotherham, aged 49.

Children of Abel and Mary (Britton) Skidmore,

i. Mary, born 1915Q3.

ii. A further daughter born in 1922

vi. Martha, born 1891Q3 in Trowell, Derbyshire.

born in Rotherham,

vii. Mary, born 1893Q2. She married firstly John Brookes in 1915. Mrs Brookes married secondly Charles P. Sykes in 1922 and had a daughter by her second husband.


ix. Nellie Doris S., born 1900Q1. She married in 1919 and had a son.

285. xi. SIDNEY HARLEY CAIN\(^8\), born 15 August 1862 in Level Street, Brierley Hill, on 15 August 1862. He is called Cain Skidmore (aged 8) in the 1871 census and appears to have been recorded in the 1881 census as Sidney Handey (aged 18), stepson of James Skidmore. He was the son of James [147] and Margaret (Eardley) Skidmore and married Mary Ann Lloyd of Church Street, Pensnett on 23 December 1888 at St Mark's, Pensnett. She was born 2 May 1861, daughter of Richard Lloyd, an ironstone miner originally from Ludlow, and his wife Caroline (Evans). The witnesses were William Lloyd, her brother, and Mary Ann Oliver. Mary Ann Lloyd had two daughters before her marriage - Mary Ann Lloyd and Rosanna Lloyd (both later called Skidmore).

Cain and Mary Ann were living in 1891 and in 1901 in Lower Church Road, Pensnett and later lived for many years in Maiden or Maiding Tup Row. Cain was a puddler at the Round Oak steel works, probably all his working life. He died at 12 Stream Road in Wordsley on 11 March 1923. His wife had died in 1902Q3 aged 42 of a haemorrhage, unable to afford a doctor.

The children of Sidney Harley Cain & Mary Ann (Lloyd) Skidmore, born in Pensnett,

i. Mary Ann Lloyd, later called Skidmore, born 1885Q2.

ii. Rosanna Lloyd, later called Rose Skidmore, born 1888Q2.

iii. Sidney Harley Cain, born 1890Q2, his death as Cain Skidmore was registered in 1892Q4.

iv. James, born 1891Q4. He died between 1901 and 1911, according to notes included by his father on the 1911 census form.

514. v. LEONARD\(^9\), [was 499.] born 25 May 1893 at Lower Church Street in Pensnett. A miner, he married Eliza Jane Jones, (known as Jinny, born about 1898, the daughter of Thomas William Jones, brewer, and Martha Jane (Hall)) at St Mark’s, Pensnett on 1 April 1918. Leonard and Jinny left Pensnett in or around 1921. They moved to Yorkshire to find work taking their two young sons James Leonard and Richard.

The children of Leonard and Eliza Jane (Jones) Skidmore,

i. JAMES LEONARD\(^{10}\), born 25 December 1918, died 14 December 1998. The father of Glynis, who kindly supplied information on this family.

ii. Richard.

iii. William.

iv. Mary Elizabeth married Dennis.

v. Lily.

vi. Betty.

vii. William George, born 1897Q3.
viii. Richard, born 1900Q1.
ix. Harry, born about 1905.
A number of Skidmore families began to use St Martin's Church in Tipton, others St Bartholomew's in Wednesbury, in the 1790s and 1800s. In some cases I have not been able to trace the heads of these households with certainty to the Amblecote and Brierley Hill areas. However, it is known that the John Skidmore described below, was born in Brockmoor.

123. **JOB** SKIDMORE was perhaps a grandson, whose baptism has not been found, of Edmund [15]. He is known to have married Ann ____ (surname unknown).

A child of Job and Ann Skidmore, baptised at St Martin's, Tipton,

i. Ann, born about 1780 and baptised 2 January 1803 as an adult aged 23. Baptism as an adult can sometimes indicate baptism in a non-conformist congregation as a child.

126. **JOHN** SKIDMORE, puddler of Bloomfield, Tipton, is known from Tipton censuses of 1851 and 1861 to have been born in Brockmoor. The ages given in the censuses, 50[-54] years in 1841, 60 years in 1851 and 77 years in 1861 are confusing. John Skidmore died at the end of December in 1867 aged 86 and was buried in Tipton on 1 January 1868, which places his birth around 1782. He may be a younger son of Job Skidmore [36] (or a son of Job [123], though Job is thought to have been in Tipton by 1780)\(^\text{13}\).

It is possible that he married twice or even three times. John and Elizabeth Skidmore had a son Joseph in Tipton in 1805. No further children are known to John and Elizabeth but a John and Ann Skidmore appear to have had three children there between about 1807 and 1809. John Skidmore certainly married Mrs Ann Cooke on 14 April 1811 at St Thomas', Dudley. A witness was Joseph Baker. From the time that a man's occupation and residence are stated in the baptism register (from 1813) John Skidmore was described in the register of St Martin's, Tipton as an engineer of Factory in 1813 and a puddler of Factory thereafter. He and his sons were iron puddlers in the Factory Road area of Bloomfield, where his (probable) eldest son William remained. His younger sons Joseph and David moved with their families in the early 1870s to Rawmarsh in Yorkshire.

The ages given in censuses for his wife Ann are no less perplexing than those of her husband, though it is clear she was around 10 years his senior\(^\text{14}\). The 1841 census gives her age as 60[-64], the 1851 as 76. When she was buried at St Martin's, Tipton on 7 March 1852, she was said to have been 74. Her birth, therefore, can be said to have been between 1774 and 1778 in Tipton.

John and Ann Skidmore later lived in Dudley Road, Tipton. In 1841 the census area was adjacent to that of their son Joseph 'From Job Mason's house, inclusive on the same side of the road to Rupert Mellors, thence to John Whitehouses, through Quarry Lane to the parish boundary, thence along the north side of Dudley Road and Hurst Lane, taking in the Old Foundry buildings and Cresswells Works, thence along the same side to the boundary of parish near the King's Arms inclusive'. In the 1841 census three others were in the household; David Skidmore their son, Isaac Johnston, a labourer aged 13 and Mary Whitehouse aged 80[[-84].

The following children are here considered to have the same father, which might need revising in the light of other evidence not to hand.

A child of John and Elizabeth Skidmore,

i. Joseph, born August 1803, baptised 9 May 1805 at St Martin's, Tipton.

Children of John and Ann Skidmore,

ii. Ann, baptised with her brother Benjamin on 19 April 1807 in Tipton. She was perhaps buried at St Martin's, Tipton on 7 June 1807.

\(^{13}\) John perhaps was the brother or cousin of Mary Skidmore (born late 1780s) who on 28 December 1807 at St Martin's, Tipton married Samuel Law, a miner of Watery Lane. Thomas Skidmore was a witness. Nine children of Samuel and Mary Law were baptised at St Martin's, Tipton to 1826. She is found in 1841 in Workhouse Lane, Tipton (which follows Coppice Street in the census), a nailer and head of household, with her daughters Hannah and Sarah, Mary, Selina and Eliza. In nearby houses were the families of Isaac Law, coal miner, her son; of Thomas Law, coal miner aged 45[-49] and perhaps her brother-in-law; and of Mary Law widow aged 75[-79], perhaps her mother-in-law.

\(^{14}\) At the time of the 1841 census a Mary Whitehouse aged 80[[-84] lived in John and Ann's home and she could be Ann's mother. Ann Whitehouse married Thomas Cook in Tipton on 10 April 1798 but more work needs to be done on these families to be sure that Thomas Cook was Ann's first husband. [Note also, married at St Mary's, Oldswinford 13 November 1809 William Cooke bachelor and Ann Westwood both of Oldswinford parish; witnesses Edward Westwood, Ann White].
iii. **BENJAMIN**, baptised 19 April 1807. He was a labourer of Wednesbury who married Zillah Morris (perhaps baptised 1 September 1811 at Dudley, daughter of William and Phoebe Morris) in Walsall on 13 June 1831. Sarah Wainwright was a witness. Benjamin lived at Lea Bank (perhaps Lea Brook, Wednesbury) at the time of his death in 1832 aged 25. He was buried at Tipton on 20 August.

His widow married secondly Joseph Webb, coal miner on 6 September 1834 at Dudley. Benjamin Tiplar and Delilah Skidmore were witnesses. Zillah had three daughters and three sons by her second husband, and lived in New Road and later in Farley Street, Tipton. She was widowed by 1851 and died in 1874 aged 64.

**Children of Benjamin and Zillah (Morris) Skidmore, baptised at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury,**

i. John Morris, buried at Tipton on 28 February 1832, aged 1 of Lea Brook.

ii. **BENJAMIN**, iron puddler of West Bromwich, was born, according to his gravestone, on 11 January 1833 and was baptised at Wednesbury on 17 February 1833. He was raised in Tipton as Benjamin Webb by his mother and stepfather Joseph Webb. Benjamin Skidmore married firstly Betsy Hodgkins (born about 1835 in West Bromwich, daughter of Edward Hodgkins, bricklayer of Grout Street, and his wife Elizabeth) at All Saints, West Bromwich in 1856Q4. At the time of the 1861 census they were living in Oldbury Road, West Bromwich. Betsy Skidmore died in Sheepwash Lane, Tipton aged 30 and was buried on 14 February 1864 at St Peter's, West Bromwich.

Benjamin married secondly Ann Maria Pugh in 1865. This marriage took place in Rotherham, Yorkshire, where Benjamin had perhaps gone to find work. The Find a Grave website has photographs of the Skidmore graves in Pine Hill Cemetery, Curtiss, Clark County, Wisconsin. Ann Maria's date of birth is confirmed as 30 January 1843. She said at the time of the 1871 census that she was born in Stourbridge, Worcestershire. It seems likely that she was the daughter of Lucy Pugh, baptised on 7 April 1844 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. Lucy her mother married William Bolton, a bricklayer from Redditch, who adopted Ann Maria. William and Lucy were living in Tipton at the time of the 1861 census with their seven children including Ann Maria Bolton aged 17.

In 1871 (Ann) Maria Skidmore was at William Street, West Bromwich, with three children of Benjamin's first marriage and their own child Lucy Skidmore. In this census she is called an iron puddler's wife and grocer. Benjamin Skidmore was at this time newly-arrived in America. According to his naturalisation documents, dated 4 November 1876, he arrived in February 1871 at New York. Maria and the children joined him in October that year. Their next child Minnie was born in Wisconsin in 1873. The family were in Holway, Taylor County, Wisconsin by 1900, where Benjamin Skidmore had become a farmer. He died of paralysis and old age on 29 May 1907.

His widow (sometimes known as Anna May or Anna Mary in US censuses and as Maria at her burial) continued to farm in Holway. She died on 21 May 1929 aged 86.

**The children of Benjamin and Betsy (Hodgkins) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,**

i. Zillah, said in the US census to have been born August 1857. She was baptised on 20 September 1857 at Christ Church, West Bromwich, daughter of Benjamin Skidmore, puddler of Toll End [Tipton], and his wife Betsey. In 1900 she was a servant in the household of John W. Huston at 486 Cass Street, Milwaukee. By 1910 she and her brother Benjamin were running their farm in Langley, Island County, Washington. She died there on 23 February 1922.

ii. Benjamin, born 17 September 1861 at Greets Green and baptised 10 October at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, West Bromwich. He was a puddler in 1890 when he lived with his brother Edward at 71 Potter Avenue, Milwaukee. He was living unmarried in 1920 on their
farm in Langley, Island County, Washington. He died in 1942 and like his father is buried in Dorchester Memorial Cemetery.

iii. Edward, born October 1863. He appears to be the labourer living at 439 Superior, Milwaukee, in 1889 with his brother Benjamin, puddler's helper, and at 71 Potter Avenue in 1890. By 1900 he was living in Mayville, Clark County, Wisconsin with the family of his sister Lucy Hawks. By 1920 he was living and working on the family farm in Langley, Island County, Washington where he died on 21 July 1926.

The children of Benjamin and Maria Skidmore,


vi. Elizabeth, born 2 March 1875. Known as Lizzy, she was a public school teacher. She did not marry and died on 26 August 1953 and was buried at Pine Hill Cemetery.

vii. Josiah (called Joseph in US censuses), born 13 September 1882. He worked on the farm with his mother and sisters in Holway in 1920. Josiah died on 10 January 1926. The Pine Hill cemetery notes say that he was 'survived by his mother, four sisters, Elizabeth and Mabel at home, Mrs. Ira Hawks of Withee and Minnie Green of Curtiss, two brothers, Benjamin and Edward of Langley, WA'.

viii. Mabel Constance (May), born 26 February 1884. Miss Skidmore’s obituary appeared in the Tribune-Phonograph (Abbotsford and Colby, Clark County).

'Miss Mabel Constance Skidmore, Curtiss, died January 5 1967 at Clark county hospital, Owen. She was 83 years old. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 8, at the Christian Missionary Alliance church, Curtiss, with the Rev. Arnold Woodring officiating. Burial was in the Pine Hill cemetery. Miss Arnold Woodring, soloist, was accompanied on the organ by Mrs. Tovio Kallio as she sang “Abide With Me” and “What A Friend We Have in Jesus”. Pallbearers were Fred Pudlas, Vernon Pratt, Floyd Buchannen, Wilford Marcott, Alfred Thompson and Aurel Baxter.

Mabel Skidmore was born February 26, 1883, in Wisconsin. She never married, and lived on the home farm in the town of Holway with her brother and sister until 1943 when she came to Curtiss to make her home with another sister, Miss Minnie Green, and her nephew, Neal Green. She was a member of the Christian Missionary Alliance church and its Ladies’ Aid society. Survivors are four nephews and two nieces. Relatives who attended the services from out-of-town were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Green, La Crosse, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Smiley, Thorp, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hawks, Withee, and Neal Green, Curtiss, along with many friends from Curtiss and surrounding towns.'

iv. Sarah, baptised 29 January 1809 in Dudley.

The presumed children of John and Ann (Whitehouse) Skidmore, baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton,

250. v. WILLIAM, puddler of Princes End and Bloomfield in Tipton, was born in Tipton parish and baptised on 24 February 1811 at Dudley. William Skidmore married Nancy Skidmore at Sedgley on 6 November 1831. The witnesses were Charlotte Skidmore, presumably William’s sister, and
John Cook. Nancy Skidmore was born about 1813 in Sedgley, the daughter of John [93]. William and Nancy Skidmore are found living in Bloomfield at the time of both the 1841 and 1851 censuses. The area in which they lived is described thus ‘From the corner house in Princes End at the top of Church Lane to the Bloomfield Bridge, including the houses in Tibbington Colliery, the Terrace and the houses at the back of Messrs. Bradley, Burrows and Halls Iron Works on that side of the canal’.

William Skidmore was called a coal miner at the time of the 1861 census, when he was living with his wife and daughter Angelina in the High Street, Coseley village. In 1871 their granddaughter Lavinia Skidmore, aged 7, lived at their home in Bank Street, Coseley – nothing more is known of this child. A widower by 1881, his wife’s death was perhaps that of Ann Skidmore aged 62 registered at Dudley in 1872Q1. Mr Skidmore lived in the home of his daughter Angelina and her husband John Gardiner, apparently moving with them before 1891 to 19 Bissell Street, Coseley.

The children of William and Nancy (Skidmore) Skidmore,

i. Edwin, born 22 July, baptised 17 September 1833 at Bloomfield Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Tipton (son of William and Ann). He died aged 3 years 9 months in Princes End and was buried on 18 May 1837 at Coseley.

ii. Emma, baptised at Dudley on 15 March 1835, buried 25 December 1837 at Coseley, aged 3 of Tipton.

iii. Rhoda, born about 1836. She was living in 1851 in the home of her uncle Enoch Skidmore [179] in Windmill End, when she was called a servant. She married John Rogers, a moulder of Coseley (born about 1834, son of Elias Rogers, a moulder) at St Benedict’s, Wombourne on 18 April 1854, when she said that her father William Skidmore was foreman in an iron works. Naomi Jeavons was a witness. The deaths of Rhoda Rogers and of Rhoda Skidmore Rogers were registered at Dudley in 1855Q1.

iv. Angelina, born in Princes End in February or early March 1841 and baptised at Coseley on 23 April (daughter of William and Ann). She married John Gardiner, a puddler (born about 1837 in Barnbry (?Banbury), Oxfordshire), in 1876Q1 at St James’, Dudley. Mr Gardiner died in the 1890s and his widow continued to live in White Street, Coseley.

251. vi. JOSEPH, puddler of Tipton and later the Rotherham area of Yorkshire, was baptised on 27 June 1813 at Tipton, the son of John [126] and Ann Skidmore. Joseph married Jane Baugh (born in Tipton and baptised there on 25 December 1814, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Baugh) on 23 November 1834 at Sedgley. The witnesses were Charlotte Skidmore, Joseph’s sister, and her future husband George Baugh, Jane’s brother. All of Joseph and Jane’s children were said on censuses to have been born in Tipton except the last, Rebecca, who was born in Sedgley in 1855. The 1841 and 1851 censuses give his address more specifically as Factory Road, Tipton, which is in the Bloomfield area of the town. The census area in 1841 is adjacent to that of his brother William above, and is described thus ‘From the Bloomfield Bridge on the south side of the road (including the houses near the New Locks and on that side of the canal to the Old Furnaces) to the house inhabited by Job Mason, the fifth house from Thomas Cox’s timber yard inclusive’.

The marriage certificate of his daughter Elizabeth describes him as a labourer in 1853 and that of daughter Maria says he was a boatman in 1854. The family remained in Bloomfield, being found in Wood Street, at no.25 in 1861 and no.144 in 1871. In 1871 Joseph moved north in search of work and was joined in Rawmarsh by his family probably some time during 1871. Jane Skidmore died in Rawmarsh aged 59 and was buried, from St Mary’s, in the High Street Cemetery there on 23 November 1873.

Joseph Skidmore lived with his son Benjamin in Parkgate and later in the home of his daughter Rebecca in Royton, where he died aged 83 in 1896Q2.

The children of Joseph and Jane (Baugh) Skidmore, baptised at Dudley,

i. Ann, baptised 26 April 1835. She married Isaiah Fletcher, widowed miner of Dudley (born in Sedgley and baptised there on 3 April 1825, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Fletcher, first wife Ann _____), at St Thomas’, Dudley on 1 October 1854. The

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witnesses were Mary Ann Fletcher, probably his sister, and William Elwell. Isaiah and Ann lived in Coseley before moving at some time during the 1870s to Yorkshire, where they were living in 1881 at 10 York Street, Wombwell.

Children, as known - Martha A., Ann.

ii. Elizabeth, baptised 1 May 1836. She married Joseph Mason, a miner (probably baptised on 18 September 1825 at Sedgley, son of John Mason, miner and Rachel) at St Thomas', Dudley on 6 November 1853. The witnesses were Thomas Ratcliff and Rebecca Baugh. Joseph and Elizabeth lived with their family in Coseley village until at least 1881.

Children, as known - Rachel, Julia, John, Hannah, Phoebe, Elizabeth, Ann Maria.

Their daughter Julia Mason married Frederick Batten of Cornwall in 1877 and was living at 9 John Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, at the time of the 1881 census. Julia (and probably other children) went to the US. This information was kindly supplied by Matthew C. Mitchell, gt gt grandson of Frederick and Julia (Mason) Batten. Further investigation is required but death registrations appropriate for both Joseph and Elizabeth Mason were made in the 1880s at Ashton under Lyne.

iii. Maria, baptised 20 August 1837. She married Thomas Pearce, miner of Dudley (born about 1837 in Sedgley, son of Thomas Pearce, miner) at St Thomas', Dudley on 18 June 1854. The witnesses were Rebecca Baugh and James Morgan. Thomas and Maria Pearce do not appear to have had any surviving children. They moved from Sedgley to Castle Church, Staffordshire, where the death of a Thomas Pearce was registered in 1897Q1 aged 59.

iv. John, born 9 March (baptised 14 April) 1839. He died in 1839Q3.

448a. v. JOSEPH, born 1841Q4. He was a puddler in an ironworks, lodging in 1861 with Charles Jennings, another Tipton puddler, in Dundry Mews, Middlesbrough, North Yorkshire. He married Alice Wilson (born about 1847 in Richmond, Yorkshire, daughter of William Wilson) in 1869Q3 and was living in Middlesbrough with his wife, his father and father-in-law at the time of the 1871 census. They lived for a time in Parkgate, West Yorkshire, where their first child was born in 1873, but by the mid-1870s were living in Linthorpe, North Yorkshire, where their home was 2 Lowe Street in 1881.

Mrs Skidmore was living by 1891 (married not widowed and enumerated as Alice Thompson), a farm labourer as were her elder daughters, at Peat Moss Villas, Windsor, Crowle, Lincolnshire. By the time of the 1901 census she living alone, a widow, in Pinfold Street, Crowle. She died in Lincolnshire in 1926 aged 78.

Children of Joseph and Alice (Wilson) Skidmore, born in Middlesbrough,

i. Annie Rebecca, born 1873Q2 in Parkgate, Yorkshire. She married George Henry Mell, a carpenter's labourer (born about 1865 in Crowle) in 1893Q2 and was living by 1901 in Pinfold Street, Crowle. She married secondly in 1924 Garibaldi Pidd. Mrs Pidd died in 1958 aged 85.

Children, as known - Winifred, Doris, Alice, Ruby.

ii. Isabella, born 1875Q1. Bella Skidmore was at the time of the 1891 census a kitchenmaid at dining rooms in Albert Street, Oldham. She married Frederick Hill, a peat cutter (born about 1876 in Crowle) in 1894 and lived in Crowle, Lincolnshire, where she died in 1929 aged 54.

Children, as known - Charles Henry, Frederick, Thomas, Edith, Florence, Ernest, Daisy, Jessie, Alfred, Kathleen, Walter, Frederick, Hubert and Clifford.

iii. Margaret Jane, born 1877Q1. Nothing known after 1891.

iv. Elizabeth Ellen, born 1879Q1. At the time of the 1901 census she was a domestic servant to the family of Thomas Jones, a beer seller of Lees Road, Oldham, Lancashire. Elizabeth Helen Skidmore married James Jones, a stone quarry labourer (born about 1871 in Stratford on Avon, Warwickshire) in 1903Q1 in a Register Office/ Registrar-
Attended ceremony registered at Oldham. They were living by 1911 with their children in Edge Lane Road, Oldham.

Children, as known - Lily, Emily, Sylvia, Alice, Jessie, James, Fred, two further sons born in the 1920s.

vi. James, born 8 October 1845 at Factory [Road], Tipton. He died before the 1851 census.

449. vii. BENJAMIN⁸, iron puddler of Tipton and Rawmarsh, son of Joseph [251] and Jane (Baugh) Skidmore, was born in 1847Q1 in Tipton or Walbrook, Coseley. He probably moved to Yorkshire in mid-1871, and married his wife Hannah Werton in the Rotherham area in 1871Q4. She was born in Tipton, perhaps born 26 July 1847, baptised at Dudley 9 January 1848, daughter of William and Ann Wherton. Their children were born in Parkgate and they were living at 2 Broad Street, Parkgate, Rawmarsh, in 1881, with Benjamin's father Joseph, and (presumably his mother-in-law) widow Mrs Ann Worton (born about 1821 in Tipton). Benjamin retained the family home and was there at the time of the 1901 census with his wife, mother-in-law, daughter Jane and her husband Fred Barker and four of Jane's children - Thomas and Herbert Sanders and George and Blanche Barker.

Mr Skidmore died in 1924 aged 77, his wife in 1927 aged 78.

The children of Benjamin and Hannah (Werton) Skidmore, born in Parkgate, Yorkshire,

i. Jane, born 1872Q2. She married William Saunders in Rotherham in 1889Q1 but was living in her parents' home (called Jane Skidmore) in 1891. Her husband died in a mining accident and it is perhaps his death at the age of 28 that was registered at Rotherham in 1892Q3. Jane Sanders [sic] married secondly Fred Barker in 1895Q2 and they were living with Jane's father and grandmother Mrs Ann Wharton at 2 Broad Street, Rawmarsh at the time of the 1901 census. Their daughter Lily Sanders was grandmother to Bryan Thomas, who kindly provided information on Jane's family.

ii. Elizabeth, born 1874Q1. She was domestic servant to the Bray family at 22 Apsley Crescent, Manningham, Bradford in 1891. She married in the Bradford area in 1898Q3. Her husband Thomas Appleby (born about 1874 in Pickering, Yorkshire) was a quarryman and their home in 1901 was 4 Peel Street, Pudsey. By the time of the 1911 census they were running a fried fish shop at 65 Theaker Lane, Armley, Leeds, Yorkshire.

Children, as known - Clarence, Doris, Mabel, Frank, Thomas.

iii. Clara, born 1876Q2. She is probably the lady who married William Badger, a boiler fitter in the steel works (born about 1876 in Rawmarsh) on 29 April 1896 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at Rotherham. They were living in 1901 at 52 Chapel Street, Rawmarsh.

Children, as known - Wilfred, Ben, Alice, Ida, John, Rowland, Matilda, Ada, Alan, Norah, Arnold.

iv. Sarah Ann, born 1878Q3. She died at the age of 3 and was buried at St Mary's, Rawmarsh, on 26 February 1882.

v. Emma, born 1881Q1. She appears to have married, in 1898Q4, John William Hickman, a steelworks furnaceman (born about 1875 in Wordsley, Staffordshire). They lived at first at 26 Broad Street, Rawmarsh and late in Mangham Road, Parkgate.

Children, as known - James W., Nelly, Jane, Florence, Winifred.

viii. Emma, born 1849Q1. She appears to have married David Morris, a furnace labourer (born about 1842 in Kinver) in 1866Q3 at St James, Dudley. They lived in Wood Street, Tipton. Emma Morris died in 1878Q4 aged 30 and Mr Morris moved with the children to live in Coppice Street, Tipton, together with his widowed sister Alice Wellington.

Children, as known - Robert, Joseph, Maria, Emily.
450.  ix.  **ENOC***, iron puddler, born in 1852Q1 in Wallbrook, Coseley. His first wife was Elizabeth Taylor (born about 1856 in Wolverhampton, daughter of _____ and Elizabeth Taylor). They were married in Rotherham registration district in 1873Q4 and by the time of the 1881 census were living with their two young daughters at No. 1 Court, 5 Rawmarsh Road, Kimberworth, Yorkshire, in the home of Elizabeth’s widowed mother. Enoch’s first wife died in Kimberworth aged only 26 and was buried at St Mary’s, Rawmarsh, on 16 October 1881.

He married secondly Charlotte Smith of Greasbrough (born about 1867 in Rotherham, daughter of Thomas David Smith, a groom, and his wife Mary) on 12 August 1888 at Eastwood, Yorkshire. Joseph Mousley and Bertha Rutland were witnesses. By 1889 they were living at 51 Norfolk Street in Rotherham, moving before 1901 to 20 Doncaster Gate.

Enoch Skidmore died in 1909Q1, said to be aged 55, and was buried at Moorgate Cemetery, Rotherham on 19 March. His widow married secondly in 1911Q3 William Foster.

**The children of Enoch and Elizabeth (Taylor) Skidmore,**

i.   [perhaps] Mary Jane, born 1874Q2, buried at St John’s, Masbrough, on 9 December 1877 aged 3.

ii.   Sarah Green, born 1876Q1 in Rotherham. Note that she was born not long after the marriage of David [458] to Sarah Ann Green. Sarah Skidmore died in 1885 aged 9 and was buried at Moorgate Cemetery, Rotherham on 7 April.

iii.  Lily, born 1879Q2 in Tinsley/Carbrook, Sheffield. She married Fred Bagnall, a railway labourer (born about 1877 in Masbrough, Yorkshire) in Rotherham in 1899Q2. They were living in 1901 at 154 Park Street, Rotherham with their children Betsy and Enoch.

**The children of Enoch and Charlotte (Smith) Skidmore, born in Rotherham,**

iv.   Eva, born 12 April 1889, died 1982. At the time of the 1901 census she was in the Smallpox Hospital in Badsley Moor Lane, Rotherham, along with her brother Harry. She went to Nottingham around the age of 14. There she met and married Arthur Reed, a packer in a lace warehouse. Their granddaughter Mrs Betty Allen kindly supplied information on this family.

Children, as known - Lily, Ernest, Ida W. and a further daughter born in 1926.

v.    Harry, born 1891Q1. A coal miner in Rotherham. He died on 10 May 1916 serving as a Private in the 7th Battalion of the York and Lancaster Regiment and is buried in Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres, France.

518.  vi.  **FRED***, born 1893Q2. A labourer in the Bessemer steel works in 1911 but released from the army as a coal miner. He married Emily Sewter on 17 February 1914 in Rotherham. Later that year on 28 August he enlisted with the York and Lancaster Regiment. He was promoted to Lance Corporal in April 1917 and Sergeant six months later. He served in France from July 1915 until receiving a gunshot wound to the thigh in February 1918.

Fred Skidmore died in 1950 in Rotherham.

**Children of Fred and Emily (Sewter) Skidmore,**

i.    Dorothy Freda, born 12 December 1914.

ii.   Elsie, born 1919.

iii.  Violet, born 1920.

iv.   Marjorie, born 1922.

v.-ix.  3 further daughters and 2 sons.

vii.  Jane, born 1895Q1. Jenny Skidmore was a servant in Broad Street, Rotherham in 1911.

viii. Nora Betsy, 1897Q1. She was living at the time of the 1911 census.
with her sister Eva Reed in Nottingham, an errand girl for the Mid. Lace Company. She married John Shaw in 1917 in Rotherham.

x. Rebecca, born 1855Q2. A housemaid living at the home of her parents in 1871. She married John Norman, a cotton operative (born about 1851 in Market Harborough, Leicestershire) in 1873Q4. They lived in Parkgate, Rotherham in the 1870s, moving to Mexborough about 1880, then to Oldham, Lancashire. Mrs Norman's father joined them in his later years, when they were living in Springfield Street, Royton, Lancashire. Mr Norman became a steward in a newsroom.

Children, as known - Harriet, Arthur, John, Emma, Annie, William, Thomas, George.

vii. Charlotte, baptised 5 March 1815. She married George Baugh (baptised 18 February 1813 at St Martin's, Tipton, son of Thomas Baugh, miner of Kidderminster and Tipton, and Elizabeth (Moule)) at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 7 December 1834. The witnesses were her brother Joseph Skidmore and his wife Jane (George's sister, recorded by her mark as Jane Baugh but married two weeks before to Joseph Skidmore). George was an engine driver in an iron forge. George and Charlotte had eight known children largely in Bloomfield and Ocker Hill, Tipton before moving to Mesty Croft, Wednesbury in the late 1850s. My thanks to Mrs Joyce Pemberton, great grandchild of their daughter Rebecca Baugh. George died on 23 March 1890, Charlotte on 12 August 1890 at 61 Elwell Street.

Children, as known - Rachel, Rebecca, Thomas, John, Levi, Charlotte, Ann.

viii. Ann, baptised 15 June 1817 and buried 31 May 1818 at St Martin's, Tipton, aged 1 of Factory [Road].

ix. Thomas, baptised 13 June 1819. He died aged 13 and was buried at St Martin's, Tipton on 1 May 1832, of Factory [Road].

252. x. **JAMES**, puddler of Tipton and Handsworth, was born in 1819 or 1820 in Bloomfield and baptised on 13 May 1821 at Tipton, the son of John [126] and Ann Skidmore. He married Nancy Whale (born about 1821 in Tipton) at St Thomas', Dudley on 13 December 1840. The witnesses were Joseph Shaw junior and William Henry Shaw. Bride and groom were both minors. Nancy Whale, also called Ann in some censuses, was the daughter of James Whale, labourer of Coppice Street, Bloomfield. James Skidmore was a puddler of China Buildings, Tipton, at the time of his marriage. In 1841 they lived with their baby son John in Coppice Street in an area described in that year's census as 'The whole of Stoke's Building, including Cross Street, Coppice Street and the road from the bridge over the lock, to the workhouse including the houses near the Tipton Green water engine'.

In the early 1850s James and Nancy Skidmore moved to Handsworth, where David was born. In 1871 they were living at the back of Shakespeare Place with sons David, William and Thomas. James Skidmore, widower, was a 'pauper inmate' of a workhouse in West Bromwich in 1891. He died in 1896Q1 aged 77. Three of his four sons were blacksmiths and fitters in Handsworth and then Ladywood or Smethwick.

The children of James and Nancy (Whale) Skidmore, born in Tipton,

i. John, born April or May 1841. He died at the age of 8 months and was buried at St Thomas, Dudley on 14 January 1842.

450a. ii. **EDWARD**, [was 333.] blacksmith of Ladywood, Birmingham, was born in Dudley Port in 1844Q3. He married Mrs Sarah Edwards (born about 1837 in Heage, Derbyshire, daughter of William Wainwright, widow of James Edwards), on 31 July 1865 at St Thomas', Handsworth. The children from her first marriage were born in Birmingham - Ann Amelia in 1861 and Arthur about 1863.

I have so far been unable to locate this family in 1871, though they were presumably in Handsworth or Birmingham. They were living at the time of the 1881 census, when Mr Skidmore was a blacksmith's striker, at 7 Charlton Terrace, Dudley Road, Birmingham. Judging from its position in the census, this is a stretch of the present A457 leading from Smethwick towards Birmingham. At the time of the 1901 census he was a hammer man in an engine works in Birmingham, living with his wife, daughter Nellie and son Harry at 10 Northbrook Street.

Mr Skidmore died in 1904Q1 aged 60.

The children of Edward and Sarah (Wainwright) Skidmore, born in Birmingham,

519. i. **ALBERT EDWARD**, [was 563.] born 1869Q1 in Handsworth. He is
described in the 1901 census as a nut and bolt machine maker. He married Ellen Walsh (born about 1867 in Birmingham) in 1892Q4 in Birmingham and they were living in 1901 at 7 Comberton Terrace, Barford Road. By 1911 they had moved to 123 Woodlands Street, Smethwick.

The children of Albert Edward and Ellen (Walsh) Skidmore, born in Birmingham,

i. Ellen Agnes, born 1894Q1. She worked in a button warehouse in 1911.

ii. Gladys Winifred, born 1898Q3.

iii. Clara, born 1872Q4. She married Arthur James Purkis, a brass bedstead maker (born about 1875 in Birmingham) in 1901Q1. They lived with their son Horatio George at 131 Marroway Street Birmingham.

iv. Daisy, born 1874Q3. She married Alfred Couch (born about 1873 in Swansea) in 1900Q3. Like his father-in-law, he was a blacksmith in the engineering trade. They were living at the time of the 1901 census at 88 Wiggin Street, Birmingham and by 1911 at 259 Shenstone Road.

Children, as known - William Alfred, Henry Gilbert, Daisy Amelia.

v. Nellie, born 1877Q4. She was a servant in 1911 at Hodge Hill House Castle Bromwich.

vi. Harry, born in November or December 1879. A factory engine driver in 1901. He enlisted in the 3rd Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment Special Reservists on 23 April 1908, giving his age as 28 years 5 months. He received annual training and was promoted to Corporal in 1913. At the termination of his first 6-year period of engagement in April 1914 he gave his address as that of his sister Clara in Marroway Street. His next of his kin was his elder brother Albert Edward Skidmore of 40 Woodland Street, Smethwick.

The children of David and Mary Ann (Parsons) Skidmore, born in Handsworth,

451. vi. DAVID, engineer's labourer, was born in 1855Q2 and baptised on 10 June 1855 at St James', Handsworth. He married Mary Ann Parsons (born about 1857 in Birmingham) in 1879Q3 in West Bromwich registration district and they were living with David's parents in 1881. By 1891 they were at 34 Lime Street and in 1901 at 4 Victoria Terrace, Booth Street, Handsworth.

Mr Skidmore died in 1906Q3 and by 1911 his widow and children lived at 13 Middlemore Road, Smethwick. She appears to have been the Mary A. Skidmore whose death at the age of 59 was registered at Kings Norton in 1917Q2.

i. THOMAS, born 1879Q4. A brick carter in 1901. He appears to have married Mary Wolfindale in 1908Q3 at St Michael & All Angels, Smethwick. (She does not appear to be the Mary Ann Wolfieldale boarding with Mary Ann Skidmore in 1911; this lady reported that she had been married for 10 years).

A son,

ii. Mary Ann, 1882Q1. A press worker in 1901. She is perhaps the lady who married Walter Henry Leach, a furniture carter (born about 1879 in Gloucestershire) in 1904Q2 at St Michael & All Angels, Smethwick. They were living by 1911 with their sons Walter and Horace Charles at Back 103 Heneage Street, Ashted, Birmingham. Children, as known - Walter, Horace Charles, Harold, Denis.

iii. Rosetta, born 1885Q3.

iv. Sarah Elizabeth, born 1887Q3. She married Thomas J. Wright in 1911Q2 at St Stephen’s, Smethwick. Children, as known - Minnie S., Thomas J.


   i. Benson E., born 1914Q3.

vi. Minnie, born about 1893. A steel polisher, she married Samuel Wildboar in 1912Q2 at St Stephen’s, Smethwick. Children, as known - Samuel Skidmore Wildboar, Rosetta Wildboar, 2 further sons and a daughter.


viii. Benjamin, born 1898Q3 and presumably the Benjamin aged 10 who died in 1908Q3.

522. vii. WILLIAM⁸, born 1857Q1 is found in the 1881 census in Alfred Street, Handsworth, with his wife Jane and two children. He married Jane Grice (born about 1858 in Bromsgrove, daughter of Charles and Fanny Grice of Alfred Street) in 1879Q2. Fanny’s father was an engine fitter, born in Mansfield, Nottinghams. Her mother and older siblings were born in Frampton Cotterell, Gloucestershire. William Skidmore’s occupation is recorded in the 1881 census as a fitter (E & M).

By 1891 they were living at 51 Pope Street, Smethwick, sharing their home with Jane’s widowed father and her brother Thomas H. Grice. William was a blacksmith’s striker in 1901, when they were living at 14 Sandwell Place. By 1911 the family had moved to 70 Oxford Road, Smethwick and Mr Skidmore (called for the first time William Henry) was working in the railway carriage works. Mrs Skidmore died in 1916 aged 58. William H. Skidmore’s death was registered in 1917, aged 60.

The children of William and Jane (Grice) Skidmore, born in Handsworth,

i. Frances Annie, born 1879Q3. She died in 1884Q2 aged 4.

ii. Charles William, born mid-March 1881. He died in 1884Q2.

v. Eliza Alice, born 1890Q2. A domestic servant in 1911. She is perhaps
the Eliza A. Skidmore whose marriage was registered at Kings Norton in 1918.

524. vi. **CHARLES ARTHUR**, born 1894 Q.1. A rivetter in a cycle works in 1911. He appears to have married Sarah A. Price in 1918.

*Children of Charles Arthur and Sarah A. (Price) Skidmore,*


ii. **Lilian J.**, born 1922 Q.4


viii. **James Thomas**, born 1859 Q.2. Called Thomas in censuses except that of 1891 when he is recorded with his full name. He was a private in the army service corps at Aldershot’s South Camp, Hampshire in 1881. By the time of the 1891 census when he said he was married and a domestic groom - he was a prisoner in Leicester jail. Not found later.

xi. **Mary**, baptised 21 November 1824 and buried 28 October 1825 at St Martin’s, Tipton, aged 1 of Factory [Road].

xii. **Martha**, baptised 21 November 1824 and buried 9 days after her twin sister, on 6 November 1825.

253. xiii. **DAVID**, baptised 3 June 1827. He was a puddler of Bloomfield, Tipton, and later Parkgate, Rawmarsh, Yorkshire. He married Emma Lambert (born about 1829 in Tipton, daughter of Joseph Lambert, puddler of Church Lane, and his wife Ann) at St Thomas’, Dudley on 4 June 1848. The witnesses were William Smith and Ann Smith.

At the time of the 1861 census David, Emma and their then four surviving children shared the home in Dudley Road of John Skidmore, David’s father, who is named as head of household. David, like his older brother Joseph Skidmore (and after the death of their father in 1867), moved to Parkgate, Rotherham, Yorkshire and was living in Chapel Street at the time of the 1871 census. By 1881 they lived three doors from his brother at 5 Broad Street. This end of Broad Street was Skidmore territory since David’s nephew Benjamin Skidmore [449] lived at no. 2, his son Joseph Skidmore [453] lived at no. 3, and his daughter Rebecca Athorne a little further along at no. 26. By 1891 David and Emma were at Holm Flat Street in Parkgate, with their grandson William and next door to their son Joseph. Emma Skidmore died aged 68 and was buried at St Mary’s, Rawmarsh, on 24 March 1897. David died in 1900 Q.3 aged 73.

*The children of David and Emma (Lambert) Skidmore, all born in Tipton and baptised at Dudley,*

i. **Sarah Ann**, born 6 November 1848 and baptised 23 December 1849. She appears to have married Thomas Jones (labourer of Dudley, born about 1852, son of Henry Jones, labourer) at St Thomas’, Dudley on 21 December 1873 (though the record states that her father was deceased). The witnesses were William Lambeth and Ann Bodin. I have so far had no success in finding Sarah Ann after the census of 1861.

453. ii. **JOSEPH LAMBERT**, born 1850 Q.2, aged 10 months at the time of the census taken on 30 March 1851. He was an iron worker, first in Tipton and then in Rawmarsh, Yorkshire. He moved north with or following his uncle Joseph and his father in the early 1870s. There he married Martha Ann Chalinger in 1873 Q.1. The census of 1881 states that she was born about 1851 in Staffordshire, but the 1901 census gives her birthplace as Swinton, Yorkshire and her birth year a little later - 1852 or 1853. They lived in Rawmarsh, specifically at 3 Broad Street at the time of the 1881 census and Holm Flat Street by 1891. Mr Skidmore unfortunately fell into debt for which he spend short periods in Wakefield Prison in October 1891 and June 1896. Mrs Skidmore died at the age of 52 in 1905 Q.2. Mr Skidmore and his daughter Rebecca were living at 134 Netherfield Lane, Parkgate in 1911. He died in 1923 aged 73.

*The children of Joseph Lambert and Martha Ann (Chalinger) Skidmore, born in Parkgate,*

i. (perhaps) **John**, died at ten weeks, buried at St Mary’s, Rawmarsh, on 12 September 1873.

525. ii. **WILLIAM EDWARD**, born 1874 Q.1. He married Bessie Corns (born
about 1873 in Codnor Park, Derbyshire) in 1897Q4 and they were living by 1901 at 10 France Street, Parkgate. He and his brother David were both colliery trammers.

**Children of William Edward and Bessie (Corns) Skidmore,**

i. Gladys, born 1898Q3. She is presumably the Gladys Skidmore who married Allan Purvis in the Rotherham registration district in 1920.


iii. WILLIAM9, born 13 May 1901. Presumably the Willie Skidmore who married Frances Edith Purvis in 1929 and had a son.

iv. John Thomas, born 1904Q2. He appears to have died aged 14 in 1919.

v. [perhaps] Lawrence, died in infancy in 1907Q2.

vi. Lawrence, born 1909Q3.

iii. Sarah Ann, born 1875Q4. She died between 1881 and 1891.

526. iv. DAVID9, born 1883Q2. He was living with his brother William Edward at the time of the 1901 census. In 1905Q1 he married Beatrice Pritchard (born about 1885 in Rotherham) and they were living by 1911 in Greasbro Street, Rotherham.

**Children of David and Beatrice (Pritchard) Skidmore,**

i. Mabel, born 1905Q4.

ii. Florence, born 1907Q3.

iii. David, born 1911Q4.


vi. George, born 1923Q4.

527. v. JOHN THOMAS9, born 1886Q2. A pony driver in a coal mine in 1901. He married Florence Gleadhall (born about 1891 in Rotherham) in 1908Q2 and they were living in 1911 at 59 Kenneth Street, Rotherham.

**Children of John Thomas and Florence (Gleadhall) Skidmore,**

i. A child who did not survive.

ii. Sydney, born January 1911.

iii. Renée, born 1923.

vi. Joseph, born 1889Q1. He died in 1893 aged 5 and was buried at St Mary’s, Rawmarsh on 16 April.

vii. Rebecca, born 1894Q4. She appears to be the Rebecca Skidmore who married Leonard Peace in 1916.

iii. [perhaps] John, who died in Factory Road, Tipton aged 1 year and was buried 1 May 1852 at St Martin’s, Tipton.


454. vi. JOHN THOMAS8, born 22 February 1860 in Tipton. An iron worker in Yorkshire, he married Clara Willey (born 1861 in Rotherham) in 1882Q2 and they were living at the time of the 1891 census at 1 Maugham Street, Greasbrough, Rotherham. By 1901 census, when he was an engine driver in an iron works, they were living at 44 Holm Flat Street, Rawmarsh.

Mrs Skidmore died in 1909Q4 aged 48 and her husband and children Emma, John, Richard and Joseph were living at 12 Frances Street, Parkgate in 1911. Mr Skidmore died in 1912Q1 aged 51.

**The children of John Thomas and Clara (Willey) Skidmore, born in Greasbrough,**
Skidmore Families of Brettell Lane and Brockmoor.

i. Miriam, born 1882Q4. She was living in 1911 with her future husband Charles Robinson, a coal miner; they married in 1915Q3.

ii. Hannah Mary, born 1887Q1. She married Harold G. Booth in 1911 and had a daughter Kate.

iii. Betsy, born 1889Q3. She married Samuel Gill, an engine driver (born about 1888 in Rotherham) in 1909Q3 and they were living in 1911 at 83 Orchard Street, Rotherham with their first child Samuel, and also Mr Gill's brother James Gill and his father Samuel Gill. Children, as known - Samuel, Irene, Richard, John, Dora and three further sons and a daughter born in the 1920s.

iv. Rachel, born 1891Q3. She was a kitchenmaid in a boarding house in Buxton, Derbyshire in 1911.

v. Emma, born about 1894Q1. She is presumably the Emma Skidmore who married George Harper in Rotherham in 1915.


   i. Richard Denis.

vii. Richard Denis, born 1899Q3. He served in World War I as a Private in the 11th Battalion, East Yorkshire Regiment. He died on 8 September 1918 and appears on the Ploegsteert Memorial in Hainaut, Belgium, which commemorates more than 11000 servicemen of the UK and South African forces who died in this sector and have no known grave.


ix. Clara Law, born 1904Q1. She was living in 1911 with her sister Miriam Skidmore.

vii. Rachel, born 7 July 1862 and baptised 25 December 1864. She found employment as a domestic servant at Sheffield General Infirmary and was working there at the time of the 1881 census. She married George Henry Blow, a range fitter for an iron foundry (born about 1863 in Rotherham) in 1886Q1. They moved from Rotherham in the late 1880 to live in Wigston Magna, Leicestershire. Children, as known - Benjamin, Samuel, Mary E., George Henry, John Joseph.

viii. Emily, born 19 October (baptised 25 December) 1864. She died in Bloomfield at the age of 10 months and was buried at St Martin's, Tipton on 3 September 1865.

ix. David, born 1866Q3. An ironworker, he died in 1883Q1 at the age of 17.

x. [perhaps] Thomas, said to be aged 11 at the time of the 1881 census (and born in Tipton) but not recorded in the 1871 census. The word son has been written over another (illegible) word in the 1881 census. So far, not otherwise found.

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