

AUSTRALIAN SKIDMORE AND SCUDAMORE FAMILIES IN THE 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY

by Linda Moffatt ©2017

I am most grateful to the descendants who have already provided help and additional biographical information about their families. I would be pleased to receive further information about the individuals and events mentioned in this account. Similarly, I am happy to be informed of errors and omissions which I shall be happy to include in a later edition.

Linda Moffatt December 2017

CITATION

Please respect the author's contribution and state where you found this information if you quote it. Suggested citation ' *Australian Skidmore and Scudamore Families in the 19th and Early 20th Century* by Linda Moffatt at the website of the Skidmore/ Scudamore One-Name Study www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com'.

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. If you wish to have your 20th century family included, please write to me at the email address above.

INTRODUCTION

Prior to 1900 there were four classes of immigrants to Australia:

CONVICT MIGRANTS

The earliest known arrivals in Australia of Skidmore men, around 1820, were from Britain aboard the convict transport ships. Five Skidmore convicts are known and interested readers may wish to set their history against accounts of convict settlement to be found, for example at www.australia.gov.au

BOUNTY MIGRANTS

Between 1828 and 1842 the New South Wales Government encouraged people to migrate to Australia to help colonise the country. Under this scheme, an incentive or reward (i.e. bounty) was paid to recruiting agents in Britain to find suitable workers and then ship them out to the new colony which urgently needed the mechanics, tradesmen or agricultural workers. Individuals or small groups could be sponsored by people in Australia. Further interesting detail can be found at Tasmania's Heritage¹ and elsewhere.



¹ <http://www.linc.tas.gov.au/tasmaniasheritage/search/guides/freeimmigration/1816-1837>.

ASSISTED MIGRATION

The term 'assisted immigrant' refers to those people whose passage was subsidised or paid for through one of the several assisted immigration schemes which operated to New South Wales from the United Kingdom and other countries.

UNASSISTED MIGRATION

'Unassisted immigrants' were individuals whose passages were not subsidised or paid for by another person or through another agency.



**HERE, LISTED ACCORDING TO THE FAMILY GROUP TO WHICH THEY BELONGED,
ARE THOSE SKIDMORE & SCUDAMORE INDIVIDUALS FOUND IN AUSTRALIAN RECORDS.**

Immigrants	Origin in UK	Year of arrival	Type	Page
Mark Skidmore	Frampton Cotterell	1819	Convict	4
Thomas Skidmore	Unknown	1820	Convict	6
Richard Skidmore	Unknown	1820	Convict	8
Thomas Skidmore	Unknown	1831	Convict	9
George Skidmore	Unknown	1854	Convict	10
Caladine family and William Skidmore	Unknown	1842	Bounty	11
George Frederick & Mary (Clarke) Scudamore	Unknown	Before 1845	Unknown	12
Thomas & Mary (McCartey) Skidmore	Unknown	Before 1844	Unknown	13
Ellen (Skidmore) Wanderum	Unknown			13
John Scudamore	Unknown	1852 Oct		14
Miss M. Skidmore	Unknown	1860		14
G. Scudamore	Unknown	1863 Jun	Invercargill NZ to Melbourne	14
Miss Harriet D. Skidmore	Unknown	1869		14
Frederick Scudamore	Birmingham	1850s		14
Sarah (Skidmore) Green & family; William & Mary Ann (Wilcox) Skidmore	Frampton Cotterell	1848	Assisted	15
Frederick & Elizabeth (Rogers) Skidmore	Frampton Cotterell	1849	Assisted	16
John & Mary Ann (Bryant) Skidmore	Frampton Cotterell	1857 Apr	Assisted	17
Ann (Weedy) Scudamore & sons Harry & Walter	Frampton Cotterell	1912		19
Norah Helen (Scudamore) Clark	Frampton Cotterell	20thC		19
Francis Reginald Skidmore	Frampton Cotterell	20thC		19
Archibald Scudamore	Frampton Cotterell	20thC		19
Emma Scudamore	Bath & Frome	1887		20

Fanny (Skidmore) Good	Oxfordshire	1887		20
William Lawrence Skidmore	Oxfordshire	20thC		20
Hubert Sydney James & Grace Skidmore	Oxfordshire	20thC		20
Thomas & Ellen Jane (Davis) Skidmore	Cornwall	1857 Jan	Assisted	21
William & Mary (Roberts) Skidmore	Cornwall	1863 Jul	Assisted	22
Samuel Skidmore	Cornwall	1873	ENG to NZ	23
William Henry Skidmore		1874	NZ to AUS	
Michael Skidmore	Derbyshire	1863		26
Margaret Maria Skidmore	Derbyshire	1880s		26
John & Emma (Roberts) Skidmore	Derbyshire	1882		27
Southerwood family	Derbyshire			27
Anthony William Skidmore	Derbyshire	1921		27
John Frederick Skidmore	Derbyshire	20thC		28
George & Mary Ann Skidmore, both 23y from SFK. Indexed as Skidmore but more likely Geo & Mary Ann (Willoughby) Skinner??		1855	Assisted	
Tertius Benjamin Skidmore	Kingswinford	1852		28
John & Eliza (Skidmore) Crawford	Kingswinford	1854		29
Thomas & Mary Ann (Kinna) Skidmore	Kingswinford	1856	Unassisted	29
John & Louisa (Cossons) Skidmore	Kingswinford	1857 Nov	Assisted	30
James Skidmore	Kingswinford	1862	Assisted	32
John Francis & Rebecca (Allen) Skidmore	Kingswinford	1873		32
David Skidmore	Kingswinford	c.1880		34
Thomas Bowen Skidmore	Kingswinford	1881		35
George Harry James Skidmore	Kingswinford	1888		35
William George Skidmore	Kingswinford	1883		35
George & Mary (Skidmore) Lerwill	Kingswinford	1885		36
Joseph Harris Skidmore	Kingswinford	1886		37
Bernard Carlos Skidmore	Kingswinford	1885?		37
Evangeline Skidmore	Kingswinford	1907		37
Kenneth Alfred Skidmore	Kingswinford	1891		38
Mary Wood Skidmore	Kingswinford	1880s		38
John Henry Skidmore	Kingswinford	1912		38
Bertha Ann Skidmore	Kingswinford	1880		38
Thomas Percy & Isabella Mary (White) Skidmore	Kingswinford	1911		39
John William and Mary Amelia (Smith) Skidmore	Kingswinford	1911/12		39
Thomas Osborne Skidmore	Kingswinford	1923		41
Winifred Scudamore	Herefordshire	1863 Nov	Assisted	42
Cornelius Scudamore	Herefordshire	pre-WW1		43
Ada Louise (Peach) Scudamore & her sons Albert Godwin Scudamore & Richard Scudamore	Herefordshire	c.1912		43
Nancy Irene (Scudamore) Leigh	Herefordshire	20thC		43

SKIDMORE CONVICTS

1819

MARK SKIDMORE

Mark Skidmore was born on 1 February 1801 and baptised on 15 March at St Saviour's, Southwark, London. He was a son of Mark Skidmore (1766-1829) and his wife Elizabeth (née Clement, married 28 July 1790 at Abingdon, Berkshire). Mark the elder was born in Frampton Cotterell, Gloucestershire². A hatter, he moved to Southwark, London, another centre of the hatting trade.

Mark Skidmore the son, a carter by trade, was convicted on 12 January 1819 at Newington Quarter Sessions, Surrey for stealing two turkeys. Subsequently, he was received aboard the prison hulk *Justitia*³ and transported to New South Wales for seven years.

No.	Name	Age	Offence	Where & when convicted	Sentence
	William Selley	22	St ^d	24 th Jan ^y 1819	10 ^y 7 ^{mo} 10 th of Jan ^y 1819
3390	William Stevens	20	St ^d Watch		10 ^y 7 ^{mo} 10 th of May 1819
1	George Downham	42	St ^d Lead		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
	Peter Fellows	34	St ^d		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
2	John Holey	17	St ^d Watch		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
4	Thomas Godfrey	19	St ^d Turkey		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
5	William Morris	18	St ^d		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
6	Mark Skidmore	18	St ^d		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
7	John Wilson	27	St ^d Bingham		10 ^y 7 ^{mo} transported
8	Ephraim Dips	20	St ^d Baskin	St. Mary Newington	10 ^y 7 ^{mo} 26 th of Jan ^y 1819
9	John Clark	21	St ^d	2 ^d Sep ^r 12 th Jan ^y 1819	10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
3400	William North	20	St ^d of case		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}
1	James Johnson	26	St ^d		10 ^y 7 ^{mo}

Received 24 January 1819

3395

Mark Skidmore

18

St^d 2 Turkeys

D. 7

His convict records reveal that he was 5 ft 4¼ ins tall with brown hair and hazel eyes⁴.

The *Canada* sailed from London on 23 April 1819, arriving at Sydney on 1 September 1819, where she dropped 133 male convicts, including Mark Skidmore⁵.

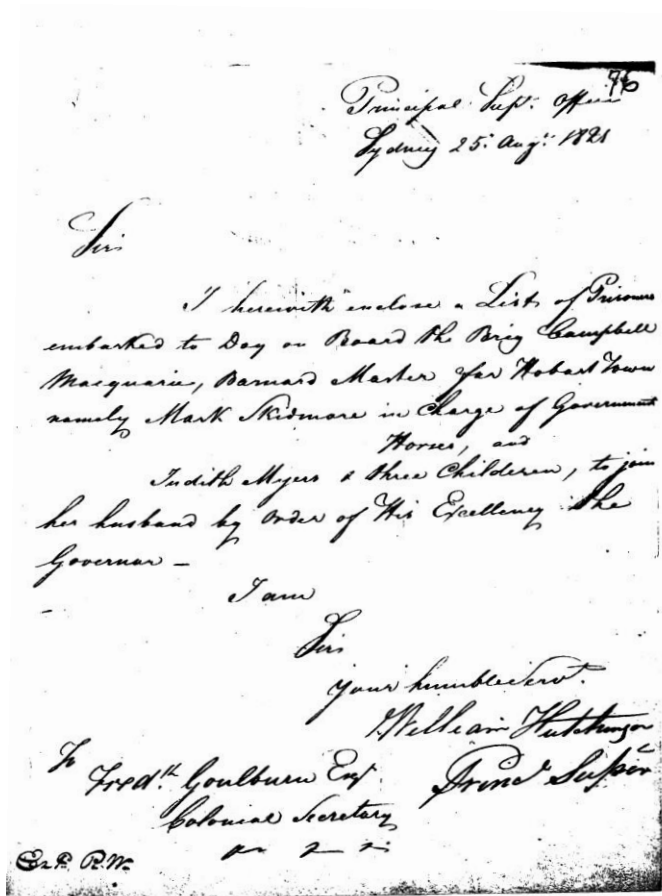
² For an account of this branch of the wider Skidmore family, see *The Skidmore and Scudamore Families of Frampton Cotterell, Gloucestershire 1650-1900* by Linda Moffatt, 2nd ed. 2015, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

³ Home Office: Convict Prison Hulks: Registers and Letter Books; Class: HO9; Piece: 4.

⁴ New South Wales, Australia, Convict Indents, 1788-1842.

⁵ <http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/shipNSW2>. Convict Ships to NSW 1801-1849.

On 25 August 1821 he was placed in charge of horses going to Hobart on the *Campbell Macquarie*⁶.



Principal Supt. Officer
Sydney 25th Aug 1821

Sirs

I herewith inclose a List of Prisoners embarked to Day on Board the Brig Campbell Masquarie, Barnard Master for Hobart Town namely Mark Skidmore in charge of Government

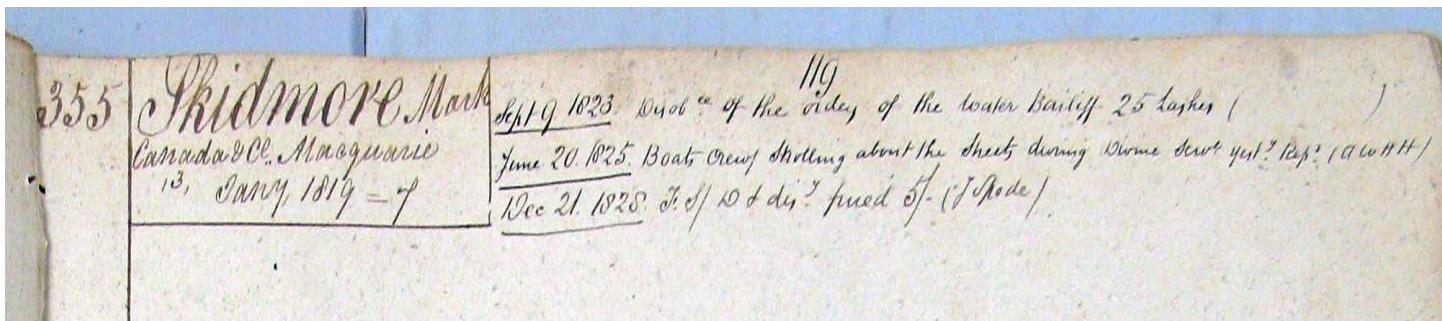
Horses, and
Judith Myers & three children, to join her husband by Order of His Excellency the Governor.

I am

Sirs
Your humble Serv^t
William Hutchinson
Princ^l Super^r

To Fred^k Goulburn Esq^r
Colonial Secretary

The Tasmanian Heritage archives contain Mark Skidmore's conduct record. On 9 September 1823 he received 25 lashes for disobeying the orders of the Water Bailiff. On 20 June 1825 he was reprimanded with others of the boat crews for 'strolling about the Sheets during Divine Service'. The last entry in December 1828 features a 5s fine for some offence which is indecipherable⁷. Nothing further is presently known of this man after this date.



⁶ Colonial Secretary's Papers: 25 Aug 1821.

⁷ <http://search.archives.tas.gov.au>, in the Series 'Conduct Registers of Male Convicts arriving in the Period of the Assignment System, 01 Jan 1803 to 31 Dec 1843', p.119, entry 355.

1820

THOMAS SKIDMORE

This man's identity is presently unknown. Thomas Skidmore was sentenced on 15 March 1820 at Derby Assizes to transportation for fourteen years⁸. He left on 22 May 1820 aboard the *Shiple*, one of 113 men, 85 of whom were dropped at Sydney on 26 September 1820⁹. The men were mustered on 4 October, as described in the diary of Lachlan Macquarie¹⁰.

Tuesday 26. Septr. 1820

The Ship *Shiple*, Commanded by Capt. Moncrief, with 146 Male Convicts from England anchored in Sydney Cove on the afternoon of this day; Mr. — Ryan R. Navy being the Surgeon Supdt., and the Guard consisting of Detachments of the 48th. 53d. & 69th. Regts., being Commanded by Lieut. Windsor of the latter Corps.

The *Shiple* sailed from England on the 5th. of June — being only 3 months & 21 Days in performing the voyage. — Three Convicts died on the Passage — and one Convict was drowned by accident. —

Mrs. Cartwright, the wife of the Revd. Mr. Cartwright, has arrived as a Passenger on board the *Shiple*. —

I went down early this morning to transact Business at Sydney — and to remain there a few days. —

Wednesday 4. Ocr. 1820

I went down to Sydney after Breakfast this morning in the Carriage, to transact Business — and to muster the Convicts landed this morning from the Ship *Shiple* — namely 146 men — 61 of whom were sent, after being inspected, on board the Ship *Guildford* to proceed to the Derwent in that Ship with 189 men of her own Convicts. — I returned to Parramatta in the afternoon to Dinner Commissr. Bigge & a large Party of Friends having dined with us.

Amongst the Colonial Secretary's Papers exists a list dated 8 September 1821 of all persons victualled from H.M. Magazines¹¹. Rations were issued to 4388 men, women and children and almost three thousand of these listed are convicts. Rations are either a quarter (for children), half (for women), one (for men) or one and a half (for convict workers). Thomas Skidmore received convict rations and was one of around forty men assigned to the 'Town Gang of Carts'.

Six months later he was assigned on 21 February 1822 to W.H. Manners of Pitt Street¹² [Sydney], though in what capacity is not stated in the Convict Muster¹³.

⁸ Australian Convict Transportation Registers — Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868.

⁹ <http://www.historyaustralia.org.au/twconvic/Shiple>.

¹⁰ Macquarie, Lachlan. Diary 1 March 1820 — 8 March 1821. Original held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney. ML Ref: A774 pp.166-168; [Microfilm Reel: CY301 Frames #562-574].

¹¹ New South Wales, Australia, Colonial Secretary's Papers, location 4/5781, pages 55 - 122, and is on microfilm at the Archives Office of NSW. Explanation of its contents found at <http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/victlist>. text file (VICT-01, 26/2/94).

¹² *ibid*, (NRS 898) Special bundles, 1794-1825, Item: 4/4570D, Page: 109.

¹³ New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849 at Ancestry.com. Original data: Home Office: Settlers and Convicts, New South Wales and Tasmania; (The National Archives Microfilm Publication HO10, Pieces 5, 19-20, 32-51); The National Archives of the UK (TNA), Kew, Surrey, England.

Musters were conducted periodically as a means for keeping track of and enumerating convicts in the colony. The first

Jarvis Marshal gave evidence that he observed a dead body floating by his farm, which he brought, with the assistance of James Brien, on shore and that he report the same in about an hour to Mr Purcel the Chief Constable. Mr Purcel accompanied him to the spot with an ordinary constable whom he left in charge of the body. John Dayton, Constable on the Establishment at Emu Plains stated that he was unable to recognise the person in consequence of his face being much mutilated and being also greatly swelled.

Thomas Warren, a fellow runaway prisoner with Skidmore, had been apprehended and was then in custody in Penrith Goal. He stated that he left the Establishment at Emu Plains on Thursday night the 25th in company with Thomas Skidmore, that in attempting to cross Martin's Falls Skidmore first proceeded and not being able to swim he went some distance with the current. Warren swam after him, but before he could reach him to render him any assistance, the said Skidmore 'sunk to rise no more and then and there drowned'.

The jury decided that the mutilation to the face could well have been the result of lying in the water for 5 or 6 days before discovery. Thomas Warren, who did not report the event until some 15 days after it happened, probably had nothing to gain and everything to lose by coming forward earlier -- the records do not show whether he was found by the authorities or returned to the Establishment of his own accord.

1820

RICHARD SKIDMORE, *alias* GRIMSTONE

This man's identity is presently unknown. Richard Skidmore was born around 1797, a native of Bristol, and was by trade a whitesmith who also went by the name Richard Grimstone. He was 5 ft 5¼ ins tall, with dark brown eyes and brown hair¹⁸. He was convicted of larceny¹⁹ on 10 April 1820 at Somerset Quarter Sessions in Wells, and sentenced to transportation for seven years. He arrived at the Prison Hulk *Leviathan* on 16 May 1820²⁰ and left for Van Diemens Land on 3 September 1820 aboard the *Juliana*, arriving on 29 December.

Names	Where Committed	When	Term	Native Place	Trade or Calling	Height		Colour of	
						ft	in	Hair	Eyes
Richard Skidmore	at 2. sessions	10th April 1820	7	Bristol	Whitesmith	5	5 1/4	Brown	Brown
alias Grimstone									
William George	Southampton	1818	7						

He was later sent to Maria Island and assigned to 'public works'²¹. Maria Island lies 4 km off the east coast of Tasmania. It operated as a penal station between 1825 and 1832. The settlement, which was located at Darlington, was conceived as a half-way house between the extreme of hard labour at Macquarie Harbour and a stint in a road or chain gang. Convicts sent to Maria Island worked in a number of different industries including timber-cutting, tanning, shoe-making and cloth production. An

¹⁸ New South Wales, Australia Convict Ship Muster Rolls and Related Records, 1790-1849.

¹⁹ England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892.

²⁰ UK, Prison Hulk Registers and Letter Books, 1802-1849.

²¹ New South Wales and Tasmania, Australia Convict Musters, 1806-1849.

unusual feature of the settlement was that it was fitted out with a mechanised textile factory powered by water. Plagued by frequent escape and other disciplinary problems, Maria Island was closed down and much of the remaining convict population relocated to Port Arthur in 1832²².

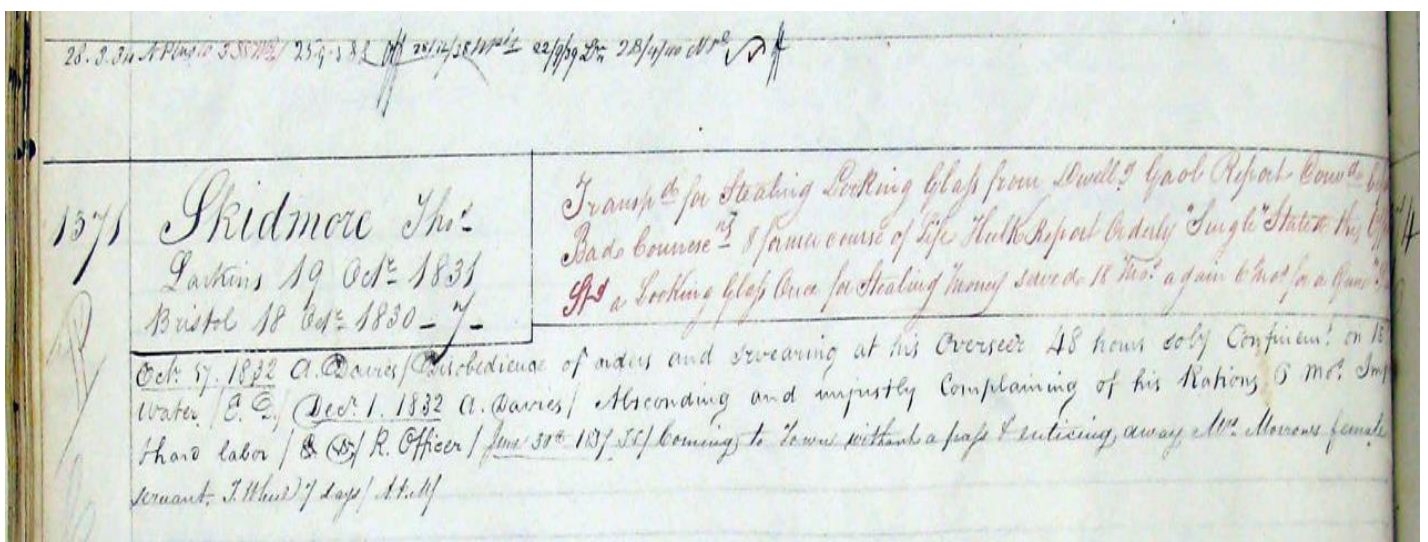
No	Names	Ships arrived by	To whom assigned
289	Sturges William	.	Ass ^d to Mr Evans
290	Skidmore Richard or brothers	.	Trunholtz to Maria Island
291	Smith Thomas	.	Ass ^d to Mr Perryman

Richard Skidmore is presumably the man aged 60 who died on 2 July 1854 in the Hobart registration district.

1831

THOMAS SKIDMORE

This man's identity is presently unknown. He was sentenced to transportation for seven years at Bristol Quarter Sessions on 18 October 1830 and left for Van Diemens Land on 11 June 1831 aboard the *Larkins*, arriving on 19 October. His conduct record reveals that his offence had been stealing a looking glass from a dwelling, though he appears to have had other run-ins with the law for theft.



Unfortunately, nothing further is presently known about this man. He is too old to be the 23-year old Thomas Skidmore who married Mary McCartney in 1844 at St James', Melbourne (page 13).

²² http://www.utas.edu.au/library/companion_to_tasmanian_history/M/Maria%20Island.htm

GEORGE SKIDMORE, convict transportation 1857.

George Skidmore's identity is presently unknown. We know that he was born about 1834 and was a plumber's labourer. He was sentenced on 5 April 1852 at Sussex General Quarter Sessions, in the town of Lewes, Sussex to transportation for seven years.

NAME	Where Convicted	Date of Conviction	Term of Years
George Skidmore	Sussex General Quarter Sessions Lewes	5 April 1852	Seven
John Mann	Sussex Lewes	2 July 1855	Fifteen

George Skidmore General Quarter 5 April 1852 Seven
Sessions Lewes

He did not leave for Western Australia until 19 March 1857 aboard the *Clara*²³ bound for the Swan River Colony (now Fremantle), a British settlement established in 1829 on the Swan River, in Western Australia²⁴. The *Clara* carried the eighteenth of 37 shipments of male convicts destined for Western Australia. The voyage took 106 days and arrived in Fremantle on 3 July 1857 with 95 passengers (pensioner guards and their families) and 262 convicts.

Name	Reg. No.	Term	Age at Trial	Trial Place	Day Mth Year	Criminal Offence	Comments
George SKIDMORE	4469	7y	18	Lewes	05 04 1852	Larceny from the person	

Another list detailing the physical appearance of the convicts has been transcribed for this voyage of the *Clara*²⁵.

Name	Reg. No.	Occupation	M/S Child	Height	Hair	Eyes	Face	Complexion	Build	Distinguishing Marks
George SKIDMORE	4469	Plumber's labourer	S[ingle] None	5' 1'	Brown	Dark	Long	Sallow	Stout	Pockmarked; cut below right wrist

Nothing further is presently known of George Skidmore.

²³ All Australian Convict Transportation Registers – Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868.

²⁴ Taken from *Fremantle History: 1829 to WW2 (1945)* at <http://www.fremantlewesternaustralia.com.au>.

²⁵ <http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/sources.html>, Western Australian Convicts 1850-1868.

BOUNTY IMMIGRANTS

1842

WILLIAM SKIDMORE

William Skidmore was born in 1832 or 1833, probably in Manchester, England, the son of Henry Skidmore and Sarah Russell, who were married on 7 November 1829 at Manchester Cathedral Church. Sarah was baptised 28 August 1814 at Manchester Cathedral, the daughter of John and Sarah Russell. Henry Skidmore, William's father, was an engineer born about 1809. Regarding Henry's origins, we can only speculate. The most likely UK family group to have had members living in Manchester at this time was the Derbyshire branch²⁶. I know of two Skidmore families in Manchester at around this time but am unable to link them to a Henry Skidmore born about 1809. John and Elizabeth Skidmore had two children baptised at the Cathedral: William, baptised 18 March 1798; Mary Ann, baptised 8 June 1800. John Skidmore's origins are unknown - it was, of course, a very common name. There was a William Skidmore in Manchester in 1807. We know this from the will of his brother Simon Skidmore. These brothers came from Eyam in Derbyshire. William was by this time an old man of nearly 70. His daughter Mary married Joshua Linney in Manchester in 1801.

Henry Skidmore died at Every Street, Manchester on 20 July 1839 aged 30, from injuries received from a fall down stairs. Sarah Skidmore married secondly, in 1841 at Manchester Cathedral, Joseph Caladine, a blacksmith originally from Stockport, Cheshire (born about 1819, son of John and Mary Caladine). Joseph and Sarah Calladine were living at the time of the British census taken on 6 June 1841 in Every Street, Manchester, with Sarah's son William Henry Skidmore aged 9 and Joseph's father John Caladine. This is the only instance of the use of his full name of William Henry Skidmore of which I am aware - thereafter in documents, he was called William Skidmore. Their home was shared with James Stoddart and his wife Ann, née Russell and presumably Sarah's sister (married 16 February 1837 at St Mary's, Manchester). Apart from blacksmith Joseph, the whole household worked in a cotton mill.

William Skidmore was aged ten when he went with his mother and stepfather to New South Wales as a Bounty Immigrant aboard the *Agnes*, **arriving in Sydney on 13 February 1842**. A child Robert Davison Caladine was born at sea on the voyage from Britain²⁷, but died that same year in Sydney²⁸. William Skidmore married Selina Rowley (born about 1833) on 31 March 1851 at St Andrew's Scots Church, Sydney, Cumberland, New South Wales. He is known from the burial register at Camperdown to have been a 'dealer'. His wife Selina died on 16 August 1855 aged only 22 and was buried at Camperdown, New South Wales²⁹. William Skidmore died aged 57 on 20 December 1891.

Children of William and Selina (Rowley) Skidmore,

- i. Selina, baptised 24 February 1852 at St Andrew's. Nothing further presently known.
- ii. William Henry, died 2 December 1855, buried at Camperdown, aged under 1 year, 'son of a dealer'³⁰.

²⁶ See *Skidmore Lead Miners of Derbyshire, and their Descendants, 1600-1915*, by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

²⁷ New South Wales, Australia 1828 - 1842: Bounty Immigrants List.

²⁸ Australia Death Index, 1787-1985.

²⁹ Australia, Cemetery Inscriptions, Sydney Branch Genealogical Library, 1800-1960.

³⁰ familysearch.org.

EARLY MIGRANTS TO AUSTRALIA, FAMILY GROUP UNKNOWN

1830s?

GEORGE FREDERICK AND MARY (CLARKE) SCUDAMORE

GEORGE FREDERICK SCUDAMORE is known, from the age recorded when he died, to have been born about 1820. He appears to have been a son of John and Susannah Scudamore, born 18 June 1820, baptised 29 November 1829 at St Giles', Cripplegate, Middlesex [London]. His father was a tailor of Rose Court at the time of George Frederick's baptism. It is presently not known to which family line John Scudamore belongs.

George Frederick Scudamore's **arrival in Australia has yet to be found** but he does not appear in the British census taken on 6 June 1841. *George Scudemore* married Mary Clarke in 1845 in Victoria. He was a painter in Kilmore, Victoria (about 40 miles north of Melbourne), where he had freehold property³¹. The death of George Frederick Scudamore at the age of 69 was registered in 1889 in Oakleigh, Victoria. The death of Mary Scudamore (daughter of Cl??e Jas and Rosa³²) was registered in the same year in Hawthorn, Victoria, aged 63. Some of their children are found later living in Prahran, [Melbourne], Victoria³³.

Children of George Frederick and Mary (Clarke) Scudamore, born in the Melbourne area,

- i. Jessie Susannah, born 11 August 1846 and baptised on 13 September at St James' church, Melbourne.
- ii. George, born in 1848.
- iii. George Frederick, born in 1849.
- iv. Harry, born in 1852.
- v. James John, born 1853, died 1855.
- vi. James, born (according to a pedigree posted at Ancestry.com) on 5 January 1856 in Kilmore, Victoria, died 17 June 1918 at Horsham, Victoria.



*James Skidmore (1856-1918).
Photograph posted at Ancestry.com*

- vii. Charles, born about 1858, died 1861.
- viii. Sophia Mary, born 1861. She was a dressmaker and lived at 7 Westbourne Street, Prahran, Victoria.
- ix. Ellen, born 1863. Nellie Scudamore lived with her sister Sophia in Prahran.
- x. Charles, born 1865. Charles James Scudamore, a painter, was living in 1909 at 16 Wright Street, Prahran with Edith, presumably his wife.

³¹ Australia, Electoral Rolls. Kilmore 1856.

³² www.bdm.vic.gov.au.

³³ Australia, Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980. Fawcner Division, Subdivision of Prahran Gardens 1909.

1840s?

THOMAS AND MARY (McCARTEY) SKIDMORE

THOMAS SKIDMORE aged 23 married Mary McCartney aged 17 at St James', Melbourne, Victoria on 11 March 1844. His ancestry is not presently known³⁴ nor has his immigration around this time been found. He was too young to be the convict who arrived in 1831 (page 14).

Children of Thomas and Mary (McCartey) Skidmore,

- i. **JOHN THOMAS**, born 1845, registered as Thomas Skidmore at Moonambel. *Thomas* Skidmore of Brunswick, Victoria married Jane Singleton on 20 February 1870 at Moonee Ponds, Victoria. Brunswick and Moonee Ponds are now suburbs of Melbourne. Jane was born in 1853 in Moonee Ponds, daughter of Ralph Singleton (1808 Lancashire - died 1862) and his wife Ruth (née Albiston 1812-1860, married 1835 in Cheshire, England)³⁵. *John Thomas* Skidmore in his will was described as a trainer, apparently of greyhounds or perhaps horses. He died on 18 August 1891 at Hope Street, Brunswick, leaving a will dated 28 April 1891 (granted 19 November 1891 in the Supreme Court of Victoria). He left to his wife Jane his horses, cows, one stud greyhound dog named Padlock and one greyhound brood bitch named Marigold and Epress Waggon. His executors were John Pattison of Hope Street, Brunswick, commission agent, and Felix O'Connor of Sydney Road, Brunswick, licensed victualler. His widow married secondly Pat Carey in 1896 in Victoria. She died in 1908³⁶.

Children of John Thomas and Jane (Singleton) Skidmore, baptisms at St Paul's, Coburg, Victoria³⁷,

- i. Thomas [surname *Singleton*], born 17 July 1869, baptised 19 February 1870.
 - ii. Charles, born 8 April (baptised 22 May) 1871.
 - iii. Mary Jane, born 1873.
 - iv. John, born 12 January (baptised 27 February) 1876. He died in 1882.
 - v. Elizabeth, born 1878.
 - vi. Frances, born 9 October (baptised 3 December) 1882.
 - vii. Alice May Collerine, born 17 March (baptised 7 June) 1885 at Brunswick, Victoria. She married Gladstone Consort Disraeli Smith in 1907 at Fitzroy, Victoria (his second wife). Mrs Smith died on 23 May 1962 aged 77.
 - viii. Joseph Henry, born 3 September (baptised 2 October) 1887.
- ii. Mary Ann, born 10 April 1849 Mary, registered as Mary Skidmore at Moonee Ponds. She married Thomas McGreal in 1864 in Victoria. She died on 19 October 1926 at Enmore, New South Wales. Sons Thomas and Francis (as known).

Unknown

ELLEN SKIDMORE

ELLEN SKIDMORE, married DICK WANDERUM of Leigh in Victoria on 8 April 1868. Said to have been born in 1845 and to have died on 20 April 1921.

³⁴ Australia, Marriages, 1810-1980 at familysearch.org. He was not, as stated in a pedigree posted on Ancestry.com, born in Tipton, Staffordshire in 1821, son of David and Phoebe (Mills) Skidmore (see *Skidmores of Stamford House 1780-1915* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com).

³⁵ Tree submitted to Ancestry.com. (Original records not checked).

³⁶ *ibid.*

³⁷ These children were all registered at Brunswick; the Australian Birth Index gives the father's name as Thomas Skidmore in the case of Thomas, Charles and John, and as John Thomas Skidmore for the other children.

1852

JOHN SCUDAMORE

JOHN SCUDAMORE, born about 1822 in England, arrived in October 1852 aboard the *Lady Fitzherbert*. He was admitted to Darlinghurst Gaol in 1862 when he was said to be 40 years of age and a Catholic by religion. He was a boot and shoe maker by trade who in 1868 lived and/or had premises at 66 Athlone Place, Sydney. He was perhaps the husband of Ann Scudamore who was admitted to Darlinghurst gaol in 1870. She was born in Dublin either in 1825 or 1830 (according to two different gaol lists), and had arrived in New South Wales in 1856 aboard the *Wellington*.

Unknown

SARAH BARRETT *alias* SCUDAMORE, born about 1854.

A report of a theft in Glebe, supposedly by this young lady, was reported in the New South Wales Police Gazette of 18 March 1868. Nothing further known.

1860

MISS M. SKIDMORE

Miss M. Skidmore aged 24 and Catherine Carmody (age not stated), both housemaids, travelled to Sydney aboard the *Botowa*.

1863

G. SCUDAMORE

G. Scudamore aged 30 arrived at Melbourne from Invercargill, New Zealand on 25 June 1863. He is *perhaps* George Scudamore from Birmingham, England, son of Joseph and Rachel (Powell) Scudamore. I have yet to find him in the 1851 and 1861 censuses.

1869

HARRIET D. SKIDMORE

Miss Harriet D. Skidmore, aged 20, arrived at Brisbane, Queensland, aboard the *Light Brigade* on 14 December 1869 from London. She appears in the free and assisted passenger list.

MIGRATIONS TO AUSTRALIA FROM THE SCUDAMORE FAMILIES OF BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND³⁸.

1850s

FREDERICK SCUDAMORE

FREDERICK SCUDAMORE, baptised 29 October 1816, was a son of Thomas and Mary (Jenkins) Scudamore. He was farming in Greet, Yardley in 1841 but is described as a chemist at the time of his marriage. He married Sarah Hall (born about 1815 in Birmingham, daughter of Henry Hall, a cutler) at St Nicholas, Kings Norton on 23 February 1842.

³⁸ To read about this family line, see *Thomas Scudamore, Hardwareman and Cutler of Birmingham, England, born 1750s* by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

At the time of the 1851 census he was a druggist and grocer at 12 Greengate Street, Stafford, Staffordshire. His emigration to Australia has yet to be found but he died in Victoria, Australia in 1863. His wife Sarah Scudamore perhaps remained in England, or travelled with him and returned home after his death; she died in Stafford in 1893 aged 78.

Pages 18-22

MIGRATIONS TO AUSTRALIA FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE, ENGLAND³⁹

1848

SARAH (SKIDMORE) GREEN

WILLIAM & MARY ANN (WILCOX) SKIDMORE

These were children of George Skidmore, a hatter of Frampton Cotterell. Sarah was born about 1801 from George's first marriage to Ann (surname unknown). Her younger brother William was born about 1815, son of George Skidmore and his second wife Ann (Hemmings). Sarah Skidmore married firstly George Green, a hatter, on 28 June 1822 at St Nicholas', Bristol and they lived in Frampton Cotterell. George and Sarah and seven children are found there at the time of the 1841 census. **This family emigrated in 1848 to New South Wales.** Green died in 1850 soon after arriving in Australia and Sarah married secondly James Pickering in 1853, and thirdly John Gabb in 1858. She died on 23 March 1879 aged 78 at Sydney. Her death record notes that she was a daughter of George Skidmore, and had lived in New South Wales for 31 years.

William her younger brother was born about 1815 and baptised 6 December 1823 at Frampton Cotterell. William Skidmore, a poor child aged 14, was apprenticed on 30 December 1830 to George Green (his brother-in-law), a hatter of Frampton Cotterell, to learn hatting. He was a journeyman hatter living at his parents' home in Adam's Lane in 1841. William Skidmore, hatter of Kingswood, son of hatter George Skidmore, said he was of full age at the time of his marriage on 11 December 1842 to Mary Ann Wilcox (born about 1825, daughter of Timothy Wilcox, a hatter of Frampton Cotterell and his wife Susannah), at Holy Trinity, Bitton. **They emigrated to Australia, arriving in New South Wales in August 1848 on the *Fairlie*.** He died on 9 April 1879 'aged 64' at Tarlo, New South Wales, and was buried on the 11th near Goulburn. His widow died on 20 June 1902 at Tarlo Gap, near Goulburn, aged 77.

Children of William and Mary Ann (Wilcox) Skidmore,

- i. Mark, born 1844Q1 and baptised as *Skidmore* on 24 March 1844 at Frampton Cotterell.
- ii. **ALFRED**, baptised as *Scudamore* on 7 June 1846 at Frampton Cotterell. He married Charlotte Erby in Goulburn, New South Wales in 1869 and died on 10 December 1916.

Children of Alfred and Charlotte (Erby) Skidmore, born in New South Wales,

- i. Charlotte Louisa, born 1871.
- ii. Louisa C., born 1872. She married Robert J. Martin in 1901 in Goulburn.
- iii. Edgar Ernest, born 1876.
- iv. Sarah Martha A., born 1880.
- v. Thomas Alfred G., born 1880.

³⁹ To read about this family line, see *The Skidmore and Scudamore Families of Frampton Cotterell, Gloucestershire 1650-1900* by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

and baptised at St Saviour's, Goulburn, New South Wales,

- iii. Eliza, born 30 November 1848 at Kenmore, New South Wales and baptised 25 March 1849⁴⁰. She married Joseph Erby on 5 January 1869, and died on 29 August 1927.
- iv. Thomas, born 31 March 1851, baptised February 1853.
- v. **WILLIAM**, born 28 December 1852 and baptised with his brother Tom. He married Catherine Dawson in 1877.

Children of William and Catherine (Dawson) Skidmore, born in New South Wales,

- i. Martha Ann, born 1879. She died that same year.
- ii. Elizabeth Mary, born 1880. She appears to have married Edgar H. Plummer in 1900 at Annandale, New South Wales.
- iii. Andrew W. H., born 1883.
- iv. Christina May, born 1886. She married Patrick F. Donnellan in 1911 in Sydney.
- v. George S., born 1889. He married Florence M. Riley in 1915 in Newtown, New South Wales.
- vi. Ernest S., born 1895. He married Margaret A. Dougan in 1922 in Glebe, New South Wales.
- vii. Emily S., born 1899.
- vi. Jonathan Wilcox, born 4 March (baptised 18 May) 1855. He died in 1856.
- vii. Mary Ann, born 1857. She died in 1859.
- viii. Martha, born 11 October 1858 at Darby, Murray's Flats. She married Henry Albert Gibbons on 15 November 1882. She died on 22 March 1924.
- ix. George, born 1860.
- x. Charles W., born 1862.
- xi. Sarah A., born 1865.

1849

FREDERICK AND ELIZABETH (ROGERS) SKIDMORE

FREDERICK SKIDMORE, born in Watley's End, Gloucestershire and baptised on 18 May 1823 at St Michael's, Winterbourne, was a son of John and Martha (Maggs) Skidmore. He was a butcher's apprentice at the time of the 1841 British census. At the age of 25 he went as an **assisted migrant to New South Wales, arriving on 21 May 1849** aboard the *Lady Amherst*. He married Elizabeth Rogers in Alexandria, Paddington, New South Wales in 1854.

Children of Frederick and Elizabeth (Rogers) Skidmore,

- i. **JOHN**, born 1855. He died on 6 March 1929 at Harrow Road, Rockdale, New South Wales, aged 73 and is buried in Woronora Church of England Cemetery⁴¹.
Married Rachel.
 - i. Eileen Margaret, died aged 9 months on 21 December 1908.
- ii. William, born 1858 in Kingston, New South Wales.
- iii. Sarah, born 1859 in St George, New South Wales.
- iv. Florence, born 1862 in Kingston. She died, unmarried, on 23 March 1926 at Rocky Point Road, Rockdale and is buried in Woronora Church of England Cemetery.
- v. Elizabeth, born 1866.

⁴⁰ familysearch.org.

⁴¹ Australia Cemetery Index, 1808-2007.

1857

JOHN AND MARY ANN (BRYANT) SKIDMORE

JOHN SKIDMORE, baptised on 17 April 1835 at Frampton Cotterell, was a son of Edward and Elizabeth (Hibbs) Skidmore. He was a stone cutter there at the time of the 1851 census and married Mary Ann Bryant (born about 1833 in Frampton Cotterell, a daughter of Jonathan, hatter, and Hester Bryant of Goose Green there), on 24 June 1856 at St Peter's, the parish Church of Frampton Cotterell. Their marriage was witnessed by Maria Howes and George Skidmore. They emigrated to Australia sailing on *The Bee* on **14 January 1857 arriving in Victoria** on 18 April. They went to Beechworth, Victoria where gold had been discovered in February 1852, resulting in thousands of speculators rushing there from all over the world. By 1867 four million ounces of gold had been mined, and the fields and the population went into a decline. According to an account written by William John Skidmore of Beechworth in May 1960, relating his memories of his family, four men came together on *The Bee* - John Skidmore (whom he mistakenly thought was from Cornwall), Harry Turner, Samuel Hollister and perhaps Daniel Palmer. Further, W.J. Skidmore states that John Skidmore married twice. Mary Ann Skidmore died at the age of 29 in 1864.

Beechworth's Powder Magazine was one of several built on the Victorian goldmines towards the end of the 1850s. It was closed in 1918 and lay neglected for many years until local residents, inspired by Mr John (Jack) Skidmore, and the Progress Association raised funds for urgent restoration work. The Magazine was described in 1966 as 'one of the most important gold era relics intact in Australia'. Skidmore Road was named after Mr John Skidmore in recognition of his efforts in conservation.

The descendants of John Skidmore are said to have largely removed to Melbourne, some 125 miles south west of Beechworth⁴². He died aged 91 in Beechworth on 9 March 1925 and was buried in the Presbyterian section of Beechworth cemetery⁴³. John Skidmore the elder, a pensioner of Camp Street Beechworth, made a will dated 17 July 1924, probate being granted on 19 May 1925 to his son George Skidmore. The will mentions his sister-in-law Mary Ann Skidmore of Ashly House, Church Road, Frampton Cotterell, England and her daughter Martha Skidmore. Executor William Lees Darlison of Beechworth⁴⁴.

Children of John and Mary Ann (Bryant) Skidmore,

- i. Eliza, born 6 July 1856 at Frampton Cotterell. Her birth certificate shows that she was the daughter of John Skidmore of Frampton Cotterell, and his wife Mary Ann, formerly Bryant. She went with her parents to Australia the following year and in 1882 married Alexander Main (said to have been born in Gloucestershire though his birth registration there has not been found) and had four children - William, Alex, Beatrice and Emily.

born in Victoria, Australia⁴⁵,

- ii. **WILLIAM**, born 1858. He married Barbara Smith (born about 1865) at Beechworth, Victoria, in 1897. She was buried in the Presbyterian section of Beechworth cemetery on 2 March 1936 aged 71.

Children of William and Barbara (Smith) Skidmore, born at Beechworth,

- i. William Wallace Reid, born 1898. He did not marry.
- ii. FRANCIS JAMIESON [Frank], born 1901. He married and had two sons. He died in 1980 and was buried in Beechworth Cemetery.

⁴² *Skidmore News*, newsletter of the Skidmore Family History Group, no. 9 (February 1992).

⁴³ Private correspondence from Burke Museum, Beechworth in 1991.

⁴⁴ Victoria Probate online.

⁴⁵ Australian Birth Index 1788-1922.

- iii. Norma Merle, born 1903. She married and had six children.
- iii. **GEORGE**, born 1860. He died in Beechworth and was buried there on 26 June 1942 aged 82. He married Margaret Thompson [Maggie] in 1889 and they were living in 1903 in Camp Street, Beechworth⁴⁶.

Children of George and Margaret (Thompson) Skidmore, born at Beechworth,

- i. John Thomson [Jack], born 1889. He married but had no issue.
- ii. **GORDON LESLIE**, born 1891, died in Melbourne and buried at Beechworth on 5 August 1971 aged 80. He married and had a son and a daughter.
- iii. David Miller Thomson, born 1896, died at Ovens District Hospital after war service and was buried in Beechworth cemetery on 21 May 1919 aged 23.
- iv. **GEORGE ARTHUR**, born 1898. Married twice, two sons and a daughter.
- v. Dorothy Mabel, born 1904, daughter of George and Maggie Edith Skidmore. She married and had one daughter.
- iv. **EDWARD**, born 4 November 1861. He married Mary French on 29 December 1887. She was born 10 August 1863, daughter of another pioneer family, Edwin French, a dairyman originally from Penzance, Cornwall and his wife Jane (Warren), a midwife. They were living on Last Street, Beechworth in 1903⁴⁷.

The Warren family, from England, lived for many years on the old Chiltern Road near Ingrams Rock. Mr French and Mr Brewer had a lease of land extending from near Ingrams Rock, La Larena Hill to the Wooragee Creek and their cattle were branded F.B.

Edward Skidmore died of meningitis on 23 September 1908 and was buried the following day in Beechworth cemetery aged 46. He left a will witnessed by John George Straughair, carpenter and Samuel Martin, butcher and naming as beneficiaries his wife Mary and children William John, George Edward, Gladys Evelyn, Ruby, Alice Mabel and Vera Myrtle. Probate was granted to his wife Mary on 27 February 1909. Mrs Skidmore died on 5 December 1949 in Last Street, Beechworth aged 88.

Children of Edward and Mary (French) Skidmore, born at Beechworth,

- i. **WILLIAM JOHN**, born 1888. He married Elsie Levritt of Everton. He was a farmer and beekeeper at Beechworth, where Skidmore Road was named for him. He is remembered as 'a very quietly spoken gentlemanly type'. He owned land near the old Reids Creek goldfield and also along the Wooragee. He died on 18 May 1976 aged 87. A daughter and two sons.
- ii. **GEORGE EDWARD**, born 14 January 1890. Married in 1918. He died in 1952 aged 62, buried at Footscray cemetery. Two daughters and two sons.
- iii. Gladys Evelynia, born 1892.
- iv. Ruby Victoria, born 1894.
- v. Alice Mabel, born 1896.
- vi. Vera Myrtle Irene, born 1899.
- vii. Colonel James Robert [sic], 6 weeks, buried 4 November 1901.
- v. James, born in 1863 and died that year aged 3 months.
- vi. John, born in 1864 and died that year aged 7 months.
- ?vii. A daughter, said to have married a Mr Barnes of Rutherglen.

⁴⁶ 1903 Electoral Roll at Beechworth.

⁴⁷ *ibid.* Last Street, Beechworth. Barbara, Edward, Mary, William.
Note also John Skidmore of Holmes Creek, Beechworth.

1912

ANN (WEEDY) SCUDAMORE

PERCIVAL GEORGE SCUDAMORE, born 1870 at Corbridge, Northumberland, was a son of Richard George and Ann (Davies) Scudamore. He was at the time of the 1891 census a coachman for the Grand Hotel in Tynemouth, Northumberland. He married about 1896 Ann Weedy (born about 1871 in Guisborough, North Yorkshire) and they were living by 1901 at 75 Ethel Street, Benwell, Northumberland. He then took his business to Newcastle upon Tyne, where he and his family were boarders in 1911 in the home of school attendance officer William Henry Hawker in East Parade.

Ann Scudamore, together with her sons Harry and Walter, arrived in Victoria, Australia aboard the Paparoa on 2 December 1912. Nothing further presently known.

Children of Percival George and Ann (Weedy) Scudamore,

- i. Alfred Henry B., born at Haltwhistle, Northumberland, 1897. He died the same year.
- ii. Richard George, born at Newcastle 1898Q4, who died in infancy the following year.
- iii. Harry, born 1901Q3. He died in Morn Hill, Victoria in 1983.
- iv. Walter, born 28 September 1903.
- v. Gilbert, born 1908, who died in infancy the same year.

20TH CENTURY⁴⁸

NORAH HELEN (SCUDAMORE) CLARK

NORAH HELEN SCUDAMORE, born 29 November 1878 at Hexham, Northumberland, was a daughter of Richard George and Ann (Davies) Scudamore. She married Matthew Clark (born 12 June 1876, son of John Clark) on 20 February 1903 in Alnwick, Northumberland. Matthew Clark died on 9 July 1954, his widow on 29 July 1964 in Perth, Western Australia, aged 85 (buried at Karrakatta Cemetery and Crematorium).

FRANCIS REGINALD SKIDMORE

FRANCIS REGINALD SKIDMORE, baptised 30 November 1900 at St Matthew's, Moorfields, Bristol, was the son of George Henry and Elizabeth (Hares) Skidmore. He died in Victoria, Australia, aged 67.

ARCHIBALD SCUDAMORE

ARCHIBALD SCUDAMORE, born 25 September 1903 at St Andrew's, Plymouth, was a son of Sidney William Richard and Alice Mary (Biggs) Scudamore. Archie emigrated to Australia where in 1929 he married Doris Ivy Groves at St Paul's Church in Birchip, Victoria. They had five sons and five daughters. Archibald died 3 April 1982 and is buried at Kyneton Cemetery. I am grateful to his granddaughter Mrs Vivienne Miles for this information.



Archibald Scudamore (1903-1982)

⁴⁸ My One-Name Study does not normally publish later 20th century information. I have either corresponded with these individuals or their relatives, or have found the information posted online, which constitutes permission.

MIGRATION FROM THE FAMILY AT BATH, SOMERSET

1880s

EMMA SCUDAMORE

EMMA SCUDAMORE, born 1858 in Bath, Somerset, was a daughter of Paul Scudamore, a plasterer, and his wife Jane (Rider)⁴⁹. At the time of the 1881 British census she was a dressmaker living in her parents' home at 9 Princes Buildings, Widcombe, Somerset. She went to New South Wales, Australia as an assisted migrant, arriving on 24 February 1887 on board the *Abyssinia*.

MIGRATIONS FROM OXFORDSHIRE, ENGLAND⁵⁰

1887

FANNY (SKIDMORE) GOOD

FANNY SKIDMORE, born 5 August 1866 at 9 Old Fish Street Hill, London, (baptised 23 August), was a daughter of George Richard and Sarah (Joist) Skidmore. Fanny was 20 when she met Albert Ernest Good (born about 1865 in Freemantle, Southampton, Hampshire, son of George Frederick Good, clerk, and his wife Eliza Ann (Wallett)) and they were married on 27 January 1887 at the Register Office in Poplar. Albert's widowed mother and his sister were both commercial clerks at the Australian Merchant Company. Three months after her marriage Fanny Good was sailing for Western Australia with her husband's family, arriving in Fremantle on the S.S. Chollerton on 24 March. She had only been in Perth for eight months when her father died. Fanny Good died at the age of 83 on 24 April 1950 and is buried at Karrakatta Cemetery in Perth, alongside her husband and daughter Dorothy. Fanny was the great grandmother of Barbara Powell who kindly supplied information on this family.

20TH C

FAMILY OF WILLIAM LAWRENCE SKIDMORE

WILLIAM LAWRENCE SKIDMORE, born 16 March 1882 at Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire. A bricklayer, he married Alice Ethel Williams in Abertillery in 1913Q1 and their three daughters were born there. Alice was a district nurse and later ran a maternity home at Weston-super-Mare. William Skidmore died in 1950Q1 at Weston and it is thought that after his death the family went to live in Australia.

20th C

HUBERT SYDNEY JAMES AND GRACE SKIDMORE

HUBERT SYDNEY JAMES SKIDMORE, born 1920, was a son of Gilbert Edward and Angelina (Wilkes) Skidmore of Abertillery. He married Grace _____ and had sons Hubert, Edward, Robert, Albert and Gillard and daughters Angela and Rosemary. They emigrated to New South Wales, where Mr Skidmore died in September 1983.

⁴⁹ See *Skydmore/ Scudamore Families of Wellow, Bath and Frome, Somerset, from 1440* at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

⁵⁰ See *Skidmore and Skitmore Families of Oxfordshire 1600-1900* by Linda Moffatt, Joan Skidmore and Carole Skidmore, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

pp.24-29**MIGRATIONS TO AUSTRALIA FROM CORNWALL, ENGLAND**⁵¹**1857****THOMAS AND ELLEN JANE (DAVIS) SKIDMORE**

THOMAS SKIDMORE, born 3 March 1829 and baptised *Skidgemore* on 10 April 1829 at St Dennis, Cornwall, was a son of Samuel and Catherine (Grigg) Skidgemore. He was a farm servant at the time of the 1851 census, at the farm of James Stephens at Carlogas, an area just south of Goonamarris, St Stephens. He married Ellen Jane Davies in 1855Q4. She appears to have been baptised Ellen Jane *Davey* at St Stephens on 3 February 1833, daughter of William Davey, a farm labourer, and his wife Dorothea (Searle, married 11 February 1832 at St Stephens, daughter of James Searle).

Thomas and Ellen Skidmore went to live in Victoria, Australia, leaving Plymouth on 22 October 1856 and **arriving in Melbourne on 25 January 1857** on board the *Appleton*. In Victoria he was a miner and soapmaker and was employed by John Murgatroyd, the father of Mary Murgatroyd wife of Thomas and Ellen's son Henry. Thomas Skidmore, apparently recorded in error as John Skidmore, is found in Bailliere's Victorian Post Office Directory of 1868 as being a resident of Moonambel and a miner. Thomas Skidmore, miner, was recorded on the Electoral Roll for Moonambel as having voted in the Victorian Federal Referendum in 1899.

Ellen Jane Skidmore died aged 70 in 1903 in Moonambel, her husband on 26 September 1908 aged 76 years 6 months and they are buried in Moonambel Cemetery.

Children of Thomas and Ellen Jane (Davis) Skidmore,

- i. Theresa, born 5 March 1857 at Warnambool, Victoria and died the same day.
- ii. James Davis, born 1858 at Ararat, Victoria, died 22 November 1941 at Avoca, Victoria aged 83.
- iii. David, born 1859 at Ararat, Victoria, died 1860 at Ararat, Victoria.
- iv. John, born 1861 in Matlock, Victoria, died 12 Mar 1875 at Moonambel aged 13.
- v. **HENRY**, born 1862 at Moonambel. He married Mary Murgatroyd (born 1863 in Moonambel, daughter of John and Anne (McPherson) Murgatroyd) in 1888. Mr Skidmore died at Ivanhoe, Victoria in 1935, his wife in 1950.

Children of Henry and Mary (Murgatroyd) Skidmore,

Places and events mentioned are in Victoria, Australia.

- i. Stanley, born 1889 in Collingwood, died that same year.
- ii. Amy Elizabeth, born 1891 in Collingwood, died 1978 in Kew. She married in 1919 Thomas Edward Stanley Collins (born 1892 in Mellbrook, died 1955 in Hawthorn, son of William Henry and Mary Ann (Thomas) Collins).
- iii. Leslie, born 1892 in Clifton Hill, Victoria. He enlisted in AIF at Ivanhoe, Victoria on 28 May 1915. Lance Corporal Skidmore of the Australian Pioneers, 2nd Bn. died on 21 November 1916 in Yorkshire, England and is buried at Burngreave cemetery, Sheffield.
- iv. Clifton, born 1894 in Collingwood. He enlisted in the AIF at Ivanhoe, Victoria

⁵¹ To read about this family line, see *Skidmore and Skidgemore Families of Cornwall and Devon 1650-1900* compiled by Alan Skidmore and Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

on 6 April 1915 in the Australian Army Medical Corps in 7th Battalion. Mentioned in Despatches during service in France, he died from accidental injuries on 24 June 1918. He is buried at Ebblinghem Military Cemetery in northern France.

- v. Evelyn May, born 1897 in Collingwood, died 1978 in Heidelberg. In 1923 she married Clarence Maldwyn Angove Roberts (born 1897 in Carlton North, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Jane (Angove) Roberts).
- vi. Stanley Murgatroyd, born 1899 in Collingwood, died 1968 in Heidelberg. He married in 1940 Margaret Frances Dyett (born 1898 in Bendigo, daughter of Benjamin Patrick and Margaret Frances (Cullen) Dyett, died 5 June 1959 in Melbourne).
- vii. Dorothy Gertrude, born 1901 in Fairfield, died 1961 in Fitzroy. In 1926 she married Arthur Ernest Coulson (born 1899 in Collingwood, son of John Benton and Margaret Ann (Howard) Coulson, died 1963 in Sassafras).
- viii. Grace Victoria, born 1902 in Fairfield, died 1979 in Balwyn. She married John Macneil Cunningham (born 1903 in Birchip) in 1928.
- vi. Mary Elizabeth, born 1864 at Moonambel, died there 21 January 1922 aged 57.
- vii. Arthur, born 1866 at Moonambel, died there 12 March 1875 aged 9.
- viii. Emily Wesley, born 1868 at Moonambel, died there in 1875 aged 7.
- ix. Lucy Ann, born 1869 at Moonambel, died 1949 at Maryborough, Victoria. She married Edwin Charles Manning Barker (born 1868 at Frenchman's, Victoria, son of William and Eliza Emily (Manning) Barker) in 1894 at Geraldton, Western Australia.
- x. Fanny Matilda, born 1872 at Moonambel, died 1944 at Avoca, Victoria aged 71. She married Alexander Punton (born 1865 at Moonambel) in 1897 in Victoria.
- xi. Miriam Jane, born 1874 at Moonambel, died 29 November 1949 at Ballarat, Victoria. She married William Alfred Bullock (born 1877 at Dunolly, Victoria, died 1962 at Kerang, Victoria) in 1909 in Victoria.
- xii. Samuel William, born 1877 at Moonambel, died 27 December 1951 at Maryborough, Victoria aged 74.

1863

WILLIAM AND MARY (ROBERTS) SKIDMORE

WILLIAM SKIDMORE, baptised as Scidmore on 26 December 1831 at St Stephens, Cornwall, was a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Cock) Skidgemore⁵² and assisted on his brother Silas' farm. He married Mary Roberts in 1863. His wife was baptised on 7 August 1831 at St Stephens, daughter of Henry Roberts, a miner and farmer of 50 acres in Donderry, and his wife Mary.

Shortly after their marriage William and Mary Skidmore and Mary's daughter Kate were recorded on the Lists of Assisted Migrants **to Victoria as arriving in July 1863 on the *Caduceus***. William Skidmore was a publican and died at California Gulley, Eaglehawk, Victoria on 20 December 1891 and is buried at Eaglehawk Cemetery.

A child of William and Mary (Roberts) Skidmore,

- i. Kate, born 1859 at Donderry, St Stephens, registered as Kate *Roberts* and known as

⁵² Skidgemore was a variant of the surname used by several Cornwall Skidmore families.

Kate Roberts Skidmore. Kate Roberts Skidmore married in 1881 in Melbourne, Victoria, John Turner Atkinson (born 1855 in Melbourne). They had two children - Carol Maud May Atkinson (born 1882 at Nerrina near Ballarat, Victoria) and Albert Victor Atkinson (born 1884 at Sandhurst, near Bendigo, Victoria). Kate married secondly Thomas Edward Tupper, (born 1840 in Liverpool, England) in 1904 in Victoria. Mr Tupper died in 1905 at Long Gully near Bendigo.

1874

SAMUEL SKIDMORE and WILLIAM HENRY SKIDMORE

The third migration was, in fact, of two men, first cousins from the Skidmore families of Cornwall, both being grandsons of Samuel Skidgemore of Goonamarris, St Stephen in Brannel, a clay labourer (1798-1865), and his wife Catherine (Grigg).

SAMUEL SKIDMORE and WILLIAM H. SKIDMORE, both brickmakers from Cornwall, both single men and aged 23, were assisted migrants who left Plymouth, Devon on 16 July 1873, arriving at the port of Lyttelton, Canterbury region, New Zealand aboard the *Adamant* on 17 October 1873. Each paid £4 for their passage, with a promise of a further £8 each to the Government. Beginning in 1871 the New Zealand Government began to offer assisted passages to selected immigrants and those people nominated by relatives. The migration of the 1870s was the most significant in New Zealand history. In the year 1874 thousands of assisted immigrants arrived in New Zealand, forming the greatest level of migration ever. Almost half of the new immigrants came with government assistance. Three-quarters of these sailed directly from the United Kingdom.

Samuel and William are both listed on the Public Record Office, Victoria, Index to Unassisted Inward Passenger Lists to Victoria 1853-1923 as Mr S. Skidmore aged 30 and Mr W. Skidmore aged 29 (these ages should be both 23/24), **arriving at Melbourne in March 1874** on the *Claud Hamilton* from New Zealand.

SAMUEL HENRY SKIDMORE was born in 1850 at St Stephens, a son Samuel Skidmore [3rd son of Samuel of Goonamarris] by his first wife Sophia (Trethewey). With his cousin William Henry he travelled to Australia in March 1874. In April 1881 Mr S. Skidmore left Victoria, age 27 (he was 30), a passenger on the *Lusitania* which left Melbourne bound for London via Adelaide, Suez, and Naples. In 1882 in Devon he married Amelia Ann Roberts and they lived in Quick Cottages, Cornwood, Devon, near to his father. Samuel Skidmore of Headon Clay Works died on 8 November 1913 in South Devon Hospital, Plymouth, Devon, leaving a will of which his wife was executor. Mrs Skidmore died on 15 May 1942 in Cornwood and they are buried in Cornwood Churchyard. 5 children.

Samuel's cousin William Henry settled in Australia.

WILLIAM HENRY SKIDMORE, born 17 December 1849 at St Columb Minor, Cornwall, was a son of William and Elizabeth (Kent) Skidmore. His early years were spent with his mother in his maternal grandparents' home. His mother appears with William Henry (and other residents) in the 1861 census at the Russell Arms in Russell Street, Plymouth. By 1871 his parents were together and living in Shaugh Prior near Plymouth. William Henry was a china clay labourer at Morley Clay Works at the time of his marriage on 30 September 1871 at Shaugh Prior to Elizabeth Bettes (born about 1848 at St Cleer, daughter of Thomas Bettes, an agricultural labourer, and his wife Salome (Stephens)). Thomas Bettes

and Elizabeth Selleck were witnesses. Mrs Skidmore died of typhoid fever on 28 March 1873 at Lee Moor, Shaugh Prior.

His daughter Jean Gillies Skidmore told her daughters that her father went to Australia with cousins, first to Queensland about 1874 or 1875 as a home missionary for the United Methodist Free Church. The United Methodist Free Church magazine for 1875 at page 577 lists stations of the Church in Australia and shows Ipswich, Queensland, and Shepparton, Victoria as special missions supported by the donations of Mr William Hicks of Lostwithiel, Cornwall. Mr Hicks' name is frequently mentioned in the early 1870s as a great supporter of the United Methodist Free Church and he maintained a special interest in Australian Mission Work. Family lore has it that he landed at Rockhampton in Queensland and walked through southern Queensland and NSW to Victoria doing lay preaching at the various mining sites, where many of the miners were from Cornwall, and became a candidate for the ministry⁵³. He was sent to Shepparton for his first appointment and was recorded in the UMFC magazine for 1876 as being the Minister at Shepparton, Victoria. William Henry had a Parish in the Shepparton area from 1876 to 1879 when he left the Church and became a farmer for several years, on a property called 'Marionvale' at Congupna, a small village on the present Goulburn Valley Highway about 6 miles north of Shepparton.

Mr Skidmore married secondly Isabella McLintock on 6 August 1879 at Kialla, Victoria. She was born on 20 January 1856 at Creswick, Victoria, daughter of Peter McLintock, Mining Manager at Stawell, Victoria, and his wife Margaret McLintock née Gillies. The McLintock and Gillies families came from Stirlingshire in Scotland. The birth certificates of their first two children record his occupation as farmer. On 12 May 1884 in the Court of Insolvency, Shepparton, the estate of William Henry Skidmore of Congupna, farmer, was adjudged to be sequestrated and a general meeting of creditors was held at the Court House, Shepparton, 'at Two o'clock in the afternoon'⁵⁴.

When the third child, William George, was born in 1884 the family had moved to Sydney and was living at 6 Ada Terrace, Rush Street, Woolhara. Whilst living in Sydney William Henry upgraded his mining qualifications by studying for examinations and became a Mine Manager. He became General Manager of Galleymont Goldfields of Galley Swamp at Carcoar, NSW and at some time was also in charge of the Cooma Copper Mining syndicate at Middle Flat at Cooma, NSW. He also worked in gold mines at Burnt Yards, Sunny Corner, and Blayney. He was appointed General Manager of D'Arcy Wentworth Estates Gold Mining Company NL at Lucknow, NSW in October 1896, after being understudy to this position for several years. This gold mine employed about 30 men and was profitable. In June 1904 he was also appointed Superintendent of Wentworth Goldfields Proprietary Company. On 17 August 1904 he was presented with a Waltham 24 carat gold watch and an illuminated memorial (the latter now in the possession of great grandson Alan Skidmore). Later in 1905 a disastrous fire occurred at the minehead and all of the winding plant and one of the boilers was destroyed. The mine had to close down for 5 months until repairs could be effected. In 1907 the company was taken over by Golden Contact Mines Limited which went into liquidation in 1912. In 1914 the mining leases were cancelled for 'non fulfilment of labour conditions' and the leases were let out to speculators.

Isabella Skidmore died in childbirth on 6 April 1895 at Carcoar, NSW. Her husband died at the age of 57 on 1 August 1907 at Lucknow, NSW and both are buried in Carcoar Cemetery. His death registration states that he had lived for 21 years in New South Wales, 5 years in Victoria and 5 years in Queensland. He died intestate and administration was granted by the Supreme Court of Victoria on 10 October 1907 to his son William George Skidmore.

⁵³ In fact, there is strong evidence, as described above, that he travelled first to New Zealand.

⁵⁴ Victoria Government Gazette of 19 May 1884.

Children of William Henry and Isabella (McLintock) Skidmore,

- i. Margaret, born 21 August 1880 at Stawell, Victoria. She was a trained nurse and enlisted for service abroad on 4 December 1916 as a Staff Nurse in the Australian Medical Corps. She served in field hospitals at Salonika in 1917 and 1918. By February 1919 she was nursing at 3 Australian Army Hospital at Dartford in Kent, England. She was granted Educational Leave with pay for 4 months in 1919 to undertake further nursing training at The Babies of the Empire Society at 29 Trebovir Road, Earls Court in London, after which she was promoted to the rank of Sister and placed on 'Boat roll' in preparation for return to Australia. Soon after return to Australia Margaret requested approval to terminate her appointment with the Australian Army Nursing Service effective 18 December 1919 and later that month she was appointed Matron of the Chillagoe Hospital, near Cairns, North Queensland. By May 1920 Margaret, and another former AANS sister she had trained with at the Women's Hospital in Melbourne before the First World War, had purchased and taken over the business of St Margaret's Private Hospital in Cairns. Margaret married Arthur LeRoy Earlie Baker (born 1870 in Illinois, USA, son of Harry Ratchford and Almyra Beattie (Allen) Baker) in St Stephens Cathedral, Brisbane in 1927. Margaret died in 1949 and Arthur Baker died in 1957, both in Brisbane.
- ii. Annie Kent, born 3 July 1882 at Shepparton, Victoria. She became in 1908 the second wife of Jabez Henry Floyd (born 1877 in Orange, NSW, son of Peter and Susanna (Varney) Floyd, died 12 August 1959 aged 82). Mrs Floyd died on 8 December 1840 aged 58; both she and her husband are buried in the Methodist Section, Old Portion, Orange Cemetery, NSW. They had seven daughters and two sons.
- iii. WILLIAM GEORGE, born 30 March 1884 in Woolahra, Sydney. In 1900 he went with his family to Lucknow, and in 1907 moved from Lucknow to West Wyalong after the death of his father William Henry. William was married at West Wyalong on 5 November 1905 at the age of 21 years to Ethel Ellen Clarke (born 1884 at Hill End, NSW, daughter of William Henry and Mary Elizabeth (Roberts) Clarke). 8 children.
- iv. Jean Gillies, born 6 December 1886 at Lucknow, NSW and baptised at Carcoar on 9 April 1898 together with her sister Ida and brother William. Jean is believed to have decided to join the Australian Army Nursing Service after her brother Hector Allan was killed at Gallipoli in 1915. She served in India, where she met and married at Delhi on 6 June 1918 her husband Henry Moore Baker who was a civil engineer in the British Army. He was born in 1890 at Tiverton, Devon, son of Thomas Henry and Emma (Gainsford) Baker. Jean Baker died in 1964 aged 76, and Henry Baker died in 1953. They had three daughters.
- v. Ida, born 25 February 1889 at Carcoar, NSW. She married William Victor Mintorn (born 1888 at Wollongong, NSW, son of William and Julia (Gilberthorpe) Mintorn) and had a son before her untimely death on 4 March 1923 at Lucknow aged 34. William Mintorn died 1979 in Sydney aged 91.
- vi. Hector Allan, born October 1892 at Carcoar, NSW. At the age of 21 years and 10 months he became No 228 Pte in 2nd Battallion 1st AIF and embarked at Sydney on 18th October 1914 for Egypt. He died on 14 August 1915 at Gallipoli from wounds suffered on 7 August and is buried at Lone Pine Cemetery there.
- vii. Isabell McIntock, born April 1895 at Lucknow, NSW, died at 4 months on 29 July 1895 at Lucknow. She is buried with her parents in the Presbyterian Section of Carcoar Cemetery.

pp.31-32**MIGRATIONS TO AUSTRALIA FROM THE DERBYSHIRE FAMILY****BRANCH**⁵⁵**1863****MICHAEL SKIDMORE**

MICHAEL SKIDMORE, baptised 8 August 1827 at Tideswell, was a son of Michael and Hannah (Alsop) Skidmore. He married Lydia Thorpe of Monsal Dale (born about 1826 in Cressbrook, Derbyshire, daughter of Noah Thorpe, a spinner) on 26 March 1848 at St John the Baptist, Tideswell. They were living by the time of the 1851 census in Droylsden, Manchester, where Michael Skidmore was a 'power loom overlooker' and manager of a worsted factory in Ardwick by 1861. Lydia Skidmore died in 1862 aged 36. The following year Michael Skidmore, who gave his age as 32, together with his wife Mary A. (born about 1839 'alias Perry') and his 11-year old son John, travelled from **London to Brisbane, arriving on 22 July 1863**. His occupation is recorded in the ship's passenger list as 'C. Operative'. It seems they separated after a while for, on 9 September 1871, Michael Skidmore married secondly Mary Ann Ward (daughter of Charles Ward). He died in Adelaide in 1915 aged 87.

Children of Michael and Lydia (Thorpe) Skidmore, born in Droylesden,

- i. Isaac, born 1848Q3. He died in 1853 aged 4.
- ii. John, born 1851Q1. He travelled to Australia with his father in 1863, aged 11.
- iii. [perhaps] Mary, born and died in 1853Q2.
- iv. [perhaps] Arthur, born 1856Q1. He died in 1857 aged 2.
- v. Fanny, born 1859Q2. Nothing known after 1861.

Children of Michael and Mary Ann (Ward) Skidmore, born in South Australia,

- vi. Jane. She married Herbert Curtis (son of John Curtis) at her father's home in Holyeton on 30 March 1892.
- vii. Annie, born 18 April 1872 at Mount Templeton.
- viii. Lydia, born 13 August 1874 at Clare. She died aged 22 at Skilly Creek near Leasingham, South Australia on 29 June 1897.
- ix. Hannah, born 19 June 1877 at Clare. She married Alfred John Rees Hunt (son of Alfred John Hunt) at Prospect on 12 October 1910.
- x. Elizabeth, born 27 November 1879 at Clare. She married Matthew Henry Whiting (son of Edward Whiting) on 15 June 1910 at Christ Church, Adelaide.
- xi. Charles, born 31 March 1884 at Emu Belt. He married Eva Florence Arthur (daughter of James Arthur) on 13 May 1913 at the residence of A.M. Ludbrook at Prospect. Eva Skidmore died on 28 February 1868 and her husband followed on 2 October that year.

1880s**MARGARET MARIA SKIDMORE**

MARGARET MARIA SKIDMORE, born 1851Q4 in Grantham, Lincolnshire, was the daughter of William Jonathan and Sarah (Robinson) Skidmore. Not found in British censuses after 1881. She married George Storry (son of John Storry) on 4 June 1887 in Adelaide, Western Australia.

⁵⁵ To read about this family line, see Skidmore Lead Miners of Derbyshire, and their Descendants 1600-1915 by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

A migration from the Nottinghamshire families who are presently thought to have moved to N.W. Nottinghamshire from Derbyshire,

1882

JOHN AND EMMA (ROBERTS) SKIDMORE

JOHN SKIDMORE was born on 28 November 1853 in Holborn, London. His father George Skidmore was born in West Stockwith, Nottinghamshire but had moved with his wife Mary (?Carlton) to Holborn.

John Skidmore ran a tobacconist's in Bradshawgate, Bolton, where he lived with his sister Bella before his marriage. He married Emma Roberts (born about 1861, daughter of Samuel Roberts) on 25 May 1881 at Holy Trinity, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire. They **emigrated with their son George to Australia in 1882**, arriving in Melbourne, Victoria on the Austral on 30 October. His **widow Emma and her children were back in England before 1894**, when she married secondly, in a civil ceremony in Oldham, Samuel Claremont Blatherwick, a house painter.

Children of John and Emma (Roberts) Skidmore,

- i. George Rowland, baptised 3 May 1882 at St Mary's, Bolton. He was a cotton spinner and, by 1911, a tram guard for the Corporation in Oldham. He is perhaps the George R. Skidmore who died in 1937, aged 55, in Bucklow registration district.
- ii. Nellie Mabel, born 1884 in Melbourne. She married Ralph Turtington of Coventry, Warwickshire, manager of a coal depot (son of Edward Turtington, an engine driver) on 22 April 1908 at St Mark's, Glodwick.
Children, as known - Stanley Skidmore Turtington, Joyce Turtington.
- iii. Ellen N., born about 1885 in Australia. Living in Oldham in 1901.
- iv. Charles Edgar, born 1886.⁵⁶

Unknown date

FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND SARAH (SKIDMORE) SOUTHERWOOD

SARAH SKIDMORE, born 26 December 1829 in Hammersmith, London and baptised 27 January 1830 at St Mary's, Whitechapel, son of William and Mary Ann (Cormack) Skidmore. She married Joseph Southerwood, a smith and wheelwright (born about 1832 in the parish of St George Hanover Square, son of John Southerwood) on 20 July 1851 at Holy Trinity, Lambeth. Sarah Southerwood died in Chelsea in 1890, aged 60.

Children, as known - Kate Elizabeth, John Edmund, Harry Frederick, Joseph Skidmore, Edward, Charles J., Alfred Thomas. Descendants in Australia.

A migration from a Derbyshire family who had moved into London,

1921

ANTHONY WILLIAM SKIDMORE

ANTHONY WILLIAM SKIDMORE was born 13 May 1892 in Brixton, London, son of law stationer Anthony Clark Skidmore and his wife Frances (Stevenson). He attended Alleyn's College in Dulwich and obtained an Accountancy degree in London in 1913. He travelled in April 1914 on the *Khyber*, bound for Batavia, Indonesia and spent seven years in the F.M.S. (Federated Malay States?) and the Dutch East Indies. He was King's Messenger between Java and Singapore on several occasions. He was on the

⁵⁶ Victoria Pioneer Index, 1839-1888.

Special Investigation Committee for the British Government, handling 'black' or Statute List of enemy subjects. He handled the Allies' cargoes in 39 ships interned in Dutch East Indian Ports. He left London once more at the age of 28 **on 19 March 1921 and bound for Sydney**, giving his address as 142a Norwood Road, West Norwood, a merchant. He joined the New South Wales Royal Agricultural Society as an accountant in 1922. He was Honorary Accountant of the Harbour Bridge Celebrations Committee, in 1931-32, the Citizens of Sydney Organising Committee 1932-35, the City of Sydney Eisteddford 1933-35 and the Australian 150th Anniversary Celebrations 1936-37.

In Sydney he married Hazel Winifred Hayward (born 2 May 1895 in Sydney, died 18 July 1974) on 19 September 1925. Mr Skidmore enjoyed golf, tennis and motoring.⁵⁷ He died on 26 March 1969.

20th C

JOHN FREDERICK SKIDMORE

JOSEPH ELIAS WILLIAM, born 22 October 1889, was a son of Joseph and Caroline Emma (Fry) Skidmore. Joseph was raised with his step-brothers and sisters in Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex. He joined the Royal Navy in 1907 and at the time that the census was taken in 1911 was serving aboard the battleship HMS Implacable, with the Atlantic Fleet at Gibraltar. He served throughout the Great War.

He married in 1925 and had a son John Frederick Skidmore, born in England and now of Kangaroo Valley, New South Wales, Australia. Joseph Skidmore died on 15 September 1930 at Chicksands Cottage, Shefford, Bedfordshire.

pp.31-44

MIGRATIONS TO AUSTRALIA FROM THE BLACK COUNTRY

The Black Country is an area based on South Staffordshire coalfield, which straddles the south Staffordshire/ north Worcestershire county border. Details of this very large branch of the UK Skidmores can be found on the Black Country page of the Skidmore/ Scudamore One-Name Study website in a series of 20 files written by Linda Moffatt. For each of the migrants described below, readers are guided to the particular file in which the person's ancestry is described.

1851

TERTIUS BENJAMIN SKIDMORE

TERTIUS BENJAMIN SKIDMORE's family had emigrated from Walsall, Staffordshire in 1844 to Wisconsin, USA, where his father Isaiah Skidmore became a storekeeper and farmer⁵⁸. Tertius was born on 16 February 1834. In 1850 in the excitement brought on by the discovery of gold (although only 16 years of age) he went to Matinas Creek in El Dorado County, California. After a year experiencing the hardships of life in a mining camp he returned to his parents' home in Wisconsin. In the spring of the following year he migrated to Australia. He remained there until the spring of 1860 when he returned home for a year and then settled firstly in Cole County, Missouri, and finally (in late 1867) in Lincoln Township, Monoma County, Iowa. He acquired 320 acres of land there which he turned into a highly fertile and productive farm. He married his cousin Elizabeth Emily Skidmore, daughter of Benjamin, in

⁵⁷ Who's Who in Australia, 1921-1950,

⁵⁸ See *Skidmores Of Stamford House, Amblecote* by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

Cole County, Missouri, on 11 July 1863. She was living his widow at Onawa, Monoma County, in 1900 and at 338 Maple Street, Waukesha, Wisconsin, in 1920. She died on 23 April 1928.

Tertius Benjamin's brother **Horatio Skidmore** arrived at Melbourne on 2 February 1855 aboard the *Frigate Bird*, as an assisted migrant, but he returned to the USA soon after.

1854

JOHN AND ELIZA (SKIDMORE) CRAWFORD

ELIZA SKIDMORE, baptised 1 October 1823 at Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, was the daughter of James and Phoebe (Smith) Skidmore. She married John Crawford, nail maker of the Strand, Bromsgrove (born about 1822, son of Benjamin Crawford, nail maker and Sarah) in 1848Q1 in a Register Office/ Registrar. Attended ceremony registered at Stourbridge. In 1851, they were living in Spring Gardens, Halesowen, where John was schoolmaster. They emigrated to Australia in 1854, where Mr Crawford became a teacher at Tamworth, New South Wales. Eliza Crawford died on 21 January 1898, her husband in 1910. They are buried at Tamworth.

1856

THOMAS AND MARY ANN (KINNA) SKIDMORE

THOMAS SKIDMORE was a house painter of Victoria and New South Wales, and was the son of Benjamin and Esther (Weymouth) Skidmore⁵⁹. He was born in Birmingham and baptised on 18 June 1837 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. He emigrated to Australia, giving his age as 20 on the passenger list of the ship *Royal Charter* which **arrived at Victoria on 8 December 1856**. Directly beneath his name is that of John Skidmore aged 22 and also a carpenter, presumably his brother. At the time of Thomas' first marriage he said he was 21 and that his parents were Benjamin Skidmore, a plasterer, and Mary Ann Wade. However, when he died his daughter Hester was unable to name his father but gave his father's occupation as civil engineer and his mother's name as Esther. When his children's births were registered he gave his name as Thomas Skidmore, except at Esther's birth, when he called himself *Thomas Bank Skidmore*.

Thomas was to spend 31 years in Victoria. He married at the Catholic Church in Kyneton on 5 December 1857. His first wife Mary Ann Kinna was born about 1839 in Sydney, the daughter of Austin Kinna, a builder, and his wife Margaret Meecham. Thomas was perhaps involved in painting the properties his father-in-law built. In 1866 he had a shop in Piper Street in Kyneton. Next to him in the census was a widow Mrs Kennar, perhaps his mother-in-law.

Around 1883 the family moved to New South Wales. About 1899 Thomas married Ellen Hanagaw in Waterloo, Sydney. He died of nephritis on 26 October 1901 aged 67 at 20 Botany Road, Alexandria, New South Wales and is buried in the Roman Catholic Cemetery in Waverley. My thanks to Betty Priestly of New South Wales, great granddaughter to Thomas and Mary Ann, for information on this family.

The children of Thomas and Mary Ann (Kinna) Skidmore, born in Kyneton, Victoria,

- i. Clara, born 1858.
- ii. Esther Edith (called Hester), born 1860.
- iii. **HENRY JOHN** (called Harry), was born at Kyneton, Victoria in 1862. He was a painter like his brother Thomas and married Mary Emma Osborne on 23 February 1883 in Melbourne, Victoria. She was born in 1867 in The Loddon (near Castlemaine), Victoria, daughter of

⁵⁹ See *Skidmores Of Stamford House, Amblecote* by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

William Thomas and Mary (Penrose) Osborne). Mr Skidmore died in 1910, reportedly from lead poisoning and was survived by his wife.

Children of Henry John and Mary (Osborne) Skidmore,

- i. Henry John, born 1884 in Hotham, Victoria, died 1943 in Randwick, NSW. He married in 1932.
 - ii. Leslie Thomas, born 1886 in Hotham, Victoria, died 1944 in Granville, NSW. He married twice.
 - iii. John Joseph, born 1888 in Melbourne West, Victoria, died 1948 in Canterbury, Victoria. He married in 1912.
 - iv. Edward William, born 1890 in Hotham East, Victoria. A printer in Sydney, he married Ida Blanche Glew on 25 January 1910 in St Paul's Church of England, Sydney, NSW, witnessed by his brother Leslie and by Elizabeth Rook. She was born 1893 in Rylstone, NSW, daughter of Laura L. V. Glew. Mary Skidmore, mother of the groom, and William Ridley, J.P. Guardian of Minors for the bride, gave consent to the marriage.
Edward enlisted in the AIF at Surry Hills, NSW and became a Private as No 108 in 4th Battalion AIF. The Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour records show he was killed in action on 21 May 1915 at Gallipoli, aged 23 years and is commemorated in 6 Lone Pine Memorial Panel 42.
 - v. Clara Florence, born 1892 in Hotham East, Victoria, died 1893 in Sydney.
 - vi. Eileen Ada May, born 1895 in Sydney, died there in 1921. Married in 1911.
 - vii. Edith M., born 1903 in Sydney.
 - viii. Alfred J., born 1905 in Sydney, died there in 1906.
- iv. Thomas, born 1864. He died in 1902.
 - v. Austin Joseph, born 1866.
 - vi. Alfred Ernest, born 1869. Alfred Skidmore was buried at Kyneton on 17 February 1870.

1857

JOHN AND LOUISA (COSSONS) SKIDMORE

JOHN SKIDMORE was born 1814 in Bristol. He was a son of Richard and Sarah Elizabeth (Kerslake) Skidmore⁶⁰. His father was a glasscutter of Redcliffe, Bristol, son of another Richard Skidmore (1758-1817) who was a potmaker and brick kiln maker from Amblecote, Staffordshire. John's grandfather had moved to Bristol where he married Susannah Bryan. A brewer, John Skidmore became a burgess of Bristol in 1838. He married firstly Edith Mackintyre (daughter of Douglas Mackintyre) on 15 January 1843 at SS Philip & Jacob, Bristol. They were living at the time of the 1851 British census in Boulters Place, SS Philip & Jacob, together with a nephew John Wedlock (1847-1851).

Edith Skidmore died in 1851Q4 and he married secondly Louisa Cossons on 24 June 1852 at St Philip and St Jacob, Bristol. Louisa was born about 1826, a daughter of John Cussens/ Cuzzens, a gardener of Phoenix Street, Bristol, and his wife Mary. A child John *Cuzzens* appears in the household of his grandmother Mary in 1851 aged 3 and was presumably a child of Louisa's.

⁶⁰ See Skidmore Glassmen of Amblecote, Staffordshire 1750-1910 by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

John Skidmore aged 42 and wife Louisa aged 30, together with a child John *Skidmore* aged 9, emigrated to Australia in 1857. They arrived as **assisted migrants in Victoria in November 1857** aboard the *Shalimar*. John Skidmore became a fruiterer of Powlett Street, Kyneton, Victoria in 1868. He was a grocer on the corner of Powle and Jennings Streets whose will (dated 31 July 1880) was proved on 21 September that year, probate being granted to his widow Louisa⁶¹. Louisa Skidmore made her will on 11 February 1895 and this was granted to her son John Skidmore, fruiterer of Kyneton, as her sole executor and beneficiary. She died that year aged 69.

The only known son of John and Louisa Skidmore,

- i. **JOHN**, born about 1847. His is called John Cuzzens in the census of 1851 when he was living with his grandmother Mary Cuzzens in Bristol. He was known at the time of the emigration of his parents' emigration and thereafter as John Skidmore. He married Jane Elizabeth Crockett (born about 1848, daughter of John Crockett and his wife Sarah Jane) and became a Sheriffs Officer in Kyneton. His will was made on 17 June 1915 and probate was granted on 26 August to his widow and his son Henry Jack James Skidmore. The will mentions seven further children. Jane E. Skidmore died in mid-1923, leaving a will but wills of this date have not yet been digitised.

Children of John and Jane Elizabeth (Crockett) Skidmore,

- i. **HERBERT**, born about 1866. A cab proprietor in Kyneton, he made a will on 17 October 1898 and died on 15 September 1900. Probate was granted on 8 December to his father, who was made guardian of Herbert's infant child Stella. His brother William Isaac Kerslick Skidmore was to carry on his business until his brother Henry Jack James Skidmore reached 21. Herbert Skidmore married Annie Welch in 1890.
 - i. Estella, born 1890.
- ii. **CHARLES EDWARD JOHN**, born 1869. A groom by trade, he married Elizabeth Veronica Stevens in 1894. He died in 1923 in Kyneton.

Children of Charles John and Elizabeth Veronica (Stevens) Skidmore,

- i. Elizabeth Veronica, born 1895. She died that same year.
- ii. Ivan Laurence, born 1896. He died in 1965.
- iii. Elizabeth, born 1898.
- iv. Olive Frances, born 1900.
- iii. Susannah Louisa Jane, born 1871.
- iv. Sarah Annie Moor, born 1874.
- v. Eva Matilda Mary, born 1876. She died in 1974.
- vi. **WILLIAM ISAAC KERSLICK**, born 1878. He married Violet Maude Warr in 1901. He died in 1955, his death registered in Murchison, Victoria.

Children of William Isaac and Violet Maude Skidmore,

- i. Vera Alberta May, born 1901.
- ii. Gladys Harold Wynne, born 1906, registered in Oakleigh, Victoria.
- vii. Agnes, born 1883. She died in 1964.
- viii. Henrietta Elizabeth Jane, born 1885.
- ix. Henry John James, born 1887. He died in 1958.

⁶¹ Index to Wills, Probate and Administration Records 1841-1925 relating to people whose estates underwent the probate process in the Supreme Court of Victoria.

1862

JAMES SKIDMORE

JAMES SKIDMORE⁶², born 26 February (baptised 19 March) 1843. James was a son of James Skidmore, a miner of Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill, and his wife Margaret (Eardley).

A coal miner, 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 other miners - William Smith and Thomas Shakespeare and his wife Eliza, all from Brierley Hill. Thomas Tonks from Kingswinford and Edwin Tyler from West Bromwich, were others from the local area aboard.

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.

1873

JOHN FRANCIS AND REBECCA (ALLEN) SKIDMORE

JOHN FRANCIS SKIDMORE, born 1 August 1839 in High Street, Bilston, was a son of Francis and Sarah (Evans) Skidmore⁶³. An engine fitter, he married his first wife Rebecca Allen (born about 1837 in Sedgley, daughter of Simon and Mary Allen) at Christ Church, Coseley in 1861Q2 and they were living in 1871 at 54 Hollywell Street, Ettingshall (Sedgley parish). **They emigrated soon after to Australia**, though it appears that their eldest child Mary stayed in England or at least returned some time before 1891. The family appear on a passenger list for the *Baroda*, from Galle (a natural harbour, located in Galle, on the south-western coast of Sri Lanka) to Sydney in July 1873.

Rebecca Skidmore died in Australia in 1879 and John married secondly Emma Louisa Elphick (born in 1854 in Bathurst, daughter of Henry and Louisa (Burton) Elphick) on 24 May of that year in Bathurst, New South Wales. Emma Skidmore died on 11 October 1901, her husband on 8 April 1918.

The children of John Francis and Rebecca (Allen) Skidmore,

- i. Mary Emma, born 1863Q1 in Bilston. Mary E. Skidmore (single, aged 27 and born in Bilston) was living in 1891 at Court 3, 3 William Street in central Birmingham, a screw worker, with Annie Clough (born about 1859 in Oswestry and called Mary Skidmore's sister), a press worker, and Albert Clough (born about 1882 in Birmingham, who appears to be Mary's son). By 1901 (when she was recorded as a widow) she was a charwoman, living at the back of 180 Halford Lane, Smethwick with her son Albert and daughter Mabel or Isabel aged 2.

Children of Mary Emma Skidmore,

- i. **ALBERT HENRY**¹⁰, registered with the surname Skidmore in 1881Q3 in Birmingham. He was recorded in the 1891 census with the surname Clough but was known thereafter as Skidmore. He was a tram conductor in 1901. He married Annie Matthews (born about 1882 in Bristol) in 1903Q4 and by 1911 was an axle box fitter at the railway carriage works in Smethwick.

⁶² See Skidmore Families of Brettell Lane and Brockmoor, Staffordshire, 1750-1900 by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

⁶³ See *Skidmores Of Stamford House, Amblecote* by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

Children of Albert Henry and Annie (Matthews) Skidmore, born in Smethwick,

- i. Elsie May, born 1904Q2.
- ii. Annie, born 1906Q2.
- iii. Albert Henry, born 1908Q2.
- iv. Dorothy, born 1911Q1.
- v. Ivy, born 1913Q1.
- vi. Mabel E., born 1915Q3.
- vii. Constance E., born 1917Q3.
- ii. Isabel, born about 1899 in Smethwick.
- iii. Mary, born about 1903.
- ii. Grace Maud, born 1868Q3 in Bilston. She died in Australia in 1888.
- iii. **ROLAND JOHN**, born 1870Q3 in Sedgley parish. He married Catherine Dobbie in 1900 in Woollahra, New South Wales.

The son of Roland John and Catherine (Dobbie) Skidmore,

- i. Arthur J., born in 1901 in Sydney, NSW.
- iv. Francis Ernest, born 1872Q3.

born in Bathurst, New South Wales,

- v. Clement Arthur, born in 1874. Died 1876.
- vi. Louis Harold, born in 1876. He married Janet Anderson in 1909 in Paddington, NSW. He died in 1957 aged 81. No children presently known.

The children of John Francis and Emma (Elphick) Skidmore,

- vii. Hilda May, born and died in 1880.
- viii. Hilton, born and died in 1880.
- ix. David Henry, born and died in 1882.
- x. **SYDNEY HELLYER**, born in 1883. He married Winifred Ethel Gash (1905 – 1977).
 - i. Margaret Lydia, 1935-2006. She married and had four children.⁶⁴
- xi. Ellen G., born 1885, died 1886.
- xii. Elsie Louise, born in 1887. She married Bernard Williams in 1913 and died in 1966 in Ryde, New South Wales⁶⁵.
- xiii. Herbert E., born in 1891.
- xiv. **FRANK ARNOLD**, born in Parramatta, New South Wales, on 23 July 1894. He was wounded at Gallipoli when serving as a soldier in World War I. A cabinet maker and coach builder, he was married on 14 September 1918 at St George's, Paddington, NSW, to Vera Meredith Harris (born in 1897 at Port Macquarie, daughter of Robert Kniel Harris, school teacher, and Margaret (Piggott)). Frank Skidmore died in 1977 at Austin Avenue, Croydon, NSW, his wife in May 1987 at GyMEA. Both are buried in Rookwood Cemetery.

The children of Frank Arnold and Vera Meredith (Harris) Skidmore, born in New South Wales,

- i. Betty. She married Perce Grant.
- ii. **KEITH ARNOLD**, born 1922. In World War II he was a gunner in the RAF. His plane was shot down, Mr Skidmore being the only survivor, and he spent the years 1941-45 as a POW in Germany. He married Lois Morvyn Terrill in 1948

⁶⁴ According to a pedigree posted at Ancestry.com.

⁶⁵ According to a pedigree posted at Ancestry.com.

at Matheson Congregational Church in Croydon. She was a stenographer, born in 1926 in Stanmore, NSW, daughter of George Vere Ward Terrill, chartered accountant, and Lilian Elizabeth (Tynan). Mr Skidmore was a sales representative before his retirement.

Two children,

- i. Deidre Kay, born 1950 in Ashfield, NSW, married Gary James McFarlane in 1973.
- ii. **MARK ARNOLD**, who kindly provided information on the descendants of Frank Arnold Skidmore, was born in 1954 in Marrickville, NSW. He married Susan Fay Ward (a teacher born in 1954 in Orange, daughter of Kevin John Ward, orchardist, and Betty Agnes (Ashby)) in 1979 at Holy Trinity in Orange, NSW. Mark was a teacher of Physical Education in Orange until 1988. After a short spell as a real estate agent, he became in 1989 a Health Promotion Officer.

Two children,

- i. Carmen Melissa, born 1982 in Narrandera, NSW.
- ii. Blake Arnold, born 1984 in Orange, NSW.

circa 1880

DAVID SKIDMORE

DAVID SKIDMORE, born on 1 December 1857 in Dudley, Worcestershire, was a son of Peter and Jane (Jenkins) Skidmore⁶⁶. I have not found him in the 1881 British census and he could have already emigrated to Australia. He married Alice Winter and was at first an iron moulder of Noone Street, Clifton Hill. By the time he made his will on 28 March 1894 he was a 'trade instructor' of 4 Power Avenue, Hawthorne, Victoria. The family remained at this address until at least 1924. Witnesses to Mr Skidmore's will were Henry Rowe and Robert Winter. He died on 12 August 1924 and probate was granted to his wife.

Children of David and Alice (Winter) Skidmore, born in Clifton Hill, Melbourne, Victoria,

- i. Alfred, born 1890. A civil servant, he joined up on 17 January 1916. His army records show that he was 5ft 3in tall, with a fresh complexion, blue eyes and brown hair. He was a Methodist by religious persuasion. On 14 February he was transferred to the Signal School at Broad Meadow, Melbourne. He embarked on the *Ascanius* on 27 May 1916 with the 3rd Divisional Signal Company of the Australian Engineers, proceeding from Southampton to France late in November. Alfred was appointed Lance Corporal in the field in France on 17 April 1917. He became ill and was admitted to hospital in France in June 1917, thence to the 2nd Birmingham War Hospital, Northfield, Birmingham, England where he died on 11 October 1917 of a kidney abscess. His coffin was taken to the home of his uncle Joseph Skidmore at 26 Grange Road, Dudley and he was buried in St James' churchyard in Dudley (Grave No. 14, Row I). The following relatives were present at his funeral - Peter Skidmore (uncle), Joseph Skidmore (uncle), Joseph Skidmore (cousin), David Skidmore (cousin), George Clark (cousin Agnes' husband), John Palmer (cousin Ada's husband), Frederick Harrington (cousin Dora's

⁶⁶ See Skidmores of Deepfields, Coseley and the Town of Dudley' by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

husband), Joseph Mills (cousin Alice's husband). An oak cross was to be erected by the Australian Imperial Force but this was presumably replaced by a gravestone.

- ii. Ruth, born 1893.
- iii. Hetta, born 1895.
- iv. Annie, born 1899 in Fitzroy, Victoria.

1881

THOMAS BOWEN SKIDMORE

THOMAS BOWEN SKIDMORE, son of John and Isabella Line (Bowen) Skidmore, was born in Kingswinford parish, Staffordshire in 1857⁶⁷. He moved to Bolton, Lancashire with his parents, where he was an auctioneer's clerk as late as the time of the census taken on 3 April 1881. He then lived at Rushworth Colony, Victoria, Australia. However, he evidently returned home and died at Markland Hill Lane, Heaton, Bolton in 1904 aged 46 and was buried at Heaton Cemetery on 26 February. His brother John Arthur Skidmore, colliery proprietor, was his executor.

One possible passage to Australia is that of Thomas Skidmore aged 24 who arrived in Victoria in December 1881 aboard the British Ambassador⁶⁸.

1888

GEORGE HARRY JAMES SKIDMORE

GEORGE HARRY JAMES SKIDMORE. Another bachelor from the descendants of the family at Stamford House, Amblecote was George Harry James Skidmore. He was a son of John and Annie Esther Priscilla (Chance) Skidmore, born in Hay Green on 25 May 1861. He was a lawyer who arrived in Victoria in June 1888. He died in Melbourne on 18 February 1899⁶⁹.

1883

WILLIAM GEORGE SKIDMORE

WILLIAM GEORGE SKIDMORE, known as George, born in Princes End, Coseley, Staffordshire on 18 February 1851, a son of John and Mary Ann (Hadley) Skidmore⁷⁰. At the time of the 1871 census George was a roll turner, living at 61 Ash Street, Coseley in the home of his parents. He left England for the first time in 1875. The *Strathmore*, under Captain Alex. Macdonald, left London on 17 April 1875 bound for Dunedin, New Zealand, with a total of 88 people, including 38 crew. In June, when the ship was in the Southern Ocean and the weather very foggy, the captain set a course that he thought would take him south of the Crozets but in the early morning on 1 July, the ship drove onto the rocky coast of one of these islands. (The Crozet Islands are a sub-antarctic archipelago of small islands in the southern Indian Ocean). A full account of the privations faced by these people, shipwrecked for six months, can be found in Linda Moffatt's account of this family. A Reuters Cablegram of 3 May 1876:

'Sydney, May 2. R.A. Wilson, W.G. Skidmore, Joseph Ward, George Ward, William Wilson, William Rooke, William Handling, and James Wright, survivors of the *Strathmore*, arrived here by the mail [steamer]. Subscriptions have been opened to assist them to reach New Zealand.'

Otago Daily Times , Issue 4464, 9 June 1876, Page 1

⁶⁷ See *Skidmores Of Stamford House, Amblecote* by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

⁶⁸ Unassisted Inward Passengers index.

⁶⁹ *ibid.*

⁷⁰ See *Skidmores of Deepfields, Coseley and the Town of Dudley* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

'George Skidmore (one of the survivors of the Strathmore) is now in Dunedin, and is desirous of obtaining Employment in an Iron Foundry, or as Warehouseman, or in any similar capacity. He is by trade a Roll Turner. Address G. Skidmore, office of Daily Times.' George was presumably unsuccessful since by mid-1878 he was back in Staffordshire, when he married there Hannah Kettle Tandy. She was born in Newport, Shropshire in 1851, daughter of Henry Tandy, grocer, and his wife Mary Ann, of Penn, Staffordshire. They were living in 1881 with their son George (Ralph Strathmore George Skidmore) at the Royal Oak, 83 Salop Street in Wednesfield, Staffordshire, where George Skidmore was publican. George and Hannah Skidmore later **emigrated to Australia, arriving on 17 January 1883** on board the Sorata. No further children of this couple are found in the Australia Birth Index. William George Skidmore died in 1918 in Launceston, Tasmania, his wife a year later.

A child of William George and Hannah Kettle (Tandy) Skidmore,

- i. Ralph Strathmore George, born in Bilston, Staffordshire in 1879. He died at the age of 12 on 9 February 1892, registered at Launceston, Tasmania.

1885

GEORGE AND MARY (SKIDMORE) LERWILL

MARY SKIDMORE, born 1841, was a daughter of Joshua and Eliza (Harrod) Skidmore⁷¹. Her husband George Lerwill was a carpenter and wood carver of Belgrave Street (born in Braunton, Devon, in 1839Q4 and brother to William Lerwill who married Mary's sister Esther).

George and Mary (Skidmore) Lerwill lived in Birmingham. George for part of the 1870s occupied the Clifton pub in Balsall Heath. At the time of the 1881 census Mary was at 14 Glebe Street, Edgbaston (close to the home of her sister Diana Brown) with three of her children, Harry, William and Mary Lerwill. Mary is not recorded as a widow, and George Lerwill had perhaps already emigrated to Australia. This might explain why two other of her children were with relatives in Stourbridge at this time. In December 1885 Mrs Lerwill, Harry, Mary and William, were passengers aboard the *E.J. Spence*, landing in Victoria⁷². Mary died in Melbourne in 1902 and George in 1929 aged 88.

1886

ISAAC AND MARY (BAGNALL) SKIDMORE

ISAAC SKIDMORE, born June 1863, was a son of Joseph and Hannah (Darby) Skidmore of Oldbury, Worcestershire⁷³. A labourer in a brickworks in 1881, he married Mary Bagnall in 1886 at Christ Church, Oldbury. They emigrated to Australia soon after. Mr Skidmore died in Albany, Western Australia on 29 November 1926. The following information regarding his children was discovered from a family tree submitted to Ancestry.com (original documents not studied).

Children of Isaac and Mary (Bagnall) Skidmore, born in Western Australia,

- i. Edward, born 1888.
- ii. George Bagnall, born 1889. He married in 1912 in Fremantle, Western Australia.
- iii. Edith Jane Morrish, born 1890. She married in 1913 in Plantagenet, Western Australia.
- iv. Eleanor Mary, born 1892.
- v. Harold, born 1893. He was born in 1920 in Swan, Western Australia.

⁷¹ See Skidmore Colliers and Innkeepers of Amblecote, Staffordshire, and Potmakers of Stourbridge, Worcestershire, 1750-1910 by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

⁷² Index to Unassisted Inward Passenger Lists to Victoria 1852-1923, part of an index to Unassisted Inward Passenger Lists for British, Foreign and New Zealand Ports 1852-1923.

⁷³ See *Skidmore Glassmen Of Amblecote, Staffordshire 1750-1910* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

1886

JOSEPH HARRIS SKIDMORE

JOSEPH HARRIS SKIDMORE, born 1861 in Rowley Regis, Staffordshire, was a son of William and Elizabeth (Whitehouse) Skidmore of Tividale and West Bromwich, Staffordshire⁷⁴. He was a carrier with his father and brother William. He travelled as an assisted migrant, arriving in Sydney on 13 April 1886 aboard the *SS Aberdeen*. The Agents' Lists of Assisted Migrants, found in the State Records of New South Wales, also record his religion as Methodist. He married Alice Esther de la Mare in Victoria, Australia.

Children of Joseph Harris and Alice Esther (de la Mare) Skidmore, born in Melbourne,

- i. William Nelson, born 1889. He married Mari Ethel Trevers in 1917 in Victoria.
- ii. Harold Francis, born 1891. Private Skidmore enlisted on 28 June 1915 and embarked from Melbourne aboard HMAT *Makarini* on 15 September 1915. He was killed in action on 18 September 1918 in France.



Studio portrait of 2643 Private (Pte) Harold Francis Skidmore, 8th Reinforcements, 14th Battalion, of St Kilda, Vic (left), and an unidentified private. Item held by the Australian War Memorial, Australia: Victoria, Melbourne, Broadmeadows. DA10109.

Three children of Francis Alfred Skidmore, a renowned art metal worker of Coventry, and his wife Emma Carloss⁷⁵.

1885?

BERNARD CARLOSS SKIDMORE, born 1862Q2, baptised 27 December 1862 at Holy Trinity, Coventry. He and his brother Clement were boarding in the home of the curate of Meriden in 1871. He was living in the home of his parents at the time of the 1881 census, called a 'decorator'. He is said to have married and his wife bore three children (names not known) before he left for Australia. However, I have found no marriage in Britain for this man. He married in Victoria, Australia in 1887 Editha Rose Drummond Fenwick and a child Enid Hardy Skidmore was born that year. On 10 March 1913 Bernard Carloss Skidmore, jeweller of Springbrae, Beresford Street, Caulfield, Victoria, was a witness to the will of his wife Editha Rose Skidmore of Caulfield. She left to her daughter Enid Hardy Skidmore 'the property in Nicholson Street, Footscray known as Fairhaven'.

A child of Bernard Carloss and Editha Rose Drummond (Fenwick) Skidmore,

- i. Enid Hardy, born in 1887 in Victoria. She married William Eyton Batten in 1915 in Victoria.

1907

EVANGELINE SKIDMORE, baptised 14 March 1865. Miss Skidmore was living with her widowed mother in Coventry in 1901. She appears to be the Miss E. Skidmore aged 41 who arrived in Melbourne in June 1907 on the *Orotava* as an Unassisted Immigrant. She died in Caulfield, Victoria in 1931.

⁷⁴ See *Skidmores of Deepfields, Coseley and the Town of Dudley* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

⁷⁵ See *Skidmore Stove Grave Makers, Token Makers and Jewellers of Birmingham, London and Coventry* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

1891

KENNETH ALFRED SKIDMORE, born 1866Q3, baptised 1 April 1869. He was living in 1891 at his parents' home in Aston. He arrived in Melbourne on the Orient in November 1891 as an Unassisted Immigrant. Kenneth was listed in the 1903 Electoral Roll, a newsagent living at 233 Nicholson Street, Footscray, Melbourne. He died on 6 July 1943 at Blackburn, Victoria aged 77 and was buried at Brighton Cemetery.

Sister and brother, Mary Wood Skidmore and her brother John Henry Skidmore, children of Thomas Henry and Leonora Annie (Bedward) Skidmore of Aston, Birmingham, Warwickshire⁷⁶.

1880s

MARY WOOD SKIDMORE, known as Bidie, was born in 1864. She was a paper sorter at the time of the 1881 census. James William Powell, her future husband, moved to Sydney, Australia, where she later joined him and where they were married in 1891. Three children Harry, Frank William and Hilda Dorothy Louise.

1912

JOHN HENRY SKIDMORE, known as Jack, was born in 1871 at 126 Great Lister Street, Aston, Birmingham. In 1891 he was a cabinet maker, living in the home of his father and stepmother. He married Frances Mary Harrison on 4 August 1897 and they were living in 1901 at 9 Holly Bank, Deakins Lane, Hay Mills (Yardley) and by 1911 at 5 Swan Buildings, Coventry Road, South Yardley, Worcestershire. They went to Australia in 1912, first to Adelaide and then to Sydney where other family members had settled. He was a cabinet maker at the time of his marriage and found work in house building.

The children of John Henry and Frances Mary (Harrison) Skidmore,

- i. Leonora Frances, born 26 April 1898 in Birmingham. She married in her sixties.
- ii. Louisa Mary, born 5 March 1900 in Hay Mills, died 29 September 1988. She married Henry George Bowles (1902-85) in 1925. Two daughters, Mary and Barbara.
- iii. JOHN HARRISON (Jack), born 1904Q3 in Hay Mills. He married Fanny Alice Fuller in 1932 in Hurstville, New South Wales. He died in 1985 in Kogarah, New South Wales.
- iv. Frederick Henry William, born 1907Q4 in Yardley. Perhaps died young.

1880**BERTHA ANNE SKIDMORE**

BERTHA ANNE SKIDMORE, born in Wolverhampton in 1845, a daughter of Ephraim and Susannah (Malpas) Skidmore. At the time of the 1861 census she was a worsted spinner, lodging in Bridgnorth, Shropshire. Bertha Skidmore married firstly, in Gloucestershire in 1868Q1, Thomas Aston and by the time of the 1871 census was living with her 5-year old son William Aston (born in Wallbrook, Staffordshire), the housekeeper to John James, a woodcutter, in Blakeney Hill, Gloucestershire. She married John James on 29 April 1887 at South Malvern, Canterbury, New Zealand. She married thirdly Robert James in 1898 in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. She died on 24 September 1931 in Cessnock, New South Wales, aged 86⁷⁷.

Children - John, Maurice Llewellyn, Francis, Rhoda Maria, Bertha Mary,

⁷⁶ See *Skidmore Glassmen Of Amblecote, Staffordshire 1750-1910* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

⁷⁷ Information on Bertha Anne Skidmore obtained from a pedigree posted online at Ancestry.com.



Bertha (nee Skidmore) and Robert James 1925

1911

THOMAS PERCY AND ISABELLA MARY (WHITE) SKIDMORE

THOMAS PERCY SKIDMORE was born in 1877, son of Thomas Charles and Mary Elizabeth (Jones) Skidmore of Oldbury, Worcestershire⁷⁸. He married Isabella Mary White (born about 1880 in Penicuik, Midlothian, daughter of William White, plumber, and his wife Agnes Janet (Finlayson)) on 27 October 1906 at St Vincent's, Edinburgh. They lived at 43 Mount Terrace, Longslow Road, Market Drayton, Shropshire, where Mr Skidmore was a coal merchant. They were in Market Drayton at the time of the 1911 census but on 13 May that year sailed from Liverpool on board the *Somerset* to live in Australia.

By 1913 were living in Blaxlands, Ipswich, Queensland where Mr Skidmore bought land to farm and his wife was a dressmaker⁷⁹. He died there on 14 August 1914. Isabella Mary returned to Edinburgh and appears to have married a Mr White. She died a widow on 31 August 1962.

Children of Thomas Percy and Isabella Mary (White) Skidmore, born and baptised in Market Drayton,

- i. Agnes Janet, baptised 6 May 1907. She married ____ Tasker.
- ii. Thomas Charles, baptised 1 October 1908.
- iii. Mary Isabel, born 1910Q3. She married ____ Tiernan.

1911/12

JOHN WILLIAM AND MARY AMELIA (SMITH) SKIDMORE

JOHN WILLIAM SKIDMORE, son of John and Sarah Jane (Colley) Skidmore, was born in West Bromwich, Staffordshire on 10 February 1878⁸⁰. He was a roof tiler and slater and lived in Dukinfield, Cheshire and later in Coventry before his marriage. He married Mary Amelia Smith of 62 Old Meeting Street, West Bromwich (born 21 April 1878, daughter of James Roberts Smith, roll turner of John Street, and his wife Mary (Ashton)) on 28 September 1902 at Carter's Green Wesleyan Chapel in West Bromwich. She had attended a technical school in Birmingham (possibly run by Methodists) to learn sewing and become a seamstress. I am very grateful to Ann Hurley, a great-granddaughter of this couple in Australia, for the following biographical detail on this family.

John William's name was on a waiting list for two years for an assisted passage to Australia, and he finally made it to the top of the list in 1911. He set out alone, the plan probably being that Mary and the boys would join him as soon as he had made enough money to pay for their passage and had

⁷⁸ See *Skidmore Glassmen Of Amblecote, Staffordshire 1750-1910* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

⁷⁹ Australia, Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980.

⁸⁰ See *Skidmores Of Stamford House, Amblecote* by Linda Moffatt, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

established a suitable place for them to live. Meanwhile, Mary with her two sons John aged 6 and Leonard aged 1, moved in with her 41-year-old brother Edwin Alfred Smith, a carpenter and joiner, and his wife Annie at 63 Bilhay Street, West Bromwich.

In 1912 Mary and her sons travelled to Australia with the family of her sister Emma Louisa Thomas and brother-in-law William Henry Thomas. Her husband had employment as a slater and tiler with the firm Wunderlich's in Melbourne. The two families at first rented 72 Mary Street in the inner suburb of Richmond but when both families grew the Skidmores moved to Coburg, where their last child Arthur was born at 9 Rodda Street. John William Skidmore continued to work for Wunderlichs, and he also became a union representative and secretary for the Slater and Tilers' Union.

In 1916 the Skidmores were living in Florence Street, Mentone, in a stables that was converted into a home. It had an earthen floor, hessian walls and the parents' room was in the loft. The family of six had their diet supplemented with duckling and duck eggs provided by a well-populated duck pond on the property. Mary took in ironing from the boarding house next door to help make ends meet. Three years later they had saved enough money to move to Cheltenham near the corner of Point Nepean and Charman Roads. John William set up his own tile-works, J. Skidmore and Co. and the boys John and Leonard were soon old enough to join their father's business. By 1921 the family were experiencing good times and were able to purchase some quality furniture, a horse, cart, a Brougham (buggy), and a piano. The good times were not to last however as John William was experiencing poor health, the company was soon in financial strife and was bankrupted in 1924. They lost all their assets including a Phaeton, the horse and wagon, and the piano. So Mary took a lease on a boarding house in Beach Road, Sandringham, but that summer was wet and customers stayed away. The Skidmores had to give up the lease before a year had passed.

Circumstances seemed to be improving around 1926. Skidmore and Co. was operating again with sons John and Len as tilers. Their first car a T model Ford was purchased and son John was able to rent his own house on the Nepean Highway. Progress continued and both families were able to buy houses in Robert Street, Bentleigh. John William and Mary purchased number 57 and John and his wife number 52 opposite. Around this time John William joined the Cheltenham branch of the Masonic Lodge.



Then the Depression hit and they had to give up their home. By 1933 they had moved to 137 Balcombe Road, Mentone. It was here on 31 August 1934 that John William died at the age of 56 years. He was buried at the New Cheltenham Cemetery.

After her husband's death, Mary went to live with son Arthur at a house built by Arthur and his brother Len on South Road, Moorabbin. She died on 25 November 1952.

Mary Amelia (Smith) Skidmore

Children of John William and Mary Amelia (Smith) Skidmore,

- i. JOHN, born at 372 Foleshill Road, Coventry, Warwickshire on 28 January 1905, died 26



January 1965 in East Malvern, Victoria. A roof tiler in his father's business, and later a supervisor at Whitelaw's tiling business, he married firstly Valdis Muriel Rogers (1901-1975) on 23 December 1924 at St. Agnes' Anglican church, Black Rock. They had six children, John Kenneth, Renee Valdis, Joan Ailsa, Brian Leonard, Corinne Shirley, Ailsa and Desmond. They were divorced in 1945 and John Skidmore married secondly Dorothy Wood that same year. During WW2 John served as a sapper in the Royal Australian Engineers of the AIF.

John Skidmore (1905-1965)

- ii. Harold, born 1907. He died from measles in 1911.
- iii. LEONARD, born 1 January 1910 (Len), died 17 October 2000 at Mornington, Victoria, Australia. A roof tiler in the family business, Len later established his own roof tiling company Moe Tile Works. During WW2 he served as a private in the Australian General Transport Company of the AIF.



Leonard Skidmore (1910-2000)

He married Loris Pauline Courtney (1912-2002) on 28 March 1936. Children Diane Loris, Leonie Katrine and John Leonard.

and born in Australia,

- iv. Maud, born 15 September 1913 in Richmond, Victoria, died September 1995 in Melbourne. A professional dressmaker, she married Walter Lindsay Penny. Children Sandra, Lynette and Geoffrey.



Wedding in 1937 of Maud Skidmore (1913-1995) to Walter Lindsay PENNY

- vii. Arthur, born 12 January 1915 in Coburg, Victoria, died August 1987 in Oakleigh, Victoria. A bricklayer, Mr Skidmore remained unmarried. He served as a sapper in the "24 Works Company" of the Australian Army in WW2.



Arthur Skidmore (1915-1987)

1923

THOMAS OSBORNE SKIDMORE

THOMAS OSBORNE SKIDMORE, born 1904 in Workington, was a son of Henry and Elizabeth Mary A. (Rowe) Skidmore⁸¹. He emigrated to Australia in 1923, where he married in Sydney.

⁸¹ See *Skidmore Families of West Bromwich, Staffordshire, later at Hoyland, West Yorkshire, 1810-1910* by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

EMIGRANTS FROM THE SCUDAMORE FAMILIES OUT OF HEREFORDSHIRE⁸²

1863

WINIFRED SCUDAMORE

WINIFRED SCUDAMORE, baptised 9 December 1834 at Abenhall, Gloucestershire, was a daughter of John Scudamore by his first wife Ann (Young). She was living unmarried at Abenhall in 1856 and travelled **to Australia in 1863 aboard the ship *Great Victoria***, arriving in Melbourne on 26 November with her then 3 year old son William Scudamore. She married John Stenner (born about 1827 in Minehead, Somerset, son of William and Elizabeth (Thawe) Stenner, died 1871 in Victoria) at St Paul's Church, Melbourne on 10 October 1868 and they had a son John William Stenner in 1869 who died in 1870 aged 6 months. Mrs Stenner died on 25 January 1883 at 26 Greville Street, Prahran, Victoria⁸³.

Winifred Scudamore had a son, born in England,

- i. **WILLIAM** called Scudamore, born about 1853, whose birth registration has not been found and whose father is unknown. He went to Australia with his mother in 1860, where he was a carpenter. He married Mary Kelly on 18 April 1880 at the Registry Office, Gore Street, Fitzroy, Victoria. Mary Kelly was born 4 August 1857 at Pennyweight Flat, Guildford (near Castlemaine) Victoria, daughter of John and Mary (Sullivan) Kelly. She died on 13 February 1945 at Bendigo Benevolent Home, Bendigo, Victoria. Mr Scudamore died of tuberculosis on 14 April 1907 in Victoria, aged 47 and is buried at the Boorondara Cemetery, Kew along with his son William Dennis David Scudamore.



*Tasman James Lewis, his mother, Katie Lewis née Scudamore, her mother, Mary Scudamore née Kelly.
Photograph posted at Ancestry.com.*

Children of William and Mary (Kelly) Scudamore, born in Victoria,

- i. A baby son, born and died in Prahran in 1880.
- ii. Mary Winifred, born 1881 in Prahran, died in Melbourne in 1903.
- iii. John, born 1883 in Richmond, Victoria. He married Mary Ann Hudson in 1919 at Collingwood, Victoria. They had no children. Mrs Scudamore died at Greenvale, Victoria in May 1969 aged 77 and is buried with her husband at the Springvale Cemetery, Victoria. Mr Scudamore died in Heidelberg, Victoria on 21 October 1864.
- iv. Kate, born 23 October 1885 at 5 Donald Street, Prahran, Victoria, died 4 January 1926. She married Thomas Hugh Lewis (1880-1947) on 17 December 1906 at the Registry Office at Collingwood, Victoria. They had four children,

⁸² To read about this family line, see *Skydmores/ Scudamores of Thrupton, Abenhall, Hentland (Herefordshire), & including Gallatin Co., Illinois, & also Prince George's County, Maryland*, edited by Linda Moffatt from the original work of Warren Skidmore at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

⁸³ Information on Winifred Scudamore and her son William was kindly provided by Joy Barrett, her great great grand-daughter.

William Thomas Hugh, Tasman James Wildred, Thomas Donald and Burnley John Dennis. Mrs Lewis died at Heidelberg, Victoria on 4 January 1926.

- v. Annie, born 1887 in Melbourne. She married firstly Thomas Roundtree Falkingbridge and secondly Albert Martin. Mrs Martin died at Eltham in 1926.
- vi. William Alfred, born and died at Armadale in 1890.
- vii. William Dennis David, born 1892 in Richmond, died 18 September 1914 from tuberculosis, aged 22.
- viii. Harriet Emily, born 1895 in Richmond and died there in 1904.

A daughter, born in Australia,

- ii. Ada Winifred WARD, born 14 October 1865 at Cogills Creek. Her mother Winifred stated at the child's birth registration that she was married to William Ward in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England in 1858 (for which there is presently no evidence). Ada's name was changed to Ada Scudamore. She married Frank Esau Place in 1886 and they had two daughters, Adelaide Winifred Maria Place (1886-1900) and Ada May Victoria Place (1890-1960). Ada Place died aged 30 in 1895 and her two daughters were raised by William Scudamore, her half-brother and his wife Mary.

pre-WW1

CORNELIUS SCUDAMORE

CORNELIUS SCUDAMORE, born 1893 in Southwark, London, was a son of Cornelius and Phoebe Priscilla (Young) Scudamore. He emigrated to Queensland, Australia before the first World War. He married Elsie Lilian Flint on 28 August 1915 and was living at Deception Bay in 1955.

He died on 2 November 1964. Had issue, two sons and a daughter.

c.1912

ADA LOUISE (PEACH) SCUDAMORE and sons

ALBERT GODWIN SCUDAMORE and RICHARD SCUDAMORE

ADA LOUISE PEACH (born 1882, died in Australia in 1952), was a daughter of Arthur George Peach. Shortly after the death of her husband **ALBERT SCUDAMORE** (1862-1912, of Churcham and Cheltenham, Gloucestershire) Mrs. Scudamore emigrated to Australia, taking with her the two sons by him.

ALBERT GODWIN (SAM) SCUDAMORE, of Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, born at Cheltenham 3 August 1904. He married Jean (born 1914), a daughter of George Vincent William of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Mr and Mrs Scudamore lived at Corinda (near Brisbane). He died on 28 December 1992, having had issue, two sons.

20th C

NANCY IRENE (SCUDAMORE) LEIGH

NANCY IRENE SCUDAMORE, born 13 August 1926, was the daughter of Rev. William Scudamore, an army chaplain, and his wife Margaret Sarah Kinsey. She married on 12 April 1950 Ronald James Leigh (born 29 March 1925) who was a Captain in the Royal Marines (and is now retired). Captain and Mrs. Leigh live in Adelaide, South Australia.