

SCUDAMORE SHIPWRIGHTS OF WOOLWICH AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

edited by Linda Moffatt 2015

This account of the family at Woolwich, Kent and at Whippingham, Isle of Wight is largely the work in 1992 of the late John Hunt of Pottton, Bedfordshire, to which I have added. Additional material to be found here by the late Warren Skidmore concerns the possible origin of this family line. LM.

The heads of household are assigned a number and can be found in the databases of the Skidmore/ Scudamore One-Name Study with the code WCH/ IOW (Woolwich/ Isle of Wight).

Additions and errors may be sent to skidmore@one-name.org.

The earliest ancestor of the Scudamore family of the Isle of Wight, England, to be certainly identified, is

1. **THOMAS SCUDAMORE** of Woolwich, Kent, who was born about 1747. Warren Skidmore suggests that this Thomas may have been kin of a John Scudamore, a shipwright from Presteigne, Radnorshire who went up to the city of London. John was called of _____ in Surrey when his will was proved on 17 January 1742 at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. His wife Elinor survived him (as did a sister Margaret back at Presteigne), but no children are mentioned in his will. The Scudamores at Presteigne were a branch of the principal family at Kentchurch Court in Herefordshire. See Appendix 1.

Thomas Scudamore was apprenticed in 1762 to Thomas Roberts, a quartermaster of Deptford St Paul, London. He married Elizabeth Diaper on 22 October 1774 at East Greenwich and took his family from Woolwich to Hampshire about 1780. He was employed as a shipwright at Whippingham on the Isle of Wight, where he was buried on 25 November 1800, aged 53. They had (as known) three children,

2. i. THOMAS, born 3 November 1775, of whom further.
- ii. Elizabeth, born 6 March (baptized on 25 March at St Mary Magdalene, Woolwich on 25 March) 1778. She was buried, an infant, on 8 October 1778.
- iii. Sarah, baptized at St Mary's, Portsea, Hampshire, on 7 October 1781.

The only son,

2. **THOMAS SCUDAMORE**, was born on 3 November (baptized on 18 November at St Mary Magdalene, Woolwich) 1775. He married Mary Rimer (born in Hampshire in 1779, died 1850) on 19 January 1800 at Whippingham. He was a journeyman shipwright, and was buried at East Cowes on 14 August 1864, aged 87. They had 14 children, all christened at Whippingham,

- i. Elizabeth, born 25 April (baptized 4 May) 1800. She was deaf from 4 years of age and worked for many years as a housemaid for the Shedden family at Springhill, Whippingham before receiving a pension and living with her niece Mary Scudamore at the Post Office in East Cowes. She died unmarried at Whippingham on 5 April 1873.
3. ii. William, born 30 July (baptized 9 August) 1801, of whom further.
- iii. Thomas, of Hamble-le-Rice, Hampshire, born 12 December (baptized 26 December) 1802. He married Hannah (who died in 1867), the daughter of Henry Ethridge and previously the widow of _____ Mason. He was a ship's carpenter at East Cowes and Southampton. He was buried at East Cowes on 9 June 1861. They had no children.
- iv. John, born 6 January (baptized 3 February) 1805. He died an infant and was buried at Whippingham on 20 September 1807.
- v. Sarah, born 8 November (baptized 7 December) 1806. She died an infant the same year.
- vi. Mary Ann, born 6 November (baptized 11 December) 1808. She married Charles Heffer of Gloucester Place, London (son of Samuel Heffer, a cabinet maker) on 21 June 1842 at Christ Church, St Marylebone, London. Her sister Matilda and future brother-in-law Thomas Hyder were

- the witnesses. Mary Ann Heffer died in 1844Q2 in Marylebone and her husband married secondly a year later.
- vii. Jane, born 3 February (baptized 28 February) 1810. She was buried, unmarried, at Whippingham on 18 November 1830.
 - viii. Eliza, born 5 April (baptized 3 May) 1812. Nothing further presently known.
 - ix. Matilda, born 27 October (baptized 20 November) 1814. She married Thomas Hyder, an inspector of porters at Cambridge Rail Station and later a coal agent at Hitchin, Hertfordshire (born about 1818 at Broxbourne, Kent, son of Thomas Hyder) on 18 December 1842 at Christ Church, St Marylebone, London. Her sister Mary Ann and brother-in-law Thomas Hyder were the witnesses. Matilda Hyder died in Hitchin in 1887 aged 72.
Children, as known - Matilda, Jesse, Mary Jane, Susannah, Thomas S., Eliza, Robert S.
 - x. George, born 25 October (baptized 24 November) 1816. He never married and was buried at East Cowes on 17 August 1842.
 - xi. Martha, baptized 9 May 1819. She married firstly James Attrill on 18 July 1844 at St Mildred's, Whippingham and secondly Francis Farley, a mason's labourer (born about 1808 at Carisbrooke, Hampshire) on 7 January 1855 at Whippingham. They were living in 1861 at Dover Terrace, East Cowes. In her widowhood, she lived with her son Frank's family in Holdenhurst, Hampshire, where she died in 1892 aged 71.
Children, as known - Mary Jane Attrill; Frank Farley, Matilda Farley.
 - xii. Emma, born 6 November (baptized 8 December) 1822. She died in childhood, and was buried at Whippingham on 28 February 1832.
 - xiii. Henry, born 23 April (baptized 23 May) 1824. He died in infancy and was buried at Whippingham, on 10 October 1824.
 - 4. xiv. **JOSEPH**, of Hamble-le-Rice, baptized 13 November 1825. He married firstly Elizabeth Ratty (born about 1831 in Hamble, daughter of James Ratty) on 18 October 1852 at Whippingham. She died in 1874 aged 33, having had six children, and Joseph married secondly Ann Ratty (born 1821 in Camden Town, London), a spinster aged 47, on 25 October 1874 at Southampton. He was a shipwright and lived with his family in Copperhill Terrace, Hamble. Ann Scudamore died in 1905 aged 78, her husband in 1907 aged 81.
 - i. Emma Elizabeth, born 1853Q2. She married Alfred Hermon, a decorator from London, in Islington, London in 1879Q1. They lived in Cornwall Terrace, Friern Barnet, Middlesex.
Children, as known - Edith E., Alfred H.
 - ii. Ann Matilda, born 1855Q1. She was a servant for many years to the household of gold refiner John B. Howell in Hatton Garden, London before her marriage. *Annie* Matilda Scudamore married widower Edward Bridge, a road labourer (born 1846 in Maidstone, son of Edward Bridge, labourer) on 18 September 1892 at St Peter's, Saffron Hill, Holborn. George Fickner [Lickner?] and Nora Bridge were witnesses. *Stephen* and Annie Bridge lived in Ruislip and in Northwood, Middlesex. Daughters Norah and Bessie.
 - iii. William, born and died in 1856Q4.
 - iv. Elizabeth Ann, born 1858Q1 in Warsash, Hampshire. She died in 1873Q1 aged 14.
 - v. Sarah Jane, born and died in 1860Q1.
 - vi. Edith, born 1871Q1. Died in 1873Q4 aged 2.

The eldest son,

3. WILLIAM SCUDAMORE, of Whippingham and East Cowes, was born on 30 July (baptized at Whippingham on 9 August) 1801. He married firstly Mary Ridgely (1807-1834) on 11 January 1829 at Whippingham who died at Whippingham on 3 July 1834 and by whom he had six children.

He married secondly Mary Bascombe (1813-1906) on 28 May 1837 at Whippingham. He was a shipwright at East Cowes, and was buried at Whippingham on 17 November 1839. His widow supported her family as postmistress at Whippingham after his death. They had three children.

Children of William and Mary (Ridgely) Scudamore,

- i. Mary Jane, born 19 January (baptized at Whippingham on 24 October) 1830. She married William

Dell (son of John Dell) on 25 April 1853 at Whippingham and lived in the mid-1850s in Paddington, London. She was living with her children at the time of the 1861 census at 3 Vulcan Terrace, Southampton. By 1871 Mary Jane Dell was widowed and obliged to seek shelter for herself and her daughter Harriet in Carisbrooke Workhouse, on the Isle of Wight.

She married secondly, on 29 December 1872 at St John's, Northwood, Isle of Wight, George Martin Scovell (son of Henry Scovell). She perhaps married thirdly William Fry in 1874 and died on the Isle of Wight in 1876 aged 46.

Dell children, as known - William, Albert and Harriet Mary.

- ii. Harriett, born 14 April (baptized 15 May) 1831. She was in service to the Vicar of Holy Trinity, Cowes, Isle of Wight before her marriage to John Sargent, a policeman of 22 King Street (born about 1837 in Osmington, Dorset, son of William Sargent, a publican), on 23 January 1863 at St George's, Hanover Square, London. They lived in Peabody Buildings, Westminster and later Finsbury Pavement, Finsbury. In Mr Sargent's retirement they moved to Manor Road, East Ham. His death was *perhaps* that registered on the Isle of Wight in 1904, aged 68. Children, as known - John W., Annie E., Herbert H., Harriet M., Albert.
- 5. iii. **WILLIAM**, baptized at East Cowes in 1833 and raised by his grandfather Thomas Scudamore. He married firstly on 9 December 1858 at Lee in Lewisham, London, Rebecca Chapple (born about 1835 in Deptford) and was living with his wife at the time of the 1861 census in the home of her widowed mother Mary Chappell in Deptford. They had no children and Rebecca Scudamore died in 1866.

In 1868Q3 he married secondly at St Mary's, Rotherhithe, Sarah Ann Smith (born about 1847 in Deptford, or Lambeth according to the 1911 census). He was a shipwright in the Chatham Royal Naval Dockyard and their home was in Gillingham, Kent. He died on 7 July 1889 leaving children by his second wife. His widow remained in Gillingham until at least 1891.

- 8. i. WILLIAM GEORGE, born 1872Q2 on the Isle of Dogs, Poplar, London. He was a Staff Sergeant in the Royal Engineers. He married Mary Frances Jeffers in 1907Q4 (born about 1879 in Mallow, County Cork) in Farnham registration district. He died in 1961 aged 88.

- i. William, born about 1909 in Colombo, Ceylon.

- ii. Maria C., born 1911Q3.

- 9. ii. CHARLES HENRY ALFRED, (sometimes found as Charles Alfred Henry) born 1873Q4 on the Isle of Dogs. He enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1893¹. He married Maud Humphrey (born about 1884 in Hull) in 1906Q1 at St Paul's, Hull, Yorkshire. At the time of the 1911 census he was a ward room messman in Devonport, Devon, where their home was at 47 Clarence Place, Morristown. He died on 14 March 1956 in Sutton Valence, Kent, aged 82.

A son,

- i. CHARLES JOHN WILLIAM, born 1908Q4. He died in 1975 in Somerset.

- iii. Ada Alice, 1878Q2 in Chatham. She married in 1898Q2 James Robert Weeks. At the time of the 1901 census she was living alone at 18 Garden Row, Chatham: the enumerator noted 'Husband away. Naval Man. 1st Class P.O.'

- iv. Louisa Alice, born near the end of 1880 in New Brompton. She married, on 1 August 1899 at Gillingham, Kent, William Curry, a Petty Officer in the Royal Navy on HMS *Pembroke* (son of Robert Curry, a blacksmith).

- v. Florence Minnie, born 1883Q1 in New Brompton. She married in 1902Q1 Albert Charles Knott.

William and Mary (Bascombe) Scudamore

- 6. iv. HENRY⁴, born 1837. A shipwright, at first at Whippingham and later in Poplar, he married Eliza _____ (born about 1840 in Littleport, Cambridgeshire). They were living at the time of the 1871 census at 5 Newcastle Street, Poplar, London and, by 1881, had moved to 133 Manchester Road there. Not yet found after 1881.

A son,

- i. Henry, born about 1865 in Deptford, whose birth registration and whereabouts in 1871 are presently unknown. He was a general labourer in Poplar in 1881.

- v. Eliza, baptized at Whippingham on 23 September 1838. She married Edward Harvey in 1863Q4 in

¹ The National Archives - Admiralty, Navy, Royal Marines, and Coastguard. ADM 188/292/177072.

East Cowes. She was widowed by 1871 and for many years lived with her mother in Whippingham.

Children, as known - Ann E., Alice M., Edward G.

7. vi. WILLIAM GEORGE, a posthumous child, born 5 May (baptized at East Cowes on 31 May) 1840. A shipwright, he married Clara Linington (born 1839 at Chale on the Isle of Wight) in 1869Q1 at Marylebone, London and lived at 7 Melbourne Place, Portsea. His wife had been before their marriage a cook at a girls' school called Park Villa in Whippingham.

George Scudamore retired to 1 Half Moon Street, Portsmouth. He died at Portsmouth in 1916, leaving five children born at Portsea. His widow Clara Scudamore died at Portsmouth in 1925.

- i. William George, born 1870Q3. He died an infant in 1871.
- ii. Clara Annie, baptized at St Mary's, Portsea on 29 December 1872. She married Ernest John Stevens Blanchard, brewer's clerk and later a tramway conductor, on 27 October 1894 at Portsea. Ernest Blanchard died in 1914 aged 42, his wife in 1943 aged 71
Children - Grace Marion, Arthur Scudamore, Evelyn May, Beatrice Daisy, Ernest George, John C.
- iii. Alice May, born 1876Q1. She was an assistant in a draper's shop before her marriage to William Frederick Knowler, a projectile inspector for the Admiralty (born about 1870 in Liverpool) on 24 September 1903 at Portsmouth. Their first child David was born in Portsmouth but they were living by 1911 in Tinsley, Sheffield. They appear to have returned to Portsmouth, where Mr Knowler died in 1929 aged 59, his wife in 1963 aged 88.
Children, as known - David S. (1905-11), John A., Peter R.
- iv. Beatrice Rose, born 1877Q4. She married Arthur Norman Creyke, a broad cooper in a brewery in Brighton (born about 1877), on 27 November 1909 at Portsmouth. They moved to Shropshire after 1911. Mr Creyke died in 1960 aged 84, his wife in 1963 aged 85.
Children, as known - Joan, Owen C. and two further sons.
- v. Daisy Bertha Mary, born November 1880. She became the actress, Margaret Scudamore. Her long stage career is best noticed in The Times obituary of 8 October 1958 which repeated the error that F. A. Scudamore was her father. It may be taken as certain that Fortunatus Augustine Davis Scudamore acted in loco parentis to Margaret, and that undoubtedly she returned the kindness of his family to her with affection. For additional information on this confusion see the Occasional Paper by Warren Skidmore, *Fortunatus Augustine Davis Scudamore (1846-1904), Playwright*, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.
She married firstly George Ellsworthy ("Roy") Redgrave on 23 September 1907 in Glasgow. Their marriage was later dissolved. Margaret D. S. Redgrave married secondly James P. Anderson, formerly employed by the Ceylon and Eastern Agency, in 1922 at London.
Children: Michael Redgrave (1908-1985), knighted in 1959 for services to the theatre; Peg Anderson.



Daisy as actress, Margaret Scudamore



*Margaret Scudamore in
A Canterbury Tale 1944*

OTHER EVENTS IN SOUTH HAMPSHIRE WHICH MIGHT RELATE TO THIS FAMILY

Alverstoke, Hampshire

1732 03 31 marr Thomas SCUDAMORE and Bettson COLLINS

St Thomas, Portsmouth, Hampshire

1732/3 02 18 bap Thomas son of Thomas and Betson SCUDIMORE

1735 10 13 bap Ann dau of Thomas and Bettson SCUDIMORE

St Mary, Portsea, Hampshire

1737 04 16 marr John SMITH and Bettstone SCUDMORE

Holy Trinity, Gosport, Hampshire

1796 01 11 marr Edward SCUDAMORE and Mary MILES

1811 05 07 marr Edward SCUDAMORE and Sarah WETHERS

APPENDIX 1

The following is extracted from *Thirty Generations of the Scudamore/Skidmore Family in England and America* by Warren Skidmore, 2nd edition 2006.

The second son of SIR JOHN SKYDMORE, KT., of Kentchurch, Bredwardine, Moccas and Thrupton, Herefordshire:

JAMES SKYDMORE, of Kentchurch. He contracted on 14 January 1441 to serve Sir James Ormond in Normandy for one year supplying six mounted archers and were wearing the livery of the duke of York, for which he was to receive 12sh a day (and his archers 6sh). James Skydmore married Margaret, daughter of Gruffydd ap Nicholas of Newton, Carmarthenshire. He was living in 1454 when his father-in-law was arrested and charged at Hereford for "greatly grieving" the Crown's subjects but Gruffydd was promptly rescued by the local influence exerted by Sir John Skydmore on his behalf. He was slain for his service to HENRY VI at the manor house at Kingchurch [Kentchurch] according to William of Worcester. He died during the lifetime of his father leaving issue,

1. THOMAS, of Kentchurch, his heir.
2. **PETER, of Presteigne, Radnorshire.** In 1478 he and a number of men had illegally garrisoned Pembroke Castle but had a pardon by the special request of the Queen on 18 November of that year. He had a grant for life on 20 September 1485 of the office of Keeper of Haywood Forest beside the city of Hereford. On 3 June 1489 he had a grant of 20 marks annually out of the estate of his brother Thomas Skydmore so long as his nephew James was a minor. He was appointed during pleasure as Escheator in both Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire by Prince Arthur on 30 September 1490 and served in Carmarthenshire until Michaelmas 1491 and in Cardiganshire until February 1493. As Peter Skudamore, gentleman, he was a juror on 19 January 1504 at the inquest of John, Lord Powys. He married Joan _____ (who survived him) and died at Presteigne in June 1509. His widow Joan was party to a suit against Alice Maltis alias Walker on 17 July 1510 about a disputed will at Hereford. They left posterity at Little Brampton in PRESTEIGNE, RADNORSHIRE (noticed elsewhere), and at Knill, Herefordshire. Had issue,
 1. Thomas, his heir.
 2. John.
 1. Isabel. She was betrothed at the time of her father's death to John ap Richard ap Madocke.
3. (probably) Hugh. He was appointed a Bailiff Itinerant in both Cardigan and Llanbadarn, Cardiganshire, at Michaelmas 1492. Nothing further is known of him and he perhaps died soon after.

PRESTEIGN, RADNORSHIRE

This family of substantial yeomen was descended from Peter Skydmore (formerly of KENTCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE) who died at Presteign in June 1509.

[Warren does not give detail of the descent over the following century and a half but the land at Little Brampton and Knill remained in the family's hands. L.M.]

THOMAS SKYDMORE, of Little Brampton in Presteigne, was taxed on land in both Knill and at Little Brampton in the military assessment of 1663. Little Brampton (of lesser value) was clearly his abode for he paid the tax there on two hearths two years later. In 1674 he was a deponent in a suit between Philip Lewes and Francis Muscott about the tithes of the Rectory of Presteigne and the villages of Nash and Brampton. It seems likely that he was the man of his name living in 1699 when he was a party to a deed of Edward Harley of Brampton Bryan together with Henry Pyfinch and Thomas Owen of Little Brampton for land at Atteraft Mountain. He was buried at Knill on 18 January 1711/2 leaving issue by his wife Margaret _____ (who had been buried at Knill on 5 December 1699),

1. James, his heir, a weaver of Little Brampton. He married Mary Craft (who survived him) on 6 June 1710, but left no issue. His will dated 19 February 1736 gave legacies to a number of his kinfolk and made his wife (unnamed) his residual heir. To his nephew John Scudamore of the city of London he left a messuage in Little Brampton and all of his land at Huchwall [Hookswall] in the parish of Knill. His nephew was to pay all of the legacies and to serve as the sole executor. James Scudamore was buried at Knill on 25 May 1736 but called "of the parish of Presteign." His widow Mary Scudamore of Presteign was buried at Knill on 23 April 1740.
2. THOMAS, of whom further.
3. Edward. He was living in 1736 when he was left 21 shillings in the will of his brother James.
4. Joseph. Living in 1736 when he was left 21 shillings in the will of his brother.
1. Margaret, baptized 19 February 1674/5 at Presteign. She married _____ Thomas of Titley, Herefordshire, and was living his widow in 1736 with her three children remembered in the will of her brother James Scudamore.
2. Elizabeth. She married _____ Toft of Caynham, Shropshire, and was living his widow in 1736 when she and a daughter were remembered with 21 shillings in the will of her brother James.

A son,

THOMAS SKYDMORE, was of Little Brompton and Knill. He married Elinor Evans of 20 May 1695, both called "of the Court House" in the Knill register. He was buried on 31 December 1732 at Knill having had issue,

1. Thomas, baptized 13 April 1701. He died before his father and was buried as Thomas Scudamore, junior, on 10 January 1728/9 at Knill.
2. John (a twin), baptized 6 April 1706. He was a shipwright in the city of London. He married Elinor _____ who survived him. His will dated 30 June 1740 remembers his sister Margaret and left to his widow and executrix all his freehold lands and tenements at Presteign left to him by his uncle James Scudamore "to whom I am likewise heir at law." His is called of _____ in Surrey on 17 January 1742 when his will was proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.
1. Margaret, baptized 14 May 1696. She married _____ Crowder and was living in 1740 when she was left 21 shillings in the will of her brother John.
2. Elizabeth, baptized 17 March 1698/9. She married _____ Jones and was living in the city of London in 1736 according to the will of her uncle James Scudamore.
3. Mary (a twin), baptized 6 April 1706.

NOTES

JOHN, a son of RICHARD SKIDMORE of Little Brampton, was christened on 1 June 1665 at Presteign.

MARGARET SCUDAMORE was buried at Knill on 25 April 1740.

The eventual heir to Hookswall was John Scudamore who left a will dated 19 September 1772. He left Hookswall "wherein I now dwell" to Mrs. Elizabeth Suker, a widow, of Evenjobb in Old Radnor, his intended wife. His will was proved 15 July 1777 by Francis Stephens of Woodside in Knill who he had named as his executor.