

# Muiravonside

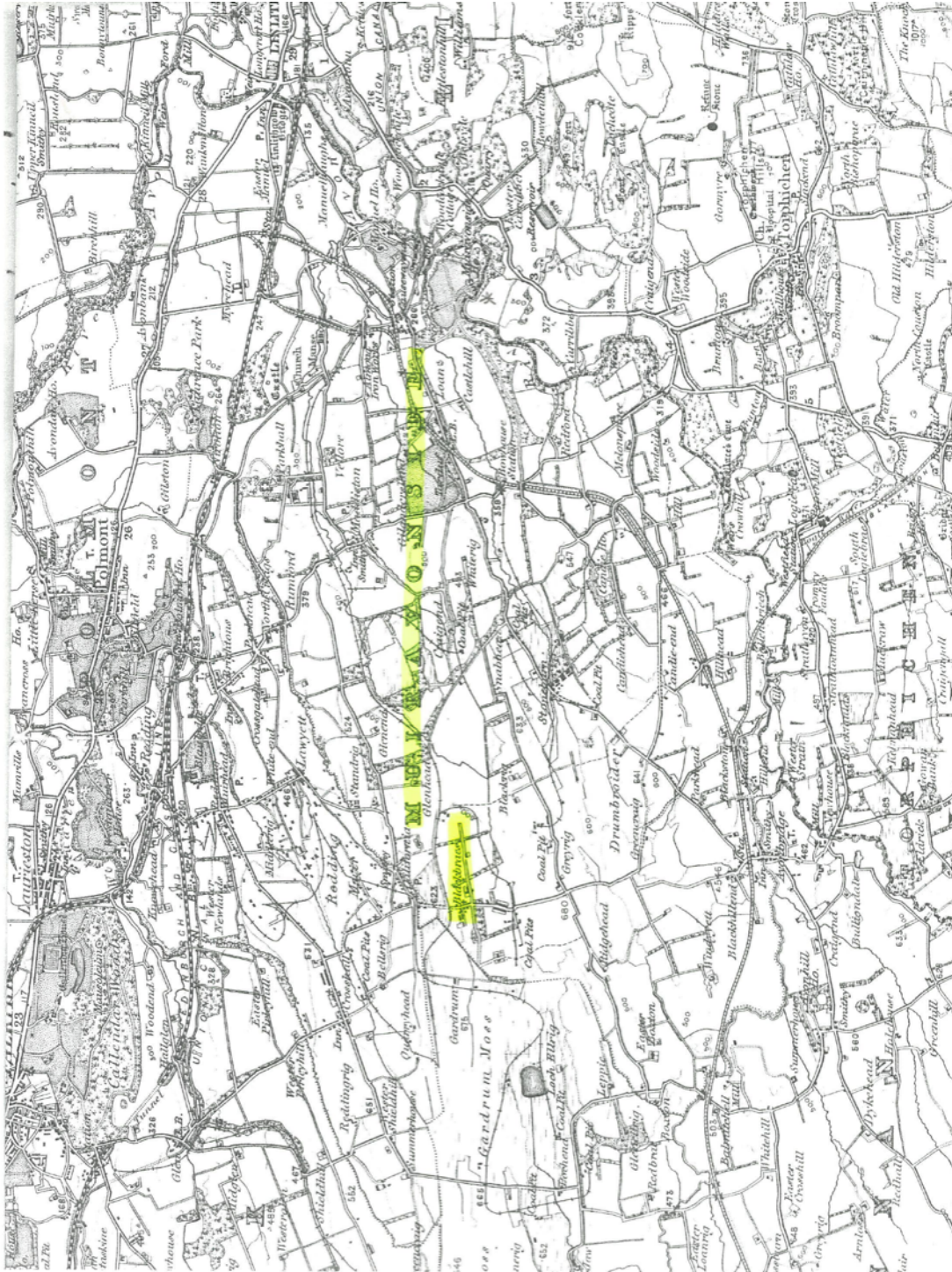
*Muiravonside (popularly Moranside), or Muirton, a parish of SE Stirlingshire, traversed by the Slamannan and the Edinburgh and Glasgow sections of the North British railway, with the stations of Manuel, Causewayend, Bowhouse, Blackstone, and Avonbridge. It also contains Almond Iron-works, Blackbraes, Maddiston, and Standrigg villages, with parts of Linlithgow Bridge, Rumford, and Avonbridge. It was anciently part of Falkirk parish, and does not appear on record as a separate parish till the year 1606. It is bounded on the south by Slamannan, NW by Falkirk and Polmont, and on all other sides by Linlithgowshire. Its utmost length from ENE to WSW is almost 7 miles, its breadth is about 3 miles; and its area is 8015 acres. The river Aven, from which Muiravonside derives its name, winds  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles ESE along Slamannan boundary,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  north-eastward and west by northward along all the Linlithgowshire border, though the point where it first touches and that where it quits the parish are only  $6\frac{3}{4}$  miles distant. Over most of its course it is curtained with wood, or flanked with the sides of a romantic dell. or otherwise picturesque. The Hollock, Manuel, Sandyford, and other burns, rise in the interior and run to the Aven, but are all short and small. Sinking in the extreme north to less than 200 feet above sea-level, the surface thence rises south-westward to 493 feet at Whiterig, 524 near Glenend, 547 near Candy House, 641 at Greencraig, and 546 near Blackhillend. Thus the extreme west of the parish is part of the moorish plateau which flanks the south side of the great dingle traversed by the Clyde and Forth canal, whilst the rest of it declines in ever-varying ridges toward the dell of the Aven and the Carse of Forth. The higher grounds have rarely an elevation of more than 200 feet above the hollows at their base; yet they command a gorgeous prospect of the basin of the Forth, from Stirling to the Lothians, and from the flanks of the Carse to the Ochil Hills. The rocks are partly eruptive, partly carboniferous. A fine-grained blue trap has been largely quarried, as also has sandstone of very close grain, with a fracture resembling that of marble and with capacity of retaining sculpture uninjured through centuries. Coal, which was formerly worked on only a limited scale, is now mined very extensively; and ironstone, yielding metal of the finest quality, but containing a large percentage of refuse, is worked by the Carron Company. The soil of the western district is partly spongy, and nearly all cold and wet; of the eastern district is light and gravelly, encumbered with many stones; and in parts of the interior is clayey. Much that was formerly moor and moss has nearly all been brought under the plough; and a fair proportion of the entire area is occupied by plantation, so disposed as to embellish tracts naturally bleak and dismal. MANUEL PRIORY is noticed deparately; and other antiquities are a series of fortified eminences extending from Harlelar to Sight Hill, with ruins of a pre-Reformation chapel at Ballenbriech. Muiravonside House, on the left bank of the Aven,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles SW of Linlithgow is the seat of John Stirling, Esq. The parish church, 3 miles W by S of Linlithgow, was built about 1808. There is also a free church. — Ord. Sur., 31, 1867.*

# Janet Walker



A map of the counties of Stirling, Dumbarton, Renfrew and parts of Lanark and Ayr. Stirling county or Stirlingshire is a large county extending from Loc Lomond on the north and west to the Forth on the east. Dumbarton county lies to the west of it and extends to the Clyde. Lanark lies to the south of Stirling. All of our known Walker and Ballantyne ancestors came from these three counties in Scotland with the parishes of Muiravonside and Polmont in Stirling and New Monkland and Shotts in Lanark being of particular interest.

# Muiravonside



Map of Muiravonside Parish showing the village of Muiravonside and Hamlets of Black Braes and Dykehead. Janet Walker and her four sisters were born at Black Braes. Her sister Mary and husband Robert Black lived at Dykehead. The River Avon extends from the south-east corner of the parish in a north- westerly direction to Muiravonside and hence to Linnithgow before it leaves the parish in its north-east corner.

# *Janet Walker*

## *John Wilson Farmer, Craig Mad, Blackbraes*

*John Wilson was born on January 23, 1813 at Riccarton, Linlithgow. He married Helen Fleming. Their children included John, Helen and Elizabeth. Elizabeth Wilson married Alexander Martin in 1883 and immediately afterwards they sailed to Canada and then to the Bell Farm at Indian Head, Saskatchewan where they had job offers. Helen Wilson married Alexander's brother William Martin. Helen and William Martin had four children, Helen, John, Alex and Jeanie. Helen died when the children were still young. Two of them, John and Jeanie, came to Canada and married Stilborns.*

*John Wilson began his training as a farmer assistant but became a servant. After some time "we took a Grocers and Victualleur's shop". As he wrote, "we made some money" so he bought a farm. He called it Craig Mad farm. It was very close to Blackbraes, Muiravonside. He farmed it for 30 years. In his later years he prepared a biography where he described events and customs throughout his lifetime, mostly in Muiravonside. They would be experiences of Janet Walker and her ancestors. Some of these are presented in the next few pages.*

### **The Devil's Wind**

Riccarton, since I mind, was a country village of about twenty cottars houses and two farms held by James Scott and Christopher Meikle. The cottars houses were covered with fail and thatch. The most of them had three sets of couples in them. There was no plaster and some were covered with basses (bark) and some had nothing. You could look up the 'lum' and count the stars. Men called 'lantern men' were employed in the winter time threshing with the flail. They threshed by the 'boll' for which they were paid 10d, and they counted on making 20d a day and got their dinner. The victual was cleaned with the wind between the barn doors. I have heard Mrs. Scott telling that her father got a pair of fanners. They were called the 'devil's wind'.

**fail** and **thatch**(heather, brome, wheat straw) **lum**(chimney) **flail**(tool used for threshing) **boll**(a dry measure, e.g. a boll of oats would contain about 6 bushels) **victuals**(edibles).

# *Muiravonside*

## **Resurrectioning**

At this time there was great talk about buying the dead. It was called the 'resurrectioning! In the year 1820 a great thing happened. Three corpses were found hidden in a dung hill on Gilston farm at the east end of Polmont. Two men with a gig were seen about four o'clock in the afternoon by one of the servant men who sent word home to his master, Sandy Scott of Gilston. He got on his riding horse and pursued them. When he came to the road he could not see them, but he found the track of the gig, and came up to them at the cross of Linlithgow. When the people who had gathered saw the bodies, they nearly killed the men and burned the gig. About the same time, the daughter of David Robertson of Manuelrig Farm was lifted out of Muiravonside Churchyard. Her body was found at Willoxholm planting near the east end of Linlithgow. It was taken home and buried it under the step of the barn door. After that Linlithgow Churchyard was watched for twenty years. The public gave Mr. Scott of Gilston a present of a silver set, but I don't know what the set was. One thing was a 'Toddy bowl'. It could hold three bottles of whiskey made into Toddy. Two men in Edinburgh had a good deal to do with the lifting of the bodies. They kept a lodging house in the west part, and many people were missed. It was found that they had been 'Burked' as it was called. There was a Dr. Knox who received the bodies. This house is known in Edinburgh to this day .

## **Opening of the Canal**

In 1821 - 22 the Union Canal was being made and during that time, Linlithgow was a terrible place. There was no police then. I have heard a man telling that he had seen four pairs of Irishmen fighting at once. They just fought it out. The Public Houses were open Sunday and Saturday.

It was a great day the opening of the canal in 1822. I was at the school at King's Castle and we all got away to see the boat. Before the canal was opened, there was no conveyance for travellers. The mail from Stirling to Edinburgh passed east in the morning and west at night. There was a two horse coach from Carron in the morning and back at night. The mails brought the letters to the post office. They were delivered in the towns but country letters lay until called for. I have known my father pay 3s for a letter from Haddington and 1/6 from Dalkeith. The newspapers came once a week and one paper served four houses. We got it Wednesday with the Edinburgh markets in it. We paid 2/6 a quarter for each family.

# *Janet Walker*

## **Highway Robbers**

At that time there wa a great stir about highway robbers. I have heard that cattle dealers rode long distances to markets. Mr.Henderson of Bonhard Farm came to Linlithgow Bridge one night. He was told that the robbers were out on the road and they wanted him to stay all night. But he would go on, and he looked if his pistols were alright. Soon after he went out, they heard three shots. It was afterwards found that Henderson was attacked by three men. One gripped his horse and he shot him. He heard the other two shots sough past him, but he got clear off . But he was said to have died soon after from the fright .

I remember my father going to Carron with a horse and cart to pay his iron and get more plow mounting. My brother, Robert, was going with him. They went away early in the morning so as to get to Falkirk early for fear of Robbers. I mind my Mother putting the pound notes in my Father's stockings, for the Falkirk road was a haunted road - miles of plantations and no' a house. There was one Jamieson, the leader of the gang, who was tried in Edinburgh and sentenced to be hanged at Linlithgow Bridge. He thought he would be rescued by the gang. He was brought from EdinbErgh by a party of soldiers. Orders were given by the sherriff that if any riot took place the prisoner should be shot first, but no one appeared or attempted a rescue. The place is known as the 'Gallows Hill' to this day.

## **From Servant to Vectualleur and Farmer- In his own words.**

When I was a servant, I never got a bad master. I always tried to do what was right and I may say I never got a bad word from either master or mistress. We made some money and I thought I would like a farm. I got one at Blackbraes. Craignad It was very poor and foul. The first year I sowed 12 bolls oats and I had 20 bolls of them. I had a good deal of work with the steading. I drained all the farm putting 200 drain tiles into it and about 100 carts of dung every year. The first year the farmers in the neighborhood of Linlithgow gave me a days ploughing to the number of 32 plows. It was a hard fight for a time. I said to Rob Waddell after I was recovering that I never lost heart. He said it had been gae strong to begin with. I was many a time obliged to Rob and was the better of being well neighbored.

# *Muiravonside*

## **Droughthie Year**

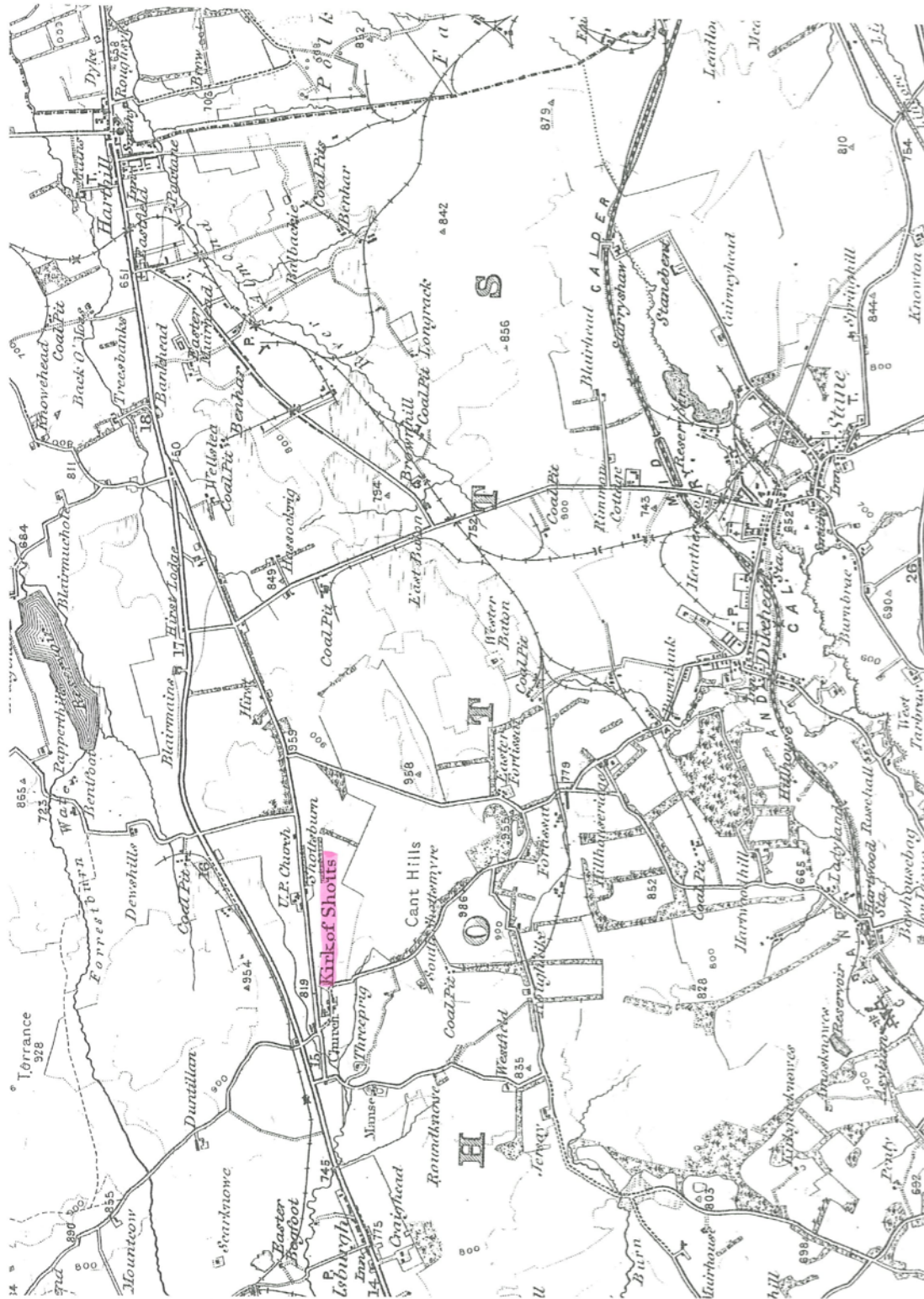
The year 1826 was memorable year - it was known as the 'drouthie year,' The barley never got a shower from the sowing to the shearing. Wheat was a great crop. The horses got wheat straw to eat all winter and I used to hear the men say they did as well as with the corn straw. It was like birthday to me for I went to David Scott at Hillhouse in August. The harvest was early. There were neither Hielan nor Irish shearers then. They hadn't the way of sending for them then as they have now. There was not an old wife in Linlithgowshire that could hold a 'heuk' but was at the harvest. They got three shillings a day. I was hired to sort cows all winter. The whole household, John and David Scott, Walter and Nannie Samuel, the Master and Mistress and two servant women all sat at one table at the kitchen fire. I have seen three spinning wheels going on a winter night. We all wore shirts of 'harn', (coarse unbleached linen).

We ploughed a part of every winter with four horses. I used to drive the plow for Walter Samuel. One day I was driving and he was holding and as I went whistling down the rig, the plow caught on a stone and threw him a full rig-breadth across and took away the beam of the plow. I still whistled away and he 'flit' on me for not stopping. I said I was not going to lose a turn of my whistle for him and his auld plow. I stayed there until I could go with a pair of horses. Fodder was very scarce that winter. It came a blast of snow about the middle of April and there were only three bunches of straw, but the snow did not lie.

The summer of 1827 was good. It was about half harvest at the second tryst. (Falkirk cattle market - there were three in the year; August, September an October) A thunderstorm broke over the tryst - the first I was at. It was weeks of dull weather afterwards but not much rain. Much of the victual was shorn damp and it grew and heated. I mind they sifted all the wheat at the mills.

**shearing**(cutting crop with a sycle) **Heilens** (Germans) **heuk**(hook) **flit**(to move house) **victuals**(food or provisions).

# Janet Walker



Map of the Muiravonsire Parish showing the village of Muiravonside, the hamlet of Brackbraes, originally Black Braes, and the Kirk of Shotts.

# Janet Walker

**Janet Walker** was born on August 26, 1859, in Muiravonside, Stirlingshire, Scotland, the fourth of five daughters of Robert Walker and Agnes Thomson Waddell (see below and map on previous page). She was born into a household of six children; three from a previous marriage of her mother to Robert Ballantyne and three from her father and mother's marriage. It was a poor family, her father was a 'sawyer' at the time of her birth but he had several other occupations over the years and sometimes he was unemployed. Consequently, Janet and her sisters were expected to earn some income, even at an early age. For example, in 1871 Janet (see next page) was an 11 year-old servant at the home of Robert Johnston, a farmer at Eastrigg Farm and in 1881 she served as cook to William Hodge a widower living at Govan, Lanark (see page 7). Janet was a religious person, often walking some distance from her home, or perhaps where she was working, to ShottsKirk for church services.



A genealogist from the Glasgow and West Scotland Genealogy Society determined that this building, photographed in 2006, was likely at the site of the former Blackbraes village and, hence, near the birthplace of Janet Walker.

Page 29.

1859. BIRTHS in the Parish of Muiravonside in the County of Stirling

No.	Surname, and Name (if given). Sex, when given or stated in English, or otherwise, after	When and Where Born, with Hour of Birth.	Sex.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession, of Father.	Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Signature, Qualification, and Residence of Informant, if out of the house in which the Birth occurred.	When and Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
86	Walker Janet	1859 August twenty sixth 10h 00h P.M.	F.	Robert Walker Sawyer	Agnes Walker (maiden name) Waddell	Robert Walker Father	1859 Sep 4 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup> Muiravonside W. M. Dundas Registrar
		Blackbraes					

Janet Walker was born at 10a.m. on August 28, 1859 at Black Braes in the Parish of Muiravonside, County Stirling, the daughter of Robert Walker and Agnes Walker (maiden surname Waddell).

# Janet Walker

Page 39] The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

* Civil Parish of	Quoad sacra Parish of	Parliamentary Burgh of	Royal Burgh of	Police Burgh of	Town of	Village or Hamlet of				
No. of Cottages	ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES occupied (G.) or vacant (V.)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION	AGE of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	Whether 1. Head and Dumb 2. Blind 3. Deaf and Dumb 4. Lame	Whether 1. Blind 2. Deaf and Dumb 3. Lame
125	East Blackrigg Farm 1		Robert Johnstone	Head	Uglt	63	Farmer	Lanarkshire, Scotland		
			Elizabeth Johnstone	Wife	Wm	36		Highland, Scotland		
			Thomas Johnstone	Son	Uglt	35				
			Margaret Johnstone	Daughter	Wm	31				
			Janet Johnstone	Daughter	Wm	11				
			Janet Walker	Servant						

An excerpt from the 1871 Census showing Janet was serving as a servant in the farm home of Robert Johnstone at the East Blackrigg Farm when she was only 11 years-old..

Source: FHL Film 0203690 GRO Ref Volume 646-2 EnumDist 24 Page 16

Ref no: 636247 Census Place: Govan, Lanark, Scotland Highlands/Lowland

ROAD, STREET, ADDRESS &c.	GIVEN NAME	SURNAME	RELATION to Head	CONDITION as to Marriage	AGE	SEX	OCCUPATION	BIRTHPLACE	HANDS
Dwelling: 3 Victoria Terr	Margaret W.	HODGE	Sister	Unmarried	70	F	Retired Housekeeper	Cardross, Dunbarton, Scotland	
Dwelling: 3 Victoria Terr	William B.	HODGE	Head	Widowed	74	M	Retired Writer	Cardross, Dunbarton, Scotland	
Dwelling: 3 Victoria Terr	Jane	HUSTON	Servant	Unmarried	26	F	Housemaid	Wigton, Wigtown, Scotland	
Dwelling: 3 Victoria Terr	Janet	WALKER	Servant	Unmarried	21	F	Cook	Muiravonside, Stirling, Scotland	
Dwelling: 3 Victoria Terr	Jane	WILLOT	Servant	Unmarried	33	F	Ladys Maid	Montrose, Forfar, Scotland	
Dwelling: 3 Victoria Terr	Jane	WILSON	Sister	Widowed	64	F	Annuitant	Cardross, Dunbarton, Scotland	

The record of the 1881 Census does not appear to be available. This production of the details shows that Janet was serving as a cook to a retired writer, William Hodge, at Victoria Terrace in the Govan Parish, Lanark. She was 21 years of age.

## *Janet Walker*

Janet Walker left her native Scotland to make a new home in Canada. Her destination was Winnipeg Manitoba. Her son Richard A. (Dick) Acton remembered his mother claiming that upon arrival she had a one pound note in her possession for which she had no further use so she returned it to her mother.

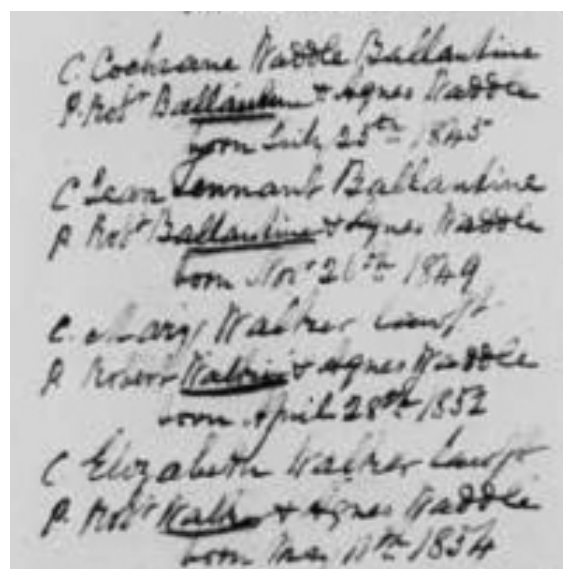
Janet's life in Canada will be presented later in this document, or, perhaps in the Rosewood chapter of this family history.

*Janet Walker*

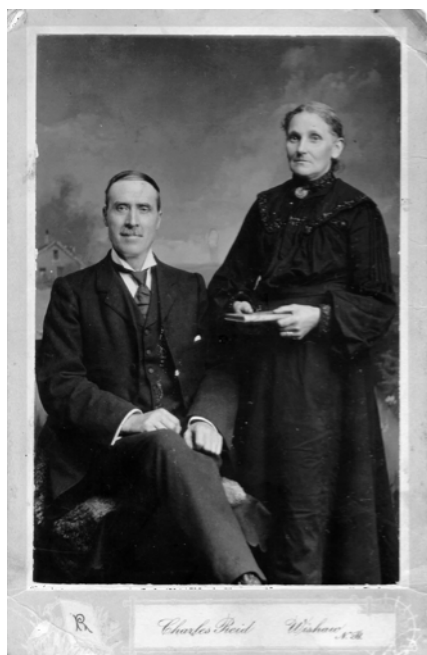
# Janet's Sisters

**Mary Walker** was born on April 28, 1852, in Muiravonside, Stirlingshire, Scotland. She was the eldest of five daughters born to Robert Walker and Agnes Thomson Waddell .

Mary gave birth to twin girls, Agnes and Mary, on October 5, 1873. The father is unknown. One of the twins, called Mary, died eight months later, in May 1874. The official record presents the cause of death to be general debility. Jean Black said that the twin, Mary, may have died from leukemia. The second twin, Agnes, was raised in the Walker household. She was called Agnes Walker until her mother married, at which time she was called Agnes Walker Black.



**Baptisms for Cochrane Waddell Ballantine and Jane Tennant Ballantine, as well as Mary Walker and Elizabeth Walker occurred in the same parish and were recorded on the same page of the registry.**



Mary married Robert Black on December 28, 1876, at Muiravonside (see photo, opposite). Robert was born in 1848 in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Robert was a 32 year-old pitheadman living in Storrays Land in the village of Dykehead, Shotts, Lanark at the time of the 1881 census. They had 3 children at this time. The family included 11 year-old stepdaughter Agnes Walker Black.

The family moved to Jones' Land in Shotts by the time of the 1891 census. Robert was still a pitheadman. The children included William, Jane, Mary, Janet and Robert and stepdaughter, Agnes Walker Black.

# Janet Walker

1877. MARRIAGES in the Parish of Muiravonside in the County of Stirling

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parish. Rank or Profession, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Rank, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signatures of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If Irregular, Date of Consent, Decree of Decretal, or Sheriff's Warrant.	When & Where Registered and Signature of Registrar.
1076	on the twenty eighth day of December at Blackbross, Parish of Muiravonside	Signed Robert Black Blackbross Single	28	Blackbross Muiravonside	William Black Labourer Jane Wilson	Signed Hugh Logan, Minister W. P. Ginnister Witness James Gordon Witness Katharine Walker Witness	1877. 1st January at Muiravonside M. M. Henderson Registrar

An excerpt of the marriage record for Mary Walker and Robert Black. The marriage occurred on December 28, 1877 in the Parish of Muiravonside.

Civil Parish of	Quoad Sore Parish of	School Board District of	Parliamentary Burgh of	Parliamentary Division of	Royal Burgh of
Shotts	Calderhead	Calderhead	Shotts	N. W. Lanark	Shotts
do	1	Robert Black	Head Man	X	22
		Mary do	wife		
		William do	son	X	
		Jane do	daughter		
		Mary do	daughter		
		Janet do	daughter		
		Robert do	son		

An excerpt from the 1891 Census for Calderhead, Lanark showing Robert and Mary Black and family. William is a message boy, Jane, Mary and Janet are in school.

Page 42] The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

Civil Parish of	Parish Ward of	Ecclsiastical Parish of	Quoad Sore Parish of	School Board District of	Parliamentary Burgh of	Parliamentary Division of
Shotts	Dykehead		Calderhead	Calderhead		N. E. Lanark
Royal Burgh of	Municipal Burgh of	Police Burgh of	Burgh Ward of	Town of	Village or Hamlet of	Island of
188 Shotts Rd Leafield	1	Robert Black	Head Man	do	Dykehead	2
		Mary do	wife			
		William do	son	Coal miner, Haver		
		Janet do	daughter	Pupil Teacher		
		Robert do	son	Scholar		
		John do	son	do		
		Caroline do	daughter	do		

An excerpt from the 1901 Census for the village of Dykehead in the Civil Parish of Shotts. It shows Robert and Mary Black were living on Shotts Road, Leafield with five of their seven children.

# Janet's Sisters

In 1901, Robert was still a pitheadman. He and Mary lived on Leafield Rd. in Dykehead with children William, Janet, Robert, John and Catherine.

Mary died on April 16, 1927, in Shotts, at the age of 74, and was buried there. Robert's daughter Catherine, or Kate, had returned from the USA and was able to provide care for her parents. Robert died on February 17, 1930 in Calderhead, Lanarkshire at the age of 81. He, too, is buried in ShottsKirk Cemetery.

**Mary Walker and Agnes Walker Black.** Agnes and Mary were twin daughters of Mary Walker. They were born on October 5, 1873 at Muiravonside, Stirling Scotland. Mary Walker died on May 6, 1874 at Blackbraes, Muiravonside. Agnes was brought up in the Walker household until their mother, Mary married Robert Black several years later. Agnes was living in the Robert and Mary Black household with their eldest son William at the time of the 1881 census but appears to have left home by 1891. Richard A. (Dick) Acton visited relatives in Scotland while on leave from the Canadian Army in January 1919. His recollection of Aggie many years later was that she married a Hastie. He recalled that they had about eight children in 1919. They were living in Shotts at this time where he was a coal miner.

1873. BIRTHS in the Parish of Muiravonside in the County of Stirling

No.	Name and Surname.	When and Where Born.	Sex.	Name, Rank, or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother. Date and Place of Marriage.	Signature and Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Birth occurred.	When and Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
104	Mary Walker Illegitimate	1873, October fifth Blackbraes Muiravonside	F	Mary Walker Domestic Servant	Agnes Walker Grandmother her mother M. M. Henderson Registrar Witness	1873, 21 <sup>st</sup> October Muiravonside M. M. Henderson Registrar
105	Agnes Walker Illegitimate	1873, October fifth Blackbraes Muiravonside	F	Mary Walker Domestic Servant	Agnes Walker Grandmother her mother M. M. Henderson Registrar Witness	1873, 21 <sup>st</sup> October Muiravonside M. M. Henderson Registrar

M. M. Henderson Registrar.

Mary and Agnes, twin daughters of Mary Walker were born on October 5, 1873 at Muiravonside.

# *Janet Walker*

**William Black**, the eldest of seven children of Robert and Mary Black, was born in 1878 in Shotts. William and his younger brother Robert immigrated to Canada in the early 1900s. After several years working in the mines they homesteaded 7 miles south of Oyen Alberta in 1909. A year later, William returned to Scotland in failing health. He encouraged another brother, John, to move out to his homestead, which he did in 1913. It is believed that William never married. He died in August 1913 and was buried in ShottsKirk cemetery, Shotts.

**Jane Wilson Black** was born in 1880 in Calderhead, Lanarkshire, Scotland, eldest daughter of Robert Black and Mary Walker. Jane was 11 months old at the time of the 1881 census, a 10 year old scholar living with her family at Jones' Land in the village of Dykehead in the parish of Shotts at the time of the 1891 census, a 15 year- old pupil teacher living with her parents and siblings at Shotts Rd. Leafield in the village of Dykehead at the time of the 1901 census. Jane never married. She went to Philadelphia where she worked as a domestic for many years. The folks, who were quite wealthy, died and left a life- time income to all servants. Jean (Jane Wilson Black) returned to Scotland where she lived until she died on May 15, 1965 at Shotts, and was buried in the ShottsKirk Cemetery. Source: Jean Black 19 Oct. 1981.

**Mary Black** was born in about 1883 in Shotts. Richard A. (Dick) Acton visited relatives in Scotland while on leave from the Canadian Army in January 1919. His comment on Mary Black many years later was that she lived in north of Scotland; never came home for Christmas 1918 and was not home in January 1919 when Dick visited there. She may have married John Fullerton in 1926, then, may have moved to the United States.

**Janet Black** was born on July 2, 1885, in Shotts, Lanarkshire. She was a five year- old scholar living with her family at Jones' Land in the village of Dykehead in the parish of Shotts at the time of the 1891 census and a 15 year-old pupil teacher living with her parents and four of her five siblings on Leafield Road in Calderhead County, Lanarkshire in 1901. Janet married William Peacock, the son of Thomas and Mary Peacock on January 4, 1911 at Calderhead. Lanarkshire. Their one-and-only child,



## *Janet Walker*

brother William immigrated to Canada in the early 1900s. After several years working in the mines they homesteaded 7 miles south of Oyen Alberta in 1909. William returned to Scotland in ill health and his brother John came to take up his homestead in 1913. Some time later, John married Mrs. Jean Kenny and retired to Victoria. Robert continued to live on his land until his death on August 9, 1945 in Oyen, Alberta.

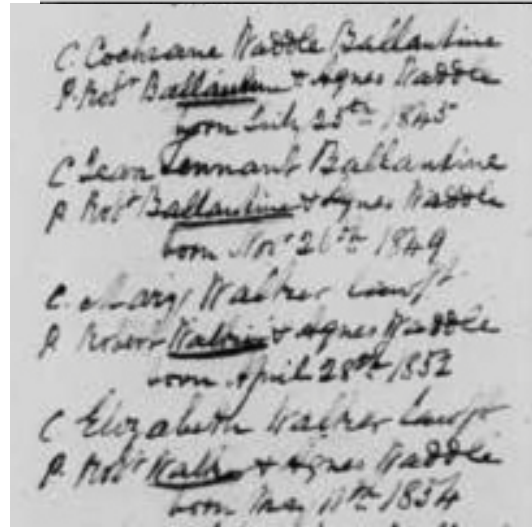
**John Black** was born in 1893 in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland. the son of Robert Black and, Mary Walker. John had two brothers and three sisters. He was an 8 year-old living with his parents and siblings at Shotts Rd. Leafield in the village of Dykehead at the time of the 1901 census. John's two older brothers, Robert and William, immigrated to Canada in the early 1900s. William returned to Scotland in ill health and John took up his homestead in 1913. Some time later, John married Mrs. Jean Kenny, a widow. Her son, Glenn, took over the farm when John and Jean retired to Victoria. John died in Victoria, British Columbia on August 15, 1987, at age 94.

**Catherine (Kate) Black** was born in the parish of Shotts in about 1896, the daughter of Mary and Robert Black. She was the youngest member of a family. Catherine, or Kate, was a 5 year- old scholar living with her parents and siblings at Shotts Rd. Leafield in Dykehead, Shotts at the time of the 1901 census. Kate married James Greenhorn. Dick Acton had the following recollections of Kate Black and family: Kate married a Greenhorn. He was the manager of the Co-op Store in Shotts. Richard K. Acton, Richard A. Acton and Annie Acton visited the Greenhorns in 1956. James Greenhorn had a racing car; gave Richard K. Acton a ride in it one night. Dick recalled that Kate had two children. A son, Adam, was a mechanic and operated a garage in Shotts. He was accidentally killed by a fan that became dislodged from a motor; leaving a wife and several children. A daughter married a fellow, John Thompson. They immigrated to Canada, living in Winnipeg in the 1960s; were visited by Richard K. Acton. They had a daughter that was athletic ; participating on a team that went to Great Britain. According to Jean Kenny Black, Kate looked after her parents and continued to live in their house after they died, and until her death in 1975. She was buried in the ShottsKirk Cemetery, Shotts, North Lanarkshire, Scotland.

# Janet's Sisters

**Elizabeth Walker** was the second of five daughters of Robert and Agnes Walker. She was born on May 11, 1854, in Muiravonside, Stirlingshire, Scotland (see opposite). Her father was Robert Walker and her mother was Agnes Thomson Waddell. Elizabeth was 6 years-old at the time of the 1861 census. She was living with her parents, three of her four sisters and with two boys of the Ballantine family on Black Braes Wester Row, Muiravonside, Stirling at this time. She was an unmarried laundrymaid to Henry Brock a 'Turkey Red Dyer', living at Levenfield House, Bonhill, Dumbarton in 1881.

25/07/1845 BALLANTINE, COCHRANE WADDLE Old Parish Registers Births 486/ 30 106 Muiravonside Page 105 of 1  
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Elizabeth Walker was baptized at Muiravonside Parish Church.

Elizabeth married Richard Millar on December 18, 1885, in Stevenston, Ayrshire, Scotland. Her sister witnessed the marriage.

1885 MARRIAGES in the Parish of Stevenston in the County of Ayr

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parties Rank or Profession, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Christian, or 1 Rank or Profession of Father. Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signature of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If irregular, Date of Connexion, Degree of Declaration, or Sheriff's Warrant.	When & Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
94	1885 on the eighteenth day of December at the Free Church Manse, Stevenston	Signed Richard and Miller Bachelor Coachman (Bachelors)	24	Nobles Villas Stevenston	John Miller Coachman James Miller Maid Bruce	Signed John Livingstone Frederick Minister	1885 December 19th At Stevenston
	After Banns according to the Form of the Free Church of Scotland	Signed E. Elizabeth Walker Spinster Domestic Servant (Spinster)	31	Nobles Villas Stevenston	Robert Walker Spinster (Quartermaster) Agnes Walker Thos Waddell	Signed William Buchanan Witness Agnes Walker Witness	John Dickie Registrar

An excerpt of the marriage record for Elizabeth Walker and Richard Miller showing the marriage took place on December 18, 1885 at the Free Church Manse, Stevenston, Ayr. Richard was a bachelor, a coachman living at Noble's Villas at the time of his marriage. Elizabeth was a spinster and a domestic servant. She also lived at Noble's Villas at the time of her marriage.

# Janet Walker

Elizabeth Walker died on March 7, 1892 at Blackbraes in Muiravonside Parish, County Stirling. She was only 37 years of age. She and Richard did not have any children.

1892. DEATHS in the Parish of *Muiravonside* in the County of *Stirling*

No.	Name and Surname, Rank or Profession, and whether Single, Married, or Widowed.	When and Where Died.	Sex.	Age.	Name, Surname, & Rank or Profession of Father, Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Cause of Death, Duration of Disease, and Medical Attendant by whom certified.	Signature & Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Death occurred.	When and where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
12	<i>Elizabeth Miller</i>	<i>1892, March 7</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>Robert Walker Joiner</i> <i>Agnes Walker</i>	<i>Dysentery</i> <i>James</i>	<i>Robert Walker</i> <i>Father</i> <i>Present</i>	<i>1892, March 8</i> <i>at Muiravonside</i> <i>W. McIlindrum</i> <i>Registrar.</i>

An excerpt of the death record for Elizabeth msn. Walker Miller that shows she died on March 7, 1892 at Blackbraes Muiravonside. Her parents were still alive. Her father was present at her death.

**Marion Walker** was the third of five daughters of Robert Walker and Agnes Thomson Waddell. She was born on October 17, 1856, in Muiravonside, Stirlingshire. Her mother had a previous marriage to Robert Ballantine where there were three children. There were five children, including Marion, in her mother's marriage to Robert Walker.

Marion was a 5 year-old scholar living with her parents, three sisters and one of the Ballantine boys at Black Braes Wester Row, Muiravonside at the time of the 1861 census. She was a 14 year-old 'farmer servant' on the farm of John Haugh at Linhouse, Slamannan Parish in 1871 and a 24 year-old dairymaid, working on the farm of Henry Baird at Abbots Grange, Polmont in 1881. Marion had an illegitimate child, born April 22, 1881 at Abbots Grange. He was named Robert Walker, brought up in his grandparents and the James Reid households.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the [Page 17]

Civil Parish of	Parish-Ward of	Ecclsiastical Parish of	Quoad Sacra Parish of	School Board District of	Parliamentary Burgh of	Parliamentary Division of							
<i>Cardrona</i>			<i>Dalreoch</i>	<i>Dumbarton</i>	<i>Dumbarton</i>								
<i>Dumbarton</i>	<i>Dumbarton</i>	<i>Dumbarton</i>	<i>Dumbarton</i>	<i>Dumbarton</i>	<i>Dumbarton</i>								
No. of Habitable	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE.	REGIST. No.	NAME and Surname of each Person.	RELATION to Head of Family.	OCCUPATION as to Marriage.	AGE (last Birthday) Males Females	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION.	Employed, Worker, or on Own Account.	If Working at Home.	WHERE BORN.	Gender, or O. 2 R. 2	Widow, Divorced, or Remarried.	House with one or more Windows.
<i>11</i>	<i>57 West Bondgate</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Thomas Thomson</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>Iron Worker</i>	<i>Worker</i>		<i>Dumbarton, Dumbarton</i>			<i>2</i>
			<i>Marion</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>35</i>				<i>Dumbarton, Dumbarton</i>			
			<i>Jessie</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>14</i>				<i>Dumbarton, Dumbarton</i>			
			<i>John</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>1</i>				<i>Dumbarton, Dumbarton</i>			
			<i>James</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>1</i>				<i>Dumbarton, Dumbarton</i>			
			<i>Mary</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>1</i>				<i>Dumbarton, Dumbarton</i>			
			<i>William</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Iron Worker</i>	<i>Worker</i>		<i>Dumbarton, Dumbarton</i>			

1891 Census for Dalreoch Parish, Dumbarton, Dumbarton showing children from Marion and Thomas Thomson marriage and William from a previous marriages of Thomas Thomson.

# Janet's Sisters

Marion married Thomas Thomson on November 8, 1889 in the Parish of Dalreoch, Dumbarton, Dunbartonshire. Thomas was born on December 11, 1844 at Gartshen, Old Monkland. He had a previous marriage to Janet Richardson. Children from this marriage were living in the Thomson household at the time of the 1891 Census.

( Page 49. )

1889. MARRIAGES in the District of Dumbarton in the County of Dumbarton

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parties. Rank or Profession, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signature of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If irregular, Date of Conviction, Decree of Declarator, or Sheriff's Warrant.	When & Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
97	1889. on the <u>Eight</u> day of <u>November</u> at <u>Dunstane House</u> <u>Dumbarton</u> After <u>Banns</u> according to the <u>Forms of the</u> <u>Church</u> of <u>Scotland</u>	<u>(Signed)</u> <u>Thomas Thomson</u> <u>Iron Moulder</u> <u>(Journeyman)</u> <u>(Widower)</u> <u>(Signed)</u> <u>Marion Walker</u> <u>Domestic Servant</u> <u>(Spinster)</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>16 West</u> <u>Brigend</u> <u>Dumbarton</u>	<u>Thomas Thomson (Signed)</u> <u>Minister of</u> <u>(Deceased)</u> <u>James Thomson</u> <u>John McIndoe</u> <u>Robert Walker</u> <u>House Joiner</u> <u>(Journeyman)</u> <u>Agnes Walker</u> <u>previously Miller</u> <u>J. S. Waddell</u>	<u>(Signed)</u> <u>Geo. Alpin</u> <u>Minister of</u> <u>Dumbarton</u> <u>(Signed)</u> <u>William Paterson</u> <u>Witness</u> <u>Miss McCall</u> <u>Witness</u> <u>W. S. Waddell</u>	<u>1889.</u> <u>November 9<sup>th</sup></u> <u>at Dumbarton</u> <u>11-96</u>

An excerpt from the marriage record for Marion Walker and Thomas Thomson that shows they were married on November 8, 1889 at Dunstane House in Dumbarton. Thomas was a Journeyman Ironmoulder living at 16 West Brigend, Dumbarton at the time of his marriage. He was a widower. Marion was a domestic servant living at Dunstane House, Dumbarton. She was a spinster. Dunstane House is presently a boutique hotel in Edinburgh and Dumbarton. Possibly, Marion was a servant in the Dumbarton location and the wedding was held there.

There also may have been children from an earlier marriage of Janet's. Marion and Thomas had five children together (Jeanie, John, James, Mary and Alice). They lived at 58 West Brigend, Dumbarton Town: Dumbarton County, Dunbartonshire in 1901, at which time Thomas was an Iron Moulder (see record below). The area where number 58 was located has been knocked down and there are two high rise flats there now.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the												[Page 17]	
Civil Parish of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Parish-Ward of <u>Cardross</u>		Ecclesiastical Parish of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Quoad Sacra Parish of <u>Dalreoch</u>		School Board District of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Parliamentary Burgh of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Parliamentary Division of <u>Dumbarton</u>	
Municipal Burgh of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Police Burgh of <u>Dumbarton</u>		1 <sup>st</sup> Burgh Ward of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Town of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Village or Hamlet of <u>Dumbarton</u>		Island of <u>Dumbarton</u>			
No. of Schedule.	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE.	HOUSES. No. of Tenements (a) No. of Cottages (b)	NAME and Surname of each Person.	RELATION to Head of Family.	CONJUGIAL as to Marriage.	AGE (last Birthday) Males Females	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION.	Employer, Worker, or on Own Account.	If Working at Home.	WHERE BORN.	AGE or G. & E.	Whether Dead and Buried 1. Name. 2. Locality. 3. Inhabited. 4. Not inhabited.	Rooms with One of more Windows.
81	58 West Brigend	1	Thomas Thomson Marion Jeanie John James Mary William	Head Wife Daughter Son Son Daughter Son	Mar Mar M M M M M	26 44 14 10 8 10 18	Iron Moulder Worker Dumbarton Dumbarton Dumbarton Dalreoch Dumbarton Dumbarton Dumbarton Dumbarton Dumbarton Dumbarton	Worker Worker Worker Worker Worker Worker Worker		26 20 20 20 20 20 20		2	

An excerpt from the 1901 Census for the town of Dumbarton that shows the household of Marion and Thomas Thomson on 58 West Brigend includes four children from Marion and Thomas' marriage and one (William) from a previous marriage of Thomas'.

# Janet Walker

Marion was widowed in 1911 when Thomas died. She died in 1922 in Dunbartonshire, Scotland, at the age of 66. She was buried in the Dumbarton Cemetery.

—Page 81.—

1922. DEATHS in the District of Dumbarton in the County of Dumbarton

(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)	(7.)	(8.)	
Clerical entry in call (1) Vol.	Name and Surname. Rank or Profession, and whether	When and Where Died.	Sex.	Age.	Name, Surname & Rank or Profession of Father. Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Cause of Death, Duration of Disease, and Medical Attendant by whom certified.	Signature & Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Death occurred.	When and where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
	Marion Thomson	1922, August Sixteenth at 5:00 AM	F	65	Robert Walker (Journeyman) (deceased)	Cerebral haemorrhage	James Thomson Son (Present)	1922, August 16th at Dumbarton
243	Widow of Thomas Thomson Iron Moulder (Journeyman)	18. Risk Street Dumbarton			Anna Walker Previously Miller 77 Leithside (deceased)	Ascert by J. Allan M.D.	Wm. Newmark Assistant Registrar A.R.	

11

*Alfred Kroke* Registrar.

An excerpt of the death record for Marion msn. Walker Thomson shows that her death occurred on August 16, 1922 at Risk Street Dumbarton at the age of 65 years and that she was the widow of Thomas Thomson, an Iron Moulder (Journeyman). James Thomson (son) was present.

**Jeanie Thomson** was the eldest of five children of Thomas and Marion Thomson. She was born on December 10, 1890, in the Cardross Parish, Dunbartonshire, the eldest of six children of Thomas and Marion Thomson. Jeanie never married. She died on December 12, 1944, at the age of 54.

**John Thomson** was born in 1892 in Scotland. Alice Duncan in a letter dated 29/9/81 stated that her brother John was named after John Ballantine and that he (John Thomson) was born in 1892 and was killed in the war in 1915. It may have been in the Western European Theatre with the Hamilton, Lanarkshire on September 25, 1915.

**James Thomson** was born on December 8, 1896, in Dumbarton, Dunbartonshire. Richard (Dick) Acton described him as a great football player. Bob Walker indicated to this writer that James ran a pub in Paisley. James died on October 13, 1975, in Strachan, Kincardineshire at the age of 78.

## *Janet's Sisters*

**Mary Thomson** was the fourth child of Thomas and Marion Thomson. She was born on July 7, 1898, in Dumbarton, Dunbartonshire, her father, Thomas Thomson, was 53, and her mother, Marion Walker, was 41.

Mary was a two year-old child living with her parents, two brothers (John and James ) and sister Jeannie at 58 West Brigend Street, Dunbartonshire at the time of the 1901 census.

Bob Walker indicated to this writer that Mary ran a store in Bridgend before she married James Drummond. James worked in the same shipyard as Joe Marshall.

Mary Thomson died in 1972 at the age of 74.



**Mary Thomson. From a postcard given to Richard (Dick) Acton on his visit to relatives in Scotland in 1919.**

**Alice Thomson** was born on July 30, 1901 in Dumbarton, Dunbartonshire. She had two brothers and two sisters. Alice married William Duncan in Dunbarton in 1928. William served in the British Army in India. He and Alice operated a pub next door to Hiram Walker distillery in Dunbarton for a number of years. I received a letter from Alice in 1981 where she provided information on her immediate family including births and deaths of her parents and brothers and sisters. To address her children and descendants: "My family were all born in Dumbarton, three daughters and one son. They all live in Dumbarton except my eldest daughter, also my only granddaughter who live in the Channell Islands- she is called Margaret, then comes Marion, then Aileen, then I got my son, who is married to a Walker but she is Irish. I have 4 grandsons, also a great grandson". Alice was widowed when William died in 1953. She continued to live in Dumbarton and she lived at 80 Dumbuck Road, Dumbarton in 1981.

*Janet Walker*

# Janet's Sisters

Agnes Walker was the fifth daughter of Robert Walker and Agnes Thomson Waddell. She was born in the village of Blackbraes in the Parish of Muiravonside on April 7, 1863. She was a seven year-old schoolgirl, living with her parents and Catherin Ballantine and Agnes Walker at (should be Black Braes South Rows No. 43) Muiravonside, Stirlingshire at the time of the 1871 census. There is no record of her in

1863. BIRTHS in the Parish of Muiravonside in the County of Stirling

No.	Name and Surname	When and Where Born	Name, Rank, or Trade or Profession of Father	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother Date and Place of Marriage	Signature and Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if not of the House in which the Birth occurred	When and Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar
43	Agnes Walker	1863 April 7th 1863 Blackbraes Muiravonside	Robert Walker Wagon-builder	Agnes Walker W.D. Waddell	Robert Walker Father	1863 April 21 <sup>st</sup> Muiravonside M.A. Miller Registrar

Agnes Walker was born on April 7, 1863 at Blackbraes in the Parish of Muiravonside. Her father Robert Walker was a wagon builder at this time.

Agnes travelled to New York, USA in 1885 and again in 1888, at which time she immigrated. Richard A. Acton related the following to his son Donald, about 1980: "Janet (his mother) came to Canada about 1885, arriving with a one pound note which she felt she had no use for, so sent it back to her parents. She later produced forty dollars for the fare for her sister Agnes to come to Canada. Agnes stopped at New York where she remained to marry a Smellie. This annoyed his mother to the point that she had no further contact with her for years. Of particular annoyance was that Agnes was to have sent the forty dollars back to her poor parents in Scotland." Doris Watson made contact with the Smellies when she nursed in New York in the war years.

Agnes married William Smellie, a Scot from her birthplace in Scotland, later in 1888. He was born on October 18, 1861 in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland, son of Alexander Smellie and Elizabeth Baxter. William was a 19 year-old joiner, living with his parents

## *Janet Walker*



**Agnes and William Smellie (left), likely a wedding portrait, and Agnes Smellie (right). Photo is from Doris Watson album, taken when Doris was nursing in New York in the 1940s.**

and five siblings at Hillhouse Ridge Farm, Shotts at the time of the 1881 Census. He immigrated to the U.S.A in 1885, perhaps 1888. Agnes and William were married in Manhattan, New York in the same year.

William and Agnes had four children, Alexander, Robert, Agnes and Harold during their marriage. William was a carpenter. He and Agnes lived in Yonkers Ward 10, Westchester for a number of years and then in Queens, Queens, New York. William Smellie died on May 21, 1937, in Queens, New York, at the age of 75.

Agnes was still living with her son Robert in Queens, New York at the time of the 1940 census. She was still living in Queens when she died on May 6, 1954, at the age of 91.

# *Janet's Sisters*

## **Descendants of Agnes and William Smellie**

**Alexander Baxter Smellie** was the first-born child of William and Agnes Smellie. He was born on July 27, 1889 in Queens, New York. His father, William, was 27 and his mother, Agnes, was 26. Alexander was a ten year- old, going to school and living with his parents, two brothers and a sister on 100 West St. in Manhattan at the time of the 1900 census. He was a twenty year-old carpenter, still single and living at home at Yonkers Ward 10, Westchester in 1910.

Alexander married Mary Stone Warner on June 24, 1913 in Westchester, New York. He was enumerated as a "contractor in the house jobber industry" at the time of the 1920 census. They were living on Lockwood Ave. in Yonkers Ward 10 with their two children, Harriet A Smellie and Mary Elizabeth Smellie, at this time. Harriet was born in 1915 in New York. She died on November 21, 1969, in her hometown at the age of 54. Mary Elizabeth was born on June 16, 1918 in New York. She married Thomas Leonard (Tom) Sciortino on June 15, 1946, in New York City, New York. Mary died on April 30, 2020, in New Paltz, New York, USA, at the age of 101, and was buried in Lloyd, New York, USA.

Alexander was still involved in the building industry in 1930. They had moved to Queens, where he owned his own home valued at \$10,000 and added a third daughter, Jane Warner Smellie, by this time. Jane was born on December 5, 1921, in Yonkers, New York. She had two sisters. She married John Willis Bradberry on June 1, 1946. They had two daughters, Lucinda Jane and Elizabeth Jane. Jane died on June 16, 2000, at the age of 78, and was buried in Tyler Texas, USA.

Alexander was living in Queens, New York, USA, when he registered for the World War II draft in 1942 at the age of 53.

Alexander Baxter Smellie died on November 22, 1956 in New Rochelle, New York.

# *Janet Walker*

**Robert Walker Smellie**, the second child of Agnes and William Smellie, was born on December 19, 1890, in Manhattan, New York. His father, William Smellie, was 28 and his mother, Agnes Walker, was 27. Robert was nine years- old at the time of the 1900 census. He was living on West 100 Street, Manhattan with his parents, two brothers and one sister. He may not have been going to school. The family had moved to Yonkers Ward 10 by the time of the 1910 census. His two brothers and one sister were still living at home. There is no indication that Robert had ever gone to school. His occupation is "Detailer", in the housing industry.

Robert served time with the USA 1 Army from March 1918 to May 1919. He served overseas for five days in April, 1919. He was 29 years-old, single, living with his parents, who are now in their 60s, on Jessamine Ave. in Yonkers at the time of the 1920 census. He was a "Plasterer" in the housing industry at this time. Robert is 38 years-old, still single and living with his parents on Fairbury Ave. in Queens in 1930. His occupation continues to be plaster but now in the "buildings" rather than "housing" industry.

Robert's father died in 1937, he continued to live with his mother in Queens at the time of the 1940 census, where he was a 49 year-old plasterer.

Robert Smellie died in 1973 at the age of 83. He was buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery, Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County, New York, New York, USA.

**Agnes Waddell Smellie** was born on July 31, 1894 in Manhattan, New York, her father, William Smellie, and her mother, Agnes Walker, were 31. Agnes was likely named for her maternal grandmother Agnes Thomson Waddell.

Agnes was a five year-old living with her parents and three brothers on 100 Street in Manhattan at the time of the 1900 census. The family had moved to Yonkers by 1910. Agnes was a scholar and all three of her brothers were still at home at this time. Her brother Alexander had left home by 1920. Agnes was a 25 year-old secretary in the "Minister's Office".

## *Janet's Sisters*

Agnes married George Thomas Mills on June 4, 1930, in Florida, USA. There does not appear to have been any children from this marriage. She was widowed when her husband died in October, 1936. Agnes died in October, 1965 at the age of 71.

**Harold Baxter Smellie** was born on February 6, 1897, in Manhattan New York, USA, his father, William Smellie, was 34 and his mother, Agnes Walker, was 33. Harold was the

youngest of the four children. He was only 20 years-old when he served in WWI from May 10, 1917 to May 6, 1919 and he was 45 years-old when he was drafted in 1942. Harold was described as being 5ft. 9in. with hazel eyes, brown hair, 160lbs. and light complexion. He was working as an accountant with the Farm Credit Administration at the time. They lived on Briggs Ave. in Yonkers. There is no indication that he served in WWII.

Harold married Marie Maloney in Yonkers on August 24, 1926. They owned their own home in Yonkers, valued at \$12,000, and had one child, Marie M., at the time of the 1930 census. Harold was a 43 year-old accountant living on Buckingham Road in Yonkers in 1940. They had three children, Marie, Anne B. and Joseph at this time.



**Harold Smellie and his mother Agnes.**

Harold Baxter Smellie died on February 7, 1986 at Georgetown, Sussex, Delaware. He was buried in Hastings-on-Hudson, Westchester County, New York. He was 88 years-old.

*Janet Walker*



# Ballantines & Reids

**Robert Ballantine** was born on September 5, 1815, in New Monkland, Lanarkshire, Scotland, the son of John Ballantine and Janet Letham.

Robert was a 25 year- old 'Labourer' living with a Letham family at Hawkwoodburn, Shotts when he married Agnes Thomson Waddell at Shotts Lanarkshire on February 14, 1841. He had two sons (John and Cochrane) and one daughter (Jane) with Agnes between 1842 and 1849.

Robert died in 1850 at the age of 35.

14/02/1841 BALLANTINE, ROBERT (Old Parish Registers Marriages 655/ 50 419 Shotts) Page 419 of 611  
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217  
Mr. Paterson, Treasurer, for the Poor Funds of the Parish of  
Bertram Shotts - at infra

		Monthly Prochem Money - also Money	
1841 Feb 7.	2	To Alexander Whitlaw, aged Bedlornie aged 45. poor	" " "
"	"	Robert West. Carter, near Bedlornie, aged poor	" " "
"	11	James Main, Brownhill, aged 80 - poor (Mr. Forrest's certificate)	" " "
"	14	Robert Ballantine in this Parish and Agnes Waddell, in the Parish of Cambusnethan	" " "
			. 26



An excerpt of the marriage record of Robert Ballantine of the Bertram Parish, Shotts and Agnes Waddell of the Cambusnethan Parish on February, 14, 1841.

New Monkland Parish Church, the church where Robert Ballantyne was baptized.

# *Janet Walker*

## **The Ballantine Children**

**J**ohn Ballantine was born on December 18, 1841, in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland, his father, Robert Ballantine, was 26 and his mother, Agnes Thomson Waddell, was 22. John had one brother (Cochrane) and one sister (Jane).

John was a nine year-old scholar living with his mother and two siblings and a lodger, Robert Walker, at the Black Braes Colliery, Muiravonside Parish at the time of the 1851 census. He was a 19 year-old Railway Servant living with his mother, step father (Robert Walker) and the Walker children (Mary, Elizabeth, Marion and Janet ) at the time of the 1861 census.

John married Catherine Donaldson about 1880. Their first of three children, Agnes Catherine, was born July 20, 1881 at Dunoon & Kilmun, Argyll, Scotland. Their second child, Christian Donaldson was born May 30, 1874 in Allahabad, Bengal, India. A third child, John David was also born in India, at Jabulpore, Bengal, India on November 10, 1882.

Many years later, Richard A. (Dick) Acton recalled mention of John Ballantine during his visit to relatives in Scotland while on leave from the CAF in January 1919. These memories included John having lost his life while serving with the British Army in India. These recollections are supported by records of births of John's children in Allahabad, India in 1874, 1875 and 1882 and a report of a John Ballantine death at sea in 1886.

There is a record that suggests John Ballantine died at sea on August 13, 1886, on the ship Victoria Regina. He was 46 years old. It has not been determined whether this record represents the John Ballantine of interest.

# *The Ballantines and the Reids*

**Colonial India** was part of the Indian subcontinent that was under jurisdiction of European colonial powers during the Age of Discovery. European power was exerted both by conquest and trade, especially in spices. The search for the wealth and prosperity of India led to the colonization of the Americas after their discovery by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Only a few years later, near the end of the 15th century, Portuguese sailor Vasco da Gama became the first European to re-establish direct trade links with India since Roman times by being the first to arrive by circumnavigating Africa. Having arrived in Calicut, which by then was one of the major trading posts of the eastern world, he obtained permission to trade in the city from Saamoothiri Rajah, { the hereditary monarch of the kingdom of Calicut }. The next to arrive were the Dutch, with their main base in Ceylon. Their expansion into India was halted after their defeat in the Battle of Colachel by the Kingdom of Travancore during the Travancore -Dutch War.

Trading rivalries among the seafaring European powers brought other European powers to India. The Dutch Republic, England, France, and Denmark- Norway all established trading posts in India in the early 17th century. As the Mughal Empire disintegrated in the early 18th century, and as the Maratha empire became weakened after the third battle of Panipat, many relatively weak and unstable Indian states which emerged were increasingly open to manipulation by the Europeans, though dependant Indian rulers.

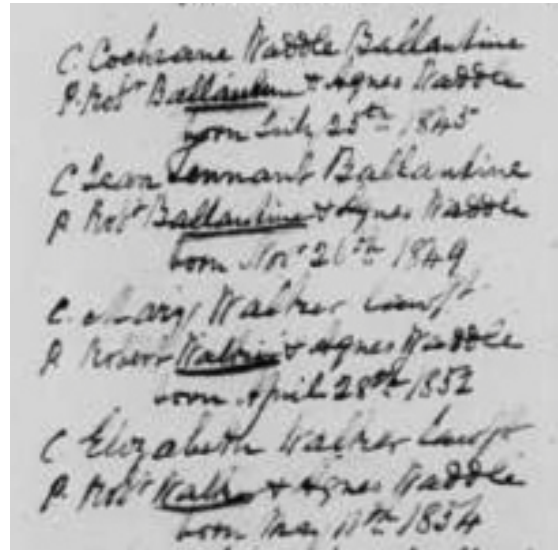
In the later 18th century, Great Britain and France struggled for dominance, partly through proxy Indian rulers but also through direct military intervention. The defeat of the formidable Indian ruler Tipu Sultan in 1799 marginalized the French influence. This was followed by rapid expansion of British power through the greater part of the Indian subcontinent in the early 19th century. By the middle of the century, the British had already gained direct or indirect control over almost all of India. British India, consisting of the directly ruled British presidencies and provinces, contained the most populous and valuable parts of the British Empire and this became known as the “jewel of the British crown”

# Janet Walker

**Cochrane Waddell Ballantine** was born on July 25, 1845, in Muiravonside, Stirlingshire. He was the second child of Robert Ballantine and Agnes Thomson Waddell.

Cochrane was only five years-old when his father died. He was living with his mother and two siblings (John and Jean Ballantyne) and a lodger, Robert Walker, at the Black Braes Colliery, Muiravonside Parish at the time of the 1851 census. He was a 15 year-old "coal lab." living with his mother, step- father (Robert Walker) and the Walker children (Mary, Elizabeth, Marion and Janet ) at the time of the 1861 census. Cochrane is listed as a 25 year -old engineman at a colliery, living with his mother and step-father, at Blackbraes in 1871.

Cochrane married 16 year-old Christina McClay in 1872 at Blackbraes. He was a colliery engine- keeper living at 12 Longriggend New Monkland, Lanark in 1881. Cochrane, Christina and their children, Robert, James and Agnes, immigrated to the USA in 1880. Christina died in 1889, at which time Cochrane appears to have gone into a severe depression, requiring committal to an institution before he died on January 14, 1901 at Huntsville, Randolph, County, Missouri, U.S.A. He was buried in Higbee, Missouri, USA.



An excerpt of the baptism record for Cochrane Waddell Ballantine and Jane Tennant Ballantine, as well as Mary Walker and Elizabeth Walker at Muiravonside Parish church.



Cochrane Waddell Ballantine was the second child of Robert Ballantine and Agnes Waddell.

# The Ballantines and the Reids

Page 3.

1872. MARRIAGES in the Parish of Muiravonside in the County of Stirling

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parties, Rank or Profession, when Single or Widowed, and Relationship of Wife.	Age.	Deed Book No.	Name, Rank, and Trade or Profession of Father, Rank, and Value or Nature of Estate.	If a regular Marriage, Signature of Minister, or Registrar, or Justice of Peace, or Magistrate, or Sheriff, or Clerk of Session, or any other Officer, or any other Person, in whose Presence the Marriage was Solemnized.	When & Where Registered and Signature of Registrar.
1072.	on the twenty-sixth day of April 1872 at Blackbraes	Agnes Cochrane Ballantyne Engineer	36	Blackbraes	Robert Ballantyne (Cochrane) Agnes MacLay	Agnes Minister	1872 26 <sup>th</sup> April
1073.	at the house of the Rev. James McClay, Minister of the Church of Scotland, at Blackbraes	Christina McClay no relationship	16	Blackbraes	James McClay Miner	Agnes Minister	1872 26 <sup>th</sup> April

An excerpt of the marriage record for Cochrane Ballantine and Christina McClay shows that they were married on April 26, 1872 at Blackbraes, Muiravonside. Cochrane was a single, 36 year-old enginekeeper and Christina McClay was the daughter of James McClay, miner.

Page 4.

1876. BIRTHS in the Parish of Muiravonside in the County of Stirling

No.	Name and Surname.	When and Where Born.	Sex.	Name, Rank, and Trade or Profession of Father, Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother, Date and Place of Marriage.	Signature and Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Birth occurred.	When and Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
10	Agnes Ballantyne	1876, January 9 <sup>th</sup> at 5 P.M. Blackbraes Muiravonside	F.	Cochrane Ballantyne Engine-keeper Christina Ballantyne m. McClay 26 <sup>th</sup> April 1872 Muiravonside	Cochrane Ballantyne Father	1876, 20 <sup>th</sup> January Muiravonside M. Henderson Registrar.

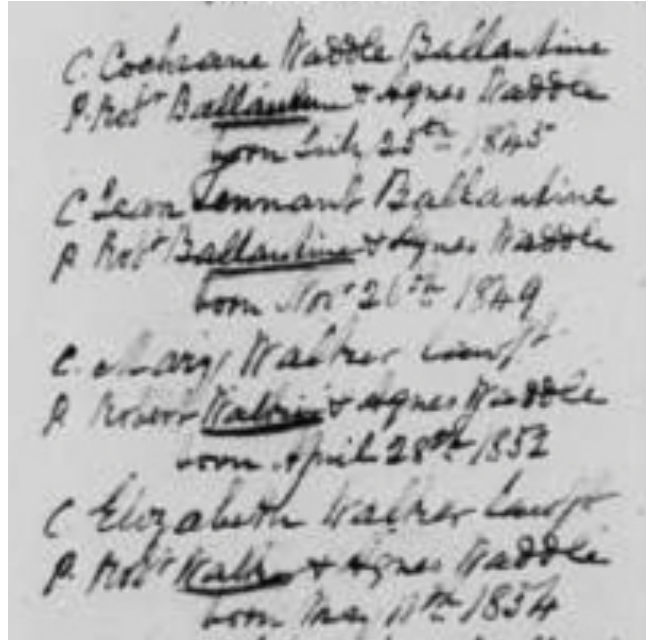
An excerpt of the record of birth for Agnes Ballantine, daughter of Cochrane Ballantine and Christina Ballantyne msn. (maiden surname) McClay, born on January 9, 1876 at Blackbraes, Muiravonside.

# Janet Walker

## Jeanie, or Jane, Tennant Ballantine

was born on November 26, 1849, in Muiravonside, Stirlingshire Scotland. Her father, Robert Ballantine, was 34, and her mother, Agnes Thomson Waddell, was 30.

Jane was one year-old, living with her widowed mother, two brothers and a 32 year-old lodger, Robert Walker, at the Black Braes Colliery, Muiravonside, at the time of the 1851 census. She was a 21 year-old "General Servant" working at Drumbance Farm, Shotts at the time of the 1871 census.



An excerpt of the baptism record for Cochrane Waddell Ballantine and Jane Tennant Ballantine, as well as for Mary Walker and Elizabeth Walker at Muiravonside Parish church.

1873. MARRIAGES in the Parish of Shotts in the County of South

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parson. Rank or Profession, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signatures of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If irregular, Date of Conviction, Decree of Declarator, or Sheriff's Warrant.	When & Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
83	1873, on the Twenty seventh day of November at Shotts Manse Parish of Shotts	Signed, James Reid Dairyman Widower of Margaret Gilchrist	36	Goodockhill	James Reid Sarah Calderwood Elizabeth Reid Mrs. Speckhead (deceased)	(Signed) William McQuibb Miss. Johnston	1873, November 27 Shotts
	At the Manse according to the forms of the Church of Scotland	Signed, Jean Tennant Ballantine Farm Servant Spinster		Drumbance Shotts	Robert Waddell Annal Calderwood (deceased) Agnes Ballantine Mrs. Waddell	Signed Miss Drummond Witness Registrar.	

An excerpt of the marriage record for Jean Tennant Ballantine and James Reid shows that they were married on November 27, 1873 at the Shotts Manse, Shotts and that James was a dairyman and widower of Margaret Gilchrist and he was from Goodockhill as well as that Jane was a farm servant from Drumbance, Shotts.



# Janet Walker

## The Reid Children

The Ballantine and the Walker families were merged after Robert Ballantine died and his widow, Agnes Thomson Waddell, married Robert Walker. Jeanie Tennant Ballantine was older than the Walker girls and likely became a help to her mother as the Walker girls grew up. Jeanie was eight years older than her 'half-sister' Janet but a close relationship appears to have emerged. This relationship seemed to follow in those that Richard A. (Dick) Acton chose to visit in 1919 and again in the 1950s. This has carried through to the present where Elinor Acton Relf visited with descendants of Jeanie Ballantine Reid. Even Bob Walker Jr. often visited with Reid descendants.

**Agnes Waddell Reid** was born on August 25, 1874, in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland, her father, James Reid, was 37, and her mother, Jean Tennant Ballantine, was 24. Agnes was the eldest child of James and Jean. She had two brothers and four sisters.

Page 83.

1874. BIRTHS in the Parish of Shotts in the County of Lanark

No.	Name and Surname.	When and Where Born.	Sex.	Name, Surname, & Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother. Date and Place of Marriage.	Signature and Qualification of Informant, and Residence, if out of the House in which the Birth occurred.	When and Where Registered, and Signature of Registrar.
247	James Waddell Reid	1874 August Twenty-fifth No. 11, A. St. Goodcockhill	F	James Reid Gairman M. S. Ballantine	James Reid Father President	1874 September 15 At Shotts W. Paterson Registrar.

An excerpt of the birth record for Agnes Waddell Reid showing that Agnes was born on August 25, 1874 at Goodcockhill in Shotts Parish, Lanarkshire. Agnes was likely named after her grandmother Agnes Thomson Waddell. She was likely born at her parents home at Goodcockhill, with her father present.

# The Ballantines and the Reids

Agnes married Robert Sommerville. He was a coal miner. They lived in Allanton. He and Agnes had three sons, Archibald, James and Robert. Archibald married Bella Cameron. They had one son and two daughters. James was a bachelor. He lived into his 90s. He was the family historian. Robert married Jean Craig. They had two sons and one daughter. Robert also lived into his 90s (information in a letter from James Reid, about 1981). Agnes and Robert lived at the Langbyres Cottages, Shotts, Lanarkshire in 1901.

1897 . MARRIAGES in the *West District of Shotts* in the *County of Lanark*

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Person Sex or Profession, Whether Single or Married, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Used Habitats.	Name, Residence, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name, and Maiden's Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signature of officiating Minister and Who seen. If irregular, Date of Contracting, Name of the Minister, or Sheriff's Officer.	When & Where Registered, and Signature of Register.
11	1897. on the Fourth day of June at Cleland West Dist. of Shotts	Signed Robert Sommerville Coalminer (Bachelor)	26	Cleland West Dist. of Shotts	Archibald Sommerville Coalminer (Bachel)	Signed Duncan Cameron	1897. June 5 <sup>th</sup>
		Signed Agnes Reid Dressmaker Spinster	22	Cleland West Dist. of Shotts	James Reid General Labourer  Jane Reid Mrs. Ballantine	Signed David Sommerville Witness Janet T. B. Reid Witness	at Cleland William T. B. Reid Register

An excerpt of the marriage record for Agnes Waddell Reid and Robert Sommerville on June 4, 1897 at Cleland in the West District of Shotts. Robert was a bachelor and a coalminer and Agnes was a spinster and a dressmaker at the time of their marriage. David Sommerville and Janet T.B. Reid were witnesses for Agnes.

Agnes was widowed when Robert died in 1950. She died a year later, on May 23, 1951, in her hometown at the age of 76, and was buried in the ShottsKirk Cemetery.

# *Janet Walker*

**Robert Reid** was born in 1876 in Shotts, Lanarkshire eldest son of James Reid and Jean Tennant Ballantine. At the time of the 1881 census, Robert was four years- old living with his parents at Goodockhill, Shotts with two children (Elizabeth and Peter) from his father's marriage to Margaret Gilchist and sisters Agnes and Jane, from his marriage to Jean Ballantine. Agnes Walker was also enumerated with the Reid household but she was not likely a permanent resident.

Robert was a 15 year-old "Freestone Quarrier" living with his parents, sisters Agnes, Jane, Mary and Marion and brother John in Dalrymple's Land, Holytown (one brother, John Cochrane, died in childbirth). Robert was presumably still unmarried in 1901 as he was living with his parents and four siblings in Langbyres Cottages . He was a 'Craneman'. He married Mary Crawford. Robert and Mary had three sons and one daughter (according to Jimmy Reid, abt. 1981).

Robert died in 1920 in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland, at the age of 44. Jimmy Reid, abt. 1982, mentioned that he was killed in a work accident abt. 1920.

**John Cochrane Reid** was born in 1882 in Shotts, Lanarkshire and died the same day. He had two brothers and five sisters. James Reid, a son of John Ballantine Reid, has confirmed that there were two 'John' Reids in the James and Jane Reid family, the second (John Ballantine Reid), his father, was named after a child John Cochrane, that died before he was christened.

**Jane Reid** was born in 1880 in Shotts, Lanarkshire, Scotland, her father, James Reid, was 43, and her mother, Jean Tennant Ballantine, was 31. She had three brothers and five sisters.

Jane was one year-old at the time of the 1881 census. She was living with her parents, two children from her father's marriage to Margaret Gilchrist as well as two children from his marriage to Jane Ballantine. Agnes Walker was enumerated with the James and Jane Reid family but she is not considered to be a permanent resident. The James and Jean Reid family lived at Goodockhill, Shotts at this time. The family moved to

## *The Ballantines and the Reids*

Dalrymple's Land, Holytown Civil Parish, Bothwell County, Lanarkshire by the time of the 1891 census. Jane was an 11 year-old scholar. The family comprised Agnes, Robert, Mary, Marion and John.

Jane married Donald McGillivray. They lived in Oban. They had one son and three daughters (James Reid letter, about 1981).

**Mary Reid** was born in 1882 in Shotts, Lanarkshire Scotland, her father, James Reid, was 45 and her mother, Jean Tennant Ballantine, was 33. She had three brothers and five sisters.

Mary was a nine year- old scholar at the time of the 1891 census. She was living with her parents, brothers Robert and John, and sisters Agnes and Marion in Dalrymple's Land, Holytown. In 1901 she was a 19 year-old farm servant, visiting in the home of Robert and Agnes Sommerville.

Mary married David Stewart, a blacksmith. They lived at Allanton. She and David had two sons and two daughters (James Reid letter, about 1981).

**John Ballantine Reid** was born on January 3, 1883, in Shotts, Lanarkshire. His father, James Reid, was 46 and his mother, Jean Tennant Ballantine, was 33. He had two brothers and six sisters.

John was an eight year-old scholar living with his parents, sisters Agnes, Jane, Mary and Marion and brother Robert at Dalrymples Land in Holytown, Bothwell, Lanarkshire in 1891 (see next page). He was an 18 year-old 'craneman' in 1901 but still unmarried and living with his parents. Some of his older brothers and sisters had left home.

He was an 18 year-old "craneman" in 1901 but still unmarried and living with his parents. Some of his older brothers and sisters had left home, Marion was still there and younger sisters Jemima and Janet were born. The family had moved to Langbyres Cottages.

# Janet Walker

1883 BIRTHS in the Middle District Parish of Shotts in the County of Lanark

(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)	(6.)
John Ballantine Reid	1883	1883	James Reid	James Reid	1883
	January		Dairyman	father	January 22 <sup>nd</sup>
	7h 30m pm		Jane Reid	present	at Salaburg
	Goodockhill		Mrs. Ballantyne		John B. Pitsoon
	Shotts	1873	November 23		Asst. Registrar
			Marise Shotts		Regd

An excerpt of the birth record for John Ballantine Reid that shows John was born on January 3, 1883 at Goodockhill, Shotts, likely at the James and Jane Reid home. His father, James Reid, was present. James was a 'dairyman' at this time.

Page 33] The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the

Civil Parish of	Quoad Sacra Parish of	School Board District of	Parliamentary Borough of	Parliamentary Division of	Royal Burgh of									
Bithwell	St. Andrew	Bithwell		S. V. Hamilton										
Municipal Burgh of	Police Burgh of	Burgh Ward of	Town of	Village or Hamlet of	Island of									
				Oman Foundry										
No. of Establish.	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE.	HOUSES	NAME and Surname of each Person.	RELATION to Head of Family.	CONDITION as to Marriage.	AGE (last Birthday)	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION.	Employer.	Employed.	Whether Employed and working on day	WHERE BORN.	Gaelic, or G. & E.	Whether 1. Past and 2. Present. 3. Infirm.	Known with name or designation
145	Dr.	1	James Reid	Head	Mar.	46	Hannan		X		James Reid, Shotts			3
			Jane Reid	Wife	Mar.	46					Shotts			
			Robert Reid	Son	Unm.	11	Dressmaker		X		Shotts			
			John Reid	Son	Unm.	8	Freestone Quarry		X		Shotts			
			Jane Reid	Son	Unm.	11	Schooler				Shotts			
			Mary Reid	Son	Unm.	9	Dr.				Shotts			
			John Reid	Son	Unm.	8	Dr.				Shotts			
			Marian Reid	Son	Unm.	4					Shotts			
146	Dr.	1	Robert Reid	Head	Mar.	46					Shotts			

An excerpt of the 1891 Census for the village of Oman Foundry that shows John Ballantine Reid was eight years-old. His brother Robert and three older sisters were still at home and there was a four month old sister as well.

John married Janet Haldane at the Eastwood Parish Church, Renfrew County, Scotland on August 13, 1921 (see record on next page). John and Janet had two sons, John and James, and two daughters, Margaret and Janet, or Nettie.

# The Ballantines and the Reids

(Page 47.)

1921. MARRIAGES in the PARISH of EASTWOOD in the COUNTY of HENFREW

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signatures of Parties. Bride and Groom, Witnesses, Minister of the Gospel, and Registrar.	Age.	Qualifications.	Name, Signature, and Rank or Profession of Father. Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Registrar's Name, Signature, and Rank or Profession.	Place where Registered, and Station of Registrar.
1021.	on the 13th day of August at Eastwood Church	(Signatures) J. B. Reid Collingwood Haldane	38	Langbyres Cleland	James Reid Domestic Jane Tennant Reid Miss Ballantine	(Signatures) Fred S. Langlands Minister of Eastwood	1921 St. George's
01	after Banns according to the Form of the Established Church of Scotland of Scotland	(Signatures) John Haldane Collingwood Haldane (Signatures)	29	Harriet Street Glasgow	Alexander Haldane Collingwood Haldane Glasgow Margaret Haldane Miss Haldane	(Signatures) Archibald Cunningham Minister James Adams Minister	St. George's

An excerpt of the marriage record for John Ballantine Reid and Janet Haldane, the daughter of Alexander and Margaret Haldane, at Eastwood Parish Church, on August 13, 1921. John was a bachelor and colliery motorman and Janet a spinster and domestic servant at the time of their marriage. Still further, John was living in Langbyres, Cleland and Janet at Harriet Street in Glasgow at the time of their marriage.

The photo on the right was one of a number of photos Richard A. (Dick) Acton brought home after his visits to relatives in Scotland in 1919. These photos were entered into his wife Annie's album a few years later and remained there until she died. Then they came into the care of her son Donald Acton. Dick Acton is seated and John Ballantine Reid is standing.



John and Janet had four children, Margaret, James, John and Janet, or Nettie.

**Margaret Reid** was born on/at \_\_\_\_\_. She married John (Jack) Stead on/at \_\_\_\_\_. She and Jack had four children, Janet, Margaret, David and Harvey. A fifth, Andrew, died as a young child. They lived in Hull, Yorkshire where Jack was a \_\_\_\_\_. Jack died on/at \_\_\_\_\_. Margaret died on/at \_\_\_\_\_. Please provide contact information for one of Jack and Margaret's children.

# *Janet Walker*

**James Reid** was John and Janet's eldest son. He was born on February 6, 1924. He married Catherine Gilchrist. Elinor (Acton) Relf and her daughter Linda and granddaughter Jenna have visited with James and Catherine at their home on High Street, Newarthill, Motherwell, Strathclyde. She reports that "their daughter Mae married Craig Venables and I believe they live in James and Catherine's house. Their children were Suzanne and Karen and would be in their thirties as they were near Jenna's age."

Was May the only child of James and Catherine? If so would like to include her full name, date and place of birth. Full name, date and place of birth of husband as well as date and place of their marriage. Also, full names of their children. If May had any brothers or sisters would like to have parallel presentations for them. Any stories or family photos would be greatly appreciated, especially of James and Cathy and family and James' father and mother, uncles, aunts and cousins (on the Reid side) Catherine died April 16, 2004 James died one year later, on March 5, 2005. Where were they living at time of death and where were they buried?

**John Reid** was the third child of John and Janet Reid. Full name, date and place of birth of John. Full name, date and place of birth of wife as well as date and place of their marriage. Also, full names of their children (Elinor said they were Clark and Lloyd). If Lorraine had any brothers or sisters would like to have parallel presentations for them. Any stories or family photos would be greatly appreciated, especially of John and Grace and family and James' father and mother, uncles, aunts and cousins (on the Reid side).

**Janet Reid (Nettie)** was the fourth child of John and Janet Reid. Could either May or Lorraine gather comparable information for Nettie as I am searching for Nettie's siblings/ or, if Nettie is still alive and if it would be more feasible, I could contact her directly if you provided me with contact information.

# *The Ballantines and the Reids*

## **Visits of Canadians to Relatives in Scotland.**

### **Dick Acton visits in 1919.**

Dick was on leave from the Canadian Armed Forces (C.A.F.). He chose to visit relatives in Scotland as part of his leave. It was not permitted to keep a diary when in service but it was permitted when on leave. The following presentation of his visit is drawn from this diary. It is not clear, at times, which relative he may be referring to, so an introduction to his relatives in Scotland may be helpful.

Janet Walker had a sister, Mary Black, and a half-sister, Jeannie Ballantine Reid, still living in the Shotts area and another sister Marion Thomson, living in Dunbarton. All three had children and some of the children were married by 1919. Mary had a daughter, Agnes, before her marriage to Robert Black. Agnes married a Hastie. They lived in Shotts area in 1919. Neither Jane nor Mary would be in Shotts in 1919. Janet married Wm Peacock and Catherine (Kate) married James Greenhorn. They were living in Shotts in 1919. Robert and Mary Black had three sons. One was deceased, the other two were living in Canada. Jeannie Reid was a 70 year-old widow in 1919. She and her husband, James, had nine children. Their daughter Agnes was 40 years-old and married to Robert Sommerville, Jane was married and living in Oban, Mary, Marion, Jemima and Janet may not have been married and may have still been living at home, Marion married Thomas Thomson. They had five children. They lived in Dunbarton. Their daughters Jeannie, Mary and Alice may have been married by 1919 and living in Dunbarton. Their son John was killed in WWI. Their second son Jimmie was living in Dunbarton. William Peacock met me at the station in Shotts.

I had supper with Jennie (Janet Walker Peacock) and went up to Aunties (Mary Black), where I spent the night. The next day I went to Newmains with Willie Peacock in the afternoon then went to Peacock's home at Carluke in the evening. On January 19 I went sight seeing in Edinburgh. I returned to Shotts in the evening and spent the night at Jennies (the Peacocks.). The next day, I went by bus to Newmains, car to Wishaw and took the train from there to Carluke. On January 12, I went to Omoa to see Aunt Jean (I believe this is Janet Walker's half sister Janet Tennant Ballantine Reid. Omoa is now a street in Cleland.) I spent the afternoon with her. On January 13, I went sight seeing in Glasgow, returning to "Aunties" in the evening. I took in Wm. Dunlop's sale at Ayr then spent the evening and night in Glasgow. The next day I went to Dunbarton where I visited "Mary" (Mary Thomson- see photo next page, daughter of Grannie's sister Marion, as they lived in Dunbarton.) I left Dunbarton on the afternoon of the 16th. "Jimmie" (James Thomson) came up to Glasgow with me. I had tea with him and left for Shotts. I visited with Aggie Hastie then spent the evening at Mary's (this would not be Mary Thomson. If Mary Black he likely would have said Aunties, so it is not clear who he is referring to). On January 17, I left Shotts in the afternoon, Aunt Jean (Jean Reid) and Agnes met me at the station. John (John Reid, He and Dick are in photo, page previous) went to Glasgow with me and saw me off on the train for London.

On May 16, 1919, Dick left Camp with eight days leave. He arrived in Edinburgh the next morning and made it to Shotts in time for dinner at Jennies. He walked up to Aunties (Mary Black) in the afternoon. Marion, Mima, Agnes (three daughters of James and Jane Reid)

# *Janet Walker*

and Aggie Hastie (daughter of Mary Black) came up for tea Dick went to Shotts Kirk with Uncle and Kate ( Robert Black). On the next day he visited with Marion, Mima and Bob and Agnes Sommerville. On the 20th he spent more time with Marion, Mima, and Bob (Sommerville). Later he went down coal mine with John (John Reid). On the 21st he went to Dunbarton. He met Willie Peacock on the train and Alice (Alice Thomson) met him at the station. Sailed up Loch Lomond with Jim (Thomson) on the 21st. On May 22nd he received a leave extension, returned to Shotts and had supper at Jennies and went up to Aunties afterwards. On the 24th he went through an iron foundry with Wm. Peacock. On the 25th Willie, Jimmie, Kate and I had a drive up the Clyde Valley (Wm. Peacock. Jim and Kate Greenhorn). Had dinner at Tilletortlune Castle. On May 26 he started off on his journey back to London.

## **Dick and Annie and Richard K. Acton Visit in 1956.**

Kate Black married James Greenhorn. He was the manager of the Co-op store in Shotts. Dick and his wife Annie, and son Richard K. Acton visited with them during their visit in 1956. James had a racing car in which he gave young Richard a ride one evening. (Richard A. Acton).

## **Shirley Acton Association with Margaret Stead**

Shirley was a granddaughter of Janet Walker, the daughter of Robert and Sarah Acton. She was employed as a laboratory technician in England for several years, at which time she made contact with Margaret Stead (Margaret was the daughter of John and Janet Reid).

## **Elinor, Linda and Jenna Visits in ?? Bob Walker visits throughout the years.**

## **Visits of Scots to Canada**

Margaret Stead visits to Canada.

## *The Ballantines and the Reids*

**Marion Reid** was born in 1887 in Renfrewshire, the seventh child of James Reid and Jean Tennant Ballantine.

According to James Reid in 1982 correspondence, "Marion married William Graham. William was a miner. They lived in Cleland. They had three daughters and one son."



**Marion Reid, from a postcard given to Richard A. (Dick) Acton during his visits in 1919.**



**Marion died at Ivan Cottage, Cleland, on December 26, 1952. She was buried in the ShottsKirk Cemetery. Her husband, William, died on December 18, 1979. He, too, was buried in the ShottsKirk Cemetery.**

## *Janet Walker*

**Jemima Cochrane (Mima) Reid** was born on April 17, 1891, at Newarthill in Holytown, Lanarkshire, Scotland. She was the daughter of James Reid and Jane Tennant Ballantine.

Mima was a ten year-old scholar living with her parents James and Jeanie, brothers Robert and John and sisters Marion and Janet at the time of the 1901 census. Sisters Agnes Waddell, Jane and Mary had left home.

Mima lost her father when she was only 11 years old.

Jemima married William Prenice, a joiner. They lived in Cleland with their two daughters.



**Jemima (Mima) Reid, from a postcard given to Richard A. (Dick) Acton during his visit to Scotland in 1919.**

## *The Ballantines and the Reids*

**Janet Walker Reid** was born in 1895 in Cleland, Lanarkshire, Scotland. She was the youngest child of James and Jeanie Tennant Ballantine Reid. Janet was a six year-old "scholar" living with her parents James and Jeanie, two older brothers Robert and John and two older sisters Marion and Jemima at Langbyres Cottages, Shotts in 1901. Older sisters Agnes Waddell, Jane and Mary had left home.

Janet lost her father when she was only seven years old.

Janet married Richard Semple, a farmer. They lived in Kintyre. They had three daughters and one son. One of the daughters, Anna Brow, died at age fourteen in 1936.



**Janet Semple died on November 3, 1975. She was 81 years-old. Her husband died ten years before her, on May 24, 1965. A daughter, Anna Brow, is buried with them. She died on September 19, 1936. They were buried in the Kilkerran Cemetery Campbeltown, Argyll and Bute,**