

The Laidlaw Farm of West Lincoln

Prepared by Edna Phillips, 6 August 2008

This is a short history about the Laidlaw farm, the families, intermarriages with their neighbors, and life in West Lincoln Township, Ontario, in the 19th Century.¹

Background

My story begins with a government decision in 1798 to set aside one-seventh of all lands as an educational reserve to ensure the funding to support schools in Upper Canada, now Ontario. The charter for King's College, later becoming the University of Toronto, provided for an endowment of 225,944 acres – a part of the Crown educational reserve land. Included in the King's College endowment was 2,138 acres in Caistor Township, District of Niagara.² Lot 15, Concession 2, in then Caistor Township, Lincoln County, was one of these education reserve lots. The educational reserve lands were often leased to generate income for the schools who owned them. That appears to be the case with Lot 15. David Dean was the original Crown lessee on this lot from 29 Sep 1818. By 1843, George Laidlaw and Hugh Asher were in possession as lessees. It is here on Lot 15 where the Laidlaw family lived and where my story takes place.

Today, Caistor, which has been incorporated into West Lincoln Township since 1970, is farm country. Well, that might be a misnomer because it has been farm country for a long time. However, when it was first being settled in the early 1800s it was heavily forested, and timbering was a primary means of making a living. Records show that the forests were of the highest quality, which fed a wide demand for its lumber. Gradually the lands were cleared and farming took hold. It is now a very pastoral drive over flat to rolling land along the Chippewa Creek in Lincoln County. It certainly isn't timber country anymore. The primary crops are wheat, oats, corn, soy beans, and hay with significant land in pasture for cattle and milk cows.³ What might surprise one most is the rapid encroachment of suburbia. Only a few years ago, small communities such as Caistorville were rural in every respect. No longer. Housing development and commuters to the big city are present everywhere. But, one must understand what brought our pioneers here in the first place were the opportunities that didn't exist elsewhere; and this was also the same reason many eventually left.

The Laidlaw Migration

The Scottish seat of the Laidlaws is Roxburgh District, previously known as Roxburghshire County. It is located in the southeast of Scotland along the English border in an area known as the Scottish Borders, or simply "Borders." Borders is in the agriculture lowlands with the advantage of a good river for trade. Historically, the area is well positioned as a barrier to English invasion.⁴ Many Laidlaws from Borders migrated to America and specifically to Ontario, which had a similar climate and culture. In her books, well-known Canadian author Alice Munro describes her Laidlaw ancestors' migration to Ontario from this region in Scotland in great detail. There were reasons for these early pioneers to make this hard, unknown, no-return trip, not the least being the offer of a better way of life. The Laidlaws of Caistor Township emigrated from Hawick, Roxburgh, Scotland, for New York State in the early 1820s – George and William, thought to be cousins. They settled in Delaware County, just north of the Catskill Mountains and about 35 miles southeast of Oneonta. George and his wife Margaret Rea later immigrated from Delaware County about 1836 into Upper Canada (Ontario), first living in Niagara Township, near Queenston, close to the Niagara River, then later, from about 1843, in Caistor Township, near the hamlet of Caistorville in Lincoln County. George's is the principal family lineage who built and lived at the Laidlaw farm in Caistor. However, the other Laidlaw line – William's family – should not be forgotten. Although William remained in Andes, New York, some of his children moved to Lincoln County, Ontario. George Laidlaw's daughter Margaret married her Laidlaw cousin Andrew from William's line, and Catherine, the widow of George's son William, married her deceased husband's cousin Thomas Laidlaw, thus integrating the two lines from a genealogical point of view. George Laidlaw's descendancy is shown on the attached chart.⁵

The first owners of the farm, George and Margaret Laidlaw, had a huge family – 15 children. Two children were born in Scotland (one dying an infant), 10 were born in the United States (one dying an infant), and three were born in Ontario. George and Margaret both died quite young: George died in 1844 at age 47, and Margaret in 1846 at age 48. This situation clearly left siblings to care for each other, which, from all records, they did. There is a tiny graveyard on Lot 16, Concession 2, in Caistor at the intersection of Abingdon Road and North Chippewa Road, where George, his wife Margaret, their eldest son William, and William’s daughter Emma are buried. A visit to this cemetery in April 2008 was disappointing. Somewhere in time a farmer had evidently pushed the tombstones into a heap in the field. The few stones that are visible are broken in small pieces. Stones with the names George, Margaret, William and Emma Laidlaw, and “G.A.B.” were spotted. One partial epitaph “31 Yrs, 10 M. 26 d.” would be the stone for Robert Laidlaw, who died 8 May 1864. About 12 people are believed buried here, including Phillips ancestors. The mound with its stones piled has been left uncultivated. This is an indignity that needs correcting.¹²

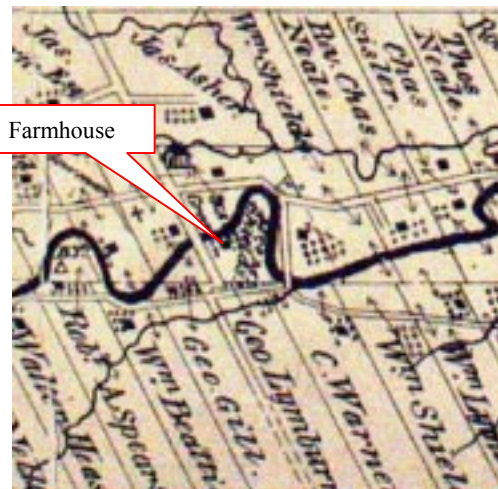


Lot 16 Cemetery 2008

The Laidlaws made their living in various ways. In Ontario, and later Michigan, the Laidlaws were primarily known to be lumber people. Lumber and wood shingles are two of their known products. It has been said that they supplied lumber for the construction of the first suspension bridge across the Niagara River at Queenston in 1851. Of the siblings, Ebenezer is known to be a lumberman and his brother James is thought to be, as were other descendants. Several Laidlaws left Ontario for Michigan during the great rush of timber speculators of the 1850s. Many timber men stayed in Michigan, creating communities such as Laidlawville. In earlier days, Ontario must have been very much like Michigan. It is hard to imagine today, but in only 70 years most of the Michigan pine and hardwood were gone. By 1897, it is estimated that 160 billion board-feet of Michigan pine had been cut.⁶ A sad omen for both Ontario and Michigan. In the 1861 Census, siblings Robert and Walter Laidlaw were farmers. On the 1876 map, Andrew, a cousin, was a farmer and stock grower.⁷

History of the Farmhouse

The Laidlaw family farm is located on the east side of Abingdon Road, between the South Chippewa Road and Concession 2 Road. One can get there by simply traveling east from Caistorville on the South Chippewa Road for less than 2 miles, then turning left (north) onto Abingdon Road; the farmhouse is on your right before crossing the Chippewa Creek. I will hereafter refer to it as the Laidlaw farm (on Lot 15). Although Lot 15 consists of 200 acres, the northern 100 acres were owned by other families including the Asher family. This account, however, is about the southern half of Lot 15 – 100 acres that has changed hands through the years and is where the farmhouse sits.



Laidlaw Farm 1876
Mrs M (Maria Laidlaw) Shields

The beautiful Chippewa Creek, sometimes large, sometimes shallow depending on the season, bisects the farm before making a sharp bend to the south as it winds its way to the Niagara River. In early days, Chippewa Creek served as a travel route for the native peoples of the Niagara peninsula. No doubt its banks made good campsites, as evidenced by arrowheads found on the farm.

Now I don’t want to confuse anyone, but I refer to the river as Chippewa Creek, the name I have always known it as. Since 1792 the proper name has actually been Welland River, after which the Welland Canal and city of Welland were named. The river passes through Welland via two aqueducts and empties into the Niagara River at the village of Chippawa, now within the city limits of Niagara Falls on the south side. Because of the village, the name of the river, roads and other landmarks have sometimes, historically, been

spelled Chippawa or Chippeway. On the 1876 Map of the Counties of Lincoln and Welland, Ontario, it is called "Chippewa Creek or Welland River." Take your choice, but for me, I'm sticking with Chippewa.^{8,7}

The farmhouse in its beautiful location creates a most attractive sight. It is believed to have been built by the Laidlaws between 1852, when the Census reports them living in a log house, and 1861 when their home was a frame house. It sits on the south bank of the Chippewa, along Abingdon Road. Huge wooden beams frame the house – these can be seen in the basement. When the Phillips acquired the farm in 1914, a summer kitchen extended from the northeast corner eastward following the bank of the Chippewa Creek. At the time, the main entrance to the house was through this wing. What is presently a living room used to be a kitchen-dining area, with a stairway to the second story separating the kitchen-dining area from the south part of the house. Also in 1914, there were several small rooms along the east wall of the house that were probably bedrooms. The interior was remodeled by George "Allen" and Phoebe "Clare" Phillips in 1929. The summer kitchen was removed, a small basement was built, and the staircase to the upper floor was moved to its present location between the living room and pantry. Apparently, the original stairs were reused to provide access to the basement from the pantry. These stairs were constructed with square nails that can still be seen. The rooms along the east wall became two larger bedrooms, a pantry and a bathroom. Two sets of triple windows on the front also date from 1929. The house was originally covered in pine siding, and later stuccoed in 1952.

Chronology of the Property

Here is a brief chronology of the Laidlaw-Phillips property on the south half of Lot 15. From the beginning, the south 40 acres of Lot 15, Concession 2, has belonged to only two families, the Laidlaws and the Phillips.

The Laidlaws

By 1843, George Laidlaw and Hugh Asher were in possession as lessees of this educational reserve land. By 1846, widow Margaret (Rea) Laidlaw was in possession, her husband George having died 11 Sep 1844. In 1848, William and James, sons of George and Margaret Laidlaw, applied to lease or purchase the land, but in 1849 their brother Robert Laidlaw signed an affidavit that James had fled the country leaving Robert in full possession. William was then living on Lot 14, Concession 2, with an additional 18 acres of Lot 15 attached to his farm. To explain, the 18 acres on Lot 15 are on the east side of the Chippewa and could be farmed more easily by the owner of Lot 14; thus, the two properties were kept intact.

On 22 Dec 1852, by leaseholder assignment, 82 acres (of 100 acres) on the south half of Lot 15, including the farmhouse, were transferred from William to Robert Laidlaw for £100. Excluded were the 18 acres east of Chippewa Creek, "after reserving for myself 18 acres," as signed by William as leaseholder. William died 9 Jan 1853. The Tremaines' Map of 1862 shows T Laidlaw as leaseholder of those 18 acres – Thomas was William's cousin who married his widow, Catherine. By 1862, the 18 acres was owned by Robert Laidlaw (see below).

Robert Laidlaw was a farmer, and his rents were properly paid to the university.⁹ In 1856, when the university was selling all of its land holdings, Robert contracted to buy the south 100 acres (the south half of Lot 15) from the university for £175, with one-tenth down and nine equal payments, to be completed by 1864. Robert stayed on the farm for the next 8 years, until his death 8 May 1864. Robert was unmarried, so in 1864, ownership of the south 40 acres (south side of Chippewa Creek) were transferred from Robert to his sister Maria Laidlaw (later Shields), the north 42 acres (north side of creek) were transferred to his brother Walter, and the southeast 18 acres were transferred to Catherine Laidlaw (Robert's sister-in-law). Documents dated 1864, 1867, 1870, and 1876 all describe the 18 acres as conveyed to Catherine Laidlaw. The land was later sold to Henry Robinson, and Henry sold it to Daniel Deamud. On the 1876 map, William Shields is shown on that land.⁷

In follow-up to the 18 acres, I remember it being farmed by brothers Ewart and Wilfrid Shields. Ewart and Wilfrid married sisters, Maggie and Bessie Bell, and built two houses side-by-side on the property. Maggie

and Bessie were grandchildren of Mary (Laidlaw) Lymburner. After Ewart and Wilfrid's deaths, the land continued to be farmed by their nephew; however, it was thought to be owned by Ewart's daughters, Ellen and Jean Shields. Ellen, a Laidlaw descendant, died in April 2008.

In the 1861 Census, the Laidlaws were living in a frame house believed to be the same house that exists today. At the time, there was also a frame schoolhouse on ¼ acre at the corner of Abingdon and North Chippewa Roads. The original school was a frame building that opened in 1858 as a one-room elementary school; it was built on land acquired from Robert Laidlaw. The school burned in 1910 and was replaced by a brick building that was used until 1964.

In 1870, Walter Laidlaw sold the north 42 acres to John Milton Lymburner; and it sold again in 1876, from John and Susan Elizabeth Lymburner to John Sparkman Green. In 1878 Maria (Laidlaw) Shields sold the south part to her brother Walter Laidlaw. Maria had married widower William Shields on 5 Apr 1870, but evidently it was not a successful marriage and Maria returned to the Laidlaw farmhouse. In 1888, Walter gave Maria a life-lease on the house, and he sold the south 40 acres to his younger sister Grace Laidlaw. Grace later married Thomas Shirton. Although Grace predeceased her sister Maria, the property could not be sold until after Maria's life-lease expired with her death in 1913. The late Gordon Phillips remembered Maria Shields as an old lady living in the farmhouse. At the time, he was a young boy attending nearby School Number 3, that had been built on Laidlaw property. His teacher loaned books to Maria, which Gordon was asked to deliver.



Maria Laidlaw
c1910

These land transactions left the Laidlaw farm pretty much as it is today (2008), consisting of about 55 acres.

The Phillips

James Lewis Phillips first bought the north part of Lot 15 in 1910 from John Sparkman Green and his wife Ada Emeline Green.

Grace (Laidlaw) Shirton died in 1908. Although Grace owned the farm on the south part of Lot 15 at the time of her death, her sister, Maria (Laidlaw) Shields, held a life-lease on the farmhouse. When Maria died in 1913, Thomas Shirton, widower of Grace, was granted Letters of Administration to sell Grace's property. The south 40 acres of Lot 15 were offered at public auction, and James Lewis Phillips successfully won the bid at \$2,030, completing the deal in 1914.

James Phillips wished to see each of his sons settled on a farm of their own. So in 1920, James sold the whole of the south one-half of Lot 15 to one of his sons, George Allen Phillips (who was best known by his middle name "Allen"), for one dollar and other considerations. This no doubt was meant for the many years of hard work George "Allen" had performed for his father. In December of that same year, George "Allen" married Phoebe Clare Sharp at Caistorville. They spent the rest of their lives on the farm, raising three children: Donna Laureen Phillips, who married Gove Merritt; Keith Maxwell Phillips, who married Thelma Burtch; and Reginald Allen Phillips, who married Edna Clayton.



Laidlaw-Phillips Farmhouse c2006

In 1957, Reginald "Reg" Phillips bought the farm from his father, George "Allen" Phillips, giving his parents a life-lease on the home. When George "Allen" Phillips died in 1964, the farmlands (but not the house) were rented to neighboring farmers. And in 1972, when Phoebe Clare Phillips died, the house was rented to Fred and Karen Banting, who remained there for 29 years, raising their family. The house subsequently has been

rented to other tenants, and the land leased separately to a local armer, Stan Braico. Reginald Phillips added his wife, Edna Phillips, to the deed as co-owner in 1994; I remain the present (2008) owner.

Related land transactions in the north half of Lot 15, Concession 2, Caistor (not part of the Laidlaw farm).

Sometime prior to 1861, one-quarter acre was sold for a school lot on the northeast corner of Abingdon Road and North Chippewa Road. The balance of the lot lying north of North Chippewa Road was sold by George Allen Phillips to Wesley Asher (date unknown but before 1929).

Related land transactions for nearby Lot 14, Concession 2, Caistor (not part of the Laidlaw farm).

In 1866, William Shields was given a patent for the west one-half of Lot 14, Concession 2, Caistor. In a 30 Mar 1866 document, William Shields agreed to pay money to the surviving children of William Laidlaw. At the time, Margaret Jane Laidlaw, an underage daughter of William Laidlaw (deceased) was living in Malahide Township, Elgin County. It appears that Shields was trying to establish clear title to Lot 14 (105 acres); perhaps this could not be done until Margaret Jane was of legal age (believed to be age 21). In 1869, William Shields received a land patent for Lot 14 (105 acres). And on 8 Aug 1871, there is a Deed of Grant conveying the property from William Alvin Laidlaw of Missouri, a carriage maker, to William Shields. William Allen is the brother of Margaret Jane Laidlaw.¹⁰

On the 1876 map, Rev Charles Neale was listed on the east half of Lot 14, 70 acres, north of Chippewa Creek, that he bought from Colin McIntosh, date unknown. Rev Neale's son, Charles Edward Neale Jr, married Isadora Sayre, daughter of Rachel Laidlaw, in 1877.

In 1857, Henry Robinson was Grantor (giver), and Robert Laidlaw was Grantee (receiver) of the northwest one-fourth.

In 1863, Robert Laidlaw was Grantor, with a mortgage to Rev Charles Neale; the note was discharged in 1864.

Robert Laidlaw sold to Walter Laidlaw the northwest one-fourth of the east one-half, 25 acres, which Walter sold to Rev Charles Neale a few days later; the date is unknown.

Laidlaw Descendants and Local Marriages

Now here's an interesting discovery. When life-tenant Maria (Laidlaw) Shields died in 1913, the property was still in the name of her sister, Grace (Laidlaw) Shirton, who had died in 1908. Because Grace had died intestate, her husband, Thomas Shirton, had to clear the title in order to sell the property. As of 1913, Grace was survived by one living brother, Ebenezer Laidlaw, and many nieces and nephews. The need to clear the title proved to be an unusual opportunity to gather all 30 names of the direct, then-living Laidlaw descendants and their spouses. Each is included in the attached descendants chart.⁵ Here are the names of the signers of the release-of-claim, and their relationship to Grace: Ebenezer Laidlaw, brother, of Tawas, Michigan; (children of William Laidlaw) William A Laidlaw, nephew, of Kansas City, Missouri; George Willard Laidlaw, nephew, of Hamilton, Ontario; (son of Jane Laidlaw) Walter Robert Johnson, nephew, of Dunnville, Ontario; (children of Margaret Laidlaw) Leaman R Miller, nephew, of Gainsboro, Ontario; William G Laidlaw, nephew, of Caistor, Ontario; Mary Hodges, niece, of Glendora, California; Jane Swayze, niece, of Canboro, Ontario; Robert J Laidlaw, nephew, of San Gabriel, California; Jessie Crowther, niece, of Lordsburg, California; (children of James Laidlaw) George Laidlaw, nephew, of Tawas, Michigan; Ebenezer J Laidlaw, nephew, of Gladstone, Michigan; May Powell, niece, of Spokane, Washington; Annie Lesway, niece, Gladstone, Michigan; (children of Jeanette Laidlaw) Horace Field, nephew, of Detroit, Michigan; Ralph L Field, nephew, of Queenston, Ontario; J Murray Field, nephew, of Niagara, Ontario; (children of Rachel Laidlaw) Isadora Neale, niece, of Wellandport, Ontario; Mary Mason, niece, of Highmore, South Dakota; Ellen D Whitehead, niece, of Port Hope, Michigan; Edith J Ingraham, niece, of Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Laura May Bowden, niece, of Chicago, Illinois; (children of Mary Laidlaw) George W Lymburner, nephew, of Caistor, Ontario;

Jane Bell, niece, of Caistor, Ontario; (children of Walter Laidlaw) Joanna Laidlaw, niece, of Gravenhurst, Ontario; Nellie L Laidlaw, niece, of Gravenhurst, Ontario; (children of Ellen Laidlaw) Robert G Crawford, nephew, of Toronto, Ontario; David J Crawford, nephew, of Canboro, Ontario; Jennie Robins, niece, of Dunnville, Ontario; and Rachel Sensabaugh, niece, of Hamilton, Ontario.

The above release-of-claim list, combined with local birth-marriage-death records, shows the unique closeness of numerous families in this region of West Lincoln. The effects of intermarriage traveled far. The names of many of our early West Lincoln citizens who intermarried with Laidlaws can be seen readily on familiar landmarks today, names such as Lymburner, Sensabaugh, and Merritt. Following is a sampling of these local marriages:

William Laidlaw married Catherine Robinson of nearby Smithville. Widow Catherine later married William's cousin Thomas Laidlaw, also a local.¹¹ William is buried at Lot 16, Concession 2, Caistor.

Jane Laidlaw married Horace Johnson of Caistor, son of locals Henry Johnson and Mary Merritt. Their son, Walter, married a local, Margaret Lymburner. Jane and Horace, their son Walter and his wife Margaret are all buried at Merritt's Church in Caistor.

Maria Laidlaw married a local, William Shields. Maria owned the Laidlaw farm from 1864 to 1878, and later held a life-lease to the farmhouse. Her husband owned nearby property. It was rumored that Maria lived with William "just long enough to have a quarrel." Maria's burial is inscribed on the Johnson family stone at the Merritt's Church cemetery. It is believed that her nephew, (Walter) Robert Johnson, lived with her after the death of her sister Jane in 1863. Jane's husband, Horace Johnson, died in 1902.

Margaret Laidlaw married (1) a local, Andrew Miller, and then (2) her cousin, also a local, Andrew Laidlaw.¹¹ Andrew and Margaret's children married locals Harriet Merritt, Wesley Hodges, Malium Swayze, and Henry Crowther, among others. Henry Crowther was a merchant in Caistor. Andrew, his wife Margaret, and their daughter Margaret Jane are buried at Dochstader Cemetery in Caistor.

Jeanette Laidlaw married a local, Jacob Field. They lived at Grimsby and later in Niagara Township.

Rachel Laidlaw married a local, William Sayre. Curiously, their daughter Isadora stayed behind in Caistor when her parents moved to Michigan. In the 1861 Census, she is age 8 and shown to be living with Robert, Maria, Ebenezer, Walter, and Grace Laidlaw. Isadora married Charles Neale Jr, a local farmer in Gainsboro and a son of Rev Charles Neale of Caistor. Charles Jr and Isadora lived at Wellandport. Their daughter, Nellie, married a local, William Sutherland. Nellie and her husband are buried at Wellandport. William Sayre gave his life heroically in a documented US Coast Guard rescue attempt on Lake Huron at Point Aux Barques, Michigan, on 23 Apr 1880. Rev Charles Neale and his wife Catharine are buried at Caistorville United Church.

Mary Laidlaw married a local, John Lymburner, of Caistor. Both are buried at Caistorville.

Walter Laidlaw married a local, Rachel Spears. They are buried at Caistorville, where their tall, pointed family monument is located just to the left of the church. Two of their daughters, Joanna and Nellie Laidlaw, remained unmarried and lived at Gravenhurst.

Ellen Laidlaw married a local, Hugh Crawford of Canboro. Their children also married locals, among them John Sensabaugh. Widower Hugh Crawford married Elizabeth Tice in 1878 at Caistorville.

Grace Laidlaw married local Thomas Shirton, and she was the last Laidlaw to own the farm.

One needs only to look no further than the 1876 Lincoln County map to recognize the many familiar names

on properties that surround the Laidlaw farm.⁷ When it comes to courting, one ancient theory holds that a man can walk about 5 miles in a day!

Attachment: Descendants of George and Margaret (Rea) Laidlaw.

References:

- ¹ Edna Phillips, 5502 Eaton Ave, Burlington, Ontario L7L 358, Canada; e-mail: erphillips2@cogeo.ca.
- ² Letter, Carol S Williams, University of Toronto Library, 20 Jun 1972.
- ³ Canada Department of Agriculture, on-line, sis.agr.gc.ca/cansis/publications/on/on34/on34_report.
- ⁴ Wikipedia, Scottish Borders, on-line.
- ⁵ Personal Ancestral File, Laidlaw descendant John Minnoch, 2008; e-mail: jkminn156@yahoo.com.
- ⁶ Michigan Government on-line at Michigan.gov/documents/2-ForestHistory_165779_7.pdf.
- ⁷ Canadian County Atlas Digital Project, digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas, County of Lincoln, Ontario, 1876.
- ⁸ Wikipedia, Welland River, on-line.
- ⁹ 1861 Canadian Census.
- ¹⁰ Transaction notes regarding Lots 13 and 14, Concession 2, Edna Phillips, numbers 367, 696, 909, 1410, 1541, 1542, 1625, 1691, and 2379.
- ¹¹ Thomas, Andrew, and Stewart Laidlaw lived in Caistor, Ontario; they were cousins of the George Laidlaw children. Stewart was a blacksmith in Caistorville (1857 Ontario Directory); he later lived in Michigan.
- ¹² Survey, Lot 16, by Jean Waite, Caistorville, and Charles Street, West Lincoln Cemeterian, on 25 Apr 2008.



Phillips Barn, Laidlaw-Phillips Farm
c2005, Now Gone

Descendants of George Laidlaw

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1. George Laidlaw (c.28 Oct 1797-Hawick,Roxburgh,Scotland;d.11 Sep 1844-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)

- sp: Margaret Rea (b.Ab. 14 Aug 1798-Scotland;m.8 Dec 1817;d.23 Oct 1846-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
- 2. William Laidlaw (b.16 Jan 1818-Hawick,Roxburgh,Scotland;d.9 Jan 1853-Caistor,Lincoln,Ontario,Canada)
 - sp: Catherine Robinson (b.19 Dec 1829-Smithville,Ontario,Canada;m.28 Oct 1844;d.13 Dec 1881-Ft Scott,Bourbon,KS)
 - 3. Emma Laidlaw (b.Aft 1844/Bef 1854-Caistor,Lincoln,Ontario,Canada;d.Ab. 18 Mar 18—)
 - 3. Margaret Jane Laidlaw (b.7 Oct 1846-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
 - sp: John C Oill (m.Ab. 1870)
 - 3. William Alvin Laidlaw (b.6 Jun 1848-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
 - sp: Laura E ., Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1850)
 - sp: Kattie Vestal (m.Ab. 1873)
 - 3. George Willard Laidlaw (b.21 Aug 1849-Caistorville,Ontario,Canada;d.Jun 1917-Vancouver,BC,Canada)
 - sp: Ella M ., Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1850)
 - sp: Eva Jessie Owens (m.20 May 1873)
 - sp: Margaret Hausch (m.25 Nov 1912)
 - 2. Jenny Laidlaw (b.15 Feb 1819-Hawick,Roxburgh,Scotland;d.22 May 1819)
 - 2. Jane Laidlaw (b.22 Sep 1821-USA (probably NY State);d.17 Feb 1863)
 - sp: Horace Johnson (b.Ab. 1814-Ontario,Canada;m.25 Feb 1841;d.23 Sep 1902)
 - 3. George Johnson (b.Ab. 1844)
 - 3. Ransom Johnson (b.6 Jun 1848)
 - 3. Walter Robert Johnson (b.1861;d.1930)
 - sp: Margaret A Lymburner (b.1865;d.1943)
 - 2. Maria Laidlaw (b.19 Jan 1823-New York State;d.4 Oct 1913-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
 - sp: William Shields (m.5 Apr 1870)
 - 2. Margaret Laidlaw (b.10 Apr 1824-New York State;d.16 Jun 1824)
 - 2. Margaret Laidlaw (b.17 Mar 1825-New York State;d.19 Aug 1895)
 - sp: Andrew Laidlaw (b.8 Dec 1825-Andes,NY;m.26 Jan 1855;d.9 Apr 1897-Attercliffe,Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
 - 3. William G Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1855/1856-Ontario)
 - sp: Harriet R Merritt (b.Ab. 1860)
 - 3. Margaret Jane Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1857-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada;d.23 Jul 1861-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
 - 3. Mary E Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1859)
 - sp: Wesley Hodges (b.Ab. 1855)
 - 3. Jane Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1860)
 - sp: Malium Alex Swayze (b.Ab. 1855)
 - 3. Robert J Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1864-Ontario)
 - sp: Maggie G ., Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1860)
 - 3. Jessie Belle Laidlaw (b.30 Sep 1866-Attercliffe,Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada;d.7 Oct 1919-Los Angeles,California)
 - sp: Henry C Crowther (b.Ab. 1865;m.7 Jul 1889)
 - sp: Andrew Miller (b.Ab. 1818-Ontario,Canada)
 - 3. Leaman Ray Miller (b.28 Jul 1849-Caistor Twp,Ontario,Canada;d.13 Apr 1919-Ontario,Canada)
 - sp: Cynthia J Melick (m.11 Nov 1896)
 - sp: Mary Ann Dilts (m.22 Dec 1875;d.26 Sep 1877)
 - 2. James Laidlaw (b.29 Sep 1826-New York State)
 - sp: Elizabeth Ann Lake (b.Ab. 1838;m.6 May 1858)

Descendants of George Laidlaw

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3. George Walter Laidlaw (b.26 Jan 1859-Port Austin,Michigan;d.29 May 1935-Tawas City,Michigan)
sp: Ella Karziski (m.29 Aug 1885)
3. James Franklin Laidlaw (b.Aft 1859-Laidlawville,Iosco County,Michigan;d.7 May 1951-Detroit,Michigan)
3. Ebenezer J Laidlaw (b.Aft 1859)
3. May Laidlaw (b.Aft 1859)
sp: Albert H Powell (b.Abt 1865)
3. Annie Laidlaw (b.Aft 1859)
sp: Robert Lesway (b.Abt 1865)
2. Jeanette Laidlaw (b.16 Mar 1828-US;d.11 Mar 1865-Smithville,Lincoln,Ontario,Canada)
sp: Jacob Miree Field (m.12 Dec 1848)
 3. Horace Field (b.14 Sep 1849-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
sp: Jennie R. , Field (b.Abt 1850)
 3. Alvarette A Field (b.Abt 1854-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
sp: Theodore Hysert (m.8 Jun 1874)
 3. Ralph Laidlaw Field (b.7 Mar 1856-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
sp: Juliet A Kennedy (b.Abt 1860)
 3. George Thomas Field (b.18 Oct 1856-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
 3. J Murray Field (b.Abt 1865-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
sp: Annie A. , Field (b.Abt 1860)
2. Rachel Laidlaw (b.27 Oct 1830-New York;d.23 Apr 1873-Port Austin,Michigan)
sp: William Sayre (b.Abt 1830-Canada;d.23 Apr 1880-Lake Huron,Point Aux Barques,Michigan)
 3. Isadora Sayre (b.31 Mar 1855-Ontario,Canada;d.19 Jul 1933-Copetown,Ontario,Canada)
sp: Charles Edward Neale Jr. (b.2 Nov 1850-Queenston,O,Canada;m.25 Jan 1877;d.8 Sep 1933-Copetown,O,Canada)
 3. Mary Sayre (b.Abt 1856-Canada)
sp: Samuel Mason (b.Abt 1855)
 3. Ellen D Sayre (b.Abt 1857-Canada)
sp: , , Nichol (b.Abt 1855)
sp: Rance Whitehead (b.Abt 1885)
 3. Edith J Sayre (b.Abt 1861-Port Austin,Michigan)
sp: William B Ingraham (b.Abt 1860)
 3. Carrie Sayre (b.Abt 1866-Port Austin,Michigan;d.31 Dec 1903-Chicago,IL)
 3. Laura Sayre (b.Jan 1870-Port Austin,Michigan)
sp: Frederick Boyden (b.Abt 1865)
2. Robert Laidlaw (b.12 Jun 1832-USA;d.8 May 1864-Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
2. Mary Laidlaw (b.24 Jan 1834-USA (probably NY State);d.18 Feb 1912-Ontario,Canada)
sp: John Gilman Lymburner (b.Abt 1825;m.1 Feb 1859;d.20 Feb 1899)
 3. George Walter Lymburner (b.Abt 1860)
 3. Mary Jane Lymburner (b.Abt 1862)
sp: William Bell (b.Abt 1860)
2. Ebenizer Laidlaw (b.29 Jun 1835-US;d.19 Feb 1917-Laidlawville,Iosco,Michigan)
sp: Sara Amelia Lake (b.Abt 1840;m.15 Nov 1868)
2. Walter Laidlaw (b.2 Jun 1837-Ontario,Canada;d.3 Jan 1899-Caistorville,Ontario,Canada)
sp: Rachel Hunter Spears (b.Abt 1840)

Descendants of George Laidlaw

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3. Walter A Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1867;d.25 Jan 1897)
3. Joanna Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1870)
3. Maggie C Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1872;d.26 Feb 1886)
3. Nellie Louisa Laidlaw (b.Ab. 1873;d.1959)
2. Ellen Laidlaw (b.6 Apr 1839;d.1 May 1871)
 - sp: Hugh Crawford (b.Ab. 1832;m.1861)
 3. Robert G Crawford (b.Ab. 1863)
 - sp: Clara ,, Crawford (b.Ab. 1865)
 3. David J Crawford (b.Ab. 1865)
 - sp: Electa ,, Crawford (b.Ab. 1865)
 3. Jennie Crawford (b.1861;d.1928)
 - sp: James Robins (b.1862;d.1928)
 3. Rachel Crawford (b.Ab. 1867)
 - sp: John Wesley Sensabaugh (b.Ab. 1865)
 - sp: ,, Fulsom
 - sp: Wesley Andrew Birdsall
 2. Grace Laidlaw (b.22 May 1842-Caistor Twp,Ontario,Canada;d.28 Apr 1908-Caistor Twp,Lincoln County,Ontario,Canada)
 - sp: Thomas Shirton (b.26 Sep 1839-Sheffield,England;m.20 Nov 1895;d.17 Mar 1930-HWMH,Ontario)