

The Derry (Déry) of Kenora

by
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Corrections and additions are welcomed and may be sent to jretson@shaw.ca.

Preface

This manuscript is one of a series created to introduce and honour residents of former residents of Kenora and the surrounding territory.

Kenora is situated on the north shore of the Lake of the Woods situated on the Canadian Shield, more than 4 billion years ago. The metamorphic rocks are from the Precambrian period more than 500 million years ago, the first part of North America to be permanently elevated above sea level. The Lake of the Woods is a remnant of Lake Agassiz. The area has been a centre of human activity for at least 8,000 years owing to an abundance of fur-bearing animals, fish and the exit to waters which ultimately lead to the Arctic. The local inhabitants referred to the north end of the lake as Wauzhushk Onigum, which translates "portage to the country of the muskrat."

The City of Kenora is as old as the century dating from January 1 2000. It was created with the amalgamation of the three constituent municipalities, the Town of Kenora, Keewatin and Jeffrey Mellick.

The original surname Derry was Déry signifying their French ethnic background. The earliest identified ancestor of the Derry family that subsequently came to Kenora is Pierre Déry who was born in Ancienne Lorette, Quebec in February 1773 and died there on September 13 1845. His wife Marie Charlotte Parent born July 2 1788 died in 1870. The earliest descendent who arrived in the Kenora area was his grandson George Pierre Déry (Derry) born in Ancienne Lorette. Surnames of descendants of this family include Derry, Ouelette, Duggan, Kyle, and Roos.

George Derry 1849-1924

George Derry, née George Déry, son of George Déry and Sophie Tessier (dit laPlante) was born on August 24 1849 in Quebec. His father George Déry from Lorette Quebec baptized his children and enumerated his children in Canadian census as Déry but when George moved to the United States the name was Anglicized to Derry. His siblings included,

Annie Déry born 1850 in Lorette, Quebec

Joseph Déry born 1853 in Lorette, Quebec

Malvina Déry born Oct 28 1855 in Saint Raymond, Portneuf, Quebec

Caroline Déry born 1858 in Quebec

It has not been ascertained when they met or where they married but George Derry married Delia Blanchard, born in Quebec and they first appear in a census living in North Adams, Massachusetts where they are living with her family. George worked on the Hoosac Tunnel completed in 1875.

They had a total of at least 6 children,

George Derry (first of two Georges) born 1870 in North Adams and died very young

Rose Derry born 1871

Arthur Derry

Joseph Derry born October 3 1876 in North Adams, Massachusetts (See Below)

George Derry Jr. died at the age of 16 years in April 1900

Williard John Derry born August 15 1890 Died June 7 1957 (See his story at <http://www.canadiangreatwarproject.com/searches/soldierDetail.asp?ID=141590>)

George Derry and family arrived in Rat Portage in 1877 from North Adams, Massachusetts, according to the news article on his death as well as an article by David Hogoboam published in 1923. He was engaged with the CPR handling the new explosive nitroglycerin on the construction of the railway. He worked 1877-78 in Rat Portage before moving to Vermillion Bay ultimately returning to Rat Portage where Delia died on Feb 19 1900.

According to Through the Kenora Gateway, page 77 the George Derry family arrived in Rat Portage in 1879 on the steamship "Lady of the Lake" on the same ship as the Governor General Lord and Lady Aberdeen in 1879.

He had been friends with Frank Gardner and was living with him by the 1901 census.

Subsequent to the death of his first wife he married Catherine Janet MacDonell born 1871. They had two daughters, Donnell born in Kenora in 1906 and a second daughter.

George Derry was a close friend of Frank Gardner. They became involved in mining buying a property on Scotty's Island on which the mine was located. In July 1899, they sold it to the Ottawa Gold Mining and Milling Company. George Derry did some bush work for Mr. Gardner. He ran some camps during the winter months, putting out cordwood for the steamboats and for the Sultana mine. When he got older Mr. Derry was employed by the town, working at the pump house in Lakeside.

When Mr Gardner's wife died George Derry's wife Catherine looked after his children, particularly the two youngest.

He died in July 1924 at 74. In his reporting his death, the Kenora Miner and News indicated,

The late George Derry was a man whom it was a pleasure to know. Of exceptional sterling character he was always kind, generous and thoughtful and of him it may be said his word was a good is his bond. Thought of a reserved and quiet temperament, it was a real pleasure to talk to him of the early days here, for to him its hardship always had a humorous.

Joseph Derry 1876 - 1958

Joseph Derry, son of George Derry née George Déry, and Delia Blanchard was born October 3 1876 in North Adams, Massachusetts. George and Delia traveled from their province of birth, Quebec to work on a project in the United States and Joseph was born while living there with George Derry and family arrived in Rat Portage in 1877 from North Adams, Massachusetts, according to the news article on his death as well as an article by David Hogoboam published in 1923. He was engaged with the CPR handling the new explosive nitroglycerin on the construction of the railway. He worked 1877-78 in Rat Portage before moving to Vermillion Bay ultimately returning to Rat Portage where Delia died on Feb 19 1900.

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His mother (Delia Blanchard) died on February 19 1900 when Joseph was 24 years of age.

He married Frances McKeown on September 2 1897. They had two children

Frances Irene Derry, born August 27 1898 in Rat Portage, married Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette Kenora Rotary 1942-43

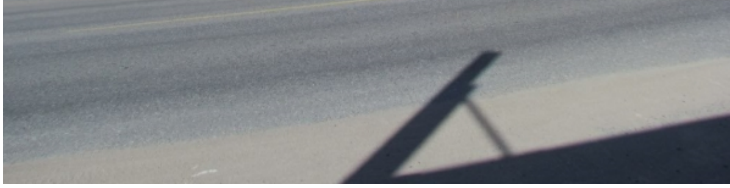
Stanley Joseph Derry born November 30 1902 in Rat Portage. He died February 1 1942.

Joseph was the owner of the Bijou theater (in 2013 the Bijou Streak house). In 1914 he bought the property where the Hilliard Opera House was located after it burned and following the death of Mr Hilliard in 1914 and moved his theater to this location. On December 5 1914 the Palace Theater was opened (in 2013 the Wind and Water Interior building also known as the Bergman building -See below.)



326 2nd St. S. Palace Theater
-Bergman & Nelson-Bergman
Building

Son Stan and wife operated the business with Bert Johnson as the projectionist.



It closed its doors on November 9 1950 when Mr Derry opened the Paramount Theater next door, which in 2013 was called Century

Cinema.

Joseph Derry was the sixth president of the Kenora rotary Club serving in 1924 -1925

Joseph Derry died December 7 1958. The hearse carrying his coffin to the cemetery ran out of gas and a tow truck had to be called to tow the hearse to the cemetery.

Stanley Joseph Derry 1902 - 1942

Stanley "Stan" Joseph Derry, son of Joseph Derry and Frances McKeown was born November 30 1902 in Rat Portage. He was employed for a time with Canadian Educational Films in the Film Exchange, as cashier. He then became associated with his father in the management of Derry's Theater Limited.

He married Lillian Fern Sparrow on March 24 1928 in Winnipeg Manitoba.

He died suddenly on Sunday February 1 1942. His wife Fern passed away October 16 1957.

Descendants of Pierre Déry

Generation 1

1. **PIERRE¹ DÉRY** was born on Feb 21, 1773 in L'Ancienne Lorette, Québec, Quebec, Canada. He died on Sep 13, 1845 in L'Ancienne Lorette, Québec, Quebec, Canada. He married Marie Charlotte Parent on Jul 29, 1805 in Ancienne Lorette PQ. She was born on Jul 02, 1788 in L'Ancienne Lorette, Québec, Quebec, Canada. She died in 1870.

Pierre Déry and Marie Charlotte Parent had the following children:

- i. **GEORGES² DÉRY** was born about 1800. He died about 1900.
- ii. **MICHEL DÉRY** was born in 1805 in Quebec, Quebec.
- iii. **LOUIS DÉRY** was born in 1805.
- iv. **JOSEPH DÉRY** was born on Jan 21, 1813 in L'Ancienne-Lorette Notre-Dame-de-L'Annonciation, Québec.
- v. **PIERRE IGNACE DÉRY** was born on Feb 20, 1815 in L'Ancienne Lorette, Quebec, Canada. He died on Feb 25, 1884 in Portneuf, Quebec, Canada.
2. vi. **GEORGE DÉRY** was born in 1825 in Lorette, Quebec. He died on Feb 08, 1900 in Québec, Quebec, Canada. He married (1) **SOPHIE TESSIER DIT LAPLANTE** on Nov 07, 1848 in L'Ancienne Lorette, Québec, Quebec, Canada. She was born on Apr 12, 1827 in Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures, Quebec, Canada. He married (2) **ADÈLE ADÉLAIDE HAMEL** on Feb 08, 1864 in Cap-Santé, Portneuf, Quebec, Canada. She was born on Apr 03, 1838 in Québec, Quebec, Canada. He married (3) **M MATHILDE BUTEAU** on May 18, 1874 in Québec, Quebec, Canada (Notre-Dame). She was born on May 29, 1837 in Petite-Rivière-St-François, Québec.
- vii. **ELIE DÉRY** was born on Jul 30, 1827 in L'Ancienne Lorette PQ Canada. He died on Jun 11, 1911 in Manchester N.H..
- viii. **CASIMIR PROSPERE DÉRY** was born on Mar 06, 1832 in Ancienne-Lorette, Quebec, Canada. He died on Dec 22, 1929 in Sanborn, Barnes, North Dakota, USA.
- ix. **LOUISE MARIE DERY** was born on Mar 03, 1873 in Wisconsin, United States. She died on Jan 25, 1960 in Golden Valley, North Dakota, United States.
- x. **ANTONIE DERY**.

Generation 2

2. **GEORGE² DÉRY** (Pierre¹) was born in 1825 in Lorette, Quebec. He died on Feb 08, 1900 in Québec, Quebec, Canada. He married (1) **SOPHIE TESSIER DIT LAPLANTE** on Nov 07, 1848 in L'Ancienne Lorette, Québec, Quebec, Canada. She was born on Apr 12, 1827 in Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures, Quebec, Canada. He married (2) **ADÈLE ADÉLAIDE HAMEL** on Feb 08, 1864 in Cap-Santé, Portneuf, Quebec, Canada. She was born on Apr 03, 1838 in Québec, Quebec, Canada. He married (3) **M MATHILDE BUTEAU** on May 18, 1874 in Québec, Quebec, Canada (Notre-Dame). She was born on May 29, 1837 in Petite-Rivière-St-François, Québec.

George Déry and Sophie Tessier dit Laplante had the following children:

3. i. **GEORGE PIERRE³ DERRY** was born on Aug 24, 1849 in Lorette, Qc. He died on Jul 04, 1924 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He married (1) **CATHERINE JANET MACDONELL**, daughter of Living MacDonnell and Living Janet, after 1900. She was born in 1871 in Scotland. She died on Jan 02, 1940 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He married (2) **DELIA BLANCHARD** before 1870. She was born in 1852 in Canada. She died on Feb 19, 1900 in Rat Portage, Kenora, Ontario, Canada.
- ii. **ANNIE DÉRY** was born in 1850 in Lorette, Quebec.
- iii. **JOSEPH DÉRY** was born in 1853 in Lorette, Quebec.
- iv. **MALVINA DÉRY** was born on Oct 28, 1855 in Saint-Raymond, Portneuf, Quebec, Canada. She died on Jun 28, 1928 in Quebec, Quebec, Canada.
- v. **CAROLINE DÉRY** was born in 1858 in Québec, Québec.

Generation 3

3. **GEORGE PIERRE³ DERRY** (George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry) was born on Aug 24, 1849 in Lorrette, Qc. He died on Jul 04, 1924 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He married (1) **CATHERINE JANET MACDONELL**, daughter of Living MacDonnell and Living Janet, after 1900. She was born in 1871 in Scotland. She died on Jan 02, 1940 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He married (2) **DELIA BLANCHARD** before 1870. She was born in 1852 in Canada. She died on Feb 19, 1900 in Rat Portage, Kenora, Ontario, Canada.

Notes for George Pierre Derry:

Notes in Early Settlers of Rat Portage v1 page 142

George Pierre Derry and Catherine Janet MacDonell had the following child:

4. i. **LIVING DERRY**. She married **THOMAS HOWARD ROOS**. He was born on Feb 08, 1905 in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. He died on Aug 22, 1970 in Vancouver, British Columbia (Age: 65).

George Pierre Derry and Delia Blanchard had the following children:

- ii. **GEORGE DERRY** was born about 1870.
iii. **ROSE DERRY** was born in 1871.
5. iv. **JOSEPH DERRY** was born on Oct 03, 1876 in North Adams, Mass.. He died on Dec 07, 1958 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He married Frances "Fanny Derry" McKeown, daughter of James McKeon and Elizabeth Mortimer, on Sep 02, 1897 in Rat Portage, Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She was born on Mar 01, 1876 in Houghton, Mich. She died on Feb 16, 1971 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.
v. **GEORGE DERRY** was born in 1883.
vi. **ARTHUR DERRY** was born on Sep 02, 1883.
vii. **WILLIARD JOHN DERRY** was born on Aug 15, 1890 in Rat Portage, Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He died on Jun 06, 1957.

Generation 4

4. **LIVING DERRY** (George Pierre³, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry). She married **THOMAS HOWARD ROOS**. He was born on Feb 08, 1905 in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. He died on Aug 22, 1970 in Vancouver, British Columbia (Age: 65).

Notes for Thomas Howard Roos:

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=114440595> Grave of Thomas Howard Roos 1905-1970 This gives his birth as Scriber

Thomas Howard Roos and Living Derry had the following child:

6. i. **LIVING ROOS**.
5. **JOSEPH⁴ DERRY** (George Pierre³, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry) was born on Oct 03, 1876 in North Adams, Mass.. He died on Dec 07, 1958 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He married Frances "Fanny Derry" McKeown, daughter of James McKeon and Elizabeth Mortimer, on Sep 02, 1897 in Rat Portage, Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She was born on Mar 01, 1876 in Houghton, Mich. She died on Feb 16, 1971 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.

Notes for Joseph Derry:

Came to Rat Portage in 1878 Early Settlers of Rat portage Page 5

Joseph Derry and Frances McKeown had the following children:

7. i. **FRANCES IRENE⁵ DERRY** was born on Aug 27, 1898 in Rat Portage, Ontario, Canada. She died on Sep 12, 1975 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She married Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette, son of Andre Ouellette and Lea Côté, on Sep 01, 1921 in Kenora District, Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He was born on Aug 08, 1896 in Rat Portage, Ontario, Canada. He died on May 28, 1978 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.

Generation 4 (con't)

- ii. STANLEY JOSEPH DERRY was born on Nov 30, 1902 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He died on Feb 01, 1942 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He married Lillian Fern "Fern" Sparrow on Mar 24, 1928 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She was born in 1904 in Manitoba. She died on Oct 16, 1957 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.

Generation 5

6. **LIVING ROOS** (Living Derry, George Pierre³ Derry, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry, Thomas Howard, George Joseph).

Living Roos had the following child:

- i. BRIAN⁶.
7. **FRANCES IRENE⁵ DERRY** (Joseph⁴, George Pierre³, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry) was born on Aug 27, 1898 in Rat Portage, Ontario, Canada. She died on Sep 12, 1975 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She married Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette, son of Andre Ouellette and Lea Côté, on Sep 01, 1921 in Kenora District, Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He was born on Aug 08, 1896 in Rat Portage, Ontario, Canada. He died on May 28, 1978 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.

Notes for Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette:

Candidate in 1930 election served over seas

Joseph Cyril Antoine Ouellette and Frances Irene Derry had the following children:

- i. STANLEY JOSEPH⁶ OUELLETTE was born on Jul 26, 1922 in Ontario. He died on Nov 25, 1943 in Turin, Province di F Italy (Shot down over Turin Italy 1943).
8. ii. MARY LEONE OUELLETTE was born on Dec 05, 1924 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She died on Feb 08, 2007 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She married Gerald Joseph "Gerry" Duggan, son of William Duggan and Florence, in 1946. He was born on Nov 23, 1923 in Redditt, Ontario, Canada. He died on Jul 20, 2015 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.
9. iii. ALBERT FRANCIS OUELLETTE was born on Jun 28, 1929 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He died on Jan 28, 1998 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. He married TILLIE MARIE HOLOMAY. She was born on Oct 07, 1929 in Fisher Branch, Manitoba. She died on Aug 10, 2005 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
10. iv. LIVING OUELLETTE. He married LIVING FREGEAU.
 - v. LIVING OUELLETTE. She married LIVING EDIE.

Generation 6

8. **MARY LEONE⁶ OUELLETTE** (Frances Irene⁵ Derry, Joseph⁴ Derry, George Pierre³ Derry, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry) was born on Dec 05, 1924 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She died on Feb 08, 2007 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. She married Gerald Joseph "Gerry" Duggan, son of William Duggan and Florence, in 1946. He was born on Nov 23, 1923 in Redditt, Ontario, Canada. He died on Jul 20, 2015 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada.

Notes for Gerald Joseph Duggan:

DUGGAN, Gerald Joseph - November 23, 1923 to July 20, 2015 Prayer Vigil: Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Centre July 24, 2015 7:00 p.m. Funeral Mass: Notre Dame du Portage Roman Catholic Church July 25, 2015 11:00 a.m. Gerry a long time resident of Kenora, passed away peacefully with his family at his bedside at Lake of the Woods District Hospital. Dad was predeceased by his cherished wife Mary Leone (Ouellette); his parents, William and Florence Duggan, brothers John, Homer, James and his sister Beatrice Stuart. Gerry loved his family and leaves his legacy of love to his children Greg (Pat), Paul (Donna), Sr. Jo-Ann s.g.m., Mark (Donna). The grandkids Brad (Deb), Sharla, Sean (Kim), Patrick (Ann), Laurie, Jennifer, Amy (Kimani), Jeffrey (Miranda) and great grandkids Brayden, Benjamin, Julia, Reese, Brock, Andrew, Nicholas, Allison, James, Blake and Myles. Dad will be fondly remembered by his Duggan, Ouellette, Edie and Poirier family members. Gerry was born and raised in Redditt Ontario. Dad attended St. Paul's High School in Winnipeg where the Jesuit Fathers became his mentors and guided him throughout his life. During the Second World War Dad served as an Able Bodied

Generation 6 (con't)

Seaman with the Royal Canadian Navy. Returning home from the war, dad married his sweet heart Mary Leone Ouellette in 1946 and began to raise their four children in Kenora. Dad was very dedicated to the growth and development of Kenora and served on a number of municipal, church and service club boards. After 37 years as Manager of the Bijou and Paramount Theatres, Uncle Jerry retired from "show business" and was awarded "Kenora's Best Babysitter", as he was fondly known by all the moms and children of Kenora. Dad also enjoyed his time at the Court House as the bailiff until his final retirement. Duggan's Den, Longbow Lake became a haven for mom and dad, celebrating life's many precious moments with family and friends communing with nature on the deck at camp. Dad's final words to the family will be remembered knowing that yes Dad "the Show must go on" The family wishes to extend their sincere appreciation to Dr. Jim Beveridge and the Health Care Professionals for their care, concern and compassion over the past many years. Interment will be at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Lake of the Woods Foundation at www.klwcf.ca or Jocelyn House Hospice, Winnipeg, MB at www.jocelynhouse.ca Online condolences may be made at www.brownfuneralhomekenora.com BROWN'S FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CENTRE Entrusted with arrangements 12955770

Gerald Joseph Duggan and Mary Leone Ouellette had the following children:

11.
 - i. LIVING DUGGAN. He married LIVING HOLSTRUM.
 - ii. JO-ANN DUGGAN.
 - iii. LIVING DUGGAN. He married LIVING SHAUNESY.
 - iv. LIVING DUGGAN. He married LIVING KONOBY.
9. **ALBERT FRANCIS⁶ OUELLETTE** (Frances Irene⁵ Derry, Joseph⁴ Derry, George Pierre³ Derry, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry) was born on Jun 28, 1929 in Kenora, Ontario, Canada. He died on Jan 28, 1998 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. He married **TILLIE MARIE HOLOMAY**. She was born on Oct 07, 1929 in Fisher Branch, Manitoba. She died on Aug 10, 2005 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Albert Francis Ouellette and Tillie Marie Holomay had the following child:

- i. PRIVATE⁷.

10. **LIVING OUELLETTE** (Frances Irene⁵ Derry, Joseph⁴ Derry, George Pierre³ Derry, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry, Joseph Cyril Antoine, Andre, Jean Baptiste, Jean Baptiste, Joseph Clement). He married **LIVING FREGEAU**.

Living Ouellette and Living Fregeau had the following child:

12.
 - i. LIVING OUELLETTE. He married LIVING SCOTT.

Generation 7

11. **LIVING DUGGAN** (Mary Leone⁶ Ouellette, Frances Irene⁵ Derry, Joseph⁴ Derry, George Pierre³ Derry, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry, Gerald Joseph, William). He married **LIVING HOLSTRUM**.

Living Duggan and Living Holstrum had the following children:

- i. LIVING DUGGAN.
 - ii. LIVING DUGGAN.

12. **LIVING OUELLETTE** (Living, Frances Irene⁵ Derry, Joseph⁴ Derry, George Pierre³ Derry, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry, Living, Joseph Cyril Antoine, Andre, Jean Baptiste, Jean Baptiste, Joseph Clement). He married **LIVING SCOTT**.

Living Ouellette and Living Scott had the following child:

13.
 - i. LIVING OUELLETTE. She married LIVING KYLE.

Generation 8

13. **LIVING OUELLETTE** (Living, Living, Frances Irene⁵ Derry, Joseph⁴ Derry, George Pierre³ Derry, George² Déry, Pierre¹ Déry, Living, Living, Joseph Cyril Antoine, Andre, Jean Baptiste, Jean Baptiste, Joseph Clement). She married **LIVING KYLE**.

Living Kyle and Living Ouellette had the following children:

Generation 8 (con't)

- i. LIVING KYLE.
- ii. LIVING KYLE.
- iii. LIVING KYLE.