

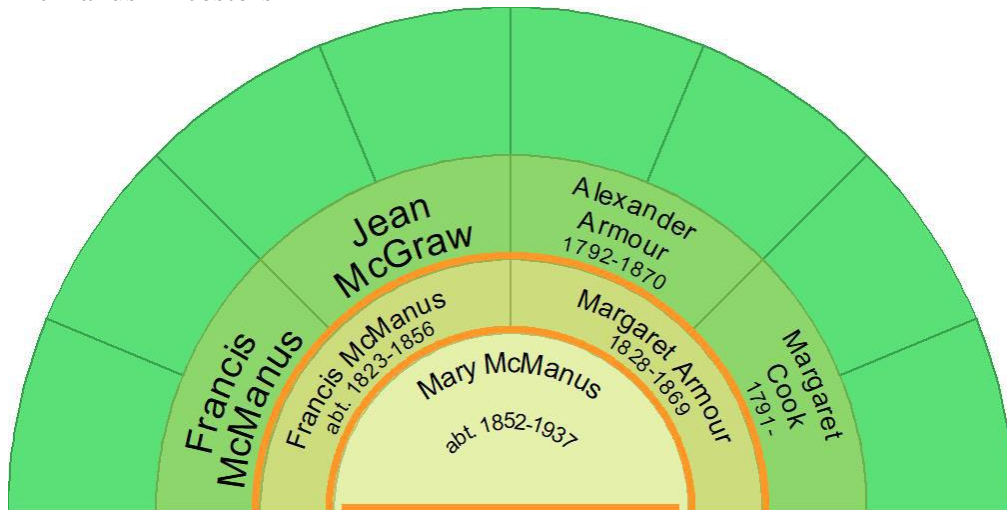
Our McManus Ancestors

by
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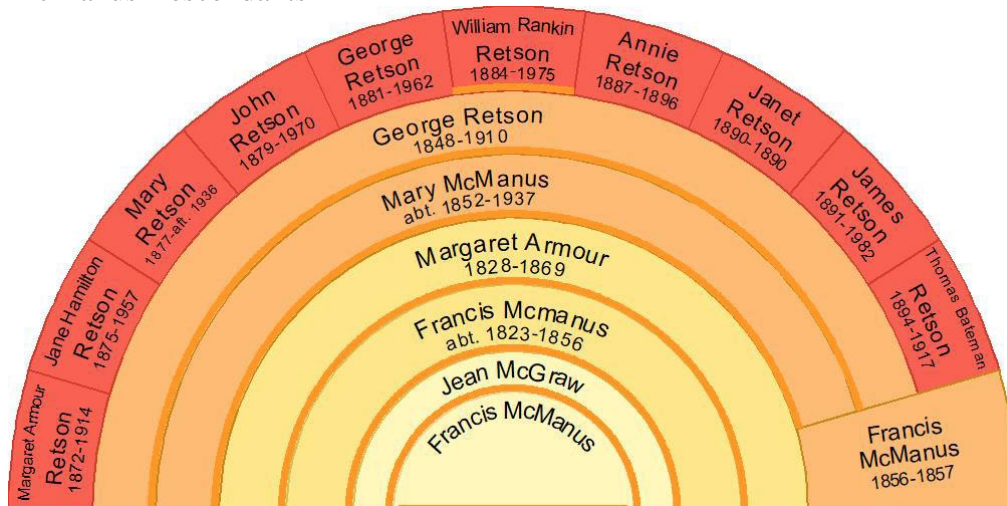
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McManus Ancestors



McManus Descendants



Other McManus descendants can be found at <http://www.retson.ca/mcmanusdescendants.pdf>

McManus Context

The McManus family was Scottish family who never came to Canada. The name in our family ended with the marriage of Mary McManus to George Retson on December 31 1871. The earliest McManus found to date is her grandfather Francis McManus date unknown. They lived in Scotland from at least the end of the 18th century to 1937.

1. Francis McManus and Jean McGraw

Francis McManus married Jean McGraw. They had the following child:

2. i. Francis McManus b. abt1832, d. 24 May 1856 in Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, m Margaret Armour, on Sep 15, 1851 in Sorn, Ayr, Scotland. k, on Sep 15, 1851 in Sorn, Ayr, Scotland. She was born on Jul 29, 1828 in Sorn, Ayrshire, Scotland. She died on Apr 20, 1869 in St Cuthbert St. Catrine.

2. Francis McManus 1832 – 1856 Margaret Armour

Francis McManus was son of Francis McManus (a soldier) and Jean (McGraw) McManus. He was born about 1832. He died 24 May 1856 at Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, usual residence 26 North Woodside Road, age 24years, described as a Coal miner or an Iron Stone Miner. Cause of death, Disease of shoulder joint and Phthisis, buried High Churchyard, Glasgow.

Their children include,

3. i. Mary McManus ABT 1852 Sorn
- ii. Francis McManus 07 Jul 1856 Milton, Glasgow, Lanark, Scotland. He died 2nd August 1857 at 22 North Woodside Road, Glasgow, male age 13 months, Cause of death Measles. Father Francis died before the birth of his son Francis McManus.

3. Mary McManus abt 1852- 1937 George Retson

Mary McManus, daughter of Francis and Margaret McManus, was born about 1852 in Sorn, Ayrshire, Scotland.

In the 1861 Census at age 10, she is residing with Alexander Armour her maternal grandfather at 8 St Cuthbert St. Sorn Ayrshire. I have not been able to locate 1871 census

She married George Retson on 31 Dec 1871 in United Presbyterine Church, Catrine, Sorn Parish Ayrshire, Scotland. He was born on Apr 06, 1848 in Sorn, Ayrshire, Scotland. He died on Dec 01, 1910 in Gardrum Farm, Fenwick.

In the 1881 Census, age 29 Mary is residing at Main St. Fenwick with husband George 32, and children, Margaret 8, Jane 6, Mary 3 and John 1 along with 20 year old servant Jessie Watt.

In 1891 census Mary age 39 is residing at Town Head Farm with Husband George age 42, and children, Margaret 18, Jane 16, Mary 13 and John 11, George 9, William 7, and Annie 4.

In 1901 age 49, she is residing at Gardum, with husband George age 52, and children, Margaret (Maggie) 28, Jane 26, Mary 24 and John 21, James 9 and Thomas 6. George who would be now 19, lived at Molemount Farm, Galston as a General Farm worker. William 17 resided at Cousin's home at Glaisnock Old Cumnock Town St as a Flesher Apprentice¹.

Daughter Janet was born 22 Aug 1890, died 1 month later on 24 Sep 1890 of Pneumonia, Annie had died on 05 Jan 1896 at age 8.

John emigrated to Canada arriving in Halifax aboard Siberian on 22 Apr 1902. William followed, leaving at age 19 on 25 Apr 1903 from Glasgow, Scotland for Halifax, Canada on board the Mongolian. A George Ritson is listed as a passenger on the Ivernia from Liverpool England to Boston Massachusetts in the Canadian Passenger List arriving 16 Jan 1908 and later he in a passenger along with James Retson on board the Orthia on 27 May 1911. George reports on a later census that he entered Canada in 1907. James returned to Scotland. Margaret came to Canada and married Alexander George Archibald in 19 January 1914 and died 18 December at Glenelg, St Mary, Nova Scotia. The husband remarried and had several children.

1911 and 1921 census are available at Scotland's People for anyone willing to pay. (Please send me a copy)

William and Mary Retson children:

- i. Margaret Armour Retson b. 13 December 1872; m. Alexander George Archibald 19 Jan 1914 in Bible Hill, Colchester County; died 19 Dec 1914 in Glenelg, Guysborough, Nova Scotia, Margaret responded to an invitation of Alexander George Archibald, a relative of the wife of brother William Rankin, Beatrice Clifford to Canada in 1913. They married in January 1914 at age 42 and she died by drowning in December 1914. He subsequently remarried Belva MacDonald and had 6 children from 1921 to 1929
- ii. Jane Hamilton Retson A.K.A Jean b. 5 March 1875 in High Fenwick, Ayrshire, Scotland, d. 31 Oct 1957, Prestwick, Ayrshire, Scotland, m. John Brown, widower, raised his children a boy and girl. Son was called in WW1. Daughter was Wee Jean Brown.
- iii. Mary Retson b. 26 April 1877 in High Fenwick, Ayrshire, Scotland m. Rev. Andrew Burns, widower. Son Andrew by first wife became a doctor and married an actress who was also a singer. She came to Canada during WW2 and stayed before divorcing Andrew and headed off to Caribbean.
- iv. John Retson b. 7 April 1879 High Fenwick, Ayrshire, Scotland, d. 23 Aug 1970 Truro, Colchester County, Nova Scotia, Canada m. Bessie Jane "Jennie" Johnson 22 Jan 1913 at Truro, Colchester County, Nova Scotia, Canada
- v. George Retson b. 2 December 1881 at Townhead, Fenwick, Ayrshire, d. 1962, m Mary Edith Taylor, on Nov 14, 1912.
- vi. William Rankin Retson b. 22 February 1884 at Townhead, Fenwick, Ayrshire, Scotland, d. 14 Jul 14, 1975 in Bible Hill, Colchester County, Nova Scotia, Canada, m. Beatrice Mary Clifford, on Dec 25, 1907 in Onslow, Colchester County, Nova Scotia.

¹ Scotland. 1901 Scotland Census. Reels 1-446. General Register Office for Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland. Parish: Old Cumnock; ED: 3; Page: 34; Line: 3; Roll: CSSCT1901_235, (Ancestry.com), Ayrshire Registration Number:610A

- vii. Annie Retson b. 14 Mar 1887 in Low Fenwick, Ayrshire, Scotland, d. 5 Jan 1896 at age of 8 years
- viii. Janet Retson b. 22 August 1890 in Fenwick, Ayrshire, Scotland, d. 24 Sep 1890 of pneumonia age 1 month 2 days
- ix. James Retson born 15 November 1891 Gardrum, Fenwick, Ayrshire Scotland, d. 1982 m. Elizabeth Beattie (b. Sep 08, 1898, d. Jan 1974.)
- x. Thomas Bateman Retson b. 23 February 1894 in Fenwick, Scotland, killed in Action 26th November 1917 in France, Private 33278, 1st Battalion, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Aged 23. enlisted Ayr, resident Beith. Son of Mary McManus Retson, of The Manse, Fenwick, Kilmarnock, and the late George Retson. Commemorated on TYNE COT MEMORIAL, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 68 to 70 and 162 and 162A. also at Fenwick War Memorial [The war memorial stands beside the road which at the time of transcription was being reconstructed and the memorial was in a dirty state due to this. The memorial is inscribed on three sides. The top section names those from World War 1 with Regiments and the lower section those from World War 2, Confirmation granted at Kilmarnock 13 February to Mary Retson or Burns, Wife of Rev. Andrew Burns, Fenwick his sister.

Two other sisters Jane (Jean) and Mary also married late both as second wives to their respective husbands and neither had their own children.

She died on Mar 29, 1937 at the age of 85 at 15 St. Ninians Road, Prestwick, Scotland.²

Sources

Durie, Bruce, *Scottish Genealogy*, 3rd Ed Stroud, Gloucestershire: The History Press, 2009
Epperson, Amanda, *The Family Tree Scottish Genealogy Guide*: Cincinnati, Ohio, 2018

² 1937 Deaths in the District of Monkton Prestwick, County of Ayrshire, informant son James Retson, East Riggs, Annan